CONCERTED ACTION
ENERGY EFFICIENCY
DIRECTIVE

6th Plenary Meeting CA EED Proceedings - Summary

May 2025

Contents

1 Opening Plenary Session

In the course of the sixth Plenary Meeting of the CA EED3 over 150 experts, policy makers and implementers gathered together in Berlin to discuss issues related to the implementation of the EED in Member States. The Plenary Meeting was designed to give Member States and Norway the opportunity to exchange experiences and learn from each other.

1.1 Presentations by Coordinator, keynote speakers, and CINEA

Opening speech, *Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action*, Berlin.

Coordinator Opening presentation 6th PM

Keynote Opening presentation 6th PM - Energy Efficiency in Energy-Intensive Industries, *Aurubis*

News from CINEA 6th PM, *CINEA*

2 Working Group Parallel Sessions

The Working Group Parallel Sessions of the 6th Plenary Meeting covered the following topics: Selection and prioritisation of public buildings and pathway to achieving the targets (WG6.1), Qualification, accreditation and certification schemes (WG6.2), and Waste heat, industrial applications (WG6.3).

2.1 Working Group 6.1 - Selection and prioritisation of public buildings and pathway to achieving the targets (Art. 6)

The main objective of the Working Group (WG) was for MS to start to think about what's required and what is required to achieve the Art. 6 targets. This will help MS prioritise their work, both in terms of transposing the directive and meeting the upcoming October requirements related to Art. 6. Specifically, understanding the interlinkages with EPBD on defining the 'NZEB' or 'ZEB' targets, and encouraging linkages with their EPBD transposition teams on defining these targets, will have a major impact on what is required to achieve Art. 6. Recognising that Art. 6 is a long-term project that will take a long-term planning and resourcing perspective.

Session 1

The first session started with a summary of the main results of the Working Group questionnaire. Planning pathways to achieve Art. 6 depends on whether a MS opted for the default or alternative approaches. More detailed information on which MS choose which approach is in the WG report. Alan Ryan, the Domain Coordinator, also presented a brief overview of the Art. 6 targets and the context Art. 6 fits within. While the target is to achieve NZEB or ZEB, the bigger picture is to reduce actual kWhs (Art. 5 of the EED has a 1.9% / annum reduction target), and ultimately to reduce actual emissions. NZEB and ZEB are theoretical targets – in theory the building is more efficient if brought to a high rating, but its actual usage will differ, in some cases a lot. Therefore, it's good to remind ourselves that the goal is actual kWh and CO2 reduction, and that NZEB or ZEB needs to fit within that context. Just targeting Art. 6 will not necessarily deliver the

Art. 5 target for this sector or the significant CO2 reductions. They need to be made to 'align'. How this could happen was discussed in detail in session 2 and 3.

CA EPBD presented on aspects of the EPBD relevant to Art. 6. Specifically on work MS are undertaking on defining NZEB and ZEB for new build, versus retrofit of existing building stock. MS will also have to rescale their building rating systems (Energy Performance Certificates) to an A to G scale, with A being ZEB and the lowest grade being set at the worst performing 16% of the building stock. These worst stock need to be brought up a level, with the public bodies taking an early lead. There are timelines as to when the EPBD requires all new builds and retrofits to be ZEB also.

So, the target for Art. 6 for many MS is still unclear. As there will be a rescaling to introduce A as ZEB, many MS are undertaking cost optimal studies which may see NZEB levels raised. Nearly 7 MS in the WG report are looking at lower levels for NZEB retrofit. So, in the short term it's hard for MS to determine full pathways to NZEB or ZEB until 'what is NZEB or ZEB' is clearer. Also, for MS that choose the default approach they need to record the equivalent 3% of m2 on a Passport system. Not many MS have passport systems just yet. There is a disconnect in the timelines of the two directives as to when passport systems are needed. Although it isn't clear as to what MS interim plans will be in this regard.

