

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY COORDINATION GROUP

### WORK PROGRAMME 2021 – 2022

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## INTRODUCTION

The Energy Efficiency Coordination Group (EECG) was established in 2013 as a broad platform for cooperation between representatives of ministries and agencies in charge for energy efficiency from Contracting Parties (CPs - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo\*, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Ukraine), Observer Countries and Participants; its key objective is to facilitate the transposition of EE directives into national legislation and to support effective implementation. EECG also plays an important role as an initiator, coordinator and implementation partner of diverse regional technical assistance and investment programmes. The strong support offered by donors/IFIs (EU, EBRD, EIB, KfW, USAID, World Bank, EU4Energy etc.) is very important and valuable for a successful implementation of the EECG Work Programme.

There are various grounds for the continuation of the EECG work: transposition and/or implementation of current EE *acquis* is ongoing; moreover, the EU revised key pieces of EE legislation under the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package (Energy Efficiency Directive - EED, Energy Performance of Buildings Directive - EPBD, Labelling and Ecodesign Regulation, etc.), and these would need to be carefully analysed and incorporated in the Energy Community; EE as a cross-sectoral issue asks for extensive and broader cooperation and coordination; CPs (especially new CPs) need the exchange of best practices and technical assistance, even more than the "old" CPs; coordination and better utilization of available donor's support programmes etc. In many instances, CPs report on insufficient administrative capacity and lack of staff, other administrative barriers, underdeveloped systems for EE reporting and monitoring, need for new and innovative financing mechanisms, including development of ESCO market etc. Through the work of EECG some of these shortcomings are also tackled.

This Work Programme includes 4 Chapters and 10 Expert Areas, and focuses on the implementation of key requirements of EE directives in the Energy Community, in particular amended EED, promotion of the exemplary role of the public sector and energy services, efficiency on the supply side and promotion of EE financing. Strong focus of EECG remains on EE in buildings with activities related to the buildings' renovation wave, strategies, and implementation of EPBD (and new requirements), as well as energy efficiency product policy (labelling and eco-design).

It continues the work undertaken under the Work Programme 2019-2020 and follows the example of EU Concerted Actions to support the effective implementation of EE directives. It may also include other activities arising from the extension of the EnC Treaty and will promote stronger involvement of new CPs and candidate countries.

The EECG elects a co-chair among the participating CPs<sup>2</sup>, who co-chair meetings together with the EnC Secretariat and the European Commission. The Expert Area Leaders from CPs and Observers coordinate implementation of respective WP Expert Areas, organise discussions and summarise key findings and recommendations during the EECG meetings.

EECG will have three meetings per year, combined with training workshops. The summary table below provides an overview of expert areas and tasks for implementation of EE directives, as well as horizontal and cross-cutting activities.

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*\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and it is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.*

<sup>2</sup> *At the EECG meeting to be held on 17 March 2021, CP will elect a co-chair and expert area leaders for the period of implementation of the Work Programme 2021-2022.*

## Work programme – summary table

EECG Work Programme 2021-2022 (Summary)		2021				2022			
Expert Areas / Tasks	Sub-tasks	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter
<b>1. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY DIRECTIVE</b>									
<i>EA 1: POLICY PLANNING, MONITORING AND VERIFICATION OF SAVINGS</i>									
<b>1. EED Implementation and new requirements</b>	Amended EED requirements: Article 7 - Energy savings obligation Article 9 - Metering for gas, electricity, heating, cooling and domestic hot water Article 10 and 11 - Billing and consumption information for heating, cooling and domestic hot water								
<b>2. Monitoring and reporting on targets and savings</b>	2030 targets setting The link between EE targets and GHG targets								
	Setting up a reliable monitoring and verification of energy efficiency savings system								
	Reporting on savings achieved by 2019 and 2020								
	Preparation and implementation of the EE pillar of NECPs								
<i>EA 2: PROMOTION OF THE EXEMPLARY ROLE OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR</i>									
<b>1. Public buildings</b>	Renovation of central government buildings (Article 5 EED) - inventory, annual plans for renovation								
	Exemplary role in long term buildings renovation strategies								
	Use of energy performance contracts for building renovation (programmes and projects)								
<b>2. Purchasing by public bodies</b>	Procurement guidelines, training of procurement authorities								
	Exchange of best practices, reporting								
<i>EA 3: ENERGY SERVICES, ENERGY AUDITS AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</i>									
<b>1. Development of enabling framework</b>	Model Contracts and Guidelines for ESCO projects, reporting								
	Establishment and implementation of national minimum criteria for energy audits and energy management								
<b>2. Implementation</b>	Qualification, accreditation and certification schemes								
	Workshop and exchange of implementation practices								
<i>EA4: EFFICIENCY IN ENERGY SUPPLY, CHP AND HEATING/COOLING</i>									



