

# Climate and energy governance perspectives from a municipal point of view in Hungary

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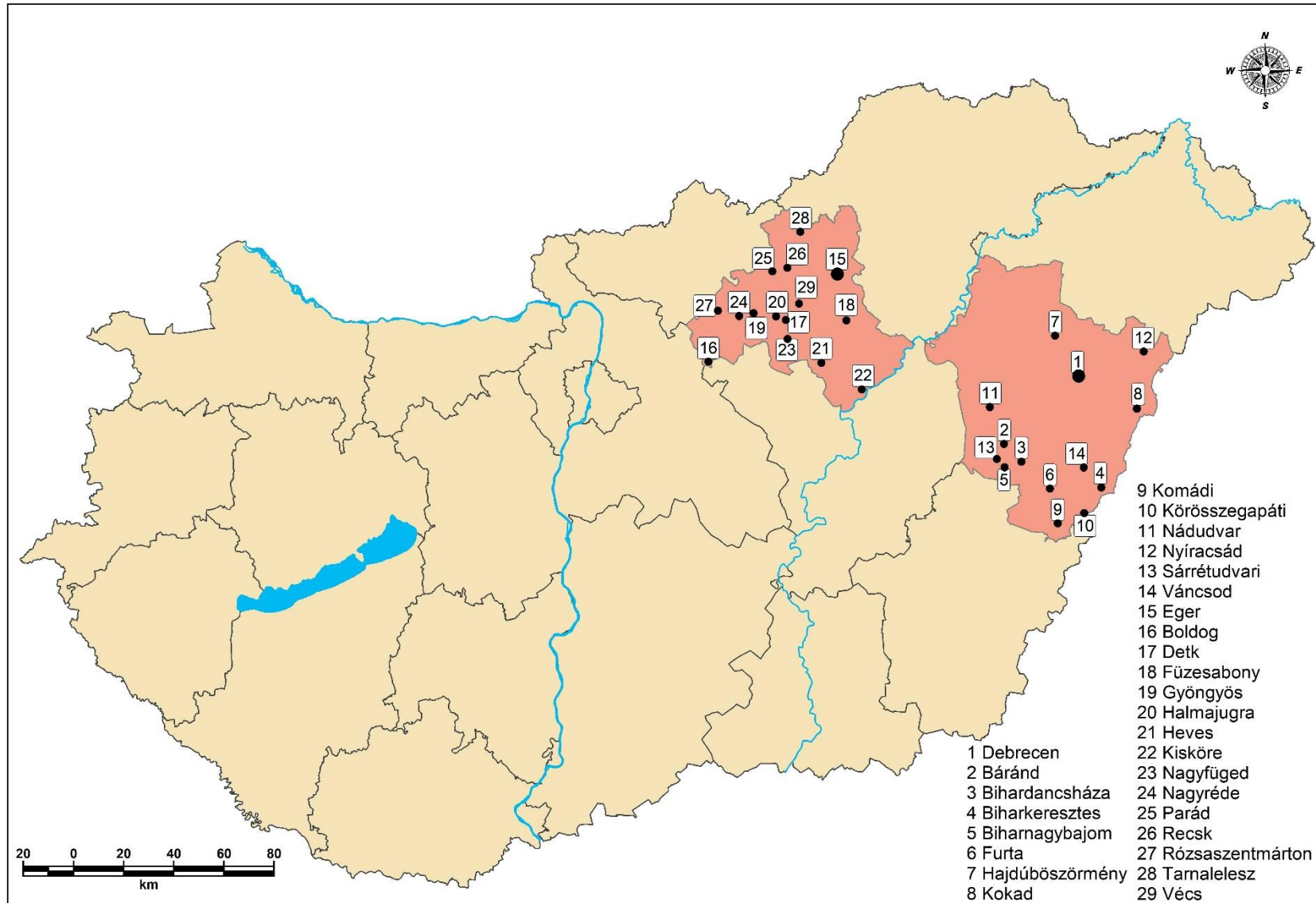
**New Horizons for Cities and Regions in a Changing World**

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# Objectives and methods

- Knowledge on renewable energy sources (RES)
  - The existence of local climate-management plans
  - Local perception of climate change
  - Implemented projects in RES and energy efficiency
  - Governance issues (level, participation of actors)
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- Method: Semi structured in-depth interviews (mayors, notaries, school managers, NGO directors)

# Target area



# Climate change and renewable energy governance

- Climate governance (adaptation, mitigation, knowledge) (IPCC)
- **Transition** methods as innovation (Schot – Geels 2008)
- **Experiments** in climate governance and energy transition (Kivimaa – Hildén – Huitema – Jordan- Newig 2017)
- **Bottom-up and top-down** approaches (Geels 2011)
- **Learning** from experiments (Grin et al 2010)
- Municipal climate governance **analytical grid** (Scanu – Cloutier 2015)

# Conceptual framework I. (Scanu – Cloutier 2015)

## **Municipal involvement in climate governance**

(the WHY)

Ecological factors: geomorphological and climatic conditions

Economic factors: funds and subventions, growth opportunities

Institutional factors: normative frameworks and climate knowledge

Political factors: political will to tackle climate change

Social factors: social issues related to climate change

Framing factors: how climate change is interpreted

# Conceptual framework II.

## **Dimensions of urban climate governance**

(the HOW)

Type of **measures**: adaptation and mitigation

Type of **planning instruments**: adaptation plan, mobility plan, GHG reduction plan, urban master plan, etc.

