

Agenda Item 9 – 31st Session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy

Technical assistance, regional outreach and collaboration activities

National Agency of Natural Resources
23 September 2022, 10:00-10:30 CEST (Geneva time)

Guidelines and Best Practices for Micro-, Small and Medium Enterprises in Albania

- This Report contains information about available funding for energy efficiency (EE) and renewable energy (RE) in Albania based on various reports as well as conducting own research.
- Based on gained information and better understanding of the current situation of development and implementation of the Strategy of Economic Development and EU Integration, Strategy of Energy, National Energy Efficiency Action Plans (NEEAPs), National Renewable Energy Action Plans (NREAPs) in Albania and approaching directly many Albanian enterprises dealing with production of EE/RE materials/equipment/systems/parts the findings presented in this report were collected.

Implementing EE/RE measures

- Implementing EE/RE measures in order to meet the respective targets will require MSMEs in Albania to produce large part of materials and equipment domestically, which will bring many benefits for the country:
 - i) increase productivity;
 - ii) increase employment;
 - iii) reduce trade deficit and improve overall country financial figures;
 - iv) increase use of local sources;
 - v) improve efficiency (and reduce costs) in all economic sectors thus leading to improved competitiveness; and vi) combating climate change effects

Albania Problems

- In Albania, the severe health crisis caused by COVID-19 has forced the Government to introduce drastic measures such as lockdowns, shutdowns, quarantine, and restrictions on mobility, which in turn affected the business environment.
- Most of the MSMEs had a significant impact from the pandemic and struggled to keep their operations. Immediate measures were necessary since the companies were not ready and were insecure about their response due to having no similar experience in the past and lack of certainty in projections for short- and medium-term future.
- MSMEs responded to the crisis with a partial operation (35%), work from home (20%), business as usual (35%), and stopping operation (15%). 19% of the MSMEs managed to diversify their production to respond to a service that is in higher demand due to the crisis.



Solution!

- The government has already provided wage subsidies, agreeing with banks for loan installments postponement and in many cases rescheduling loan repayment programmes, training employment programmes, and tax cuts.
- The Government should encourage and financially support new EE/RE investments and projects by establishing long-term programmes for implementation of NEEAP and NREAP, especially since these programmes are helping in creating new jobs, implementing modern technologies, reducing the need for imports, and thus reducing the trade deficit of the country.
- Develop policies to adapt the work force to new post-COVID 19 professions by carrying out the respective training programmes through the specialized Agencies and Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- Secure grants and soft loans for MSMEs, EE/RES producers by making them aware and assisting them to participate in EE/RE programmes already in operation by EBRD and GGF.
- Allow well-performing municipalities to contract MSMEs EE/RE producers and installers to propose public-private partnership (PPP) and ESCO financing for different municipality services (improving EE for public buildings and public street lighting) based on long-term contracting and a sovereign guarantee if needed for large projects.



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Investment in RES and EE

Albania plan for 2022

- 57 MW Small Hydro
- 490 MW Solar Energy
- 150 MW Wind Energy
- 41 MW Biomass Energy

Ongoing process

- 210 MW Skavica Hydro
- 250 MW Solar Energy
- 70 MW Wind Energy



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Technical assistance activities of ECE in **Albania**

- [Renewable Energy Financing and Investment in Albania, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Serbia,](#)
- Preparation “on the Guidelines and Best Practices for Micro-, Small and Medium Enterprises in Albania in Delivering Energy-Efficient Products and Providing Renewable Energy Equipment in the framework of the UN Development”,
- Assessment of Geothermal Energy Resources in Albania
- Analysis of the local geological and mining conditions and Identification of principle-based guidelines for designing and implementing an efficient, safe, and environmentally conscious mine closure in Albania and Serbia

Thank You!



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