	Development of the NZEB Targets and Action Plans								
<b>2. Energy performance certification and inspection of systems, training &amp; control of experts</b>	Update / implement the regulation on EP certification buildings and inspection of systems								
	Independent control systems / registries								
	Training and control of experts and inspectors								
	Progress reports								
<b>3. Amended EPBD - new requirements</b>	Analysis of new requirements /recommendations for transposition in the Energy Community: smart technologies and 'smart readiness' indicator, promotion of e-mobility, social aspect etc.								
	Roadmap and implementation								
<b>3. ENERGY LABELLING AND ECODSIGN</b>									
<i>EA 9: TRANSPOSITION AND ANALYSIS OF NEW REQUIREMENTS</i>									
<b>Transposition/New requirements</b>	Transposition of new labelling framework regulation and delegated acts								
	Analysis/recommendations for new or updated regulation								
	Progress reports								
<i>EA 10: IMPLEMENTATION PRACTICES</i>									
<b>1. Monitoring, Verification and Enforcement</b>	Data collection and situation analysis								
	Regional policy guidelines								
	Reporting and implementation practices								
<b>2. Promotional activities</b>	Reporting on awareness raising activities and incentives implemented in CPs								
	Procurement practices								
	Exchange of best practices								
<b>4. HORIZONTAL AND CROSS CUTTING ISSUES</b>									
<b>1. Analysis of new EU policy requirements and recommendations, coordination of work on 2030 targets and integrated NECPs (jointly with the Energy and Climate Committee and RE Coordination Group)</b>		<i>Continuous (to be implemented based on the demand/needs)</i>							
<b>2. Strengthening of national institutions for energy efficiency</b>									
<b>3. Coordination of donors/IFI support on energy efficiency</b>									
<b>4. Promotion of EE&amp;RE in heating and cooling - joint events, policies and measures (in close collaboration with RE Coordination Group)</b>									
<b>5. Development of energy efficiency statistics and indicators</b>									

# 1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY DIRECTIVE

❖ Expert Area 1: Policy planning, monitoring and verification of savings

**Expert Area Leaders: Montenegro, Georgia (TBC)**

📁 SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

## Task 1: EED Implementation and new requirements

The Energy Efficiency Directive 2012/27/EU (EED) was adopted by the Ministerial Council of the Energy Community in October 2015, repealing the Energy Services Directive 2006/32/EC (ESD) as well as the Cogeneration Directive 2004/8/EC.

In December 2018, the EU adopted **Directive (EU) 2018/2002**, amending Energy Efficiency Directive 2012/27/EU (EED). The Energy Community is expecting that the Ministerial Council will adopt the amendments to EED in December 2021. The 2021-2022 Work Programme reflects the amended articles as in Directive (EU) 2018/2002. The WP 2021-2022 will focus on both existing obligations and **implementation of EED**, as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/2002.

Working sessions of EECG will discuss the transposition of the amended articles as follows:

- Article 7 - Energy savings obligations;
- Article 9 - Metering for gas, electricity, heating, cooling and domestic hot water;
- Article 10 and 11 - Billing and consumption information for heating, cooling and domestic hot water.

⇒ DELIVERABLES

1. Roadmap for the implementation of Directive 2018/2002
2. Preparation for transposition of the amended articles/Models of legislation/regulation (exchange of best practices)
3. EED progress reports as these are required by EED

⇒ WORK APPROACH

Activities will be performed by the EECG, with possible bilateral or regional technical assistance and in cooperation with CA EED. EC and ECS will facilitate EECG's work by bringing in EU MS examples of transposition of the amended EED.

## Task 2: Monitoring and reporting on targets and savings

The main task in 2021 will be to set up the 2030 targets on energy efficiency, both at national level, as well as the Energy Community level. This exercise will be based on the results of modelling study commissioned by the European Commission in January 2021.

1. EECG will analyse and discuss the proposed national targets and compare these with country's own level of ambition.
2. EECG will report on the contribution of their proposed national level of ambition in EE to achieving the national target for GHG.

