

### **EEW4 External Event Report**

Title of "The European Green Deal and the National Energy and Climate

the Plan in Cyprus"

event:

Date & Thursday 16 June, 9:00-13:45 Cypriot Time, Zoom Event.

location:

Organiser | EUFORES

(s):

On Thursday 16 June, EUFORES with the framework of the Energy Efficiency Watch 4
of the
event

On Thursday 16 June, EUFORES with the framework of the Energy Efficiency Watch 4
organized a national parliamentary workshop in cooperation with the Cypriot
Parliament, and Member of Parliament Mr. Charalambos Theopemptou, Chairman of
the House Standing Committee on Environment.

Key points:

#### **Opening words**

Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES

- About EUFORES mission on RES and EE
- Network of MEPs and MPS
- It is an honour to be virtually in Cyprus today
- This is not a top-down teaching approach but a mutual exchange

### Welcoming speech

Annita Demetriou, H.E. The President of the House of Representatives - video message

- I congratulate EUFORES as well as my friend the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on the Environment, Mr. Charalambos Theopemptou, for this remarkable initiative.
- The issue of energy transition is becoming more relevant than ever
- The dramatic consequences of the Russian invasion of Ukraine highlighted the urgent need to break free from fossil fuels
- I welcome the "REPowerEU" Plan by the European Commission, aimed at eliminating the EU's dependence on Russian fossil fuels





- The Sustainability Plan in Cyprus includes ground-breaking reforms for green taxation, liberalization of the electricity market, acceleration of electricity, as well as investments to enhance energy efficiency and the optimal use of renewable energy sources (RES).
- I reaffirm the readiness of the House of Representatives to assist in every possible way in accelerating the energy transition of our country

### Welcoming speech

Ciaran Cuffe, Member of European Parliament, President of EUFORES

- Honoured to be here
- Energy is in the news; it is a hot day in Brussels even hotter at EP Parliament
- Discussion on RES and EED directives to reduce dependency on Russian oil, gas and coal
- EUFORES is a unique cross part organization within parliaments to have close collaboration between MPs and MEPs
- Encouraging to see Cyprus
- Cyprus potential leading Mediterranean state on RES
- Last year RES 14% of CY energy consumption aims 23 % by 2030
- CY introduces programmes for electric vehicles, plan to increase
- Eurasian interconnecting cable
- Ambition can be realised if the will is there
- EU Green Deal, speaking as MEP this year we see the revision of Fit for 55 %
  package this includes the revision of RES and EE directive to align this with the
  55% reduction goal. Now we have one more region, combat
- We need MS; like Cyprus to lead by example, encouraged by stakeholders today
- It is an important time, energy process is in the news, we know energy poverty is a big issue is heading headline of Brussels, we know RES and EE can help us tackle energy poverty.

### Energy Crisis – An opportunity or a challenge for youth?

Orestis Matsas, Coordinator of the 100,000 trees in Paphos Initiative

- Useful discussion on energy future in EU
- Step for all stakeholders to express their concern
- Expressing the concern of the NCP Cyprus
- Worried about how government are looking at this
- Policies in Cyprus I will say how these policies cannot respond to the criticality of CC
- The philosophy of the plan and implementation are in the wrong direction, diversion 14 % to achieve target for 2030.
- How can Cyprus reach this target?
- Our country 25 position for RES
- Solar energy should be used to its potential, absence of connectivity quality of air and absence of public consultation.





