

**Workshop to support establishing a
State Agency on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in Georgia
and
Stakeholder Consultations on project implementation
“Supporting increased energy security and resilience through energy transition”**

Presentations of the best practice examples in UNECE member States, Albania

**Mr. Artan Leskoviku, Head of Energy
National Agency of Natural Resources**

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Policy Documents

◆ National Energy Strategy 2018 -2030

The Government of Albania adopted the National Energy Strategy back in 2018, which for the first time emphasizes to consider Energy Efficiency with high priority and sets targets towards 2030. The Energy Efficiency target for 2030 was 15 % and RES 54%.

◆ National Energy & Climate Plan 2022 - 2030

The Government of Albania adopted the first version of the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) on 29 December 2021. The Plan was submitted to the Secretariat, which provided 50 recommendations. Albania's NECP will continue to be developed and updated, taking into account the recommendations of the Secretariat and the finalized.



National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP)

- ◆ **National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP):** The Albanian Government has approved the 1st, 2nd and 3rd NEEAP defining the EE targets for all economic and social sectors. Measures undertaken during the 1st NEEAP were predominantly done with either the direct support of an international financing institution (IFI) or other donors or were provided via local commercial bank loans supported by an IFI or other donors. This support came both via financial and technical means according to the analysis carried out and presented under the 2nd and 3rd NEEAP. Such international support may continue, but to scale-up EE actions the availability of increased domestic funds (public and private) is required. In order to realize many of the EE measures, the EE law calls for development of an Energy Efficiency Fund, as a mechanism of financial support for the implementation of EE projects in the public and private sectors. The funding proposed from the State Budget should be seen as a tool to leverage greater resources from external parties (IFI and donors as well as private banks). To do this the EE Fund, in addition to direct financing, has the option of providing loan guarantees, subordinate debt, investment gap financing or interest-rate buy-downs.

National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP)

The Albanian Government has approved the 1st and the 2nd NREAP and they are defining the RES targets for all electricity, transport and heat sectors. The NREAP is based on Albania's obligations as a Contracting Party to the Energy Community Treaty to comply with EU Directives on the promotion of renewable energy sources. Albania is obliged to increase the portion of renewables to 38% of the total final energy consumption by 2020, which should be further increased up to 54% by 2030.

THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY IN ALBANIA

During the last years, several national efforts have been made in the country to sustain economic development and meet the commitments of EU standards and legislation as regards energy efficiency (EE) and renewable energy (RE) implementation. Albania has adopted the following legislative framework on EE and RE:

- ◆ **Law on Energy Efficiency:** In November 2015, Albania adopted the Law on Energy Efficiency (Law No. 124/2015), in order to transpose the provisions of the EU Directive 2012/27/EU into the Albanian legislative framework.
- ◆ **Law on Energy Performance of Buildings:** Albania has prepared a stand-alone law transposing the EU Directive on Energy Performance of buildings - EPBD (Law no.116/2016). This includes the requirements for new buildings occupied and owned by public authorities to meet the Nearly Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB) definition.
- ◆ **Law on Labelling of energy-related products:** In 2012 Albania adopted the Law on Indication of Consumption of Energy and Other Sources by Energy-related Products (Law no.68/2012, date 21.06.2012) which fully transposes the EU Directive 2010/30/EU. This law establishes obligation for informing the consumers with the energy consumption of energy-related products.
- ◆ **Law on Renewable Energy Sources:** The Albanian Parliament approved a new Law on RES (Law no.7/2017), which replaced the former Law on RES. The new RES Law partially transposes the Directive 2009/28/EU. The objective of the RES Law is to facilitate the harnessing of Albania's significant RE resources, in particular in the area of SHPPs, Solar Hot Water Systems, PV Power Plants, efficient traditional and industrial biomass heating systems as well as other RE sources.
- ◆ **Law on the production, transporting and trading of biofuels and other renewable fuels used in transport:** This Law (no. 9876, date 14.02.2008) promotes the production and use of renewable biofuels so as to replace oil by-products in the transport sector. The Law aims at fulfilling the obligations established by the the Kyoto Protocol and ensuring the supply of renewable energy resources by promoting the cultivation of energetic plants to protect the environment

Secondary legislation on EE

- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no.852, date 7.12.2016) on establishment and manner of organization and functioning of the Agency for Energy Efficiency.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers auditors (no.407, date 19.06.2019) on approval of procedures, categories, conditions and requirements of qualifications and professional experience for energy which defines the procedures, categories and requirements for issuance of the energy auditing certificates.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no.342, date 22.05.2019) on approval of procedures, categories, conditions and requirements of qualifications for energy auditors.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no.256, date 27.03.2020) on calculation methodology of optimum cost levels for the minimum energy performance of buildings, and building units and elements.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no.537, date 8.07.2020) on minimum requirements of energy performance of buildings and elements of buildings.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no.934, date 25.11.2020) establishing the criteria and procedures for the selection manner of energy performance certificates of buildings which shall be subject of evaluation and their monitoring process.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no.1094, date 24.12.2020) approving the national methodology of calculation of energy performance of buildings.

