

PROJECT INFO

United Nations Development Programme



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CHALLENGE

The current share of electricity consumption in the building sector represents almost 40% of the country's overall energy demand. Buildings consume nearly 70% of electricity and 40% of district heat. Their combined production is responsible for some 71 % of the annual CO₂ emissions in the country.

The energy costs make up a large share of the state and municipal budgets. Complete or partial implementation of energy efficiency measures would significantly lower the energy consumption and expenses, while also improving the indoor conditions in public buildings.

Just by introducing simple energy efficiency measures, the energy efficiency costs of any building could be reduced for 20-30%.

In order to develop successful measures for energy efficiency in buildings, it is important to have adequate and reliable data on the building sector and further link it with the specific climate conditions in the country. In addition, there is a need for a comprehensive public awareness programme to increase the knowledge of key decision makers on both national and local level.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this project is to contribute to the processes of reducing the energy consumption in residential and public buildings, regulate energy losses and greenhouse gas emissions, and increase the country's energy independence.

RESULTS

Local Energy Efficiency teams have been formed in all 85 municipalities. They are now regularly following the energy consumption and identifying where potential savings could be made.

A new energy software called "ExCITE" has been developed, and now serves as a valuable energy efficiency tool to the central and local governments. The software enables regular energy monitoring in all public buildings throughout the country. The municipalities will be able to manage their energy consumption and expenditures more efficiently and generate budget savings that can be redirected to meet the priorities and the citizens' needs. This tool is also important for the ongoing implementation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive.

Training materials on energy efficiency monitoring techniques have been developed and a total of 100 representatives of the local municipal energy efficiency teams have been trained.

A study visit to the Czech Republic was carried out for representatives of 12 municipalities in cooperation with the Czech Trust Fund, enabling them to exchange best practices and lessons learnt with their Czech counterparts.

The first ever portal on energy efficiency in buildings in the country has been launched. It enables easy access to information, legislation, available funds and user-friendly tools for tracking the public opinion on topics related to energy efficiency. It has recently been voted as "web portal of the month", by all NGOs working in the field of energy efficiency: www.eeportal.mk

Also, for the first time, a climatological map of the country has been designed. It provides the key parameters necessary for the successful implementation of the 2002/91/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Energy Performance of Buildings (EPBD). It will also greatly assist the preparation of the National Book of Rules and the development of the methodology for calculating the overall energy performance of buildings.

On local level, the project is supporting the development of energy efficiency programmes for public buildings in the municipalities of Tetovo, Kratovo and Prilep, in line with the Energy Law. The programmes will cover public buildings and the municipal streetlight system.

One public building in Skopje is currently being completely refurbished, to demonstrate the savings that can be made once full energy efficiency measures are put in place.

PROJECT TITLE:

Energy Efficiency in Building Sector

PARTNERS:

Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Ministry of Economy, Association of Local Self Government Units (ZELS)

FINANCED BY:

Austrian Development Cooperation

BUDGET:

US\$ 510,000

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