### Maria Kola, Young Climate Activist from Cyprus

- Why is energy an opportunity
- Challenge: we are the new generation called upon to fight, exercise pressure and resolve problems created by previous generations
- Opportunities: the creation of jobs, bridges for action and reaction to what is happening
- Climate crisis turned into an energy crisis, not only affecting our health, our
  economy and social life. It is a challenge as many young people emigrate their
  countries for better environment.
- We need to train young people so they can take all this jobs in the future generations.
- Youth should be building bridges and become agent of change
- Policy makers need to listen to what young people have to say as we are the present and the future of the country

### • The role of renewable energy and energy efficiency for the Cypriot green energy transition and the need to tackle energy poverty

Stavros Papadouris, Member of the House of Representatives, Standing Committee on Energy, Trade, Industry and Tourism – Cyprus Greens-Citizens Cooperation

- Cypriot household, energy poverty will reach higher rates
- The tools are available, the resilience and recovery plan, so the ball is in the hands of government
- We need social and economic justice, and cooperation within EU member states, between legislative an executive power and between citizens who should ask more from their government and their state, because they are the ones who must pay these energy bills
- All people have the right for a clean air, it's a given fact.

### **SESSION 1: Renewable energy and energy efficiency**

## The role of renewable energy and energy efficiency for a sustainable recovery and economy in Cyprus

Charalambos Rousos, Director of the Energy Service, Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry

- Policies in energy sectors must be targeted in lifting energy isolation and operating electricity energy market
- Boosting role of consumers in energy market and boosting households and businesses to be able to survive in the increased energy markets
- The policies to promote RES and saving energy for 2030 are our objectives as well





- The energy region of RES has reached 17% and the goal was 14% for 2020
- In other sectors ratio of RES has exceeded in cooling and heating, the goal was
   24%
- Achieving goals in Res implemented through different actions
- Promotion of Res in colling and heating
- Energy saving, important issue regarding green development we have reached our 2020 goal.
- We implemented the goals further and managed to save big amount of oil for 2030
- When implementing this plans, we take measures to mobilise private investments.

### • The urgent need to design an efficient energy policy in Cyprus

Charalambos Theopemptou, Member of the House of Representatives, Chairman of the House Standing Committee on the Environment

- The design of an effective energy policy in Cyprus is urgent because:
- The price of energy is very high in relation to the incomes of a large percentage of the population and immediate action needs to be taken to help, especially the vulnerable groups.
- The average energy poverty of Cyprus exceeds the EU average.
- For the last ten years we have had minimum standards for the energy efficiency of buildings, which is why about 80% of the building stock needs energy upgrades.
- In Cyprus, the largest and most energy-intensive buildings are the state hospitals, which cost millions of euros every year in heating, electricity, and cooling.
- Homeowners should be motivated to insulate their buildings.
- There are now obligations in the legislation for the energy efficiency of buildings and we will closely monitor its implementation.
- Traffic is getting worse every year and Nicosia holds the lead.
- Unfortunately, so far, the government, instead of taking real measures for the Public Transport, has just made some one-way lanes and the bus routes have started.
- Unfortunately, we have not taken advantage of this sunshine in Cyprus and we
  have not promoted the production of energy with photovoltaics as much as we
  should, and this was seen now with the high energy prices.
- The legislative framework as a tool for the development of the Renewable Energy





#### **Sources**

Chrisis Pantelides, Member of Parliament

- I will talk about the state and how the executive, legislative power the market and economy
- How all of us act to develop RES to the greater extent possible
- If there is political will to develop RES, the legislative framework is the main tool needed to achieve our objectives
- In June we voted a low on the use of RES and energy conservation fund
- We abolished a law of 2013 to promote RES and achieve targets on the use of electricity colling and heating
- We strengthened the role of citizen and operation of communities of RES so businesses and community and government can collaborate
- The share of energy of Res must be 13% so we can be within the target by 2030.
- Accelerating licencing procedures.
- RES do not protect only environment but also the economy in Country such as Cyprus as we have sun and wind energy

## • The challenges within the European energy union for the integration and development of a sustainable energy system: A special focus on Cyprus

Hans van Steen, Principal Adviser for an integrated renewable energy strategy towards the 2050 carbon neutrality objective, DG ENER, European Commission