This was followed by a presentation by DG ENER on the Art. 6 requirements. They provided some core slides which showed what requirements were due by certain dates. The immediate requirement is for MS, by 11th October 2025, to publish an inventory of all owned and leased buildings by public bodies. Progress on these were discussed in Warsaw 2024. Additionally, the Art. 6 target comes into force as of 11th Oct 2025 also. Extrapolating the 3% target means that MS have an approximate 0.7% target for 2025 for those doing the default approach, or they must record 0.7% m2 equivalent on a passport system and make an equivalent amount of savings as if the work was completed. A lot of questions were raised around the nuisance of the target and the difference between the inventory and the baseline for the 3% target. For example, only owned buildings over 250m2 that are NOT NZEB or ZEB by 1st January 2024 are included in the target baseline, from which the 3% m2 target is calculated. Buildings retrofitted to these levels before that date cannot be included in the baseline or counted against the target. The baseline is a very specific scope. The inventory, to be published this year, includes ALL buildings owned or leased by public bodies.

Some MS would like buildings under 250m2 and owned to be allowed as they had a lot of work happening on these smaller buildings. However, they are explicitly excluded from the Art. 6 baseline. One MS calculated that regardless, it would mean having to retrofit 1500 x 250m2 buildings to achieve their 3% target, or 7 major hospitals. It's up to MS to determine which is the easier to undertake!

A core concept discussed throughout the sessions was that of 'cost optimal' under EPBD and 'economically and technically feasible' under the EED. Which allows for a lower rating to be targeted if the costs or technical solutions are not feasible and still achieve the Art. 6 targets. Although no MS had really explored this.

Session 2

This session built on session one by placing the NZEB/ZEB target in context. It also focused on MS that adopted the default approach.

Luxembourg presented their NZEB retrofit proposal. Their NZEB retrofit rating will result in a lower rating than their current NZEB new level, because certain energy performance measures, e.g., the insulation of the ground plate or the installation of a ventilation system with heat recovery cannot be easily implemented in retrofit projects. Their NZEB retrofit approach uses a reference building approach and it will comply with cost optimal calculations. The reference building approach fosters technical feasibility because the energy performance requirements are defined on the level of individual building components and technical systems. Therefore, this approach will also work well with heritage buildings, as it allows for selectively applying requirements only to the non-protected part of the building. For example, in the case of a protected building front, this part would be considered as it is, and the reference building would only apply requirements for the remaining part of the building envelope and the technical systems.

MS who are planning the default approach gave brief overviews of their status and progress to date with regard to Art. 6. This generated a lot of questions and debate in the room.

This was followed by a table discussion workshop on various questions, to help MS share good practices and ideas of how to apply what they may have learned in the session.

Session 3

In the third session, the aim was to focus on work MS are undertaking to analyse and determine pathways to achieve the Art targets, and to focus on MS who took the alternative approach.

Denmark presented on their work in determining the scope of buildings under Art. 6. and ongoing work as to what cohort of buildings to target to achieve Art. 6 and the MEPs target under the EPBD. Whilst there was a huge amount of savings in tackling MEPs buildings, the biggest savings came from addressing the largest and poorest performing building stock. They used an EU report which presented an approach to defining light, medium and deep retrofit packages based on how much savings/m2/yr would be produced. This helped them undertake some financial analysis as to what it would cost for various approaches tackling different cohorts to achieve different targets. The Danes have EPC ratings for nearly 80% of their building stock so this analysis could be undertaken.

They presented some very interesting graphics and tables with their calculations.

Ireland presented on their analysis to date on a study on what are the pathways for the Irish public sector to achieve a national 51% reduction target in energy related CO2 emissions, of which buildings emit 50% across approximately 13000 buildings. A 3% retrofit rate is equivalent to 7 large hospital campuses being retrofitted. They have recently developed a national building register, so producing an inventory will not be a significant task. However, they are still lacking sufficient data to accurately plan what is required to achieve 45% of building stock to NZEB by 2040. This is planned for 2025. They will adopt a hierarchy approach, starting with all buildings implementing energy management and space optimisation, and a targeted approach to investment to predominantly achieve the 51% target. Buildings addressed under Article 6 will likely be targeted for specific planning and investment.

This was followed by a quick update from attending MS who took the alternative approach, as to their current progress in relation to Art. 6. This was followed by a table discussion workshop on various questions, to help MS share good practices and ideas of how to apply what they may have learned in the session.

