Towards an Energy Union...

This factsheet is a summary of full version contained in the 3rd Energy Union Report (November 2017)

Greece has higher shares of oil and solid fuels in its energy mix than the EU average, while the share of gas remains below average. Greek import dependency is above EU average in general as well as for individual fuels. Gas plays an important role in the heating of Greek homes and raises particular concerns about the security of supply situation in the country.

To ensure access to cheap and secure energy for all consumers in Europe the EU is investing in energy infrastructure to allow energy to be traded freely between and within EU countries. In this area Greece has already met its target by attaining 10.6% interconnectivity, but is nevertheless benefiting from investments to improve domestic interconnections between the islands and the mainland.

Although Greece has already achieved its energy efficiency 2020 targets for final energy consumption, primary energy intensity remains above the EU average. As the Greek economy starts to pick up, it will be crucial to maintain efforts to moderate energy demand. Between 2014 and 2020, the EU is investing some €4 billion in energy efficiency improvements in Greece.

Greece is set to achieve its 2020 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target. However, there are still serious problems with air quality, with several measures exceeding standards. One way to solve the problem is to switch to cleaner fuels. With 15.2% of its total energy consumption coming from renewables, Greece is on track to meet its 2020 renewables target of 18%.

Research and investment priorities include renewables, hydrogen and fuel cells, clean coal technologies and smart energy networks. Greece is not yet highly specialized in solar and wind technology and its competitiveness in the sector has the potential to be improved. The country has participated in a number of Horizon 2020 projects, including the e-Ferry project for greener water transport.