

Energy Community Parliamentary Plenum and Green Parliamentary Groups from the Western Balkans Workshop - Agenda

Premises of the Energy Community Secretariat

5 December 2022, 10:00 – 16:00

0. Registration and welcome coffee (09.30-10:00)

Chair: Inna Sovsun, Chair of Subcommittee on European Integration and Member of the Committee on Energy, Housing and Utilities Services of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Energy Community Parliamentary Plenum Presidency 2022

1. Welcome by Ms Inna Sovsun, Mr Dirk Buschle, Deputy Director, Energy Community Secretariat, and Ms Sibylle Strahl, ORF-ETC Program Director, GIZ (10:00 – 10:20)

2. Introduction to the Energy Community by Mr Dirk Buschle and ORF-ETC project by Jasna Sekulovic, ORF-ETC Regional Project Manager, GIZ (10:20 – 11:00)

Discussion and Q&A

3. Developing National Energy and Climate Plans (11:00 – 12:00)

National Energy and Climate Plans constitute the framework for integrating energy and climate policies and driving the decarbonisation process. The Energy Community Contracting Parties are currently in various stages of preparing their NECPs, which clearly requires consultations with all relevant stakeholders. The involvement of national parliaments is undoubtedly a critical part of this process. This session aims to create a platform for legislators to share their experiences and discuss the challenges and good practices in developing the NECPs.

Presentation by Peter Poszgai, Governance Expert, Energy Community Secretariat

Discussion and Q&A

12:00 – 12:20 Coffee break

4. Energy Poverty (12:20 – 13:20)

Energy poverty is a prevailing problem in the Energy Community Contracting Parties and needs to be placed at the forefront of efforts to ensure a just and inclusive energy transition. Addressing energy poverty is at the centre of the Energy Community's Just Transition Initiative and the newly created Centre for Alleviating Energy Poverty started its mission to promote solutions for its reduction. This session will focus on the main recommendations on how to identify and address energy poverty in the Contracting Parties and provide insight into some of the future activities of the Centre.

Presentation by Branislava Marsenic, Coordinator, Centre for Alleviating Energy Poverty at the Energy Community Secretariat

Discussion and Q&A

13:20-14.40 Lunch (organized by the ORF-ETC, GIZ)

5. Coal phase out at a time of crisis (14:40 – 15:40)

The closing of coal mines and thermal power plants has a profound socio-economic impact on coal-dependent regions and has become increasingly challenging in the current context of security of supply risks and soaring energy prices. This session will focus on the Energy Community Energy Transition Initiative and serve to underline the key issues currently facing coal regions, including coal phase-out policy challenges linked to the ongoing energy crisis and Russia's war on Ukraine. The Gender Equality Initiative will also be presented.

Presentation by Mr Peter Poszgai, Governance Expert, and Marta Schulte-Fischedick, Energy Community Secretariat

Discussion and Q&A

6. Conclusions (15:40 -16:00)

19:00 Joint dinner of the GPG members and Parliamentary Plenum members
Ofenloch Restaurant, Kurrentgasse 8, 1010 Wien