

EEW4 External Event Report

Title of the event: eceee 2022 Summer Study opening plenary and cocktail reception

Date & location:	6 June 2022, 18:00 to 19:30 hrs, eceee Summer Study opening session, Hyères, France. Followed by a cocktail reception.
Organiser(s):	Borg & Co with affiliated partner eceee
Summary of the event	<p>Introduction and welcome (Nils Borg, Borg & Co)</p> <p>Nils Borg gave a short welcome and introduction to the Summer Study in general, then moved on the Energy Efficiency Watch 4 project. He stressed the importance of introducing narratives into the work of the eceee community. He also underlined that a number of papers and presentations expected during the week to come would indeed bring narratives of energy efficiency and the energy transition in focus.</p> <p>Christiane Egger, OÖ Energisparverband:</p> <p>Christiane Egger gave an overview of the Energy Efficiency Watch 4 project, and, in particular provided a short summary of the EEW4 survey findings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EEW4 project aims at speeding up energy efficiency policy development and implementation on all levels (EU, national, regional, local) etc • 4 phases – EEW1: 2006-2009, EEW2: 2009-2013, EEW3 2014-2017, EEW4 2019-2022, EEW5 <p>approved😊</p> <p>The Energy Efficiency Watch Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contrary to what many in our community may believe, energy efficiency as such is not high on the priority of policy makers. • She also stressed that despite the intuitive feelings, energy security is not highly prioritized.



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- The WHY is often missing: lack of strong narratives
- Are we talking to the right people and about the right things?
- Most important topics – Jobs, industrial competitiveness, investments. Are the subjects linked to EE? Subjects linked positively or negatively? – results of the survey presented.

Who are the important influencer groups in different countries, following the survey result?

1. Associations of large industries (very strong result, very clear).
2. Trade Unions
3. Chambers of commerce.

Importance of the groups? Ms Egger concluded that associations of industry are seen as the most important group in most countries.

- Which is their position in EE? Associations of industry: Sometimes positive, mixed approach (half/half). Sometimes negative.
- More attention to industry, jobs and competitiveness.
- Addressing large stakeholder groups
- New messages and new stakeholder interaction
- Need for better data on benefits beyond climate protection and cost savings.
- Hope the EU will adapt the message that EE is important for competitiveness and job creation.

Thoughts on the implications of the Ukraine crisis: What should energy efficiency policies AND related narratives look like in times like these?

- Current price crisis is also the result of insufficient attention to energy security (also ranked low in the survey) and also to energy efficiency
- Public debate still very much focused on supply options (clean and less clean ones). Energy efficiency insufficiently perceived as a pillar of diversification in public debate



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- High fossil fuel prices will drive energy efficiency to a certain extent. But how sustainable will this impetus be? How far will it bring us? Certainly not the full potential!
- What should new narratives for energy efficiency look like in times like these? Clear need for updating existing ones and remain flexible for new developments!
- How can we – as the energy efficiency community - support such new narratives as one instrument in filling the "Energy Efficiency First" principle with life in all policy areas and for all energy consumers?

Reinventing energy efficiency for Net Zero (Jan Rosenow, The Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP))

Five challenges for energy efficiency:

- Full decarbonisation
- Flexibility
- Hydrogen
- Cheaper renewables
- Electrification

Most European countries still subsidise fossil fuel heat: Share of electricity

- Share of electricity expected to increase to almost 50% by 2050
- Electrification is energy efficiency

Flexibility

Hydrogen

- When we use energy will become as important as how much we use
- Energy efficiency provides flexibility
- Hydrogen unlikely to become cheaper than fossil fuel prices
- Direct electric strategy “cheaper net-zero pathway, as it foregoes the costs for an extensive renovation of both heating equipment and insulation in existing residential and commercial buildings”

Policy implications



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Rosenow claims that energy efficiency must be reinvented to as to find more holistic strategies. Simply efficiency won't be enough, but it has to be paired with sensible and realistic electrification strategies.

EU and Energy Efficiency – Latest developments, Radoš Horáček, European Commission

Radoš Horáček gave an overview of energy efficiency as now being in the centre or strongly relevant for basically all directives and policy initiatives in the EU.