3. EECG will discuss the setting up a reliable monitoring and verification mechanisms for energy efficiency savings.
4. EECG will report on savings achieved in CPs Annual Reports prepared in 2021 and 2022.

EECG members will lead the process of development of NECPs in CPs for the energy efficiency pillar, exchange experience and send drafts to the ECS for first review, prior the official submission for approval by national authorities.

⇒ DELIVERABLES

1. Targets for 2030 on energy efficiency
2. Annual Report on 2019 and 2020 energy savings
3. A monitoring and verification of savings procedure/system

⇒ WORK APPROACH

In order to assist the Contracting Parties, donors' technical assistance should be provided, based on Contracting Parties' request and donors' availability (including EU, GIZ, REEP Plus, EBRD, USAID etc.).

ECS in cooperation with task leaders will prepare guidance or templates for reporting where needed and will bring best practices from EU MSs.

## ❖ Expert Area 2: Promotion of the exemplary role of the public sector

### **Expert Area Leaders: Ukraine, Serbia (TBC)**

#### SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

The EED requires the public sector at national, regional and local level to fulfil an exemplary EE role. This covers both public buildings (Article 5) and public procurement (Article 6).

#### **Task 1: Public buildings**

While Energy Community has implemented a reduced rate of central government buildings renovation obligation of 1% per year to meet at least the minimum energy performance requirements that it has set in application of Article 4 of Directive 2010/31/EU, until present (Article 5), the amended EED in the Energy Community is proposed to raise the renovation rate to 3% per year as it is the case in the EU.

Public buildings shall play an exemplary role in long term buildings renovation strategies. This complements EPBD requirement for existing buildings to upgrade their energy performance when they undergo major renovation, so that they meet minimum energy performance requirements.

EECG will report on the progress with the implementation of the renovation targets, regularly. EECG will report on the share of public building renovations in the overall renovation target planned in each year. ECS will assist with a model of reporting.

Use of energy performance contracts for building renovation (programmes and projects): EECG shall explore and report on the use of energy performance contracts in their countries.

#### **Task 2: Purchasing by Public Bodies**

Article 6 of the EED requires that central governments purchase only products, services and buildings with high-energy efficiency performance and that all public bodies should be encouraged to do likewise.

Energy efficiency requirements for purchasing products, services and buildings by central government are laid down in Annex III of the Directive, which establishes connections with the Labelling (2010/30/EU) and Eco-design (2009/125/EC) Directives.

EECG will continue working on regional level to develop model secondary legislation and procurement guidelines, exchange the best practices, and report on the progress in implementation. REEP Plus support in this area was extended to include the eco-design and the implementation of additional regulations required to implement Framework Regulation 1369/2017 adopted by the Energy Community in 2018.

⇒ DELIVERABLES

1. Renovation targets and implementation plans for the increased 3% target – reports by CPs
2. Exemplary role of public sector in building renovation strategies (programmes and projects)
3. Guidelines on EE procurement for the procurement authorities
4. Training of national procurement experts
5. Progress reports

⇒ WORK APPROACH

These activities will be performed by the EECG, and by using support from EU, CA EED, REEP Plus, KfW, UNDP, WB, GIZ, etc.

❖ Expert Area 3: Energy services, audits and management systems

**Expert area Leaders: Serbia, Albania (TBC)**

📁 SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

EED promotes the ESCO concept for realising energy efficiency investments, especially in the public sector. EED further promotes transparency, model contracts and exchange of best practice and guidelines. Public bodies should be encouraged to use, where appropriate, ESCOs and energy performance contracting to finance renovations and implement plans to maintain or improve energy efficiency in the long term.

Energy audits and energy management systems are an essential tool to achieve energy savings. They are necessary to assess the existing energy consumption and identify the whole range of opportunities to save energy. CPs must establish national minimum criteria based on EED Annex VI. ECS has published Policy Guidelines on the data to be used, the depth and scope of the audit, the recommended cost analysis and the quality requirements in terms of representativeness of the energy audits referred to in Article 8<sup>3</sup>.

**Task 1: Development of enabling framework**

Despite the REEP Plus support provided to all WB6 countries, especially in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia to eliminate existing barriers and develop adequate legislation and regulation, as well as contract templates for EE ESCO in street lighting buildings' projects, the uptake of energy performance contracting is still very reduced.