Summary

- A Mentimeter poll was undertaken at the start and end of the 3 sessions. It showed that attendees have improved their knowledge of NZEB and ZEB targets, especially in the context of Art. 6. It's clear that MS need to understand what is meant by NZEB or ZEB as the target for their building stock, and engage with their EPBD transposition teams on this issue.
- MS had a lot of questions and interaction on the inventory and detail of the baseline for Art. 6, and the specific requirements to be completed by October this year. This is an important detail for MS to understand.
- A constant theme was that Art. 6, regardless of what is meant by NZEB or ZEB or determining a final baseline, would take an enormous amount of leadership, long term planning, money and resources to deliver, and that no MS had really begun to upscale to the level necessary to achieve Art 6. targets. In addition, these large retrofit projects on what will likely be large complex buildings can take 5-7 years minimum to plan, design, procure, contract and 'bank' the building reaching the NZEB or ZEB levels. To reach 3% a year default, or approx. 45% level of building stock to NZEB or ZEB by 2040 means, in reality, starting a strong project pipeline now to delivering buildings to that level by 2030 to 2032 and beyond.
- The disconnect in timelines for the passport systems to be ready for the alternative approach.

2.2 Working Group 6.2 - Qualification, accreditation and certification schemes (Art. 28)

The Working Group 6.4 (WG6.4) sessions provided a comprehensive platform to assess the implementation of Article 28 of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED), focusing on the availability and quality of qualification, accreditation, and certification schemes in the EU. Member States (MS) and institutional representatives explored survey results, national strategies, technical challenges, and pathways to future alignment and improvement through three structured sessions.

Session 1: Framework and EU-level Initiatives

The first session set the stage for the conference by contextualising Article 28 and outlining the survey methodology and key findings. The session lead highlighted the Working Group 6.2 report "Accessibility of qualification, accreditation, and certification schemes". They overviewed the purpose and scope of the report. The findings highlight widespread compliance and significant gaps in workforce supply, training availability, and the public transparency of assessment results. The report highlights key areas such as certification schemes and competency assurance, promotion of participation and training, workforce shortages and identified gaps, public availability and transparency, innovative and additional initiatives, standardise and enhancing competency assessments, expanding workforce development initiatives, promotion of public availability and mutual recognition, encouragement of public-private partnerships. These findings formed the baseline for discussions in the subsequent sessions.

DG ENER made a presentation titled *"Overview of Article 28 requirements"*. They clarified the obligations imposed on MS under Article 28, emphasising the requirement for structured certification, qualification, and accreditation frameworks tailored to energy efficiency professions. Their address stressed the importance of harmonising with Regulation (EC) No 765/2008, the four-year reassessment requirement, and the transparency in scheme accessibility. A need for more attention to the energy efficiency politic and the industry was raised in discussion.

CINEA followed with a presentation on *"The BUILD UP Skills initiative – National skills platforms and roadmaps"*. She introduced the BUILD UP Skills initiative as a foundational European platform supporting MS in developing national roadmaps and platforms for vocational training in the energy efficiency sector. They showcased examples of how MS have used this initiative to build consistent training frameworks and promote cross-sectoral collaboration, especially in construction and renovation.

Session 2: National Experiences and Technical Challenges

The second session combined workshop dialogue with country-level presentations, focusing on complex provisions of Article 28, including clauses 3, 5, and 6. These concerns include workforce attraction, transparency of schemes, and evaluation of competency levels.

Hungary presented the *"Certification and Training Scheme for (Future) Energy Auditors – Hungarian Case".* The presentation detailed the regulatory and institutional structure established in Hungary to qualify energy auditors, including a comprehensive training and assessment program to enhance practical skills and technical knowledge. She emphasised challenges in maintaining scheme quality and keeping pace with evolving standards.

Ireland introduced the *"National Home Energy Upgrade Scheme (One Stop Shop)"*, an integrated model designed to streamline household access to energy upgrades. Their intervention illustrated how coordinated certification of contractors and streamlined customer interfaces can increase the uptake of renovation programs while ensuring quality through trusted professionals.

Finland concluded the session with *"Finland's Achievements"*, a presentation that highlighted Finland's progress in developing accessible and market-aligned certification schemes. They emphasised the role of transparent, publicly accessible databases and proactive stakeholder involvement. The Finnish approach

was cited as an example of good practice in scheme integration and responsiveness to labour market trends.