Energy efficiency at the centre of

- EED
- EPBD
- RED
- CO2 for cars
- ETS extension
- Ecodesign and Labelling

Main elements of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED)

- Binding EU energy efficiency target & indicative national contributions

-9 % as compared to 2020 Reference Scenario for 2030

- 'Energy Efficiency First' Principle

Integral part of energy related policy and investment decisions

- Strengthened energy savings obligation in end-use

1.5 % of annual FEC saved, cumulatively, new fossil fuels do not count

- Stronger exemplary role of public sector

1.7 % annual consumption reduction

- Increased focus on alleviating energy poverty and consumer empowerment

Energy performance of Buildings Efficiency Directive (EED)

- New buildings – Nearly zero-energy zero emission
- Worst-performing buildings – Minimum standards



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- Planning and Information tools: Building Renovation Plans, Energy Performance Certificates Building, Renovation Passports

Additional proposal to Fit for 55

Energy Efficiency Directive: EU energy efficiency target 13%

- Achieving short-term energy savings through behavioural change
- Key sectors: heating in households and services, transportation
- Information campaigns on individual actions : turn down heating, encouraging train and cycle use
- Supporting actions: rebates on energy-efficient appliance purchase, reduced VAT on high efficiency heating systems and to replace fossil fuels
- Potential savings

Accelerating mid- to long-term energy efficiency measures

- Strengthen regulatory framework through FitFor55
- Incentivise acting on energy audits
- Smart controls in buildings and district heating
- Increase energy efficiency in transport e.g. motorway speed limits,
- minimum share of electric vehicles

Financing

RRPs and MFF (cohesion funds, InvestEU, JTF, ETS, LIFE ...), Technical assistance for financing and investments, Innovative ESCOs, European Energy Efficiency Financing Coalition

Governance and partners



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Covenant of Mayors, 100 Climate-neutral and Smart Cities Mission, Energy savings partnerships with specific sectors, Islands initiative, Initiative on Coal Regions

Claude Turmes (Minister for Energy and Spatial Planning, Luxembourg)

Claude Turmes delivered a talk (no slides available, the talk was held without slides) that was in many ways very positive on the role of the European Commission and the EU as a whole. Some highlights:

- EU is now a climate and energy efficiency leader, even if most of us present in the room would like to see higher ambition. Some chuckles in the audience as he said this, but Mr Turmes remained firm on this.
- He pointed out that we cannot afford to drag our feet: We must quickly and ambitiously implement the various policy measures outlined previously by Radoš Horáček.
- The Russian invasion and the energy repercussions will generate a very large blow to the EU (and global) economy. Mr Turmes said he fears a recession similar to that after the Lehman crash, but that massive energy efficiency investments may be able to serve as a cushion and keep us off another crash.
- It is crucial not to get stuck on hydrogen but to forcefully move forward on energy efficiency. Hydrogen is important, according to Mr Turmes, but it must be used for the right purposes. The same is true for new nuclear: it is expensive and takes too long time, and if anything this is a serious distraction from the things we need to do now.

In the general discussion afterwards it was hard to get participants on the audience to focus on narratives. There was more interest in the direct “mechanics” and details of the new EED and EPBD proposals.

After the plenary participants spent an hour for informal discussions during the cocktail reception that followed immediately after the plenary session.

*Objective
& main
programme
point*

The EEW4 expert survey and findings were presented to a large expert audience at the ecee 2022 Summer Study. Overall, the event was interactive and highly attended, speakers agreed that even if the EU is now a climate and energy efficiency leader, most of us present in the room would like to see higher ambition.



