UNECE

Workshop "Strengthening national capacity in applying sustainable energy policies and practices based on the recommendations of the Environmental Performance Reviews"

30 June 2021, Online
09:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (CEST)

Tajikistan - 3rd EPR

Report	No.	Topic	SDG	Recommendation (quote)	Implementation
Part I	*5.5*	Support to vulnerable groups, awareness, access	7.1	*In areas not connected to functional central heating, the Government should promote by awareness raising activities the use of heating installations and energy saving equipment for cooking that have only limited effects on the ambient air quality, taking into account the safety of these installations and indoor air quality.*	*Many central heating systems in residential areas have boiler houses heated with natural gas or fuel oil, which are no longer working, since gas imports decreased after 2010. Heating of houses in these areas is now mostly achieved by electricity, bottled gas or coal-fired stoves. Such stoves contribute to a deterioration of the ambient air quality, as emissions are not abated and chimneys are relatively low. In rural areas, much of the cooking of meals is over wood and takes place outside the houses.*
Part III	*11.2 (a) (b)*	Renewable energies	7.2	*The Government should:* *(a) Support renewable sources of energy, in particular solar energy for water heating, small hydropower taking into account the minimum ecological flow, and wind energy for off-grid energy supply;* *(b) Consider conducting studies to identify prospective geothermal sites, which could support off-grid energy supply.*	*With regard to the renewable energy sources (RES), Tajikistan uses less than 1 per cent of the potential of RES other than hydropower. About 10 per cent of the country's population lives in remote, mountainous, off-grid areas where off-grid renewable energy solutions make more economic sense. To date, photovoltaic and wind energy systems are used only on a pilot basis. Overall, solar power is not yet considered as a priority supply option. The potential for using geothermal resources, the availability of thermal water and its characteristics are not well researched. The Government works on creating a favourable regulatory framework for small scale hydropower development.*
	11.3	Legal, Policy and Institutional framework	7.3	*The Government should establish an independent national centre for energy efficiency and renewable energy to facilitate the implementation of strategic goals on energy efficiency defined by the Government.*	*The 2013 Law on Energy Saving and Energy Efficiency stipulates the legal and organizational framework for energy efficiency and provides for the introduction of energy efficiency materials, appliances and technologies. The Law has provisions for introducing mandatory energy audits, establishing procurement procedures that incorporate criteria on energy efficiency, and requirements for energy use in buildings and household appliances, etc. It provides for the establishment of a national fund for renewable energy sources, energy saving and energy efficiency. Energy efficiency has very low priority in practice, determined by the fact that a large proportion of the*

					population does not have secure and reliable access to energy. To date, there is no established governmental department to govern, regulate, enforce and monitor energy efficiency reforms.
	11.4 (a) (b)	Legal, Policy and Institutional framework	13.2	*The Ministry of Energy and Water Resources should: (a) Develop and adopt a long-term climate resilient national energy strategy; (b) Take into account the impacts of climate change on hydrology when planning for new hydropower facilities, by ensuring that their design and management are able to cope with more frequent extreme weather events under a range of projected climate change scenarios.*	*Analysis of the energy sector policy framework reveals the lack of long-term energy sector planning in Tajikistan, which presents one of the most significant risks to the country's ability to make its energy sector climate resilient. As approximately 98 per cent of the country's electricity is produced from hydropower sources in river basins fed by glacial meltwater and snowmelt, the energy sector is highly dependent on hydrology and therefore is greatly exposed to climate change. Most of the existing HPPs in Tajikistan were built with no regard to climate change.*
	11.5 (a) (b)	Legal, Policy and Institutional framework		*The Government should: (a) Continue improving the collection, monitoring and verification of data from the energy sector in accordance with internationally agreed standards; (b) Include fuelwood statistics in the energy balance.*	*Inconsistencies were observed between energy related data (data on imports of gas and on renewable energy sources), alongside fuelwood consumption data not being recorded in the energy balance. The methodology used for policy formulation and forecasting of electricity export potential, in particular, was rather optimistic and not fully aligned with the present realities of Tajikistan.*
	13.4 (a) (b)	Compliance with international laws; Support to vulnerable groups, awareness, access	13.3	*The Committee on Architecture and Construction under the Government should: (a) Continue the practice of revising the construction standards and norms, with the aim to establish clear requirements for the design and construction of residential buildings that encourage the use of safe materials and modern technologies in line with best international practice, in particular programmes such as Sustainable Cities, and relevant ECE guidance documents; (b) Raise public awareness in respect of the norms on seismic protection, energy efficiency and resilience to climate change.*	*Many Soviet construction standards are still in force in the construction sector; they are gradually reviewed and translated into the Tajik language. In parallel, the revision of construction standards and norms is in process, with an aim to establish clear requirements for design and construction of residential buildings, which would facilitate the use of new and traditional safe construction materials and modern technologies designed to resist seismic and other unfavourable natural factors and to provide environmental safety. At the same time, the level of public awareness in respect of seismic protection regulations, energy efficiency and resilience to climate change is still low. Performance of construction works in respect of apartment buildings and individual buildings in urban settlements is carried out under the supervision of territorial inspectorates of the Committee on Architecture and Construction under the Government. In rural areas, construction of individual buildings by dwellers themselves, departing from construction design documentation (which is a mandatory requirement for the allocation of a land plot for the purpose of housing construction), still tends to be a widespread practice because of the lack of training and shortage of inspectors in the oblast and district construction inspectorates. A wealth of international experience is available to assist Tajikistan in addressing these challenges. The Sustainable Cities Programme works at city level in collaboration with local*

					partners to strengthen their capabilities for environmental planning and management. At ECE, the Committee on Housing and Land Management has developed guidance materials on these issues, including the 2013 Good Practices for Energy-Efficient Housing in the UNECE region.
Annex I	*8.3*	Compliance with international laws, regulations, standards; Market mechanisms		*The Agency for Nuclear and Radiation Safety at the Academy of Sciences should pursue the implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency projects and identify opportunities for financing modernization and remediation measures by involving international donors as well as new owners of privatized companies in the mining sector.*	*The implementation of this recommendation is ongoing. The National Concept on Rehabilitation of Uranium Waste Tailings for the period 2014–2024 presents a strategy for remediation of radioactive waste tailings and dumps. Remediation projects started and will continue.*