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<sup>3</sup> Policy Guidelines on EED Article 8 are available on EnC website: [https://www.energy-community.org/dam/jcr:19f10c08-3c3e-41bb-a02f-bdd55bbeaa7c/PC\\_022019\\_EED.pdf](https://www.energy-community.org/dam/jcr:19f10c08-3c3e-41bb-a02f-bdd55bbeaa7c/PC_022019_EED.pdf)



The large scale renovation of all type of buildings would be difficult to implement only with public funding. Therefore, the intervention of ESCOs is expected to deliver a significant part of the “renovation wave” in the EU. Based on the above requirements and experience, EECG will further work on its national development of primary and secondary legislation, model contracts and guidelines for ESCO projects etc.

EECG will work jointly on the implementation of recommendations from Article 8 Policy Guidelines and establishment of harmonised national minimum criteria for energy audits and energy management.

## **Task 2: Implementation of scheme**

EECG will support implementation of harmonised qualification, accreditation and certification schemes for energy auditors and energy managers.

EECG will monitor the implementation of energy audits obligations and report on the systems put in place to check the quality of energy audits reports and the savings expected to result from these.

### ⇒ DELIVERABLES

1. Secondary legislation, model contracts and guidelines for ESCO projects
2. Report on implementation of ESCO projects and analysis of successes and failures
3. National minimum criteria for energy audits and energy management - assessment of implementation
4. Qualification, accreditation and certification schemes of energy auditors and energy managers
5. Dedicated Workshop(s)

### ⇒ WORK APPROACH

These activities will be performed by the EECG, with the technical assistance and exchange of best practices from REEP Plus projects in selected countries, or bilateral donors’ projects.

## **❖ Expert Area 4: Efficiency in energy supply, CHP and heating/cooling**

### **Expert area Leaders: Ukraine, North Macedonia (TBC)**

#### **📁 SCOPE OF ACTIVITY**

In accordance with Article 14 of the EED, main obligations in this area include: a comprehensive assessment of the potential for application of high-efficiency cogeneration and efficient district heating and cooling; implementation of adequate measures where the comprehensive assessment identifies a potential where benefits exceed the costs; procedure for authorisation or permit criteria in these cases. EED also requires preparation of a cost-benefit analysis when a new installation with a total thermal input higher than 20 MW is planned or is substantially refurbished or when a new district heating and cooling network is planned.

Article 15 of the EED (energy transformation, transmission and distribution) and the related Annex XI and Annex XII aim at maximising grid and infrastructure efficiency and promoting demand response.

EECG work in these two areas are lagging behind. All CPs still need to produce the comprehensive assessment of the potential for efficient heating and cooling, Also, with except of Montenegro, Article 15 is also not fully implemented, even in CPs where primary legislation requires this.

Therefore, in the current Work Programme, emphasis will be put on these articles.

⇒ DELIVERABLES

1. A template methodology for comprehensive assessment of the potential for the application of high-efficiency cogeneration and efficient district heating and cooling, and its implementation
2. Exchange of best practices and model of secondary legislation for implementation of Articles 14 and 15 of EED
3. Progress reports

⇒ WORK APPROACH

The activities will be performed by the EECG, with close cooperation with CA EED and supported by REEP Plus, and potentially other donors.

❖ Expert Area 5: Funds and financing for energy efficiency

**Expert Area Leaders: Moldova, Kosovo\* (TBC)**

📁 SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

**Task 1: Funds and Financing**

EE measures and projects are financed in different ways. The public sector, national and local governments, and the regional initiatives are exploring adequate models to encourage energy efficiency investments. Article 20 of the EED states that CPs shall facilitate the establishment of financing facilities, or the use of existing ones, for EE improvement measures to maximise the benefits of multiple streams of financing. They may set up an Energy Efficiency National Fund. The purpose of this Fund shall be to support national energy efficiency initiatives.

In July 2020, Secretariat and EBRD jointly issued Policy Guidelines on Centralised Energy Efficiency Financing Mechanisms<sup>4</sup>, aimed to help countries to design and establish in effective way such mechanisms, covering best practices and design considerations such as sources of funding, types of financial instruments, allocation approaches, and good governance.

National energy efficiency funds exist currently in Moldova as part of the Energy Efficiency Agency, in Kosovo and Ukraine as independent bodies, in Bosnia and Herzegovina as entities' EE and environmental funds and in Montenegro and Serbia as a budget line within the responsible Ministry. In North Macedonia, an independent Energy Efficiency Fund is currently being established.

EECG will support and facilitate the establishment or improvement of financing facilities, including national EE funds, in line with EED requirements and EU/EnC recommendations.

