

Report of the Workshop on Regional and National Studies on a Gap Analysis between the Performance Objectives of the Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and Implementation of Current Building Energy Efficiency Standards

The Workshop on Regional and National Studies on a Gap Analysis between the Performance Objectives of the Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and Implementation of Current Building Energy Efficiency Standards was organized by UNECE in the framework of the [Eleventh International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development](#) and as part of the [Eighth session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency](#). The workshop was held in Geneva and online on 20 September 2021. The workshop is one of the activities under the extrabudgetary project [Enhancing National Capacities to Develop and Implement Energy Efficiency Standards for Buildings in the UNECE Region](#) funded by the Russian Federation.

The workshop was attended by 162 participants, of which 34 women. Experts from the following ECE member States participated: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, and Uzbekistan.

The workshop aimed to enhance national capacities to develop and implement energy efficiency standards in buildings in the UNECE region.

At the opening segment of the workshop Mr. Vahram Jalalyan, Co-Chair, UNECE Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and Ms. Paloma Taltavull de La Paz, Chair, Real Estate Market Advisory Group made welcoming remarks.

UNECE activities on energy efficiency in buildings were presented by Ms. Gulnara Roll, Secretary, Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, UNECE and Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski, Regional Adviser on Energy, UNECE.

Ms. Nadejda Khamrakulova, Project Officer, UNECE presented the main findings and recommendations of a study on [gap analysis](#) between the performance objectives set forth in the [Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings](#) and current energy efficiency standards and their implementation in the countries of South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia, and in the Russian Federation. The study on gap analysis reviewed existing energy efficiency policies in 17 countries; implementation of energy efficiency standards in new and existing buildings; existence of compliance and enforcement mechanisms; institutional capacity; and effectiveness of existing energy efficiency policies. The study analysed conformity of existing energy

efficiency standards with the Framework Guidelines; identified barriers to effective achievement of energy efficiency policies potential; and provided recommendations to help bridging the existing gaps.

The findings and recommendations of three in-depth national studies with a more detailed gap analysis in [Armenia](#), [Kyrgyzstan](#), and [the Republic of Moldova](#) were also presented at the workshop. The national studies analysed energy performance of buildings, implementation of current building energy efficiency standards and provided country-specific recommendations on the possibilities to bridge the gap and enhance national capacity to develop and implement energy efficiency standards for buildings in three focus countries.

National study for the Republic of Moldova was presented by Mr. Sergiu Robu, UNECE Consultant. National study for Kyrgyzstan was presented by Mr. Mikhail Toropov, UNECE Consultant. National study for Armenia was presented by Mr. Andre Ohanian on behalf of Ms. Ani Rafyan, UNECE Consultant.

The discussion that followed focused on various ways to apply recommendations from the studies to bridge the existing gaps and move towards improved energy efficiency standards and their implementation in the countries.

The panel discussion was moderated by Mr. Aleksandar Dukovski, Chair, Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency. The following officials and experts participated in the panel discussion: Mr. Maksat Amiraev, Head of Department of Development and Monitoring of Housing and Communal Services, State Agency of Architecture, Construction and Housing and Communal Services under the Government of Kyrgyzstan; Ms. Ruzan Adamyan, Head of Construction and Scientific-Technical Normalization Department, Urban Development Committee, Republic of Armenia; Mr. Victor Parlicov, Consultant, UNDP Office in the Republic of Moldova; Mr. Andrew Popelka, Senior Energy Advisor, Energy and Infrastructure Division, United States Agency for International Development (USAID); and Mr. Rob Bernhardt, Building Policy and Market Transformation Expert, Canada.

Representatives of the Governments of Armenia and Kyrgyzstan, as well as a representative of the UNDP Office in the Republic of Moldova commented on existing challenges to develop and implement energy efficiency standards for buildings in their respective countries. Mr. Andrew Popelka presented the outcomes of a gap analysis of the housing sector in Western Balkan countries. Mr. Rob Bernhardt focused on ways to develop better building codes to target the net-zero energy standards in the countries.

The participants of the workshop welcomed recommendations from the studies and encouraged Governments of the UNECE countries to apply the recommendations to enhance their national capacity to adopt and implement improved energy efficiency standards for buildings.

Workshop materials are available at the workshop [webpage](#).