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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.

DRAFT AGENDA AS OF 7 DECEMBER 2017

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

14:15 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 Reno Watt 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

14:15 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