- In the recent month the world of energy has changed profoundly
- Back in 8 months EU green Deal
- Suddenly energy prices exploded, disrupted the markets, and became the most important topic on EU agenda
- In Cyprus is felt as you have energy system dependent on fossil fuels, and they felt the consequence
- Commission created a tool in response to soften the consequences for most vulnerable consumers
- We have seen Russia military attack in Ukraine, we see there are big implications of energy because EU has allowed itself to be depended on Russian energy supplies.
- That is why the Commission came with Repower EU plan to reduce dependency from Russian gas and get rid from Russian imports by 2027, with a combination of EE and increase in RES and finding new suppliers for EU
- The backbone of response has to be the speeding up of EE and RES as key elements





- Eu Green Deal remains top priority for the commission, this is not just a strategy but a growth strategy
- The energy sector responsible of 75 % gas emission has to be at the centre of attention
- We need to improve EE in our sectors, higher target and binding targets, higher use of RES
- Framework of NECP, 22.9% that was done with a lower target, now with a new proposal of 45% we believe the contribution of Cyprus could be scaled up.
- There is scope for a focused effort in this area.

Questions and Answers Break

### **SESSION 2: Energy Efficiency**

- The Green scheme for energy savings and upgrading residences
   Nicos Hadjinicolaou, Industrial Extension Officer, Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry
- Building sector is a n area that provides a lot of financial opportunities and opportunities for development
- Improving financial incentives from ministries continues
- We try to employ other financial measures then grounds
- An attempt to make a scheme of soft loans for EE measures
- Effort for energy performance contracting as alternative way to EE measures
- Through RRF we are glad to see proposals that came out from other government institutions
- For building renovation: the cost is higher the willingness of building owner is not always given
- There is willingness to renovate in households and sectors
- We recognised that we have to adjust policy regulation to achieve this goal
- We need incentives for renovation to mobilise private incentives to achieve 3 % renovation rate to have a Co2 neutral building store by 2050.
- The untapped potential for energy efficiency in Cyprus
   Soulla Karra, Expert in Buildings, Cyprus Energy Agency CEA
- The need to create EE buildings with low impact derives from a complex context with derives from modern gas and bad management of EE resources
- Budlings in commercial sector, final energy consumption.
- Public school buildings to contribute EE in Cyprus, mobilise public and private investment





- Long term strategy for all public-school buildings
- Pilot project on cross boarder synergies, approved by Cyprus 2020 programme in Greece and Cyprus
- Police stations in Cyprus need improvements in renovation

### Determining cost-effective energy efficiency measures in buildings

Apostolos Michopoulos, Deputy-Director, Energy and Environmental Design of Buildings Research, University of Cyprus

- Market situation where energy prices are increasing, and intervention cost are increasing
- As laboratory we observed the energy situation in the market
- Energy prices and construction costs have increased in renovation projects
- I will focus on some outcomes that we achieved before the pandemic for the energy service
- The market conditions where milder, these re the conditions we will be facing once the crisis is over (Russian)
- We have an important building stock, we have 40060000 public building stock
- 90% of these buildings have been constructed before our regulation
- We have used the algorithm for residential sector developed for our service for our authority, the purpose of the algorithm is to detect optimal measure for financial efficiency that will lead to cost reduction.
- We have reached different energy upgrade measures we could mansion more specifically
- We have many detached houses in Cyprus, we want to so the final EE result
- Roof insulation we see the ration of investment costs related to energy savings
- Roof insulation is the most effective way to reduce costs for EE
- Electronic appliances and lightening systems
- We have facade insulation needed for keeping the heat in Cyprus

### Cross-border cooperation projects for energy savings in public buildings in the framework of the Interreg V-A Greece-Cyprus 2014-2020 Programme

Constantia Constantinou, Planning Officer A´, Directorate General Growth, Ministry of Finance

- The general directorate for growth is glad to be invited
- This programme which covered Greece and Cyprus





- Eligible authorities are local government authorities and priorities are set in the efficient
- First target to save EE in buildings
- We want to have buildings with high EE,
- The goal would be to transfer interventions in buildings in Cyprus
- We have renovated a historical building such as the National Archives and the Palace.

