



Regione
Lombardia



Agreement for sustainable development in Lombardy

SUBSCRIPTION

September, 18th 2019



AGREEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN LOMBARDY

The UN 2030 Agenda, which includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals, calls for a general reflection on sustainable development, by focusing on new implications affecting the social and productive fabric and the territory.

The impairment and time needed to restore natural resources, the consequences of climate change and the protection of biodiversity force us to rethink a new growth model based on specific core principles: sustainability, circular economy, decarbonisation, reduction in the needs and energy efficiency.

Sustainable development is a political, economic, social and cultural revolution that will not only imply the achievement of minimum or maximum environmental values by nation, region or city, but it will also change the concept of economics and finance, boost the growth of business and market development, draw up a new welfare paradigm and influence educational and cultural models of citizens and communities.

Society and Institutions must, therefore, draw up a strategic growth and development path through a subsidiary, multi-level and territorial approach, which makes Lombardy Region the sustainable locomotive of the Country and the main character of this Revolution.

This Agreement gathers all the stakeholders involved in our territorial development; it sets common objectives and aims at drawing up common political and administrative tools and measures, able to face the change in place in a far-sighted and realistic way, and to enable Lombardy Region to lead the transition towards new forms and models of growth.

LOMBARDY CONTEXT

As shown by indicators and macroeconomic data, Lombardy has consolidated its leading and competitive role, both in Italy and over the most advanced European Regions, thus proving dynamism and innovation of its production system.

This success was made possible thanks to the constant cooperation and exchange among social and economic stakeholders and institutions, along with the action of territorial networks and further cooperation in various sectors, including the non-profit sector.

Over the years, Lombardy has also gained greater awareness of two key aspects, on the one hand the weakness of several territorial environmental aspects, and on the other, the wealth generated by the natural, architectural and cultural capital of the Region.

The 2015 World Expo held in Milan was an opportunity to prove these achievements and a worldwide showcase: "Feeding the planet, energy for life" is a legacy and a still-existing mandate showing the commitment of Lombardy open-minded society, able to go beyond contingency and administrative boundaries. These know-how and ability to do things well – involving other stakeholders and based on sustainability - will be the key instruments in planning and organising the 2026 Winter Olympics.

BACKGROUND

On 25 September 2015 the UN General Assembly adopted the A/RES/70/ Resolution "*Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*", signed by the Governments of 193 countries, as action plan addressed to five areas: people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership; it provides for 17 Sustainable Development Goals - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - with 169 'targets' or milestones to be achieved by 2030.

The national regulatory framework has adopted the principle of sustainable development, set out in article 3 of Legislative Decree No. 152/2006 "Regulations on environmental matters", which specifically establishes that "*Every legally relevant human activity pursuant to this code must comply with the principle of sustainable development, in order to ensure that the satisfaction of the needs of current generations cannot compromise the quality of life and the possibilities of future generations.*" and that "*the principle of sustainable development should provide the means to find a balanced relationship, within the inherited resources, between the ones to be preserved and the ones to be passed on, so that the principle of solidarity can be included within the dynamics of production and consumption, in order to safeguard and improve the quality of the current and future environment*". The Public Administration shall work along the same lines.

In December 2017, the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Economic Planning – CIPE (in Italian *Comitato Interministeriale per la programmazione economica*) approved the *National Sustainable Development Strategy*, showing the national commitment to achieve the goals set out in the UN 2030 Agenda.

By means of the partnership agreement signed with the Italian Ministry of the Environment, Lombardy Region is committed to prepare the Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development, in compliance with the terms of Article 34 of Legislative Decree No. 152/2006.

The Regional Development Program of the 11th Legislature made *sustainability* one of the five priorities of the actions to be carried out by the Regional Government, as a "*distinctive feature of the administrative activity and an opportunity to improve the quality of life of the people living in Lombardy. This should be achieved by meeting the needs of productive growth and by involving all local stakeholders: from businesses, to citizens, from schools to public administrations*".

The Regional Development Program also proposes the ratification of an "*Agreement among all concerned public and private stakeholders in Lombardy; this agreement will stand for the regional mutual commitment in the field of environment, territory, transports and infrastructures*" thus, defining the priorities of the regional intervention.

