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Financing energy efficiency in Romania, Hungary and Bulgaria

Bucharest, 1 February 2018

SHERATON BUCHAREST HOTEL – Calea Dorobanților 5-7, Bucharest, Romania

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 countries 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 also contributes to Commission Initiative on Central and South-Eastern European Energy Connectivity (CESEC).

This event is organised as part of the Sustainable Energy Investment Forums contract, funded under the EU Horizon 2020 programme and managed by the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME).

DRAFT AGENDA AS OF 26 JANUARY 2018

8:30 Registration and welcome coffee/tea

9:00 Welcome speeches

Toma - Florin Petcu, Minister of Energy, Romania

Mihaela Virginia Toader, State Secretary, Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds, Romania

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

Chaired by Robert Tudorache, Secretary of State, Ministry of Energy, Romania

European policy in support of energy efficiency investments

Tudor Constantinescu, Principal Adviser to the Director General for Energy, European Commission

European Structural and Investment Funds

Damien Cocard, Programme Manager, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

Mobilising the financial sector on energy efficiency

Martin Schoenberg, Energy Efficiency Project Coordinator, United Nations Environment Finance Initiative (UNEP FI)

Financing the future of buildings in Central, Eastern and South-East Europe

Oliver Rapf, Executive Director, Buildings Performance Institute Europe (BPIE)

State of play of energy efficiency financing in Romania, Hungary and Bulgaria

Elena Popescu, General Director, Directorate for Energy Policy, Ministry of Energy, Romania

Bálint Varga, Department for Green Economy Development, Ministry of National Development, Hungary (tbc)

Veneta Tzvetkova, Director, Energy Projects and International Co-operation Directorate, Ministry of Energy, Bulgaria

Questions and answers

11:00 Coffee break

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

Chaired by Ion Dogeanu, Executive Director, Local Energy Agency Bucharest (AEEPM)

Home renovation loans in Hungary

Sándor Szabó, Director, Sales and Customer Relations Directorate, Hungarian Development Bank

Renovating multifamily buildings through energy performance contracting in Latvia

Nicholas Stancioff, Chairman of the Board, Latvian Baltic Energy Efficiency Facility

The Green Homes and Mortgage Initiative in Romania

Steven Borncamp, Founding President, Lead Author - Green Mortgage Programme, Romania Green Building Council, and Eliza Gheorge, Manager Private Individual Customers Value Proposition, Raiffeisen Bank

Reaction from panel of stakeholders

Mihai Mereuta, President, Liga Habitat

Alexander Hadzhiivanov, Associate Director, Green Building Investments, Energy Efficiency & Climate Change, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Ionut Trinca, Counsellor, Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds, Romania

Questions and answers

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Parallel sessions

A. Making energy efficiency investible

Chaired by Diana Barglazan, Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Energy, European Commission

Structuring Investor Ready Energy Efficiency Projects (Investor Confidence Project - ICP)

Jorge Rodrigues de Almeida, ICP Europe Director, RdA - Climate Solutions (Portugal)

The Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group (EEFIG) Underwriting Toolkit and the De-Risking Energy Efficiency Platform (DEEP)

Monica Ardeleanu, Executive Director, Romania Green Building Council

EBRD Green Economy Financing Facility (GEFF) in cooperation with Banca Transilvania and UniCredit Bank

Mark Velody, Project Manager Green Economy Finance Facility of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) / Tractebel Engineering (Romania)

*Ioan Marcu, Product Manager, and Robert Szilágyi, Product Manager, Banca Transilvania
Sorin Dragulin, Products & Segments Director, UniCredit Bank*

Linking policy makers and investors through National Financing Platforms - the Austrian Experience (SEFIPA)

Gerhard Bayer, Scientific Project Manager, ÖGUT - Austrian Society for Environment and Technology

Questions and answers

14:00 B. Energy renovation of public buildings and the role of ESCOs

Chaired by Björn Zapfel, Project Adviser, Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME), European Commission

Legal framework for energy performance contracting (EPC) in Portugal

Gorete Soares, Coordinator of Energy Efficiency in Public Administration Unit, ADENE (Portugal)

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

Ivanka Pandelieva-Dimova, Project Manager, Sofia Energy Centre (Bulgaria)

The Bulgarian Energy Efficiency Fund and the role of energy service companies (ESCOs)

Asen Charliyski, Deputy Executive Director, Bulgarian Energy Efficiency and Renewable Sources Fund

Developing the ESCO market in Romania

Carmen Pavel, Vice President, Romanian ESCOs Companies Association (ESCOROM)

Questions and answers

14:00 C. Energy efficiency in the industry and SME sectors

Chaired by Zoltan Nagy - Bege, Vice President, Romanian Energy Regulatory Authority (ANRE)

Lending to industrial energy efficiency projects

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

Energy efficiency investment projects in the Romanian industry and SME sector

Razvan Grecu – President, Romanian Association for the Promotion of Energy Efficiency (ARPEE)

Bank experience on industrial energy efficiency investments

Valentina Croiala, Branch Manager, and Marius Nadolu, Head of Treasury Department, ProCredit Bank, Bucharest

Company experience on industrial energy efficiency investments

Marian Cilianu, Operations Director Primary Aluminium, ALRO

Questions and answers

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 Closing plenary session

Chaired by Mihaela Virginia Toader, State Secretary, Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds, Romania

Short reports from parallel sessions by Chairs

Reaction by panel of stakeholders

Cristian Romeo Erbasu, President, Construction Companies Employers Federation

Florin Dănescu, Executive President, Romanian Association of Banks (RAB)

Grigoris Krallis, Senior Sector Engineer, Energy Department, European Investment Bank (EIB)

Radu Dudau, Director, Energy Policy Group

Questions and answers

Closing remarks

Tudor Constantinescu, Principal Adviser to the Director General for Energy, European Commission

Zoltan Nagy - Bege, Vice President, Romanian Energy Regulatory Authority (ANRE)

17:00 Networking Cocktail