Concerned **sectors**: energy, transport, water, waste, etc.

**Modes of governance**: self-governance, enabling, provision and authority

Specific **actions**: renewal of municipal fleet, rezoning, recycling facilities, building regulations, awareness raising campaigns, etc.

Involved **actors**: government actors, civil society actors, private sector and intellectual groups

# Results – knowledge on RES



A word cloud of renewable energy terms. The words are arranged in three rows. The first row contains 'biofuel', 'biogas', 'biomass', 'biomasss', and 'collector'. The second row contains 'geothermal', 'heat-pump', 'nuclear', 'pv', and 'sun'. The third row contains 'thermal', 'water', 'wind', 'wood', and 'woodchips'. The words are in various shades of blue, with 'sun' and 'wind' being the most prominent.

biofuel biogas biomass biomass collector  
geothermal heat-pump nuclear pv sun  
thermal water wind wood woodchips

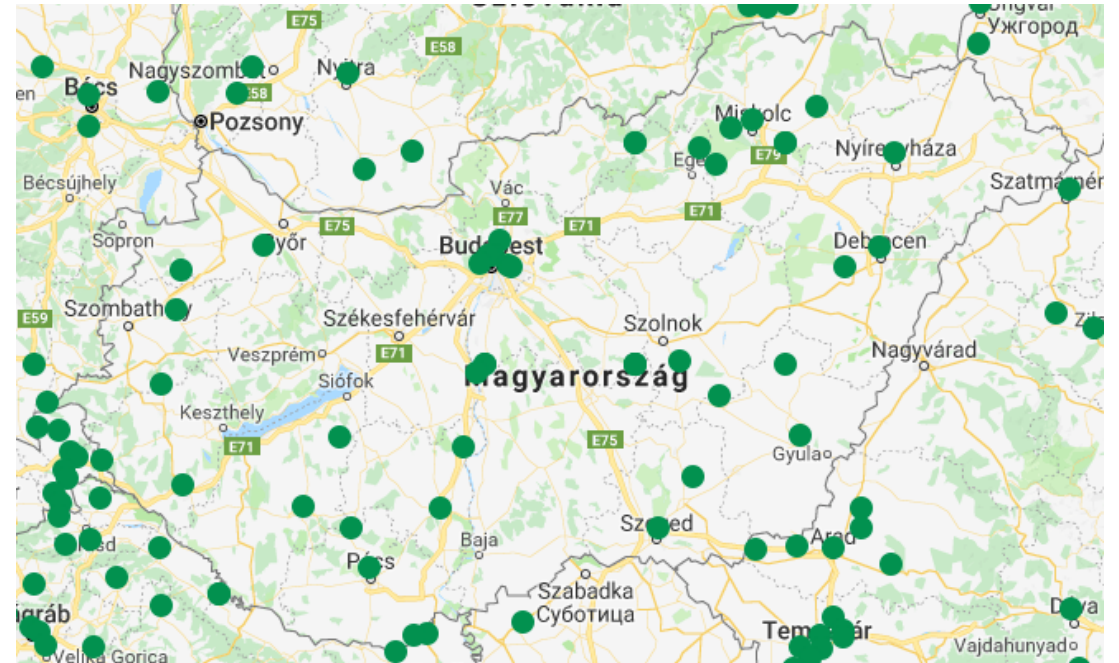
# Results- Why?

- Ecological – valley-based settlements, flash floods
- Economic – **cost reduction**, job creation
- Institutional – only bigger towns have written plans/ separate institutions
- Political – „We are **committed** to fight against climate change, **but too small...**”
- Social – „I worry about the future of the **youth!**”, „**Elderly** people suffer a lot from heat waves...”
- Framing – climate change is a **global threat**



# Results – How? Plans

- Only bigger towns have some energetic/climatic plans (SEAP, SECAP etc.)
- Smaller ones joined the formation of county-plans
- The smallest ones did not even hear about these...