Since the "Earth Summit" held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, Italy has taken on various International commitments over the years, concerning both environmental protection and sustainable development. These commitments include:

- the "Paris Climate Agreement", defined during the 21st Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), held in Paris in December 2015. The Agreement established to keep the global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius; Italy ratified this Agreement on 22 April 2016;
- the Convention on Biological Diversity, signed in Rio de Janeiro on 5 June 1992, by Law No. 124 of 14 February 1994.

In the light of the above, Lombardy Region and the subscribers agree on the following.

Article 1

Objectives

1. This Agreement promotes the adoption of the principle of sustainable development – in both public and private decision-making processes - in order to ensure that the satisfaction of the needs of current generations does not undermine the living standards and opportunities of the next generations; the principle of sustainable development should provide the means to find a balanced relationship, as for inherited resources, between the ones to be preserved and the ones to be passed on, so that the principle of solidarity can be included within the dynamics of production and consumption, in order to safeguard and improve the quality of the environment.
2. By implementing the principle of sustainable development, and by preventing the current environmental conditions from worsening, Lombardy commits to become one of the leading region in Europe in terms of sustainable policies, biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation, circular economy, energy transition towards the development of renewable sources and decarbonisation, thus, encouraging a coherent and integrated relationship between the economic, social and environmental dimensions.

Article 2

Reference framework

1. Starting from the areas of engagement made by the Regional Development Program of the 11th Legislature, the following frameworks are identified:
 - A transition to circular economy, as a development pattern for production systems and for the management of material flows, starting by extending products lifespan, fostering the development of services and platforms, and encouraging Lombardy SMEs network;
 - a smooth transition to a low-carbon economy, as a territorial development factor, a renewed competitiveness for businesses, and a key element in mitigating climate change; a boost in developing energy generation activities from renewable sources; updating and efficiency measures in the field of hydroelectric generation and storage, as well as a commitment to achieve higher energy efficiency milestones in all priority sectors: civil, industrial, transport;
 - the improvement of air quality by means of integrated measures in different fields of intervention and the empowerment of various regional public and private bodies;
 - the improvement of the accessibility and quality of the transport system, through the development of an integrated, safe and low-impact mobility, in compliance with technological neutrality; the development of an efficient infrastructural system, able to meet the needs of the territory and the support to the local public transport system;
 - the development of the regional green infrastructure, intended as a unitary system of natural, semi-natural, agricultural and forest areas, to be preserved in terms of territorial continuity to improve the ecological and environmental balance of Lombardy territory; the strengthening of all regional functions (protective, productive, recreational) through an "active management" approach; and the promotion of initiatives aimed at protecting nature and biodiversity;
 - The protection of water resources, aquatic ecosystems and local fish biodiversity; water management and interventions to improve the quality of river and lake environments; the strengthening of territorial safety through interventions of renaturation and soil protection, as well as the promotion of sustainable urban drainage actions;
 - The reduction of land consumption and the promotion of territorial and urban regeneration, as priorities in urban planning policies, aimed at reducing urban sprawl and at orienting the development of settlements, according to the environmental sustainability criteria;

- The promotion of a competitive level of production and services in all sectors, by paying attention to the changes affecting the labour market, through the promotion of research activities and actions of process and product innovation with focus on environmental impacts, and the support to innovative start-ups in the green economy sector;
- The promotion of the green public procurement among all contracting authorities in Lombardy; the adoption of codes of conduct on behalf of the contractors; the development of accountability and corporate responsibility systems with respect to social and environmental sustainability policies;
- The transition towards a fully sustainable, intelligent, resilient and competitive agricultural sector and towards the development of dynamic rural areas with a strong social and economic fabric. This shall ensure a greater European added value for the production of healthy, safe, high-quality and diversified food, and a specific contribution to the environment, the mitigation and the adaptation to climate change, as well as to sustainable energy, the efficient management of natural resources, the protection of biodiversity, habitats and landscapes and the improvement of ecosystem services;
- The promotion of sustainable fishing, conservation of local fish resources, competitive and sustainable aquaculture and a stronger governance to ensure safe, protected, clean and sustainably managed inland waters;
- Efforts to foster employment, growth, social inclusion and local development in rural areas, also through bioeconomy and sustainable forestry;
- Actions to boost inclusion and social cohesion, to tackle all forms of inequality, poverty and discomfort and to improve the attractiveness of territories, social relations, tertiary sector, cooperative forms and companies facing urban regeneration and sustainable development.

