Financing energy efficiency in
Romania, Hungary and Bulgaria
Bucharest, 1 February 2018

Organised by the European Commission in partnership with the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds of Romania, the Romanian Energy Regulatory Authority and the UN Environment Finance Initiative.

**Background:** The Energy Union Framework Strategy puts energy efficiency as one of its five dimensions and states it is to be treated as an energy source in its own right. The ambitious Paris climate agreement also underlines the importance of energy efficiency. Investments in energy efficiency have proven to be one of the most cost-effective ways to support the transition to a low-carbon economy. Not only does it help the EU in turning its climate ambition into climate action, it also brings a number of significant benefits for European citizens and companies in terms of environment, health, security of supply, lower energy bills, more jobs and sustainable growth.

To realise the full potential of energy efficiency, public funds will not suffice and private financing will have to be unlocked at scale. In that context, energy policy should create more favourable investment conditions, encourage demand for energy efficiency and help consumers undertake energy efficiency investments more easily.

This event aims to share best practice from Romania, Hungary and Bulgaria as well as further on how energy efficiency investments can be financed. This includes the use of private funds and innovative financing instruments, notably in the building and industry sectors. Speakers will focus on practical experience in developing and structuring investment programmes and the event will allow time for debate. The event contributes the new cooperation on energy efficiency initiated by the CESEC.

*This event is organised by the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) in the frame of the Sustainable Energy Investment Forums contract, funded under the EU Horizon 2020 programme.*
8:30  Registration and welcome coffee/tea

9:00  Welcome speeches

Speaker tbd, Ministry of Energy, Romania,
Speaker tbd, Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds, Romania

9:30  Plenary session 1: European and national policy context

European policy in support of energy efficiency investments
Tudor Constantinescu, Principal Advisor to the Director General for Energy, European Commission

European Structural and Investment Funds
Speaker tbd, European Commission, DG REGIO

Mobilising the financial sector on energy efficiency
Speaker tbd, UN Environment Finance Initiative

Financing the future of buildings in Central, Eastern and South-East Europe
Oliver Rapf, Buildings Performance Institute Europe

State of play of energy efficiency financing in Romania, Hungary and Bulgaria
Speaker tbd, Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds, Romania
Speaker tbd, Hungarian government
Speaker tbd, Bulgarian government

11:00  Coffee break

11:30  Plenary session 2: Improving the energy performance of residential buildings

Moderator to be determined

Home renovation loans in Hungary
Speaker tbd, Hungarian Development Bank

Renovating multifamily buildings through energy performance contracting in Latvia
Nicholas Stancioff, Latvian Baltic Energy Efficiency Facility

The Green Homes and Mortgage Initiative in Romania
Speaker tbd, Romanian Green Building Council

Reaction from a panel of Romanian stakeholders
Mihai Mereuta, President, Liga Habitat
Cristian Romeo Erbasu, President of the Association for Construction Companies
Speaker tbd, Romanian Association of Banks (ARB)
Speaker tbd, Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds, Romania

13:00  Lunch
14:15 **Parallel sessions**

**A. Making Energy Efficiency Investible**

*Structuring Investor Ready Energy Efficiency Projects* (*Investor Confidence Project*)

*Jorge de Almeida, RDA (Portugal)*

The **EEFIG Underwriting toolkit** and the **DEEP database**

*Monica Ardeleanu, Romanian Green Building Council*

**EBRD loan programme with Transilvania Bank**

*Speaker tbd, EBRD / Transilvania Bank*

Linking Policy Makers and Investors Through National Financing Platforms, the Austrian Experience (*SEFIPA*)

*Clemens Plöchl, Energy Changes*

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**B. Energy Renovation of Public Buildings and the Role of ESCOs**

Legal framework for energy performance contracting in Portugal

*Gorete Soares, ADENE (Portugal)*

Regional one-stop-shop centre for the renovation of public buildings – experiences from the RenoWatt project in Belgium and replication in Rhodope (Bulgaria)

*Speaker tbc, Sofia Energy Centre (BG)*

The Bulgarian energy efficiency fund experience with ESCOs

*Asen Charliyski, Deputy Executive Director, Bulgarian EE Fund (Bulgaria)*

Developing the ESCO Market in Romania

*Speaker tbd*

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**C. Energy Efficiency in the industry and SME sectors**

Lending to industrial energy efficiency projects

*Mihai-Marius Voronca, Executive Director, Romanian Energy Efficiency Fund, tbc*

Experience of a bank on industrial energy efficiency

*Speaker tbd*

Guarantee scheme for SMEs

*Speaker tbd*

Experience of ALRO on industrial energy efficiency

*Speaker tbd*

16:00 **Coffee break**

16:15 **Closing plenary session**

Short report from the parallel sessions by moderators

*Reaction by a panel of stakeholders from the banking, building and industry sectors*

Questions and answers

*Closing speeches*

*Tudor Constantinescu, Advisor to the Director General for Energy, European Commission*

*Speaker tbd, Romanian Energy Regulatory Authority*

16:45 **Networking Cocktail**