



1. Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my great pleasure to warmly welcome you to the final conference of LowTEMP BSR project “4th generation low temperature district heating networks”.
2. In Pomorskie we are fully aware of the challenges facing the European Union in the area of heating, air conditioning and energy efficiency in the cities. Almost 50% of Union’s final energy consumption is used for heating and cooling, of which 80% is used in buildings. Therefore modernising the heating and cooling systems of buildings is essential to decarbonise the EU building stock, to deploy local renewable energy potential and to reduce the EU’s dependence on imported fossil fuels.
3. In the “Fit for 55” package of proposals, the EU sets very ambitious goals in the field of energy, including 55% reduction of the total greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 (compared to 1990 levels), reduction of 36-39% for final and primary energy consumption (new 2030 energy efficiency targets) and increase of the binding target of renewable sources in the EU’s energy mix to 40% (new renewable energy target for 2030). The proposed package aims to bring the EU’s climate and energy legislation in line with the Green Deal and EU Climate Law.

To achieve the EU goals and fight the climate change, Poland adopted, among others, such documents as The Energy Policy of Poland until 2040 (EPP2040) and the Poland's National Energy and Climate Plan for the years 2021-2030 (NECP PL). Poland has committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2030 and increase the share of renewable energy in final energy consumption by 23% - including in the heating sector by 28% (1.1% year by year).

4. Pomorskie has already made a lot of progress towards achieving those ambitious goals. Pomorskie is one of three Polish regions with the highest share of renewable heat sources in comparison to the rest of the country. Moreover, Pomorskie, due to favourable conditions for the development of renewable energy sources, including offshore wind energy, can significantly contribute to the achievement of these goals.
5. It has to be noted that the observed decrease in unit costs of energy production from renewable sources is an important factor contributing to the energy transformation. It will have a positive impact on the development of the use of renewable energy sources in the region, including the process of building a strong community of prosumers. In the region there is some room for the improvement of energy efficiency. On the other hand, the air quality is still low and we have high levels of suspended dust and benzo(a)pyrene. Energy poverty can also be observed in the region, which hinders the implementation of activities related to the thermal modernisation of residential buildings and the replacement of obsolete heat sources with environmentally friendly ones.

6. The Pomeranian Voivodeship Development Strategy 2030, in its key actions lists some measures to improve air quality, e.g. the elimination of smog through the development of the low-emission economy in the public sector, in housing, energy sector (cogeneration with municipal heating systems and services providing thermal comfort in buildings) and enterprises.
7. The combination of such targeted interventions focused on the replacement of obsolete solid fuel stoves / boilers and the use of renewable energy sources with measures to improve energy efficiency, development of cogeneration and heating networks, support for pro-consumer energy and diversification of agricultural activities focused on a wider use of renewable energy sources, will have a positive impact both in terms of reduction of air pollution and of greenhouse gas emissions, which in the end will help fight the climate change.
8. It should be emphasised that the thermal modernisation measures taken in the last decade have already contributed to a significant improvement in the energy efficiency of buildings. The technical condition of heat collecting facilities, and in particular their energy consumption, in 2011 was approx. 155 MJ / m³, and in 2016 - over 22% less, i.e. approx. 119 MJ / m³ (megajoules per cubic meter).
9. Pomorskie closely follows the development of new technologies in the field of heat engineering of the 4th and 5th generation, including low-temperature heating networks. Actions are planned to support this type of solutions in Pomorskie.
10. Ladies and Gentlemen, public authorities should inspire and support the development of new technologies, services and products, the use of which will help to improve the economic situation of the region, and thus increase the standard of living of the society. On behalf of Pomorskie, I wish you a successful conference!