



## REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

### **AirPack: A Toolkit for Environmental Education**

**November 15, 2016 Time: 13:00-15:00**

Proposal by the REC for the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of Italy

#### **I. Background**

Amid considerable research and policy discussions on how climate change may affect public health, a subject that requires further attention are the impacts of climate change on indoor environments and thereby on the health of people who live, work, study, or play in them.

The Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of Italy in partnership with the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) and the Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) has made through the SEARCH (School Environment and Respiratory Health of Children) Initiative, a major contribution to positive developments and fundamental improvements in the environment, health and education sectors in the European, regional and national context. The initiative resonated with global studies and policies of the WHO and EU, underlining that air quality and climate policies provide mutual benefits. While climate change mitigation actions can help reduce air pollution, clean air measures can help reduce GHG emissions leading to reductions in the global warming. Education and training are integral in enabling citizens' contributions to local and global efforts to meet the climate change challenge. Increased knowledge and learning about the causes and impacts of climate change affect everyday lives.

Following a decade of international research to improve school environments and the respiratory health of children, the Air Pack, an educational toolkit, translates the SEARCH Initiative recommendations into a user-friendly format for school teachers and students. Piloted in Italy and Albania, the Air Pack has become a recognised tool for integrating health, climate and environment issues into the education sectors in Europe and beyond.

The SEARCH initiative (School Environment and Respiratory Health of Children) is a research project implemented within the international frameworks of the EU Action Plan on Environment and Health, and the WHO's Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe. The first phase of the SEARCH initiative (2006-2009) led to the creation of a comprehensive database of the measurements of outdoor and indoor concentrations of several air pollutants in about 400 classrooms, as well as health assessments of more than 7,000 children in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Italy, Serbia and Slovakia. The initiative was reaffirmed at the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, held in Parma, Italy, in 2010. Four new countries were added (Belarus, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine), and the environment and health assessments were expanded to include indoor comfort and energy use in selected schools in the 10 countries.

The third phase of the SEARCH initiative focused on raising awareness on the relevance for the health of indoor air quality in schools, assisting target countries with practical recommendations on indoor risk management. As a result of this phase, the Air Pack educational tool was launched. It targeted children and teachers in schools in two pilot countries, Italy and Albania, in order to raise awareness on the problem of —outdoor and indoor— air quality and health issues in schools. It was designed to motivate users towards a healthy school environment and sustainable lifestyle.





## REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

### II. Goals of the activities at COP 22

The planned activities serve and address the following three main objectives:

1. To demonstrate the Air Pack as a best practice to raise awareness among decision-makers, policy-makers, agencies and other stakeholders on the impact of climate change on the vulnerability of children's health, especially the enhancement of climate related risks to hazards in outdoor and indoor air;
2. To promote the achievements of the project supported by the Government of Italy, to attract among resource partners and beneficiaries interest in the continuation and expansion of the Air Pack in other countries in the most threatened regions (e.g.: Western Balkans, Eastern Partnership, Southern Neighbourhood) and to deepen the focus on climate change issues;
3. To create a launching pad for a toolkit and regional/sub-regional workshop on environmental education on climate change for a specific region of interest, based on the commitments of the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement and the mandate of the REC as regional focal point for Article 6 of the UNFCCC.

### III. Target Audiences

COP 22 participants with a special attention to the SEARCH countries and the potential future beneficiaries, as recommended above.

### IV. Recommended Activities in the Italian Pavilion

1. Activity: Workshop

The first short session will serve to raise awareness on the SEARCH project, while in the second phase with the participation of potential future beneficiaries it will explore their national situation: legal framework and school environment. Lessons learnt from the piloting educational activities in Italy and Albania will be shared and best practice. The workshop will be held in cooperation with the Italian SEARCH partners, like Francesca De Maio and Luciana Sinisi (ISPRA). In addition, the workshop will be the forum to announce potential future plans of IMELS, as well as the REC for future activities connected to the Air Pack such as in Albania.

