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Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Programme 2007-2013

BSBEEP

Black Sea Buildings Energy Efficiency Plan

GA1: Knowledge and information collection and dissemination -
Analysis of external current situation

Activity GA1.4

Executive Summary

**Collection of a Pool of Active Bodies and Experts that are
Involved on Energy Efficiency Matters - «BSBEEP POOL»**



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Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Programme 2007-2013
Black Sea Buildings Energy Efficiency Plan
(BSBEEP)

Black Sea Buildings Energy Efficiency Plan (BSBEEP) project aims at the establishment of strong regional partnerships and cooperation schemes in Black Sea area through the reinforcement of administrative capacities of local authorities and bodies in a very crucial sector (energy efficiency in buildings) having major environmental and economic impacts locally and globally.

The ultimate goal is to achieve change in the way they treating energy for buildings; facilitating change in the way local societies are acting. Furthermore, the project focuses on the establishment of a knowledge and experience exchange network aiming at the promotion of buildings energy efficiency. The network will engage a wide spectrum of organizations such as local and regional authorities, universities and research centres and NGOs which will help promoting energy efficiency in buildings at local and regional level. Meanwhile it will focus on raising awareness and mobilising private sector and leverage funds to support future initiatives.

Ten partners are participating in the BSBEEP Project from six different countries; Municipality of Kavala (GR), Municipality of Galati (RO), Municipality of Cahul (MD), Municipality of Mykolayiv (UA), Municipality of Samsun (TR), Municipality of Tekirdag (TR), Democritus University of Thrace (GR), University Dunarea de Jos of Galati (RO), American University of Armenia (AM) and Renewable Resources and Energy Efficiency Fund (AM).

More details about BSBEEP Project and the full GA1.1 study (available in English) are available on its website: www.bsbeep.com.

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Current Capacities and Trends

Most of the countries of the Black Sea area have worked to create institutional capacities for the development and promotion of sustainable energy policies and practices. Governments set up agencies and funds, designated energy auditor training and certification institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors and international financial institutions (IFIs) provided technical assistance to help strengthen the government capacities in transposition of the EU acquis or other best-practices energy efficiency, as well as implementation of market reform for the promotion of sustainable energy investments.

Dozens of new institutions related to energy and energy efficiency were created in the analyzed countries over the past two decades. Energy Ministries have opened new departments or divisions, many countries established energy regulators and energy efficiency agencies. The number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) has slowly grown; municipalities have formed associations pursuing common goals. All of these play their respective important roles in communicating the energy conservation message to the consumers and lawmakers, disseminating the best practices and assisting in replication of those. Certainly, not all institutions have been fully effective; however, the absence of such agencies - owners and champions of the EE reforms - can hamper the implementation of even very strong reform initiatives.

Not always special energy efficiency agencies are necessary for the implementation of the national policy for the promotion of energy efficiency. Energy efficiency and energy conservation agencies exist in the Greece, Moldova, Ukraine, Romania, Turkey and Armenia. In other reviewed countries the implementation of this policy is well carried out by one or several designated national authorities, given that adequate strategy, legislation and/or programs are in place. Particularly in the transition economies, the national budgets are short of resources to set up and sustain a new energy efficiency agency with adequate staff and budget, hence they do not get Government support, and authorize a line Ministry or other Government agency to add its tasks to their scope of work. Nonetheless, regardless of where the key team facilitating the implementation of national energy efficiency policy is, it requires sufficient funding and staff to fulfill this role.

The indicative list of organizations and institutions has been reviewed for all the countries. The variety of institutions reviewed and summarized for their functions, as well as capacities available for the promotion of building energy efficiency improvements. The general, major groups of stakeholder institutions and agencies reviewed included the following:

- International Institutions:
 - European Commission
 - Euroatom Supply Agency
 - Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators
- Regional institutions of the Black Sea region
 - EUFORES

- UNEP-SBCI
- National Government Institutions :
 - Stakeholder Ministries (Energy, Economy, Regional Development, Environment, etc.) and other State Institutions/Commissions, Property Management agencies, statistical and cadaster offices,
 - National energy efficiency or energy conservation agencies
 - Energy Efficiency Fund
 - Energy Regulatory Commission
 - UNFCCC CDM Designated National Authority (DNA)
 - Climate Change Agency/Office/PIU/LEDS committee
 - Other Program Implementation Units (PIUs) and credit lines used by donors and IFIs.
- Non-governmental Institutions and private sector players:
 - Municipal or mayors' associations that focus on energy, heat and EE
 - NGO energy efficiency centers consulting groups
 - Academic institutions and universities
 - Associations of energy engineers and green building professionals
 - Environmental groups that focus on energy efficiency.
 - Energy Service Companies (ESCOs)
 - Individual Energy Auditors and Auditing companies

- Private sector vendors of energy efficiency goods and services
- Home-owners associations
- Individual experts and professionals

The study compiled a rich database of organizations and experts which can become a useful “Who is Who” resource for initiatives, which need to access national and local experts and organizations, facilitate forums or dialogues among the local entities, each and every one of which can be found in the present study including 101 public bodies, 72 institutions and 793 private agents/experts.

Institutional Structures

Once the national policies and legal framework are in place, their implementation should be transposed on sectoral and local levels through local energy plans, technological standards, codes and incentive programs. This would require preparation and training of a rich cadre of energy managers in the staff of enterprises and institutions, buildings and communities, as well as energy auditors. It is necessary to set up or strengthen the following institutions and empower them to realize the EE potential in the economies of their jurisdiction:

- designated EE agencies and program implementation units need capacity to design and implement policies and programs; identify cost-effective EE potentials, setting targets and timeframes, designing implementation programs/plans. Cooperation and exchange of information between such agencies of different countries can help disseminate successful

incentive mechanisms (LTAs, performance contracting, innovative financing, appliance labeling, etc).

- municipalities and public institutions need awareness raising on the benefits of energy efficiency, integration of EE into the long-term development plans, training of designated staff on energy management, incentive or administrative mechanisms for ensuring achievement of local energy efficiency targets.

- Commissions, associations and NGOs need the awareness and competence for effectively handling the dialogue on the EE priorities and needs, opportunities and benefits, joining efforts in realizing national policies and programs, as well as replicating success stories.

- ESCOs and HOAs need tools and awareness for implementing energy efficiency projects. The tools can include information about successful contractual and management models, innovative technical and financial solutions, etc.

- National analytic and statistical institutions need funding and contemporary models for collecting up-to-date and exhaustive statistics on energy generation and use, operational capacities and efficiencies throughout the economy, deployed technologies, etc.

Institutional Barriers

- With the growing need to decentralize the implementation of international treaties and national policies, including the national energy efficiency action plans through municipal energy planning and sustainable energy action planning within the Covenant of Mayors processes, the local

authorities lack adequate EE expertise and sufficient resources to design, finance, implement and oversee energy efficiency improvement measures.

- Lack of statistical data on energy consumption in various sectors limits the ability of the decision-makers to produce informed and grounded decisions,
- Lack of credible and technically profound technical information on EE investments.
- There is overall under-developed local EE business infrastructure and lack of organization and coordination of market advancement efforts.
- Absence of ESCOs and ESCO based schemes from the local market due to an immature market and ambiguities in the legislative framework, including the public procurement rules.
- EE is not a top priority for local authorities - infrastructure development projects with high social impact and visibility are viewed as more important for local budgets and community leaders.

The capacity strengthening need is especially strong in the EE institutions of Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine.