

EEW4 External Event Report

Title of the event: **EUFORES ITALIAN NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY WORKSHOP:
“The Green Deal and the National Energy and Climate Plans in Italy”**

<i>Date & location:</i>	Thursday, 23 April, 2020, Online webinar
<i>Organiser(s):</i>	EUFORES together with the Environmental Committee of the Senate of Italy.
<i>Summary of the event</i>	<p>On Thursday, 23 April, 2020, The Green Deal and the National Energy and Climate Plans in Italy took place in close co-operation with the Environmental Committee of the Senate of Italy. The event was attended by 61 participants, including Members of the Italian Parliament. Other attendants of this conference included representatives from national ministries, the European Commission, embassies and selected scientific and industry representatives.</p> <p>During the conference, attendees shared opinions, thoughts and suggestions on how to accelerate the green energy transition taking in consideration the challenges that Italy is currently facing due to the economic and health crisis. Speakers presented the vision of the Italian government on how to implement what has been promised on the NECPs and how to introduce more ambitious and climate-friendly targets on the future. Speakers presented the multiple benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy and the different legislative and financial tools introduced on the past years. While the open discussion was focused on collecting different perspectives on how to make energy efficiency more appealing and socially accepted among Italian public authorities and citizens.</p>
<i>Objective & main programme point</i>	The event aimed at presenting the current situation of renewable energies and energy efficiency in Italy and how it is addressed via the National Energy and Climate plans, considering the EU’s Clean Energy Package and now the European Green Deal for the period 2021-2030.





Key Statements from the Discussion

- Energy efficiency is a crucial element of our policies. Energy must be accessible and affordable.
- The Green deal should be the core to restart economic activities after COVID19. The EU should be a driver on boosting energy transition, economic development and the creation of new jobs.
- Reduction of the GHG emissions: the energy sector is the core of this transformation based in renewables.
- A very important wave is the building innovation one, important because it will create jobs.
- Available technologies need to be employed and used in a sustainable way and we need to decarbonise all sectors and, in some sectors, will be more difficult, therefore we need to deploy energy storage technology.
- Italy has invested a lot to develop a strategy for renewables with the objective to have a structured plan that fits to the European Green Deal. The JTM and the funds are one of the pillars of this Deal. Italy wants to have a proactive role on this transition. Italy is not carbon dependent but is dealing with challenges in allocating resources while addressing other difficult situations.
- The Italian economy should become more resilient to health and economic shocks.
- European national economic, and financial systems must be aligned.
- Companies are crucial for a sustainable development. Companies in Italy are considered a benchmark in many countries.
- Simplified scheme of investments for the European Green Deal.
- The automotive sector is important in Italy, new facilities are needed for hybrid cars and electric cars.
- There are 500 million euros of non-spent structural funds in Italy.



- The Italian government wants to incentivise more than 100% of energy efficiency, but always in a sustainable way, taking in consideration also the effect on the citizens' energy bill.
- It is important to be ambitious but also credible when fixing targets. The Italian government approach is rather realistic, but also ambitious such as the targets on electricity (50%), and on transport.
- To reach the objectives Italy needs a better alignment of European and national policies. Environmental protection and the renewable energy development are sometimes clashing in Italy and probably current procedures are not enough to solve these conflicts.
- It is important to take into consideration costs in terms of company prices of energy, and the costs in terms of consumers' bill.
- Energy poverty: insulating houses can decrease their energy costs. We can create local jobs in the construction sector.
- The European policies we have now will not be enough to reach the energy efficiency target.
- The Italian government is working on a list of initiatives on energy poverty and energy community.
- We need to change behaviours. We need to change the way we live, change our mindset for decarbonisation.
- Energy efficiency is cost effective, but it is unattractive, it is not easy to communicate, it is complex, it affects existing assets, it is not a core business, therefore not a priority.
- Why do some invest in energy efficiency? Because some people really care about environment, in some cases they just have good leaders, other people simply do what they are obliged to do, while some other people look for incentives.
- The issue with energy efficiency is the lack of schemes, for every bad experience you need thirteen good experience to change the attitude.



- The usual narrative of the Italian government is “we did well, and we are very advanced compare to others”, but this is not true. To beat the narrative, we need to present facts. In Italy there are unspent money in energy efficiency, and this fact could be used as a narrative.

- People need to understand the benefits of energy efficiency and to have the financial tools to do this.

- Talking about success stories does not work, we need to transform our economy.

- In Italy, an incentive can be a tax deduction and still you do not see many.

- We have sold the wrong messages to the users, we should say more that improving energy efficiency means improving the quality of life

- The public administration is not ready to manage this innovation.

- If the demand side is not ready, even if you improve the offer, the demand does not understand what you are offering to them. Training is necessary

- Italy has money to do the necessary innovation, but the money is not labelled for energy efficiency usage.