#### Draft outline of workshop agenda:

<b>Workshop slot: 13.00-14.15</b>	<b>Presentations by:</b>
1. Opening remarks on the role of educational activities for climate change policy effectiveness	Francesco La Camera, Director General, IMELS
2. Educational activities for sustainability and climate change: REC and IMELS collaborative projects	Marta Szigeti Bonifert, Executive Director, REC
3. AirPack - multimedia toolkit for students and teachers: behind and beyond the project	Elisabetta Colaiacomo, IMELS
4. Experiencing the AirPack in Italian and Albanian schools: results and recommendations	Mihallaq Qirjo, Deputy Executive Director (acting), REC, with input by Francesca De Maio, ISPRA
5. Education as key tool to cope with exposure to climate change risks: the case of indoor air	Luciana Sinisi, Unit Head Environmental Determinants of Health, AirPack expert, ISPRA





## REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

### Workshop slot: 14.15-14.40

6. Discussion

### Workshop slot: 14.40-14.50

7. Key messages from the workshop

Zsolt Bauer, Head of Communications, REC

8. Closing remarks by IMELS and REC

**Moderation and facilitation by Luciana Sinisi / Elisabetta Colaiacomo**

### 2. Activity: Communications

In order to achieve the objectives and attract the target audience, targeted communication and media activities and tools will be embedded in the preparations and delivery of the workshop, encompassing mainly:

- Press announcement: A press announcement (press release, briefing and media advisory) will be organised and published.
- Posters: Two posters will be created describing background, aims and results of the SEARCH Initiative.
- Social Media: the promotion of the events will be topped up by real-time reporting on the spot via REC twitter and Facebook channels using #AirPack.

The booth/exhibition of the REC at COP22 will expose AirPack materials.

### Logistics / conference badges

The REC is able to include one ISPRA team member in the delegation due to the stringent contingency granted to the REC as accredited IGO to UNFCCC. The identified ISPRA team member is Ms. Luciana Sinisi.

### Proposed budget in EUR

Budget	Notes	Units	Unit price	Total
<b>Activity 1 Workshop</b>				
REC expertise	See detailed budget below	1	14,900	14,900
External expertise	See detailed budget below	1	1,500	1,500
Travel costs for a 3-day stay (1 ISPRA, 3 REC)	Travel, accommodation, per diem, local transfers	4	1,200	4,800
Catering	Lump-sum	1	1,200	1,200
Promotion materials (print and USB)	Lump-sum	1	3,500	3,000
Subtotal Activity 1				<b>25,400</b>
<b>Activity 2 Communication</b>				
Press Announcement	Lump-sum	1	1,000	1,000
Posters	Lump-sum	2	600	1,200
Social media	Lump-sum	1	1,000	1,000
Subtotal Activity 2				<b>3,200</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>				<b>28,600</b>
REC management fee 9%				<b>2,575</b>
<b>Total (EUR)</b>				<b>31,175</b>





## REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Detailed budget for REC expertise				
Expenditure categories	Unit	Unit rate	# of units	Budget (EUR)
REC Senior Management	man-day	675	4	2,700
REC Senior Expert	man-day	550	8	4,400
REC Expert	man-day	400	4	1,600
REC Junior Expert	man-day	375	4	1,500
REC Communication Officer	man-day	400	8	3,200
REC Conference Officer	man-day	375	4	1,500
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>32</b>	<b>14,900</b>

Detailed budget for External expertise				
Expenditure categories	Unit	Unit rate	# of units	Budget (EUR)
Concept and design of 2 posters, contribution to Albanian workshop presentation	Lump-sum	400	1	400
Workshop input, presentation and support to posters development	Lump-sum	550	2	1,100
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>1,500</b>

### Indicative deadlines

<b>25 October 2016</b>	Approval of final draft proposal and official submission by the REC
<b>25 October 2016</b>	Development of workshop content
<b>31 October 2016</b>	Development of communication materials
<b>1 November 2016</b>	Circulation of invitations and ongoing follow-up on behalf of Mr. La Camera
<b>10 November 2016</b>	Circulation of invitations on the spot
<b>15 November 2016</b>	Event (confirmed)