**Task 2: Focus on financing building renovation projects**

Article 4 EED requires that CPs establish a long-term strategy for mobilising investments in the renovation of the national stock of residential and commercial buildings, both public and private. Many CPs have drafted or are in the process of drafting the long-term strategies. In the Green Agenda for the

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<sup>4</sup> Policy Guidelines are available on ENC website: [https://www.energy-community.org/dam/jcr:2d97286f-2e17-47c5-b6e1-fe85c902ed1d/EBRD\\_EnCS\\_PG\\_EEF\\_072020.pdf](https://www.energy-community.org/dam/jcr:2d97286f-2e17-47c5-b6e1-fe85c902ed1d/EBRD_EnCS_PG_EEF_072020.pdf)

Western Balkans and its Economic and Investment Plan, buildings renovations have a prominent role and EC DG NEAR is planning to provide substantial IPA funding for this.

EECG will support the work of the Funds/Agencies by supporting national programmes for buildings renovation (both public and private).

⇒ DELIVERABLES

1. Reports on national financing mechanisms
2. Model legislation and exchange of exemplary cases
3. Investment plans in the long-term renovation strategies, and national programmes for buildings renovations
4. Exchange of best practices for financing residential sector renovations
5. Good practices of using ESCOs to finance residential and commercial buildings renovation

⇒ WORK APPROACH

The activities will be performed by the EECG, with close cooperation with EE Funds and supported by the REEP Plus, donors and IFIs etc.

## 2 ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN BUILDINGS

Energy efficient buildings will significantly contribute to clean energy system and future decarbonisation goals in the Energy Community, as the building sector with over 40% of total energy consumption is one of the largest energy consumers.

The Directive 2010/31/EU on the Energy Performance of Buildings (EPBD) focuses on the utilization of the energy efficiency potential in buildings, calls for setting of the minimum energy performance requirements for new and existing buildings, certification of buildings and requires regular inspections of heating and air-conditioning systems.

On 30 November 2016, as part of the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, the European Commission proposed an update of EPBD to help promote the use of smart technology in buildings, to streamline existing rules and accelerate building renovation. On 19 June 2018 Directive (2018/844/EU) amending the EPBD was published. The revised provisions entered into force on 9 July 2018.

In the Energy Community, this Directive is expected to be adopted at the Ministerial Council in November 2021 with an implementation deadline of approx. 18 months to transpose its provisions into national law (to be confirmed at the Ministerial Council in November 2021).

The work on transposition of EPBD is currently ongoing in all CPs, and supported either by regional programmes (REEP Plus in most WB6 countries) or bilateral donors (EU/EBRD in Ukraine, EBRD in Moldova, KfW in Montenegro).

The activities of the EECG in 2021 and 2022 will be focused on the facilitation and promotion of investments in deep renovation of buildings (Buildings Renovation Wave), development of long-term building renovation strategies and transposition and implementation of EPBD (with focus on new requirements under Directive 2018 2018/844/EU).

### ❖ Expert Area 6: Buildings Renovation Wave

#### **Expert Area Leaders: Albania, Moldova (TBC)**

#### SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

On 14 October 2020 the European Commission adopted a new strategy to boost renovation called "A Renovation Wave for Europe – Greening our buildings, creating jobs, improving lives". It aims to double annual energy renovation rates in the next ten years in EU. The Commission also proposed to expand the "EU renovation wave" to the Western Balkans. The building sector accounts for over 40% of total energy consumption in the Western Balkans and Energy Community.

On 10 October 2020, the European Commission adopted "An Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans", which identified flagship initiatives related to clean energy and the transition from coal. An overall budget of EUR 9 billion during 2021-2027 is proposed for the Plan's implementation, of which a fair share is expected to finance buildings renovation and decarbonisation of heating and cooling sectors.

An additional political impetus was given at the 2020 Sofia Summit, in which the leaders agreed to:

(i) “Support private and public buildings renovation schemes, secure appropriate financing and full enforcement of the Energy Performance of Building Directive (adapted under the Energy Community framework)”; and

(ii) “Develop programmes for addressing energy poverty and financing schemes for household renovation and providing basic standards of living”.

EECG will make this topic one of the priorities of the Work Programme 2021-2022, as the implementation in practice of the ‘Renovation Wave’ will require a significant amount of dialogue and systematic approach, including new or adopted legal and regulatory framework, to become an enabling factor for large scale investments existing buildings.