**Questions and Answers** 

### **SESSION 3 Energy Efficiency**

# Successful narratives in the Cypriot context for effective policy implementation

Daniel Becker, Director, Guidehouse

- We see a lack in implementation in EE policies that is because MS have fluctuating interest in making it happen
- We built 10 narrative cases to have ideally policies accompanied by right narratives
- The first cluster is in participation and transparency, and it is essential that when policies are established the process should involve stakeholders
- Often successful aspect in policies do not come out properly as they are counter argued by perceived costs, data should be proven and reliable
- We should work more on the image of technologies
- There are countries or sectors in countries where EE solutions are connotated as positive as they say it is good to be pioneers at the forefront and when we are early adopters
- This is a plea for seeing the potential of EE
- Remark on implication of Ukraine crisis for EE, energy was dominated by supply side this downplayed importance of EE
- EE needs to be recognised as pillar of diversification

# • An insight from within the island on the barriers for the development of energy efficiency

Ronald Diab, Managing Director, Energy Efficiency Group – EEG

- video message
  - About EEG group, goal and story





- General market conditions changed for EE
- The mandatory energy audit was supposed to create the interest in EE
- But the quality of audits was low, it destroyed the market movement of energy auditing
- Newly built buildings will have a prospect of EE
- The covid killed the EE market, the hospitality sector was into a standstill, so this had big consequences for us.
- The barriers for the development of EE are that there is a small market size, lack of trust from end users, subsidies are not the solution, there are no financial mechanisms for energy services, market instability, this business is not financially attractive.
- The most important subject should be between trade unions and associations between industry and hospitality the drive the market that is where the focus should be
- The focus in on competitivity, the equal to reducing the costs and taking this angle
- The focus on competitivity, equal to reduce cost
- There is a big movement of corporate sustainability movement that will help positively EE
- If there is a financial mechanism in place able to fund escos, if the quality of the services is raised, I see a good progress of EE in Cyprus, there is a good market across new sectors

### • Expert Panel

Moderator: Daniel Becker, Director, Guidehouse

Katerina Piripitsi, Energy Efficiency Expert, Ministry of Energy, Commerce, and Industry

- What Ronald has said is worrying, I don't see his company to be registered as a ESCO company in Cyprus
- These complications come very much up
- The big companies will see the benefit of big energy udit and implement interest rates
- We have samples of big companies that do implement the results that auditors say
- We are trying to see what the problems for the companies and households are to implement EE measures
- We are seeking ways to see what is the problem, the most important is that the household scheme is successful
- The aim is to have this scheme repeated every year





- We have schemes for individual measures as roof insulation combined with photovoltaics
- We are trying to increase measures for insulation and to make a campaign for people to understand the benefits of EE
- Energy savings have to be upfronted for people to understand the benefits for FF
- We are advertising small measures that people can do in their homes at any costs

Fanos Karantonis, Chairman, Cyprus Association of Renewable Energy Enterprises – SEAPEK

- Coming from the industry we believe that there is a lot of room for building awareness for the local community of the benefits of energy auditing
- Legislation is such as there are no SMES motivated to the direction of executing energy audits effectively
- There are critical milestones, smart metering and trigger energy management awareness.
- Smart meters is missing in our country it is important to have them from TSOs and DSOs
- Executing passive measure in buildings will not create active prosumers
- Glad about communication strategy prepared by the ministry
- I hope we will win this challenge and move our community to the direction of creating prosumers

### **Questions and Answers**

Charalambos Theopemptou, Member of the House of Representatives, Chairman of the House Standing Committee on the Environment

- When I was commissioner for the environment people seek and need information's with reliable data, everybody is looking for ways on saving energy
- This is missing in Cyprus we do not have any campaigns awareness raising and campaigns
- This is one for the big issues we should pay attention to
- All you need to do is to have a good contract that you sign with the company and have the funding
- Also, we need to have the experts in the industry, we need to deal with housing stocks in remote areas
- We met the minister of finance during the resilience plan we stressed the responsibility to build the industry
- You should do small tenders all over the island





- Small companies to get the work and expertise
- This starts by renovating government buildings, I do not understand why government is lacking behind
- All schools have a certain type of design, it is a disaster for EE
- Every year teachers and students do demonstrations on how bad the situation in the class is.
- We have much work to do, we don't see he work is done.