Article 3

Methods and Instruments

1. In order to achieve sustainability, we share the need to define long-term scenarios, which involve more specific targets – if possible, of a quantitative nature - whose level of achievement shall be tracked over time.
2. The Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development is recognised as a tool of synthesis capable of representing common objectives and monitoring the achievement of set targets. The Strategy is built with the active participation of all the subscribers.
3. Further elaborations in this regard, also through subsequent acts, will enable the development of various programmatic and sectoral elements, ensuring the coordination and the pursuit of common goals.
4. Technological innovation, support for research in various areas of sustainability and the development of digital tools are identified as essential instruments of the programme.
5. Information, communication and dissemination actions, environmental education and involvement of the school system ensure a wider contribution of Lombardy society in supporting a sustainable development approach.

Article 4

Regional Forum for sustainable development

1. Lombardy Regional Government operates a place for discussion dedicated to sustainable development, also through a virtual platform.
2. Lombardy Region Government coordinates the organisation of an annual meeting dedicated to sustainable development and open to the subscribers of the Agreement.
3. The Forum is the venue for presenting the progress in the various areas of engagement - as referred to in Article 2 – which were achieved through the actions carried out by the Region and by subscribers in compliance with the terms of the following Article 6, as well as for implementing the Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development.

Article 5

Commitments of Lombardy Region for sustainable development

1. The Region commits to promote this Agreement and the actions arising therefrom, in the most appropriate manner and in the competent forums.
2. The Regional Government provides for:
 - the definition of the Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development by 2020. The strategy should be drafted by institutions and organisations operating in the Region, by activating initiatives in favour of territorial needs, by promoting effective monitoring and any regulatory adaptation aimed at enhancing the principles of sustainable development under the Regional law;
 - the activation of the assessment of the regional planning in terms of sustainability (monitoring Regional Development Program sustainability) and the contribution to the creation of catalogue listing all the environmentally harmful and environmentally-friendly subsidies, in strict accordance with the terms of Article 68 of Law 28 December 2015, no. 221 "Environmental provisions to promote green economy measures and to contain the excessive use of natural resources";
 - the organisation of an annual meeting of the Forum referred to in Article 4 and the creation of a virtual space to share the progress made when implementing the Agreement;
 - creation of a catalogue of good practises and enhancement of dissemination and promotion actions in the area.

Article 6

Commitments of the subscribers

1. The subscribers of this Agreement commit to:
 - implement the principle of sustainable development within its own scope of activity, in its three aspects: economic, social and environmental;
 - contribute to the creation of the Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development;
 - contribute to the implementation of the Strategy, providing information on the measures taken and the results achieved in the context of the monitoring activity that will be created;

- propose initiatives in the context of the “Pact for Development” and the “Regional Observatory for circular economy and energy transition” aimed at achieving the objectives of this Agreement.

2. Each subscriber defines, independently and according to its own nature, organisation and purpose, its own commitment schedule within the areas identified under Article 2 and their implementation time, of which it is directly and fully responsible. The programme should be submitted within 3 months following the subscription of this Agreement. As for their programmes, each subscriber commits to:

- provide information about the progress in implementing the program, at least at the Annual Sustainable Development Forum referred to in Article 4, according to agreed methods;
- review and update the programme, at least once a year;
- be liable for the achievement of the proposed programme, both with local resources or resources deriving from other funds, such as access to tenders, funding or European projects.

Article 7

Further actions to foster Sustainable Development

1. The actions implemented by this Agreement may also concern:

- Sharing requests and proposals addressed to the National Government, in order to pursue the identified objectives;
- Defining a common guideline to lead the regional activity towards the new European programming (EU Funding Period 2021-2027), by collecting sustainability principles and objectives, with the collaboration of the Regional Environmental Authority;
- Fostering the actions needed to achieve the objectives of this Agreement.

Article 8

Subsequent accessions

1. It will always be possible to join the Agreement after the ratification date, by submitting a request to the President of Lombardy Regional Government, accompanied by the commitment proposal referred to in the abovementioned Article 6.