The money is there, but there are lot of barriers around it.

- We need to have good market operations and information. The information that citizens and companies receive it is not enough to enable consumers to manage this type of intervention.

- The young people can be the right facilitators.

- In efficiency we are straggling already for a 32,5 % target of efficiency and to increase this target represents a huge challenge but also a necessity.

- We need new business models with changing behaviour, if we succeed in delivering new business models that could be applied worldwide.





Conclusions

Overall, speakers agreed on the necessity of having more ambitious targets on energy efficiency but especially on having concrete measures, such as financial and economic incentives for companies and users to reach the established targets.

Attendees asked for the Italian Parliament to be more supportive towards energy innovation, and a better alignment of national, local and European policies.

The PowerPoints are available [here](#).

Programme

Agenda

WORKSHOP

“The Green Deal and the National Energy and Climate Plans in Italy”

Organized in cooperation with the Senate of the Republic of Italy

Thursday 23 April 2020

9.00 – 16.00

Online Conference

Working languages: English and Italian – simultaneous interpretation provided

SESSION 1

9.00 – 9.10 Opening words (10 minutes)

Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES *English*

9.10 – 9.20 Welcoming speech (10 minutes)

Patty L’Abbate, Member of the Senate, Parliament of Italy *Italian*



SESSION 2

9.20 – 10.30: Setting the ambition for renewables and energy efficiency for Italy

The session will present the current situation of renewable energies and energy efficiency in Italy and how it is addressed via the National Energy and Climate plans, considering the EU's Clean Energy Package and now the European Green Deal for the period 2021-2030. The session intends to set the picture of the present to discuss the development of policies for the Italian renewable energy system of the future.

Chair: Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES *English*

- **9.20 – 9.27: Italy's contribution to the EU's 2030 targets on renewables and energy efficiency (7 minutes)**
Giulio Volpi, Policy Officer, RES & CCS Policy Unit, Directorate-General for Energy, European Commission *English*

Discussion with MPs

- **9.35 – 9.42: The impact of the Clean Energy Package & the European Deal on Italy's energy transition (7 minutes)**

Stefano Buffagni, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economic Development of Italy
Italian

Discussion with MPs



- **9.50 – 9.57:** Necessary tools and legislative incentives for the Italian Energy transition
(7 minutes)

Prof. Alessandro Zagarella, Deputy Head of Cabinet & of the Unit for European Union Affairs, Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea of Italy *Italian*

Discussion with MPs

- **10.05 – 10.12:** The energy transition and the Italian renewable energy sector: role and perspective
(7 minutes)

Giovanni Perrella, Senior Energy Advisor, Director General for Electricity Market, Renewables and Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Economic Development of Italy *Italian*

Discussion with MPs

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SESSION 5

14.00 – 16.00: EU Energy Efficiency Policy Implementation in Italy

This session discusses success stories on implementing energy efficiency policies in Italy and good practices for boosting investments in the field. Held as part of the Energy Efficiency Watch 4 project, the session aims at exploring the conditions and argumentative drivers for effective efficiency policies. Preliminary feedback received from business stakeholders in the project will form part of the discussion.



Chair: Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES *English*

14.00 - 14.05: Introduction (5 minutes)

Daniel Becker, Director, Navigant *English*

14.05 - 14.45: Input presentations

- 14.05 – 14.11: An EU perspective on how to get Member States on board for ambitious energy efficiency policies (7 minutes)

Paolo Bertoldi, Senior Expert, European Commission joint Research Centre
English

Discussion with MPs

- 14.20 – 14.27: The story around energy efficiency: how to make energy efficiency attractive for stakeholders and society (7 minutes)

Gianni Grotto, Member of the Senate of the Republic of Italy *English*

Discussion with MPs

- 14.35 – 14.41: Best practices: If energy efficiency makes business sense, why do some invest, and others don't? (7 minutes)

Dario Di Santo, Director of the Italian Federation for Energy Efficiency, FIRE
English

Discussion with MPs



14.50 - 15:00: Break

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SESSION 6

15.00 - 15.45: Open discussion on enabling factors and barriers for implementing energy efficiency in Italy

Chair: Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES *English*

Moderator: Daniel Becker, Director, NAVIGANT *English*

- **Gianni Giroto**, Member of the Senate of the Republic of Italy *English*
- **Paolo Bertoldi**, Senior Expert, European Commission joint Research Centre *English*
- **Monica Frassoni**, President, European Alliance to Save Energy *English*
- **Anna Moreno**, CEO, iBIMi *English*
- **Dario Di Santo**, Director, FIRE *English*

15.45 - 16.00 Closing Remarks (15 minutes)

Daniel Becker, Director, NAVIGANT *English*

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY WATCH