Daniel Becker, Director, Guidehouse

- The need for a concerted action should be brought higher in the agenda of Cyprus. There is awareness on the importance of energy efficiency from the stakeholders, but we should popularize the role of consumers to become a prosumer.
- All your statement illustrates well how on the one hand there is awareness form the stakeholders and a lot of new political initiatives
- The role of public buildings, Fanos mentioned the role of businesses and the smart meter problematic that involves the prosumers and improves the lack of popularization for the role of a consumer to become a prosumer.
- If we could think of something to continue the concerted action should be brought higher in the agenda
- We cannot more into depth here, but I hope we have future opportunities.

Objective & main program me point The main objective of the workshop was to trigger a fruitful discussion on the latest situation on energy efficiency and renewable energy sources development in Cyprus and more specifically the European Green Deal, the Climate Law and the Recovery Plan that will improve the status of the Cypriot National energy efficiency and renewable energy sources legislation and instruments.

The discussion took place between Members of Cyprus and European Parliament, representatives of ministries, industry, NGOs, scientists and other stakeholders.

Another objective was that to introduce the EEW4 survey results to the Cypriot energy community in order to brainstorm on successful narrative development for the implementation of policies that aim at the energy transition.

Conclusio

ns

The event presented the current situation for energy efficiency and renewable energies in Cyprus, and how they will be addressed via the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP), considering the European Green Deal and Recovery Plan.





- Overall Cyprus has the potential to lead by example, last year RES amounted to 14% of CY energy consumption. The new aim is 23 % by 2030. The ambition can be realised if the will is there. Our country 25 position for RES
- Solar energy should be used to its potential, absence of connectivity quality of air and absence of public consultation.
- From the EE side, It was clear that the need for a concerted action should be brought higher in the agenda of Cyprus. There is awareness on the importance of energy efficiency from the stakeholders, but we should popularize the role of consumers to become a prosumer.
- All your statement illustrates well how on the one hand there is awareness form the stakeholders and a lot of new political initiatives
- The role of public buildings, Fanos mentioned the role of businesses and the smart meter problematic that involves the prosumers and improves the lack of popularization for the role of a consumer to become a prosumer.
- If we could think of something to continue the concerted action should be brought higher in the agenda
- We cannot more into depth here, but I hope we have future opportunities.

Mr. Charalampos Theopemptou, Member of Parliament and host of the event complimented on the organization and content of the workshop. "These are topics that I feel a lot of parliamentarians need to be informed and I would urge you to consider a training type information workshops, documentation."



Program me







### WORKSHOP

## The European Green Deal and the National Energy and Climate Plan in Cyprus

Organized in cooperation with the House of Representatives of Cyprus

16 June 2022

**9h00 – 13h45 Cyprus Time** 8h00 – 12h45 Brussels time

#### **Online Conference**

Working languages: English and Greek with simultaneous interpretation provided

### Opening Session 9h00 – 9h30

• 9h00 – 9h05	Opening words Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES
• 9h05-9h10	Welcoming speech Annita Demetriou, H.E. The President of the House of Representatives - video message -
• 9h10 – 9h15	Welcoming speech Ciaran Cuffe, Member of European Parliament, President of EUFORES
• 9h15 – 9h20	Energy Crisis – An opportunity or a challenge for youth?  Orestis Matsas, Coordinator of the 100,000 trees in Paphos Initiative  Maria Kola, Young Climate Activist from Cyprus
• 9h20 – 9h30	The role of renewable energy and energy efficiency for the Cypriot green energy transition and the need to tackle energy poverty Stavros Papadouris, Member of the House of Representatives, Standing Committee on Energy, Trade, Industry and Tourism - Cyprus Greens-Citizens Cooperation





### SESSION 1: Renewable energy and energy efficiency 9h30 – 10h30

Setting the ambition for renewable energy and energy efficiency in Cyprus

The session will present the current situation for renewable energy and energy efficiency in Cyprus, and how they will be addressed via the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP), considering the European Green Deal and Recovery Plan. The session intends to set the picture of the present and discuss the development of policies for the renewable energy and energy efficiency system of the future of Cyprus.