### **Task: Preparation for large scale building renovations**

Having in view the complexity of the Task, a systematic approach is needed and for that the following activities are expected:

1. Identify priorities (worst buildings) in each CP
2. Home owners’ association legislation/rules amended or adopted to facilitate the implementation
3. Analyse the most appropriate financing options for buildings renovations
4. Preparation for implementation

⇒ DELIVERABLES

A roadmap with the main activities involved, including among others:

1. Development or extension of the institutional infrastructure for project preparation and large scale renovations programme management
2. Training for skilled workers
3. Setting up a One stop shop for information
4. Prepare logistics for applications, award, implementation of works

⇒ WORK APPROACH

The Roadmap would be based on various information gathered through questionnaires, studies and reports reviews by the EECG members with the assistance of the Secretariat.

## **❖ Expert Area 7: Buildings Renovation Strategies**

### **Expert Area Leaders: Albania, Moldova (TBC)**

#### **📁 SCOPE OF ACTIVITY**

### **Task 1: Renovation targets, policy measures and link with NECPs**

On 19 June 2018, the Directive 2018/844/EU amending the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive was published. This revision introduces targeted amendments to the current Directive aimed at renovation of existing buildings, with the vision of a decarbonized building stock by 2050, cost-effective transformation of existing buildings into nearly zero-energy buildings and the mobilisation of investments. It has also taken up the Long-term Renovation Strategy provisions from the EED.

The revised EPBD stimulate cost-effective deep renovation of buildings and relevant national actions that contribute to the alleviation of energy poverty, supports electro-mobility infrastructure deployment in buildings' car parks and introduces new provisions to enhance smart technologies (incl. smart readiness indicator) and technical building systems, including automation and control.

CPs have started developing and submitting their draft and final Integrated National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) to the Secretariat, in line with the Ministerial Council Recommendation 2018/01/MC-EnC and Policy Guidelines 03/2018 on preparing for the development of integrated NECPs. Integration of long-term renovation strategies in NECPs and later implementation, reporting and monitoring is very important activity and will be supported by EECG.

## **Task 2: Implementation**

EECG will exchange best practices in implementation of long-term renovation strategies and report on implementation. It will support Secretariat in the assessment and update of existing renovation strategies, reflecting the need for more ambitious renovation wave.

### ⇒ DELIVERABLES

1. Monitoring and reporting under EE dimension in NECPs
2. Renovation targets, policy measures and link with NECPs – Monitoring and Reporting
3. Mapping of national and regional financial mechanisms to implement strategies and improve the energy efficiency of buildings – Reporting
4. Exchange of good practices

### ⇒ WORK APPROACH

EECG will analyse the new EPBD requirements in cooperation with EC and ECS, in order to prepare proposal for 2021 Ministerial Council.

The Strategies are being developed with the technical assistance of various donors; the EECG members will report regularly on the progress of adoption and implementation.

A 'map' of each CPs' financial mechanisms in place and/foreseen for the implementation of the Strategies should be presented by EECG members, based on a Template produced by ECS.

## **❖ Expert Area 8: Implementation of EPBD and its new requirements**

### **Expert Area Leaders: Albania, Moldova (TBC)**

#### SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

EECG will continue with the implementation of EPBD 2010/31/EU until the amended EPBD 2018/844/EU will be adopted and transposed, while analysing the requirements of the new EPBD and preparation for its implementation.

### **Task 1: Cost-optimal minimum EP requirements and nearly zero-energy buildings**

The implementation of current EPBD in force in the Energy Community is lagging behind in the area of cost – optimal methodology and the nearly zero energy buildings. This is why the focus of the WP 2021-2022 will be on these two areas from the current EPBD in force, as well as preparing for the amended EPBD transposition.

## **Task 2: Energy performance certification and inspection of systems, training & control of experts**

EECG will discuss procedures for the establishment and management of National Control Systems/Registries (system and institution) for: certificates, inspection reports and certified experts. For the independent control system and registry for certificates and inspection reports, a centralized national database should be developed and operated, and quality control of the certificates must be at the core of the whole scheme. This Database could also include information about certified experts and other relevant information. Control system for certification will be combined with the control system for inspections if applicable.

Through exchange of experience, EECG will report and identify the best approaches in implementation of certification of buildings and inspection of systems, supported by independent control systems. EECG will follow up finalisation of regulation and procedures for energy performance certification and inspection of systems, incl. also exchanges of best implementing practices. CPs will regularly report on the progress in implementation.

