

## DEESME Policy Workshop on Art. 8 of EED: overcoming national challenges on energy audits

30/04/2021 - *The DEESME Policy Workshop “Overcoming Challenges in Art. 8 of EED Implementation” jointly organised by the project partners held several fruitful discussions on the challenges national authorities deal with at a Member State level for the implementation of the Article 8 of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED).*

The DEESME project partners arranged a policy workshop which took place last 20th April 2021 and gathered 34 participants from 16 different EU countries. The invited attendees represented national authorities and institutions supporting the implementation of Article 8 of the EED, crucial for cost-effective energy audits carried out by SMEs, small and large companies.

Representatives from Member States were invited to take a survey for identifying the potential national challenges related to energy audits.

The workshop was a valuable occasion for presenting the key results of the DEESME project and was structured in two main parts. The first part aimed at identifying the 10 most common challenges among Member States participating in the survey. The first 6 identified challenges concerned the energy audit obligation for non-SMEs:

- Limited resources for transposition;
- Identification of obligated companies;
- Ensuring compliance;
- Quality of audits;
- Compromise between reporting effort and monitoring;
- Enhancing the uptake of measures.

The remaining 4 challenges concerned the difficulties in encouraging SMEs to undergo their energy audits. The main ones highlighted were:

- Creation support mechanisms;
- Limited available resources;
- Guiding SMEs to participation;
- Raising awareness on opportunities.

Among the Member States taking part in the workshop, Poland and Bulgaria presented two examples of current approaches for targeting chosen challenges.

The second part of the workshop focused on the current best practices emerging from all EU countries addressing the challenges previously mentioned. These challenges were further discussed in the interactive group sessions. Those include among others:

- Means for reducing one-time and running costs;
- Identification of companies using registers, cooperation with public institutions and supporting self-identification;
- Encouragement and sanction approaches to maximise compliance;



- Guidance for increasing audit quality targeting auditors, audit methodologies and verification process;
- Tools to manage the administrative burden and minimize the costs;
- Financial, information and regulatory measures to enhance the uptake of proposals from the energy audits;
- Effective instruments targeting energy audits and measures implementation in SMEs;
- Facilitation measures to raise the awareness regarding energy efficiency of SMEs;
- Energy efficiency networks to mobilise the SMEs;
- Existing tools for SMEs;
- Use of the multiple benefits approach in energy audits and support mechanisms;

The outcomes from the policy workshop will help define energy audit good practices in the upcoming report from the DEESME project.

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## **DEESME - DEVELOPING NATIONAL SCHEMES FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN SMES**

For more information on the outcomes of the workshop, please contact: [Wojciech Stańczyk](#), Specialist, Research And Projects Department, KAPE.

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