Chair: Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES

### Input speeches

•	9h30 – 9h40	The role of renewable energy and energy efficiency for a sustainable recovery and economy in Cyprus Charalambos Rousos, Director of the Energy Service, Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry
•	9h40 – 9h50	The urgent need to design an efficient energy policy in Cyprus Charalambos Theopemptou, Member of the House of Representatives, Chairman of the House Standing Committee on the Environment
•	9h50 – 10h00	The legislative framework as a tool for the development of the Renewable Energy Sources Chrisis Pantelides, Member of Parliament
•	10h00 - 10h10	The challenges within the European energy union for the integration and development of a sustainable energy system: A special focus on Cyprus

11h10 - 10h15 Questions and Answers

Hans van Steen, Principal Adviser for an integrated renewable energy strategy towards the 2050 carbon neutrality objective, DG ENER,

10h15 - 10h30 Break



European Commission



### SESSION 2: Energy Efficiency 10h30 - 11h20

### EU energy efficiency policy implementation in Cyprus

This session discusses success stories on implementing energy efficiency policies in Cyprus and good practices for boosting investments. Held as part of the Energy-Efficiency-Watch 4 project, the session aims at exploring the conditions and argumentative drivers for effective policies.

Chair: Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES

•	10h30 – 10h40	The Green scheme for energy savings and upgrading residences Nicos Hadjinicolaou, Industrial Extension Officer, Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry
•	10h40 - 10h50	The untapped potential for energy efficiency in Cyprus Soulla Karra, Expert in Buildings, Cyprus Energy Agency - CEA
•	10h50 - 11h00	Determining cost-effective energy efficiency measures in buildings Apostolos Michopoulos, Deputy-Director, Energy and Environmental Design of Buildings Research, University of Cyprus
•	11h00 – 11h10	Cross-border cooperation projects for energy savings in public buildings in the framework of the Interreg V-A Greece-Cyprus 2014-2020 Programme  Constantia Constantinou, Planning Officer A', Directorate General Growth, Ministry of Finance

11h10 - 11h20 Questions and Answers





### SESSION 3 Energy Efficiency 11h20 – 12h15

#### Enabling factors and barriers for implementing energy efficiency in Cyprus

The Energy-Efficiency-Watch 4 project tries to create a better understanding of the national debate and motivation on efficiency policies and good practices. This session focuses on the influential narratives in Cyprus. Preliminary feedback received from business stakeholders in the project will form part of the discussion.

Chair: Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES

• 11h20 – 11h30 Successful narratives in the Cypriot context for effective policy

implementation

Daniel Becker, Director, Guidehouse

• 11h30 – 11h40 An insight from within the island on the barriers for the

development of energy efficiency

Ronald Diab, Managing Director, Energy Efficiency Group - EEG

- video message -

• 11h40 – 12h00 Expert Panel

Moderator: Daniel Becker, Director, Guidehouse

• Katerina Piripitsi, Energy Efficiency Expert, Ministry of Energy, Commerce, and Industry

• Fanos Karantonis, Chairman, Cyprus Association of Renewable Energy Enterprises – SEAPEK

12h00 - 12h15 Questions and Answers

12h15 - 12h30 Break

Sessions 1, 2 and 3 have been organized in the framework of the <u>Energy Efficiency Watch 4</u> project. Energy-Efficiency-Watch 4 (EEW4) is a HORIZON 2020 project, coordination, and support action, aiming at supporting policy makers in EU MS in improving the degree of a successful implementation of policy instruments for energy efficiency, and thus contributing to reaching the target of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED).





**Pictures** 











