ISSUE 5

NEW COUNTRY WORK PROGRAMMES FOR MAY – DECEMBER 2020

GEORGIAN PARLIAMENT ADOPTS TWO KEY ENERGY EFFICIENCY LAWS

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The EU4Energy Governance project will complete its four-year ‘Phase I’ by the end of this year. The project was extended for half a year and now is the opportunity for another, fourth annual work programme. What are the reasons for this extension and what’s in it for Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine? We caught with Svitlana Karpyshyna, who is heading the Eastern Partnership Assistance Unit, to find out.

The EU4Energy Governance project was initially supposed to run for four years from June 2016 to June 2020. Why has it been extended until December 2020?

Some funds were still available and the project is in such a dynamic phase that this half a year extension is almost like beginning a new year. We also felt that we could achieve a lot more if we kept the programme going – even for just an additional six months. We proposed this to the European Commission, they agreed and here we are. I believe the extension will benefit everybody involved.

Can you tell me about the EU4Energy Governance country work programmes?

All activities are relatively short-term and flexible because sometimes they need to be adjusted, depending on progress, assessments, assistance from other donors and other ad-hoc factors.

What are the main priority areas under this work programme for Ukraine?

The main focus in Ukraine will be on oil stocks. Our experts will be drafting so-called secondary legal acts, such as regulations, forms, manuals, and procedures that will help Ukraine in its quest to manage sufficient oil stocks and thereby, security of energy supply.

Having adequate oil stocks is also linked to Ukraine’s obligations under its Association Agreement with the EU. The Oil Stocks Directive needs to be fully transposed by 2023 so there is a lot of work to be done in this area and our inhouse expertise will be on hand to help make this transition.

We will be holding several events to inform high level government officials about the legal acts we are working on. Various working groups on the oil stock reform will also be set up.

What are the main priority areas for Moldova?

Our work in Moldova will focus firstly on the electricity market, in particular on smart metering. This will involve undertaking a gap analysis to define the country’s needs, before developing a roadmap and methodology that could allow for the introduction of smart meters into the country. This is similar to what we have already been doing in Ukraine.

We will also be looking at renewable energies, encouraging the diversification of energy sources by helping develop some secondary legal acts.
Since January, we have published a number of blog posts in the form of interviews with key experts from across the EU4Energy Governance project. These posts served the purpose of putting a face to our expert team, while describing important work that we have been undertaking. You can read all our blogs in their entirety on our website.

Below is a taster of our most recent posts – once again, consult our website for the full story.

**Blog 7: Security of gas supply in Moldova and Ukraine**

On 13 December 2019, Moldova and Ukraine signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance their cooperation in the security of gas supply. This collaboration comes as a direct result of the Energy Community and EU4Energy efforts to strengthen energy security across the region. The blog features an interview with Gas Expert Peter Pozsgai from the Energy Community Secretariat who tells us about the agreement and what impact it will have on both countries.

**Blog 8: The potential smart meter roll-out in Ukraine**

In November 2019, the EU4Energy Governance project launched its support for developing a methodology for smart meters rollout across Ukraine. This methodology was subsequently finalised in February 2020. The blog features an interview with Electricity Expert Inna Surzhok, who gives a valuable insight into the EU4Energy Governance project’s methodology for smart meters rollout across Ukraine, why they are important and what’s next for their potential introduction.

**Blog 9: Protecting vulnerable customers in Georgia**

There is a need to protect people who may not be able to afford to pay for their gas or electricity. Georgia is keen to introduce a regulation to protect these vulnerable customers and EU4Energy Governance project has offered its help. Gas and Customer Expert Branislava Marsenic Maksimovic updated us on progress in this blog post.

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Georgian Parliament adopts two key energy efficiency laws
21 May 2020

The Energy Community Secretariat in May 2020 welcomed two new energy efficiency laws in Georgia, which transpose EU Directives in this sphere. The Law on Energy Performance of Buildings was developed with the support of the EU4Energy Governance.

New rules coming for gas supplier of last resort
26 March 2020

Energy Community experts in close cooperation with the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia and the Georgian National Energy Regulatory Commission (GNERC) launched EU4Energy technical assistance aimed at developing rules and regulations for the appointment and operation of a supplier of last resort in the natural gas market of Georgia. The function of such a supplier is to ensure uninterrupted gas supplies to those customers, whose original supplier went bankrupt or ceased operation for other reasons.

