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SWITCHING FUEL AND REPLACING BOILERS

INCENTIVES TOWARDS CLEAN ENERGY USE BY HOUSEHOLDS

SUPPORT FOR FUEL SWITCH AND NEW BOILERS

ASSURES MULTIPLE POLICY GAINS

- Reduces air pollution in residential areas
- Mitigates climate change through greenhouse gas emission reductions
- Facilitates clean energy use esp. for less wealthy citizens

POLICY MOTIVATION MAY VARY ACCORDING TO SITUATION

- Current focus on fuel replacement for climate policy in Austria
- Current focus on air quality and social justice in Sofia, Skopje and Sarajevo

EXCHANGE YOUR OLD OIL BOILER AND BE SUPPORTED

- Funding 2021 for thermal building renovation and boiler replacement *“Get out of oil and gas”*
- On February 9, 2021, the Austrian climate protection ministry's new promotion campaign for thermal building renovation (“renovation check”) and boiler replacement (“get out of oil and gas”) for climate-friendly alternatives. A record budget of 650 million euros has been secured for the next two years. In this way, the “domestic environmental subsidy” supports the measures to curb heating energy consumption and to switch from fossil-fueled space heating to climate-friendly heating systems.
- Private individuals and companies are supported with up to 5,000 euros in the exchange of a fossil heating system for a local or district heating connection and - where this is not possible - for a climate-friendly heat pump or wood central heating.
- Heating with fossil fuels is to disappear completely from domestic buildings by 2035, especially since the number of oil boilers in Austria alone is estimated at around 600,000.

“OUT OF OIL AND GAS” PROGRAMME 2021 – DETAILS

Compared to the previous year, some funding criteria have been simplified and the funding offer made more attractive and uncomplicated:

- The period between registration and application will be extended from 5 to 6 months (for "get out of oil and gas").
- The maximum subsidy rate will be increased to 35 percent (for “get out of oil and gas”).
- District heating connection fees can now also be subsidized.
- During the comprehensive renovation, the technical criteria will be adapted to the standard of OIB-RL 6 or klima:aktiv 2020.
- If renewable raw materials are used as insulation material, a surcharge of 50 percent can be granted on the respective maximum subsidy flat rate (renovation check in a one or two-family house).
- Individual component renovation is funded again (renovation check in one or two-family house):
- Submission of an overall renovation concept / energy certificate or energy advice is a requirement for funding.
- maximum lump sum funding of 2,000 euros.

EU LIFE INTEGRATED PROJECT IN BULGARIA

- <https://lifeipcleanair.eu/en/index.html>
- Municipality Sofia (Lead) together with other main Bulgarian cities
- Motivated by high exceedances of EU Particulate Matter limit values in Bulgarian cities and an air quality integrated LIFE project in southern Poland
- Includes new heating devices and additional air quality monitoring
- November 2020 – start of changing heating devices eg in Ruse (overall 1468 households until 2024) and Veliko Tarnovo (overall 548 households until 2024)
- The new heating devices may be one of the following types: pellet fireplace, pellet stove with water jacket, pellet boiler with water jacket, gas boiler, gas convector, steel panel radiators.
- The dismantling of the old heating equipment using wood and coal, its removal from the home and transportation for recycling, are also provided to the households free of charge
- In spite of generous conditions, some administrative challenges to promote swift uptake by households – comparable experience as in Austria (access to programmes must be as easy as possible, esp. for socially less favoured households)

NORTH MACEDONIA - SKOPJE

- the most recent activity, promoted by the Minister of Environmental Protection of North Macedonia at the recent regional conference organized by the RES Foundation in December 2020, is an initiative from Skopje municipality to subsidize individual households willingly to replace their wood stoves or boilers that use heating oil with new inverter air conditioners.
- Each household is entitled to as much as EUR 1,000 within the scheme for improving air quality
- <https://balkangreenenergynews.com/skopje-supports-its-households-to-reduce-air-pollution/>

BOSNIA & HERCEGOVINA - SARAJEVO

- Sarajevo Canton's Strategy for Restricting the Use of Coal and Other Solid Fuels in Sarajevo Canton for 2021-2031, is the first concrete decarbonization plan in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The strategy has been developed in cooperation with the UNDP country office in Bosnia and Herzegovina and with support through UNDP's Green Economic Development project.
- The Sarajevo Canton has started to work on an action plan for its implementation. One example is that the Strategy will include a gradual ban on the use of coal in houses and in multi-apartment buildings, as well as in buildings owned by companies and the public sector. This is an important step to improve air quality. UNDP is also working with the Cantonal government on a subsidy scheme for the replacement of coal furnaces in households with more efficient heating systems.
- <https://balkangreenenergynews.com/sarajevo-canton-to-ban-coal-use-in-2021-amid-extreme-air-pollution/>

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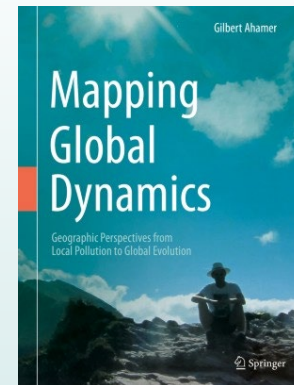
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Towards clean, renewable and efficient energy use

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