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	<p>Contrary to what many in our community may believe, energy efficiency as such is not high on the priority of policy makers. Energy efficiency must be reinvented to as to find more holistic strategies.</p>
<p>Conclusions</p>	<p>Contrary to what many in our community may believe, energy efficiency as such is not high on the priority of policy makers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She also stressed that despite the intuitive feelings, energy security is not highly prioritized. • The WHY is often missing: lack of strong narratives
<p>Programme</p>	<p>18:00 – 18:10 Welcome & introduction, Nils Borg, Borg & Co/eceee, plus summer study co-chairs, Agneta Persson and Joanne Wade.</p> <p>Why are we here? Introduction and context (Nils Borg, Borg & Co) and Summer Study co-chairs</p> <p>18:10 – 18:30 EEW4 results and survey, Christiane Egger, OÖ Energisparverband, Austria</p> <p>18:30 – 18.45 Reinventing energy efficiency for Net Zero</p> <p>Jan Rosenow, The Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP)</p> <p>18:45 – 19.00 EU and Energy Efficiency – Latest developments</p> <p>Radoš Horáček, European Commission, Energy Efficiency Unit, DG ENER.B2</p> <p>19.00- 19:15 Claude Turmes, Minister of Energy, Luxembourg</p> <p>19.15-19.30 Relating to ee narratives (All)</p>



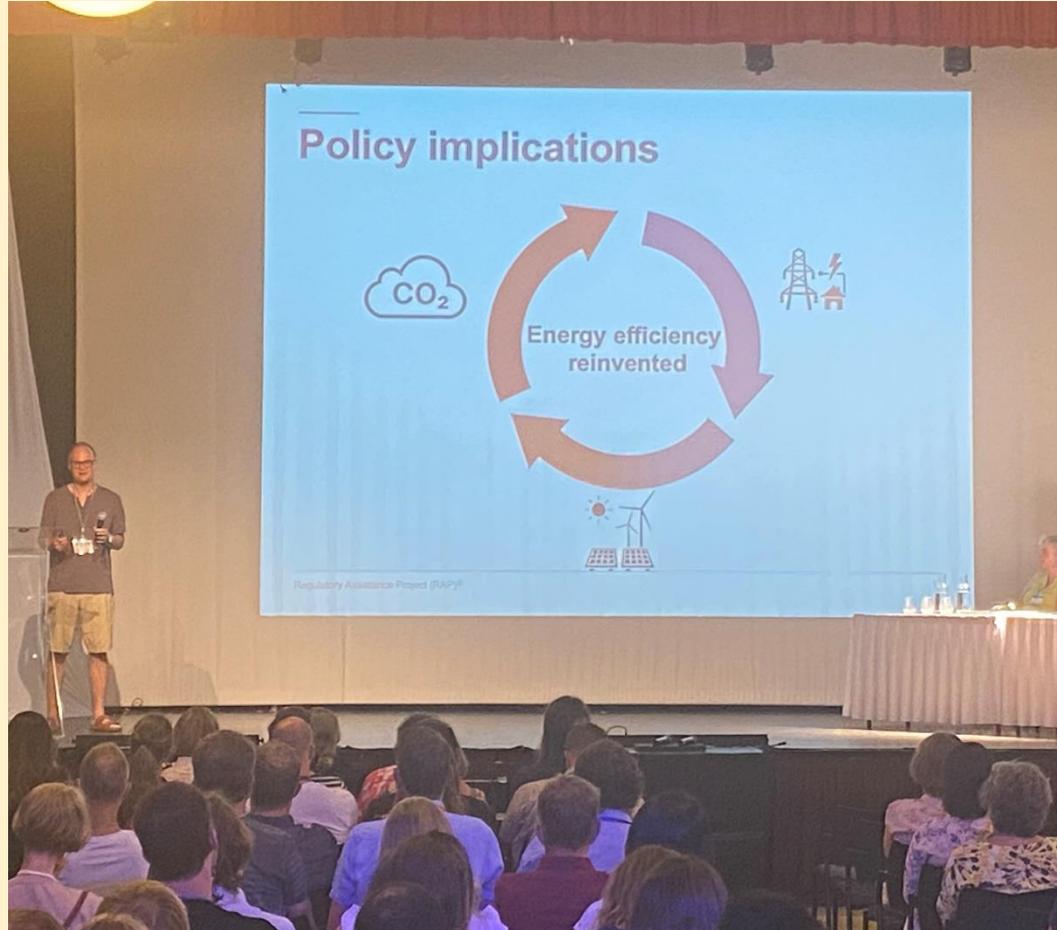
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ENERGY EFFICIENCY WATCH

Pictures



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