National Energy and Climate Plan under the spotlight
12 February 2020

In February, EU4Energy Governance organised a high-level policy talk to help Georgia develop its National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP). The process of drafting the NECP will take place in parallel with the design of the Climate Action Plan. This is in line with Paris Agreement commitments.

EU4Energy presents draft regulation for heating and air conditioning inspections
16 January 2020

EU4Energy experts have presented draft guidelines and regulation on the regular inspection of heating and air conditioning systems to representatives of the Georgian Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development at a workshop in Tbilisi. They also provided a roadmap designed to help put the new rules into practice.
EU4Energy supports smart meter rollout in Moldova
23 June 2020

The first stakeholder meeting to help Moldova develop a methodology for smart meter rollout has been held. Smart meters allow consumers to better manage their energy use, save money and reduce emissions.

New tool to monitor energy efficiency targets
18 March 2020

EU4Energy Governance is assisting Moldova in developing an online Monitoring and Verification Platform (MVP). It will help authorities both to gauge progress on their energy efficiency targets and to calculate energy savings. **UPDATE: the platform has just been finalised – see our latest developments section**

Moldova intensifies efforts to certify Moldelectrica, its TSO for electricity
12 February 2020

Following the Secretariat’s Opinion on the certification of the electricity transmission system operator Moldelectrica, representatives of the Moldovan regulator (ANRE) and Moldelectrica met experts from the Secretariat to discuss options for unbundling. The workshop in Chisinau was organized under EU4Energy. Despite some remaining obstacles in the national legislation, all participants agreed that the unbundling of Moldelectrica must be regarded a top priority for the Moldovan energy sector.
EU4Energy helps Ukraine develop regulations for oil stocks reform
9 June 2020

EU4Energy Governance has launched a technical assistance project to assist Ukraine in the transposition of the EU Oil Stocks Directive. The establishment of emergency oil stocks has the potential to significantly improve domestic oil market operations and enhance oil supply security.

EU4Energy helps Ukraine transpose EU Regulation on wholesale energy market integrity and transparency
20 March 2020

EU4Energy Governance has launched a technical assistance project to assist Ukraine in the transposition of Regulation (EU) 1227/2011 on wholesale energy market integrity and transparency (REMIT). The Regulation sets out a framework for identifying and penalising insider trading and market manipulation in wholesale energy markets across Europe.

EU4Energy supports Ukraine with transposition of energy infrastructure regulation
11 March 2020

EU4Energy has launched a technical assistance project to assist Ukraine in transposition of Regulation (EU) 347/2013, which aims to facilitate investments in energy infrastructure. The Regulation prescribes establishing a national competent authority and setting out procedures for the permitting process. It would also define both the methodology and criteria to be used when evaluating investment in electricity and gas projects as well as the potential risks involved.

EU4Energy holds capacity building workshop on energy-related legal developments
30 & 31 January 2020

In January, EU4Energy held a capacity building workshop that focused both on energy-related legal developments in Ukraine and the next steps for harmonisation with the Energy Community acquis. The workshop was attended by experts from the Secretariat of the Committee on Energy, Housing and Utilities Services of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
Despite the Covid-19 outbreak, we managed to organise multiple and well attended webinars, focusing on a number of pertinent issues.

**01.** VIEW WEBINAR  
Energy Poverty: Novelties under the Clean Energy Package and possible measures for the Energy Community

**02.** VIEW WEBINAR  
Regulation on wholesale energy market integrity and transparency: REMIT in the Energy Community and implementation tools at hand

**03.** VIEW WEBINAR  
Electricity market and trading
EU4Energy Governance Project

The EU4Energy Governance Project is a technical assistance project funded by the European Union, under the EU4Energy Initiative. It targets policy makers working in the energy sector of Eastern Partner countries and helps them strengthen their legislative and regulatory frameworks as well as identify investment opportunities in key energy infrastructure projects. Within this project, the Energy Community Secretariat is delivering technical assistance to three Eastern Partner countries Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine that are members of the Energy Community. Regional activities of the project also involve Armenia, Azerbaijan and Belarus.

The EU4Energy Initiative covers all EU support to improve energy supply, security and connectivity, as well as to promote energy efficiency and the use of renewables in the Eastern Partner countries Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. It does this by financing projects and programmes that help to reform energy markets and to reduce national energy dependence and consumption. Over the longer term, this makes energy supply more reliable, transparent and affordable, thus reducing energy poverty and energy bills for both citizens and the private sector.