

EEW4 External Event Report

Title of the event: National Business Stakeholder Workshop in Cyprus "Business perspectives on energy efficiency policy"

Date & location:

Online event:

First session: 15 June 2020, 10:00 – 12:00
Second session: 16 June 2020, 10:00 – 12:00

Organiser(s):

Navigant, supported by the CEA (Cyprus Energy Agency)

Summary of the event

The National Business Stakeholder Workshop in Cyprus was held as an interactive online event in two consecutive sessions on 15 and 16 June 2020. Over 40 business stakeholders participated in the vivid discussions on effective energy efficiency policies in Cyprus and their success factors. The role of narratives in the debate on energy efficiency in Cyprus was the focus of the second session of the workshop.

In his welcome note, Savvas Vlachos, Director of the CEA, provided an overview on the progress of Cyprus in the field of energy efficiency. The transport sector represents the largest share in the total final energy consumption of Cyprus. The CEA sees the best opportunities for energy savings in the secondary (manufacturing) and tertiary (trade, commerce and services) sectors. Together, both sectors represent about 27% of the total final energy consumption which is about 4,000 GWh.

Further inputs were provided by the Energy Agency of Upper Austria from the EEW consortium to promote the Energy Efficiency Watch Survey and by the Cyprus Employers and Industrialists Federation (OEB). The workshop was moderated by Daniel Becker, Director at Navigant, a Guidehouse company.

Objective & main programme point

The aim of the workshop was to collect input on existing narratives around energy efficiency and to receive input from business stakeholders with a view to developing narratives for enabling implementation of energy efficiency policies and measures in the EU and on national level.

Conclusions

A dialogue between administration and citizens as well as between local and municipal administration and EU is lacking. EU policies are perceived



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to be a driver of change at national level, however, in the public debate in Cyprus, emphasis is given to penalties and obligations that are associated with the EU. Stakeholder dialogue with the right format to encourage exchange between all stakeholders could support the acceptance and implementation of energy efficiency measures.

Procedures and bureaucracy should be simplified as far as possible to enable SMEs and other businesses to take energy efficiency measures. Establishing an investment bank for business development and supporting capacity building in the banking sector is recommended to increase the uptake of energy efficiency projects. It was further reported that the banking sector in Cyprus would benefit from technical capacity building in order to effectively implement financial instruments such as market-based loans for energy efficiency measures.

Municipalities and local authorities should be actively involved and drive Energy efficiency within the community. Strategies and policies for the tourism and transport sector are needed and should be implemented effectively. Education programs considering environmental protection and energy efficiency for all ages are important to bring forward changes.

Attached:

- Programme
- Pictures



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Programme

First session: 15 June 2020, 10:00 – 12:00 (Cyprus time) Factors of successful energy efficiency implementation

10:00 – 10:10	Welcome & Introduction with inputs from CEA & OEB
10:10 – 10:30	Background: Energy Efficiency Watch
10:30 – 11:15	Breakout sessions: Energy efficiency instruments and factors of successful implementation
11:15 – 11:30	Summaries from breakout sessions
11:30 – 12:00	Reflection and open discussion

Second session: 16 June 2020, 10:00 – 12:00 (Cyprus time) **Developing narratives for promoting energy efficiency**

10:00 – 10:20	Background: Narratives for promoting energy efficiency
10:20 – 11:30	Plenary discussions: Argumentative drivers for implementation and acceptance of energy efficiency instruments
11:30 – 12:00	Joint conclusions



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Pictures

First session

Energy Efficiency Watch 4 Input formats

- · Workshops with business stakeholders
- · Online survey with energy experts
- Workshops with MPs from the European Parliament and national parliaments
- Inputs from partner networks Energy Cities, FEDARENE, ECEEE (Borg & Co)
- · Focus group









Good-practice policies and even well-designed instruments remain behind their potential in some Member States due to poor implementation



Main reason for poor implementation is typically lack of political will in combination with societal dispute about the importance of energy efficiency



Embedding efficiency in shared narratives that resonate with the individual situation of a country or region is key for broad acceptance



Second session



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Energy Efficiency Watch 4 From good practice to narrative



Good practice example

e.g. wind turbine revenues, or allowances for municipality owned e-vehicles

Story

e.g. press release or other publicity about good practice or other project

Narrative

Story is embedded in broader context, using arguments/ element from other policy fields



'Without stories, no consensus'



40

Energy Efficiency Watch 4 Narrative examples: EU energy policy



Common energy efficiency narrative

Compared to 2005, energy efficiency in the EU led to 9.2% less primary energy consumption while GDP grew by 16% implying annual savings of €55 billion.

Communication of Green New Deal

"Today is the start of a **journey**. The Green New Deal is the **man on the moon moment** for Europe"







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