Secondary legislation on RES

- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no.839, date 5.12.2007) on setting conditions and procedures of reimbursement of excise tax and establishing the facilities for construction of power generation capacities with installed capacity not less than 5 MW, as amended.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no.687, date 22.11.2017) on approval of methodology for setting the annual purchasing price of electricity from existing Priority Producers. The Priority Producers include the small HPPs commissioned before the date of entering in force of Law no.7/2017 on RES with installed capacity less than 15 MW.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no.369, date 26.04.2017) on approval of methodology for setting the purchasing price of electricity produced by small solar and wind power generators.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no.27, date 17.01.2018) on approval of methodology for setting the purchasing price of electricity produced by small RES power generators using the biodegradable part of solid industrial, urban and rural wastes.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no. 349, date 12.06.2018) on approval of supporting measures for promotion of electricity use from solar and wind energies and the procedures of selection of their projects, as amended.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no. 822, date 7.10.2015) on approval of rules and procedures for construction of new power generation capacities that are not subject of concessions, as amended.
- ◆ Decision of the Council of Ministers (no. 519, date 13.07.2016) on approval of electricity market model.

The Agency for Energy Efficiency (AEE)

- ◆ The Agency for Energy Efficiency (AEE) is a public, budgetary legal entity under the responsibility of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy. AEE is responsible for improving and promoting energy efficiency throughout the energy cycle in all sectors and economic zones of the country, enabling consumers to reduce their energy supply costs and reduce the negative impact of environmental pollution and climate change. To achieve this, AEE undertakes a series of activities in the field of energy efficiency. The most important responsibilities of the EEA are set out in detail in Article 25 of the EE Law and include the following:
 - Development, implementation, and monitoring of policies, secondary legislation, and programs to promote energy efficiency in residential, industry, transport, and agricultural sectors
 - Development and monitoring of the NEEAP and the preparation of an annual progress report regarding its implementation
 - Cooperation with market participants and stakeholders to develop a database to monitor progress in improving energy efficiency
 - Development of technical standards and regulations to improve the energy efficiency of products in the residential, industry, transport, and agricultural sectors
 - Evaluation of projects that improve energy efficiency for potential funding from the EE Fund
 - Support, advice, and training to end users on energy efficiency programs
 - Verification of the accuracy of data from energy audits, if deemed necessary

National Agency of Natural Resources (AKBN)

- ◆ The National Agency of Natural Resources (AKBN) is a public institution financed by the state budget that supervises and monitors the use of natural resources in Albania. The National Agency of Natural Resources (AKBN) was established by Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 547, dated 09.08.2006 "On the creation of the National Agency of Natural Resources ", amended. The purpose of the creation of AKBN was the protection and good administration of the interests of the Albanian state in the hydrocarbon, mining, and energy fields. The AKBN's main objective is supervising the rational use of natural resources based on government policies and monitoring their post-use in the mining, hydrocarbon, and energy sectors.
- Proposal, consultation, and cooperation with the relevant structures of the Government for the drafting of its policies and strategies in the field of mining, hydrocarbons, and energy;
- Implementation of Government policies in the fields of mining, hydrocarbons, and energy;
- Promotion of mineral, hydrocarbon, water, and renewable energy sources;
- Proposing measures for increasing the use of energy in the energy cycle;
- ◆ Preparing and publication of the annual energy statistics at the national and regional levels following the EUROSTAT and the International Energy Agency methodologies.

Projects EE

Pilot Project for the improvement of Energy Efficiency in water supply plants, in the Municipality of Tepelena.

Pilot project for improving Energy Efficiency in wastewater treatment plants in the Municipality of Durrës. Study for the creation of the network for the installation of electric car charging stations in the territory of Albania.

Idea project on the electrification of urban and intercity transport lines in the municipalities of Tirana, Vlorë and Durrës.

Feasibility study and implementation project of Korca's heating system excluding wood. Urban and road lighting standards in the Republic of Albania

Replacement of urban lighting in several streets in the municipalities of Berat, Korçë, Permet and Shkodër.

Project for calculating the optimal cost for minimum conditions in buildings.

Pilot project for "Audit, certification, project design - implementation and realization of works for the installation of the lighting system with high energy efficiency, parking stations for electric cars, photovoltaic panels, in the eastern and western ring in the city of Shkodra" - Rruga e Clean Energy.

"Pilot project for the installation of lighting, parking, and electric vehicle charging system '2 km Smart-City – Clean Energy Road.

Projects RES

- There are signed 185 concession contracts, for the construction of 525 hydropower plants. Out of these, 165 are in production, 316 HPPs are in construction, and the rest are obtaining the necessary permits.
- 88 Applications for the construction of photovoltaic plants up to 2 MW. There are 12 authorization for the construction of small PV up to 2MW (Total capacity 24 MW), with FiT.
- Two auctions, for the construction of PV Plant with an installed capacity of 140 MW in Karavasta and 100 MW in Spitalla.
- Two authorization for the construction of two PV plants up to 50 MW each, without support measure.



UNECE Support

- ◆ Guidelines and Best Practices for Micro-, Small and Medium Enterprises in Albania in Delivering Energy-Efficient Products and Providing Renewable Energy Equipment (This Report contains information about available funding for energy efficiency (EE) and renewable energy (RE) in Albania). 2021
- ◆ **UNECE Renewable Energy Re-Uptake 2021 Hard Talks.** The “Hard Talk” is a discussion format on current topics of renewable energy held with relevant stakeholders of the participating member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and organized by the UNECE secretariat and partner organizations. 2021
- ◆ Report on an assessment of the geothermal resources of Albania 2022
- ◆ Mapping Albania’s readiness for green and just transition in post-coal mining areas. The objective of this project is to assess Albania’s readiness for green and just transition in local post-coal mining areas and to identify regulatory, social, technical, and financial barriers that the country will need to address to be able to successfully reclaim and repurpose its post-coal mining areas in accordance with the principles of green economy and just transition. 2023



Thank you for your attention!