Source:

<https://www.covenantofmayors.eu/en/?start=26>

# Results – How? What sectors?

- Buildings EE – public facilities (insulation, doors and windows)
- More effective heating systems (fossil-based)
- RES (PV cells, solar collectors)
- Street-lighting (LED)
- Traffic – only the bigger towns (tram, e-car chargers)



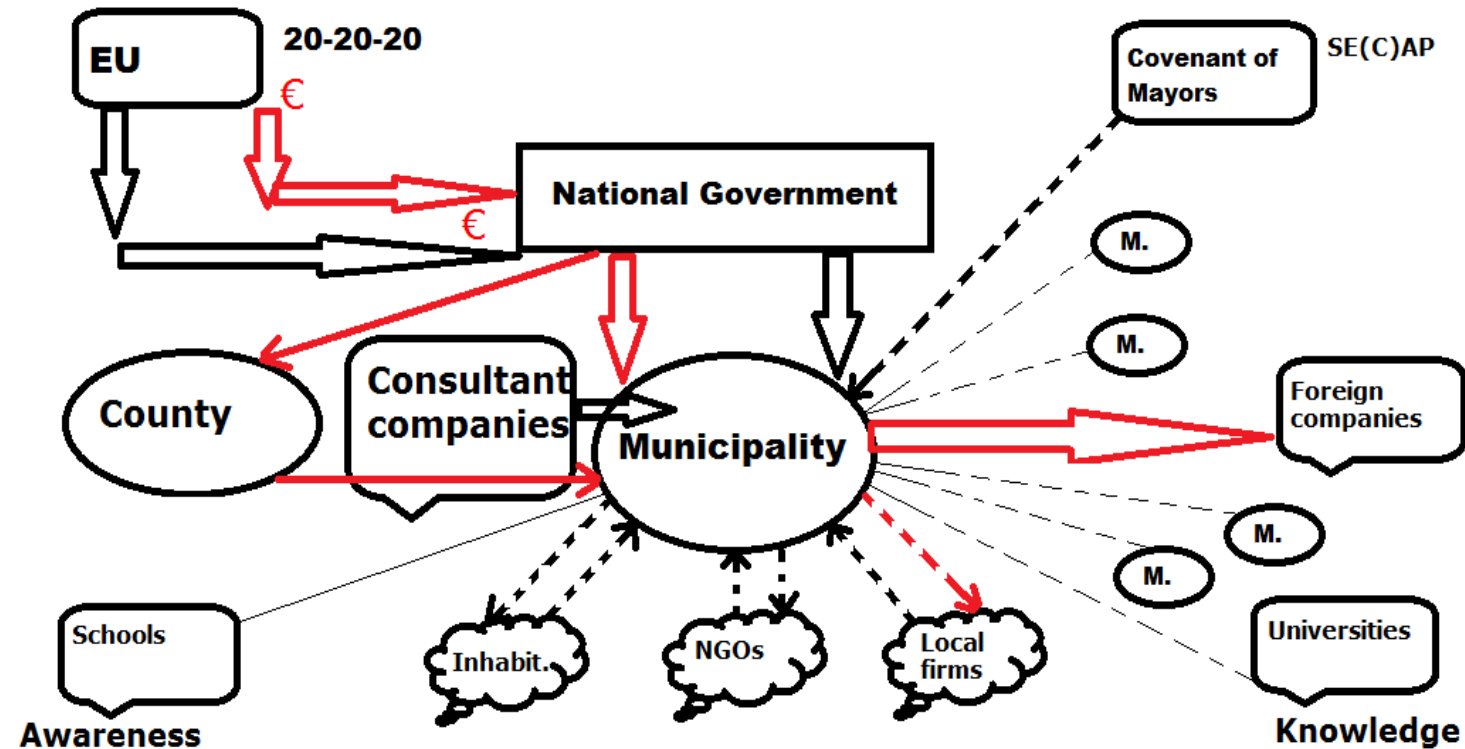
# Results – implemented projects

A word cloud of implemented projects. The words are arranged in a horizontal line, with 'boiler' being the largest and most prominent. Other large words include 'insulation', 'doors', 'led', 'pv', 'solar-park', 'woodchip-furnace', 'windows-', 'collector', 'biogas', and 'awareness'. The words are in various shades of blue and purple.

awareness biogas boiler collector  
insulation led pv solar-park windows-  
doors wood-pellet woodchip-furnace

# Results– How? Way of governance

- Self-governance: in basic activities (public buildings)
- Enabling: awareness – role of schools
- Provision: directed by EU and national project tenders
- Authority: non-relevant (chemo-briquet, waste-heating)



# Conclusions

- Local upper-class has distorted concepts on RES – awareness!
- EE projects in majority – priority of mitigation
- Is public sector a viable sample for local inhabitants?
- Climate change is sg. out there... weather instead
- Low level of climate and energy governance
- Local capabilities are rarely used by projects
- An dominance of external political and intellectual groups

Thank you for your kind  
attention!

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