



**CONCERTED ACTION  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY  
DIRECTIVE**

# **After the audit: encourage the implementation of the identified measures**

## **Executive Summary**

**WGR 5.2**

**Core theme 5 – Energy services and ESCOs, energy auditing, solving  
administrative barriers  
Working Group Report 5.2**

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The energy audit assesses the energy use of a building, organisation, service or system and identifies opportunities to improve energy efficiency with both hard and soft measures. The energy audit itself is only a first step, if none of the opportunities identified in the energy audit are implemented, the audit turns out to be just a cost, without any positive effect on energy consumption and expenditure. The Energy Efficiency Directive restates and reinforces provisions on the availability and quality of energy audits already presented in the Energy Services Directive, with further measures aiming to overcome barriers limiting the widespread use of energy audits and implementation of energy audit recommendations. Particular focus is placed on SMEs. In addition, the Energy Efficiency Directive introduces a mandatory requirement for large enterprises to carry out an energy audit at least every four years, with the obligation to carry out a first energy audit by 5 December 2015<sup>1</sup>.

A questionnaire was distributed to the participants in the Concerted Action for Energy Efficiency Directive (CA EED) to investigate what actions are carried out after the completion of energy audits, what is done to foster implementation of the opportunities highlighted by the audits, and what actions are carried out after this implementation. There were 29 answers, one for each Member State, plus Norway<sup>2</sup>.

In 69% of the Member States (MS) energy audit reports/results are collected at the national and/or local level, and in just half of these cases there is a single central body in charge of collection. Around the same number of MS collect data on the savings generated by implemented recommendations.

The reasons for collecting energy audit reports and data on savings generated by the implemented measures are similar, as demonstrated by the free text answers referring in both cases to: international reporting, policy/scheme assessment, and planning/management.

62% of responses refer to the presence of programmes to stimulate uptake of energy audits and/or implementation of the resulting recommendations. In many of these support schemes the energy audit is part of a broader framework involving for example, voluntary agreements, energy management systems and eventually some kind of obligation (energy audit obligation, obligation to implement the measures, etc.).

More structured support schemes can deliver more, but are more complex to set up and manage and require more resources.

It is quite common to subsidise the energy audits alone (9 MS), though it is less common to link the subsidy to the implementation of the recommendations (3 MS). Requiring an energy audit in order to apply for a grant is more common (9 MS), in this case the energy audit can become a mere justification to implement a measure that was already planned.

Energy audits can be compulsory for large entities/those over certain thresholds (6 MS) and in some cases there is also an obligation to implement the audit recommendations (2 MS).

A number of different schemes/practices exist in MS and these were discussed at a meeting involving all MS (more details on some of these schemes are available as good practice fact-sheets and presentations, downloadable from the public area of CA EED website). These include:

- Supporting schemes for implementation of opportunities identified by energy audits (e.g. the Trend project, energy efficiency networks for SMEs, cooperation within an industrial sector, Voluntary Agreements)
- Data disclosure: compulsory or voluntary
- The role of technical standards/guidelines in encouraging the implementation of the measures.

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<sup>1</sup> More information on the provisions of the Directive and the guidance note on Article 8 on energy audits and energy management systems are available at: [http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/eed/eed\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/eed/eed_en.htm)

<sup>2</sup> From here on Member State will indicate Member States plus Norway

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The Concerted Action for the Energy Efficiency Directive (CA EED) was launched by Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) in spring 2013 to provide a structured framework for the exchange of information between the 29 Member States during their implementation of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED).

For further information please visit [www.eed-ca.eu](http://www.eed-ca.eu) or contact the CA EED Coordinator Lucinda Maclagan at [lucinda.maclagan@agentschapnl.nl](mailto:lucinda.maclagan@agentschapnl.nl)



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