

External evaluation of the project “**Enhancing National Capacities for Development and Implementation of the Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings in the UNECE Region**” (August 2019)

Progress report as at 31 December 2020

#	Recommendation	Management response	Responsibility	Target date/ deadline	Date of implementation/comments
1	Continue building the capacity and expertise of member States in EESB in a way that would ensure multiplier effects and system changes on a large-scale. This could be done through delivering multilevel workshops and seminars which would incorporate: generic information-sharing on certain research topics (at the first level); and more advanced technical workshops on a selected topic (e.g. energy auditing, monitoring energy performance, model situations in a specific country context, etc.);	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>In 2019-2020, SED will continue building the capacity and expertise of member States in Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings (EESB) by organizing workshops funded from RPTC budget; developing project proposals for funding of the second phase of the project; cooperating with Forests, Housing and Land Management Division on activities under the Joint Task Force on EESB.</p>	Regional Adviser on Sustainable Energy		<p>Implemented as of 1 July 2020</p> <p>Training Workshop on High Performance Buildings was organized in Yerevan on 21-22 November 2019, see: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=52433. Joint event with UNDP Armenia in partnership with International Passive House Association (iPHA) and Passive House Institute at the request of the Urban Development Committee of the Republic of Armenia. Target countries: Armenia and Georgia. Also participants from Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. Capacity-building workshops on data solutions for evidence-based policy and stakeholder collaboration were organized on-line (because of the Covid-19 pandemic) on 12 and 14 May 2020: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=53669 (jointly with UNDP Armenia and the Urban Development Committee) and http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=53671 (jointly with the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development and the National Statistical Office of Georgia). Target countries: Armenia and Georgia. Also participants from Belarus, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, North Macedonia, Russian Federation, and Tunisia. Project proposal for funding of the second phase of the project has been approved by the donor (Russian Federation) and the EXCOM. The project's implementation will start on 1 July.</p>
2	Assist the UNECE member States in taking practical steps toward addressing EESB through introducing an interactive format of workshops and seminars, incorporating group work practices on specific cases/assignments, and	<p>UNECE accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>Please refer to the actions proposed under recommendation 1 and 4.</p>	Regional Adviser on Sustainable Energy		<p>Implemented as of 1 July 2020</p> <p>See response to #1 (Training workshops)</p>

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	encouraging the participants to assess their national situations and developing country roadmaps along with S.M.A.R.T. (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound) indicators and targets to improve EESB.				
3	Continue cooperation with other UN agencies to organize workshops and share their real-case experience in implementing projects on EESB in UNECE countries (e.g. the projects implemented by UNDP/GEF) which would serve as a practical guide for attendees.	Please refer to the actions proposed under recommendation 1.	Regional Adviser on Sustainable Energy		Implemented as of 1 July 2020 See response to #1 (Training workshops)
4	Develop the results framework for each planned new project, along with S.M.A.R.T. indicators and targets, to measure and monitor the intermediate results and long-term impact of the UNECE project in relation to the accomplishments of the member States.	UNECE partially accepts this recommendation. In 2020, SED will seek the support of the Programme Management Unit and will develop new projects with S.M.A.R.T. indicators and targets, to better measure and monitor the intermediate results and long-term impact.	Regional Adviser on Sustainable Energy		Implemented as of 1 July 2020 New project proposals include the approach recommended. Specifically, recently approved XB project funded by the Russian Federation “Enhancing national capacities to develop and implement energy efficiency standards for buildings in the UNECE region” and UNDA project “Global Initiative towards post-Covid-19 resurgence of the MSME sector.” There are several other project proposals in the pipeline.
5	Introduce gender-responsive indicators and targets to measure and report the progress made regarding the gender mainstreaming agenda and continue to encourage active participation of female subject-matter experts in relevant activities.	UNECE partially accepts this recommendation. In 2020, SED will seek the support of UNECE Gender Focal Point to introduce gender-responsive indicators and targets in relevant projects and continue to encourage active participation of female subject-	Regional Adviser on Sustainable Energy		Implemented as of 1 July 2020 Active participation of female experts in the Training workshops (see response to #1) has been encouraged and monitored. The share of female experts increased from 28 percent to 43 percent from the first to the third workshop. Under the UNDA project “Global Initiative towards post-Covid-19 resurgence of the MSME sector,” the studies should include, to the extent possible, special considerations for MSMEs owned and/or operated by women, as well as the role of women in post-crisis recovery.

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		matter experts in relevant activities.			
6	Raise the awareness of the member States on the human rights dimension of the energy-efficient buildings and particularly emphasize this correlation through presentations and analytical papers (a linkage to relevant SDGs could also be useful in this regard)	<p>UNECE partially accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>SED takes note of the recommendation and will seek to increase references to the right to access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy (SDG 7) in future project proposal documents. Such projects are subject to approval by UNECE member States.</p>	Regional Adviser on Sustainable Energy		<p>Implemented as of 1 July 2020</p> <p>SED increased references to the right to access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy (SDG 7) in the project proposal documents submitted and under development (see response to #4).</p>
7	Secure resources to completely roll out the online database of experts and further, advance it to the level of a self-sustainable knowledge hub which will allow experts not only to share information, but will also allow them to discuss ideas and opportunities and track the progress each country has made in relation to EESB, thereby, encouraging greater collaboration in the domain of energy efficiency. It is also recommended to develop a detailed blueprint (workplan) which would, inter alia, outline the resources needed to maintain and advance the database	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>Request for funding this activity will be included in a project proposal for funding of the second phase of the project.</p>	Regional Adviser on Sustainable Energy	December 2021	<p>In progress</p> <p>See response to #1. Request for funding this activity has been included in the project proposal for funding of the second phase of the project. The project “Enhancing national capacities to develop and implement energy efficiency standards for buildings in the UNECE region” has been approved but with a significantly reduced budget (by one third). It may not be possible to fully implement this recommendation. Implementation of the new project “Enhancing national capacities to develop and implement energy efficiency standards for buildings in the UNECE region” started in July 2020. Efforts to implement this recommendation to the extent possible will be undertaken.</p>