2. After having informed the other subscribers, the President, or the designated regional Minister, reserves the right to accept the accession requests, following assessment of the consistency with the objectives of this Agreement and with the Regional Development Programme of the 11th Legislature.

Article 9

Duration

1. The duration of this Agreement is determined by the term of the 11th Regional Legislature.
2. By the end of the Legislature term, the Region and the subscribers shall assess the overall level of achievement of the objectives set out in this Agreement and draft a proposal for its renewal.

Article 10

Final provisions

1. The President, or the designated regional Minister, reserves the right, by means of a written notice, to withdraw the membership in the Agreement of subscribers whose actions are not consistent with the objectives of the Agreement and with the Regional action.
2. Each subscriber may, justifiably and in writing, withdraw from the undertaken commitments.
3. Each subscriber bears the costs arising from the implementation of the initiatives aimed at achieving the goals of the Agreement, in strict accordance with the terms of article 6; Lombardy Region operates on budget and within the scope of this Agreement.
4. The use of the regional trademark, for any initiative related to the implementation of this Agreement is subject to prior authorisation, following verifications of its proper use on the various means of communication. Likewise, the use of the subscribers' logos must be authorised. Any logo or coordinated graphic design developed when implementing this Agreement must be used in accordance to the agreed conditions and methods.



Agreement for sustainable development in Lombardy

September, 18th 2019

Palazzo Pirelli - Sala Pirelli - Milano

Subsriptors
Regione Lombardia
ANCI Lombardia - Associazione Nazionale Comuni d'Italia - sezione Lombardia
UPL - Unione Province Lombarde
Città Metropolitana di Milano
ABI Lombardia
ACAI - Associazione Cristiana Artigiani Italiani
AGCI Lombardia – Associazione Generale Cooperative Italiane
ARPA - Agenzia Regionale per la Protezione dell'Ambiente
ALTROCONSUMO
ANCE Lombardia - Associazione Regionale dei Costruttori Edili Lombardi
ANPAR - Associazione Nazionale Produttori Aggregati Riciclati
ASSOLAVORO
CASARTIGIANI
CGIL Lombardia
CIA - Agricoltori Italiani Lombardia
CIDA - Confederazione Italiana Dirigenti e Alte Professionalità
CISL Lombardia
CLAAI - Confederazione Libere Associazioni Artigiane Italiane Lombardia
CNA Lombardia - Confederazione Nazionale dell'Artigianato e della piccola e media impresa
COLDIRETTI Lombardia
CONFAGRICOLTURA Lombardia
CONFAPINDUSTRIA LOMBARDIA
CONFARTIGIANATO IMPRESE LOMBARDIA
CONFCOMMERCIO
CONFCOOPERATIVE Unione regionale della Lombardia

Subsriptors
Confederazione Produttori Agricoli Lombardia
Confesercenti Regionale Lombardia
CONFIMI INDUSTRIA LOMBARDIA
CONFINDUSTRIA LOMBARDIA
CONFPROFESSIONI LOMBARDIA
ENEA Agenzia nazionale per le nuove tecnologie, l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile
ENI Syndial servizi ambientali S.p.A.
ERSAF - Ente regionale per i servizi all'agricoltura e alle foreste
FEDERDISTRIBUZIONE
FISE Assoambiente Associazione Imprese Servizi Ambientali
FISE Unicircular Unione Imprese Economia Circolare
FLA - Fondazione Lombardia Ambiente
Fondazione Triulza
Infrastrutture Lombarde S.p.A.
LEGACOOP - Lega Regionale Cooperative e Mutue della Lombardia
Legambiente Lombardia
PoliS Lombardia
Politecnico di Milano
RSE - Ricerca sul Sistema Energetico
UIL Milano e Lombardia
Unioncamere Lombardia
Università Carlo Cattaneo - LIUC
Università Cattolica del sacro Cuore
Università degli Studi dell'Insubria
Università degli studi di Brescia
Università degli Studi di Milano
Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca
Università degli Studi di Pavia
WWF Lombardia

e-mail: svilupposostenibile@regione.lombardia.it

<https://www.openinnovation.regione.lombardia.it/svilupposostenibile>