EECG will work on the development of harmonised regional programmes, guidelines and recommendations for the training, examination and accreditation of experts for certification and inspection of systems.

This will be combined with the exchange of information of the best practices on Training and Control Systems.

## **Task 3: Amended EPBD - new requirements**

EECG will continue analysing and discussing the new requirements of the revised EPBD, related to deep renovation, social aspect, smart technologies and 'smart readiness' indicator, promotion of e-mobility etc.

This will support proposal for transposition of revised EPBD in the Energy Community (draft MC proposal), and development of implementation Roadmap.

### **⇒ DELIVERABLES**

1. Report by each CP on the adoption and use of cost-optimal methodology, and building certification scheme
2. NZEB targets and Action Plans – reporting
3. Adoption of bylaws on certification of buildings and inspection of systems
4. Progress report on control systems / registries and training of experts and inspectors.
5. Analysis of new requirements of the amended EPBD 2018/844/EU for transposition in the Energy Community
6. Developed draft MC proposal of revised EPBD for the Energy Community
7. EPBD Roadmap for implementation

### **⇒ WORK APPROACH**

EECG will analyse new EPBD requirements in cooperation with ECS and EC, in order to prepare proposal in 2021 for MC adoption.

EECG will establish close cooperation with EU and international institutions and organisations providing publications and information regarding implementation of the revised EPBD (CA EPBD, BUILDUP etc.).

### 3 ENERGY LABELLING AND ECODESIGN

In the Energy Community, many everyday products carry energy labels and have been designed to meet minimum energy efficiency standards.

EU energy labels help consumers choose energy efficient products. The framework energy labelling requirements for individual product groups are created under the Framework Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 of 4 July 2017, in a process coordinated by the European Commission.

The Framework Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 was adapted by the Ministerial Council Decision 2018/03/MC-EnC of 29 November 2018, repealing the outdated Labelling Directive 2010/30/EU.

With regard to the Regulation for specific product groups, activities of the EECG in 2021 and 2022 will be focused on coordinated approach in transposition of the current framework and uptaking new product regulations in force in EU, analysis of new EU eco-design legislation, and regular reporting.

#### ❖ Expert Area 9: Transposition and analysis of new requirements

##### **Expert Area Leaders: Georgia, Ukraine (TBC)**

##### 📁 SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

The new Framework Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 of 4 July 2017 setting a framework for energy labelling and repealing Directive 2010/30/EU was incorporated and adapted by the Ministerial Council Decision 2018/03/MC-EnC of 29 November 2018, adapting and implementing Framework Regulation and six new Delegated Regulations on energy-related products: Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 518/2014 (internet energy labelling), (EU) No 1254/2014 (residential ventilation units), (EU) No 2015/1094 (professional refrigerated storage cabinets), (EU) No 2015/1186 (local space heaters), (EU) No 2015/1187 (solid fuel boilers and packages), and (EU) No 2017/254 (use of tolerances in verification procedures).

EECG will support implementation of existing and the process of adoption of the new, re-scaled Products Regulations and development of full implementing framework. EECG will also analyse EU developments on eco-design policy on energy-related products and provide recommendations for realistic adoption and implementation in the Energy Community, report on current status of implementation and needs for update of delegated regulation.

##### ⇒ DELIVERABLES

1. Monitoring and reporting on the full transposition of the EU energy labelling regulation 1369/2017 and implementing delegated regulations adopted by Ministerial Council 2018, in CPs
2. Development of proposals and monitoring the transposition of the new pieces of regulations, after their adoption in the Energy Community
3. Progress reports

##### ⇒ WORK APPROACH

The activities will be performed by the EECG, with possible technical assistance provided by regional and bilateral TA projects.



## ❖ Expert Area 10: Implementation practices

### **Expert Area Leaders: North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina (TBC)**

#### SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

According to Labelling Regulation, CPs should ensure that appropriate measures are taken in order to encourage the relevant national or regional authorities responsible for implementation to cooperate and provide each other, Secretariat and the Commission with information in order to assist the application of Regulation.

#### **Task 1: Monitoring Verification and Enforcement (MVE)**

EECG will focus on different aspect on implementation of market surveillance provisions, in order to enable harmonized approach in the Energy Community and dissemination of best implementation practices.

For this, data collection and analysis will be performed with the TA provided by EBRD. Policy guidelines will be issued at regional level as well as reporting on implementation.

