

Online Workshop on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and their Implementation in the UNECE region

Geneva and Chisinau (online), 9 April 2021, 10:00-13:00 CEST

Languages: English and Russian

Background

UNECE is implementing project “[Enhancing National Capacities to Develop and Implement Energy Efficiency Standards for Buildings in the UNECE Region.](#)” It is implemented under the auspices of the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings. The project aims to enhance capacity of the UNECE member States to develop and implement energy efficiency in buildings, with a focus on residential buildings.

As part of project activities, UNECE conducted [a draft study on gap analysis](#) between the performance objectives set forth in the Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and current energy efficiency standards and their implementation in the countries of South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia, and in the Russian Federation. This draft study includes analysis of (i) existing energy efficiency policies, such as framework legislation to develop and implement energy efficiency standards in buildings with emphasis on building energy codes; introduction and implementation of energy performance certification and energy pricing measures; promotion of ESCO; awareness programmes and initiatives to promote energy efficiency; (ii) implementation of energy efficiency standards in new and existing buildings, existence of compliance and enforcement mechanisms, institutional capacity and effectiveness of existing energy efficiency policies. It presents the findings on conformity of the existing energy efficiency standards with the UNECE Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings; identifies barriers affecting the effective achievement of energy efficiency policies potential; and provides recommendations to help bridging the existing gaps.

The project also develops three national studies with a more detailed gap analysis in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and the Republic of Moldova. The national studies aim to analyse the energy performance of buildings, implementation of current building energy efficiency standards in the countries and provide country-specific recommendations on the possibilities to bridge the gap and enhance national capacity to develop and implement energy efficiency standards for buildings.

UNDP is implementing the GEF financed project “Moldova Sustainable Green Cities.” The main objective of the project is to activate investments in low carbon green urban development based on integrated urban planning approach by encouraging innovation, participatory planning and partnerships between a variety of public and private sector entities. As a tool for this, the project launched the Green City Lab as an independent and sustainable entity and to carry out pilot projects implementation and other projects in areas of low carbon urban development and mobility, energy efficiency and solid waste management.

Under the project a Green design code was developed aiming to provide a framework to help the local decision-makers to design new affordable and energy efficient housing, undertake efficient measures for retrofitting the existing building stock, implement the buildings green certification, as well as use of green building materials and design.

The Green design code is conceived as a tool for encouraging and guiding the transition of the Moldavian construction sector towards environmental sustainability and for increasing the citizens quality of life. The tool considers the local climate, environmental issues, social and economic local situation at the national level.

UNDP Moldova has been active in testing innovative solutions to improve energy efficiency in residential buildings. A recent large behavioral experiment proves how social norms works and how behavioral nudging could improve electricity use at the level of households. The scaling-up of the experiment during the 2020 lockdown provides additional useful evidence on the importance of testing behavioral aspects around responsible consumption in electricity, heating, water and other resources.

Agenda

The joint UNECE-UNDP online workshop on “Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and their Implementation in the UNECE Region” will be held online **on 9 April 2021 from 10:00 to 13:00 CEST**. Working languages of the workshop are English and Russian, with simultaneous interpretation.

The workshop aims to enhance national capacities to develop and implement energy efficiency standards in buildings through encouraging participatory planning and partnerships of all involved stakeholders.

The first part of the workshop will review a draft gap analysis, validate its findings and recommendations as well as reflect on the status of development and implementation of energy efficiency standards in buildings in countries of UNECE region. Preliminary findings of national studies with a more detailed gap analysis in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and the Republic of Moldova will be presented.

The second part of the workshop will provide an overview of current initiatives to support development of the affordable and energy efficient housing stock in the Republic of Moldova.

10:00-10:20	<p>Welcome remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Scott Foster, Director, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE • Mr. Vahram Jalalyan, Co-Chair, UNECE Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings • Ms. Andrea Cuzyova, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Moldova
-------------	--

10:20-11:30	<p>Session 1: Gap analysis between the performance objectives set forth in the Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and current energy efficiency standards and their implementation in the countries</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski, Regional Adviser on Energy, UNECE</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Nadejda Khamrakulova, Project Officer, UNECE <i>Draft study on gap analysis between the performance objectives set forth in the Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and current energy efficiency standards and their implementation in the countries of South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia, and in the Russian Federation</i> • Mr. Sergiu Robu, UNECE Consultant <i>Preliminary findings of the national study with a more detailed gap analysis in the Republic of Moldova</i> • Mr. Andre Ohanian on behalf of Ms. Ani Rafyan, UNECE Consultant <i>Preliminary findings of the national study with a more detailed gap analysis in the Armenia</i> • Mr. Mikhail Toropov, UNECE Consultant <i>Preliminary findings of the national study with a more detailed gap analysis in Kyrgyzstan</i> <p>Discussion, Q&A</p>
11:30-11:40	BREAK
11:40-12:50	<p>Session 2: Presentation of the UNDP Moldova initiatives to support Energy Efficiency in Buildings</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Inga Podoroghin, Programme Specialist/Cluster Lead/Energy & Environment, UNDP Moldova</p>
	<p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Elena Rastei, UNDP consultant <i>Steps for implementation of the Green buildings certification system in Moldova</i> • Mr. Dumitru Vasilescu, Policy specialist, UNDP Moldova <i>Behavioral experimentation and testing social norms to improve electricity use in residential sector</i>
	Discussion, Q&A
12:50-13:00	<p>Workshop wrap-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski, Regional Adviser on Energy, UNECE • Ms. Inga Podoroghin, Programme Specialist/Cluster Lead/Energy & Environment, UNDP Moldova