



Minutes AID-EE Seminar Sofia (Bulgaria)

Title of meeting:	Increasing the Impact of Energy efficiency policies: learning from past experiences in designing new policies
Date:	1 November 2006
Venue:	Bulgaria, Sofia , Ministry of Economy and Energy, former press centre ministry of energy, Ul. Triaditsa 8
Time:	12.00-17.00
Organizers:	Ecofys Netherland, Ecofys Bulgaria, AEE (Energy Efficiency Agency)
Number of participants	26 (including organizers)

List of participants		
Sirname	First name	Organisation
1. Kolev	Kolio	AEE
2. Stariradeva	Maria	AEE
3. Varbanova	Rumyana	AEE
4. Mirchev	Venzislav	AEE
5. Hristova	Irena	AEE
6. Dimova	Marusia	AEE
7. Markovski	Ognian	AEE
8. Petrov	Julian	AEE
9. Todorova	Snezhana	AEE
10. Hristova	Irena	AEE
11. Naydenov	Krasimir	AEE
12. Nikolov	Nikolay	AEE
13. Dimitrov	Valentin	AEE
14. Koeva-Uzunova	Boriana	AEE
15. Andrada	Louis Alberto	Ministry of Economy and Energy/AEE
16. Spapens	Annemarie	Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
17. Yanakieva	Hristina	Ministry of transport and communications
18. Georgieva	Vladislava	Ministry of Energy and Economy
19. Vikshorova Georgieva	Julieta	Ministry of Environment and Water
20. Georgiev	Zdravko	SOFENA
21. Shishkov	Ivan	SOFENA
22. Svetkova	Neli	Ministry of Energy and Economy, EU Integration
23. Palieva	Polina	Ministry of Energy and Economy, EU Integration
24. Slabova	Snezhana	Ministry of Energy and Economy, EU Integration



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Sirname	First name	Organisation
25. Harmelink	Mirjam	Ecofys Netherlands
26. Visser	Arjan	Ecofys Bulgaria

Summary of and response to presentations

- The seminar was opened by Ms Stariradeva in which she the importance of energy efficiency policies for Bulgaria.
- Secondly Ms Annemarie Spapens of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands welcomed the participants. She mentioned that:
 - *Bulgaria wants to secure her energy supply and decrease dependency of imported fossil fuels (more than 70% is imported).*
 - *Different options are deployed and laid out in the Bulgaria Energy Strategy to secure energy supply:*
 - *Restructuring of the energy sector (privatizations, removal of cross-subsidies etc)*
 - *Deployment of renewable energy sources*
 - *Increasing energy efficiency*
 - *Different studies show that there is still a large potential for energy efficiency improvement across Europe and in Bulgaria. Increasing energy efficiency has several benefits:*
 1. *Improves security of supply*
 2. *Reduces costs for investments in new power generation capacity*
 3. *Brings down the costs of the energy bill*
 4. *Reduces environmental impact of fossil fuel use (like acidification, bad local air quality)*
 5. *Improves competitiveness and can create additional jobs*
 - *This afternoon you will learn all about policies and how they can help to accelerate energy efficiency improvement.*
- The seminar continued with an overview of EU policies by Arjan Visser (Ecofys Bulgaria), Successes and Failures in energy efficiency policies by Mirjam Harmelink (Ecofys, Utrecht). Response to presentations:
 - *General good overview of policies on energy efficiency and incentives. Participants asked how the results of the project could be used to convince the Bulgarian government to take action.*
 - *Participant from Ministry of Transport wondered why no more policies in the field of transport were selected.*
 - § *Mirjam explained that the project team had great trouble finding good examples of energy efficiency policies in transport. Member States so far did not focus on energy efficiency policies in this field. EU is now looking into this and announced they want to move toward legislation.*
- After the tea break Krasimir Naydenov of the AEE held a presentation on Energy



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efficiency indicators for Bulgaria (not announced in the agenda). His presentation illustrated great dependency of Bulgaria on the import of liquid fuels. He furthermore showed several indicators showing the energy efficiency improvements so far achieved in the different economic sectors.

- Next two presentations were held on “Monitoring of energy efficiency policies” first one by Mrs. Mirjam Harmelink (Ecofys) and second one on “Monitoring of energy efficiency in practice” Assoc. Prof. Ivan Shiskov (Sofena).
- Finally Mrs. Mirjam Harmelink (Ecofys) held short presentation on “Potentials for energy efficiency in different sectors”.

Summary conclusions and round-up session

- Participants stressed that the project team should ensure that conclusion of the project can be used to show (Bulgarian) government(s) how they can implement incentives to improve energy efficiency. Also take into account the specific circumstances in Eastern Europe where budgets are often lacking or very limited. I.e. come forward with creative/innovative solutions.
- What are the possibilities for the allocation of funds for sustainable development on the EU level? The Green Paper on energy efficiency mentions that it wants to investigate how structural funds can be used to stimulate energy efficiency improvement.
- Suggestion for further research:
 - look how energy efficiency (and renewable energy) policies can be optimized taking into account the various specific regional circumstances.
 - compare results for ex-ante and ex-post evaluations.