#### **Task 2: Promotional activities**

EED and Product Regulation promote exchange of information, incentives for a highly efficient products and development of public procurement practices.

EECG should discuss practices of introduction of the system of labels and fiches and accompanying by educational and promotional information campaigns, aimed at promoting energy efficiency and more responsible use of energy by end-users.

Purchase of products should comply with the criteria of belonging to the highest energy efficiency class, insofar as that is consistent with cost-effectiveness, economical feasibility, wider sustainability, technical suitability, as well as sufficient competition. Public sector should lead by example and make energy-efficient purchasing decisions. EECG should promote public purchase of highly efficient products and discuss best incentives for such actions in CPs.

#### ⇒ DELIVERABLES

1. Reports and recommendations on MVE practice
2. Awareness raising activities, supporting procurement policy and incentives
3. Report on good practices and country-specific recommendations

#### ⇒ WORK APPROACH

The activities will be performed by the EECG, with possible technical assistance provided by regional and bilateral TA projects. EECG will establish close cooperation with EU and international institutions and organisations providing publications and information regarding implementation of the Framework Regulation for EE Products and related Delegated Acts.

## 4 HORIZONTAL AND CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

**Coordinators: Energy Community Secretariat in cooperation with the European Commission and Donor Community**

The following horizontal and cross cutting activities will be implemented continuously during the whole mandate of the EECG:

### ***1. Analysis of new EU policy requirements and recommendations, coordination of work on 2030 targets and integrated NECPs***

The European Commission is in the process of amending the energy efficiency package as a part of the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package (2018) and Green Deal (2019). There is an ongoing process of integration of energy efficiency and climate policy in the Energy Community, review of the energy efficiency legislation (EED, EPBD, Ecodesign) and further development of financing initiatives, proposal of 2030 energy efficiency targets, and review of specific aspects of the EED to reflect the 2030 perspective.

The European Commission in January 2021 launched the study “Extension of the EU energy and climate modelling capacity to include the Energy Community and its nine Contracting Parties”, which is expected to provide robust data allowing to propose ambitious targets. In addition to this, setting ambitious 2030 targets, along with clear policies and measures, should pave the way towards achieving climate neutrality to 2050, as for the 2020 Sofia Declaration.

EECG will follow developments in EU and recommend adequate actions at Energy Community level. The EECG will, together with the Energy and Climate Committee and Renewable Energy Coordination Group support the European Commission and CPs in the implementation of 2030 targets and setting adequate policy measures in NECPs.

### ***2. Strengthening of national institutions for energy efficiency***

Energy Efficiency institutions/agencies in Contracting Parties should be strengthened to enable successful implementation of the exemplary role of the public sector, implementation of various energy efficiency improvement measures, as well as monitoring, evaluation and verification of the achieved energy savings. EECG will support and discuss strengthening of energy efficiency agencies (where these exist), and invite donors to share or support research on best options to design and structure energy efficiency institutions/agencies.

### ***3. Coordination of donors/IFI support on energy efficiency***

EECG plays important role as an initiator, coordinator and implementation partner of diverse regional technical assistance and investment programmes. The strong support offered by the EC/EBRD/KfW REEP Plus and other donors/IFIs (EU, GIZ, GGF, USAID, World Bank, EU4Energy programme etc.) is very important and valuable for a successful implementation of the EECG Work Programme.

In order to enhance cooperation with IFI's on investments, grants and technical assistance attraction to support CPs on a way to implement EE acquis and NECPs, EECG will analyse EE funding available in CPs and will suggest the donors priority directions for TA.

#### ***4. Promotion of EE&RE in heating and cooling***

Green and efficient heating and cooling sector plays a crucial role in the decarbonisation and achievement of RE target. There is a lot of possibilities for EE&RE synergy in heating and cooling sector, including efficient - district heating and cooling, energy performance standards for new and existing buildings, buildings' renovation wave etc.

Joint work with the Renewable Energy Coordination Group (joint events, policies and measures) are envisaged to exchange best practices and examine synergy in integrated EE and RE approach in decarbonisation of heating and cooling sector.

#### ***5. Development of energy efficiency statistics and indicators***

Most CPs are currently lacking sufficient data and systems that are needed for the calculation of energy efficiency indicators and savings, as well as for the monitoring of NEEAP implementation. EECG will follow EU/Eurostat and IEA efforts and promote development of in-depth EE indicators to better utilise policy making best suited to domestic and/or international objectives.