Session 3: Thematic Workshops and Stakeholder Feedback

The final session was structured into three thematic workshops, each focusing on operational and strategic aspects of implementing Article 28.

During the third session, participants engaged in a live Mentimeter survey, *"Assessing Implementation Practices in Certification and Training,"* to provide feedback on their national implementation of Article 28 provisions. The survey gauged perceptions on topics such as alignment with market needs, workforce gaps, competency assessment, collaboration with education and industry, international recognition, and the effectiveness of financial incentives.

The following workshop addressed key challenges and solutions related to the skills gap in the energy efficiency sector. One major focus was on bridging the gap between the demand and supply of qualified professionals. Participants explored strategies to identify workforce shortages, attract new talent, and close existing skills gaps. Emphasis was placed on expanding early education programs, sector-specific training, and targeted upskilling initiatives to meet future labour market needs. The importance of increasing participation in energy efficiency certification and training was highlighted, along with the need for long-term, practical solutions to align available skills with evolving industry requirements.

Another central theme was the improvement of certification and qualification schemes for energy efficiency professionals. Discussions centred on how MS can design and implement schemes that are transparent, accessible, and aligned with market needs. Participants stressed the need for public availability of national schemes, greater consumer awareness, and the development of quality labels to foster trust and market transparency. Continuous evaluation, public disclosure, and submitting assessment results were critical for enhancing credibility and accountability.

The final part of the workshop focused on guidance for carrying out assessments and ensuring quality control. It clarified the distinctions between certification, qualification, and accreditation schemes and discussed strategies to ensure compliance with EU regulations. Developing clear guidance for assessments and establishing strong quality control mechanisms were identified as essential steps to improve the overall effectiveness and reliability of certification and training systems.

Conclusion

The WG6.2 sessions offered a comprehensive and collaborative forum to evaluate the progress and challenges in implementing Article 28 across the EU. It demonstrated strong engagement from MS, highlighted best practices, and provided strategic guidance for improving certification, qualification, and workforce development schemes. The integration of stakeholder input through expert presentations and real-time survey feedback emphasised the necessity of continuous adaptation, cross-border collaboration, and proactive policy support to meet the evolving needs of the energy efficiency sector.

2.3 Working Group 6.3 - Waste heat (Art. 26), industrial applications

The new recommendations of Article 26 of the EED (2024/2395) provide valuable guidance and useful information on implementation, particularly regarding methodologies and procedures for assessing the effectiveness of district heating and cooling (DHC) systems, developing DHC conversion plans, and conducting installation-level cost-benefit analyses for new or significantly refurbished facilities, a DG ENER representative underlined in their presentation. At the time of the Plenary Meeting, out of the 22 NECPs received, only eleven were included a comprehensive assessment of heating and cooling.

Waste heat (WH) definition from Art.2 (9) of REDIII is rather restrictive, limiting its recognition to the REDIII needs. WH was conceived as a flexibility for RES increase targets in heating and cooling (HC) in REDIII

(Articles 15a, 22a, 23 and 24), except for DHC (Article 24) where it serves as a real RES alternative. MS face a significant lack of data on WH. As a result, WH is not yet an effective tool for achieving energy goals for HC under RED III, CA RES summarised in their presentation of their experience with WH. In the participants' discussions the need for a more harmonized, simplified, and flexible approach to WH and HC aspects across the three key Directives: EED, RED, and EPBD, was expressed.

Germany presented a very effective and comprehensive support framework for WH utilisation including legislative, planning and investment support. The established WH platform, which facilitates matchmaking between WH sources and heat demand locations, was identified as a crucial tool for WH project implementation. All companies consuming more than 2.5 GWh of energy are required to provide WH data based on an established methodology. This enables a detailed assessment of WH potential (**Figure 1**) and offers valuable information to potential DHC users. Another important aspect is the broad funding scheme with the Federal Funding for Energy and Resource Efficiency (EEW), which supports amongst others the investments for waste heat utilization measures in the industry and the Federal Funding for District Heating Networks (BEW), which supports the investments for the usage of waste heat in the district heating grid. Successful WH projects have already been implemented in Hamburg and Leipzig. In Leipzig several WH projects from industrial site Leuna (oil refinery and methanol plant) have been bundled together and linked to the new 19 km connecting heat pipeline which will be built together with the new connecting Hydrogen pipeline.

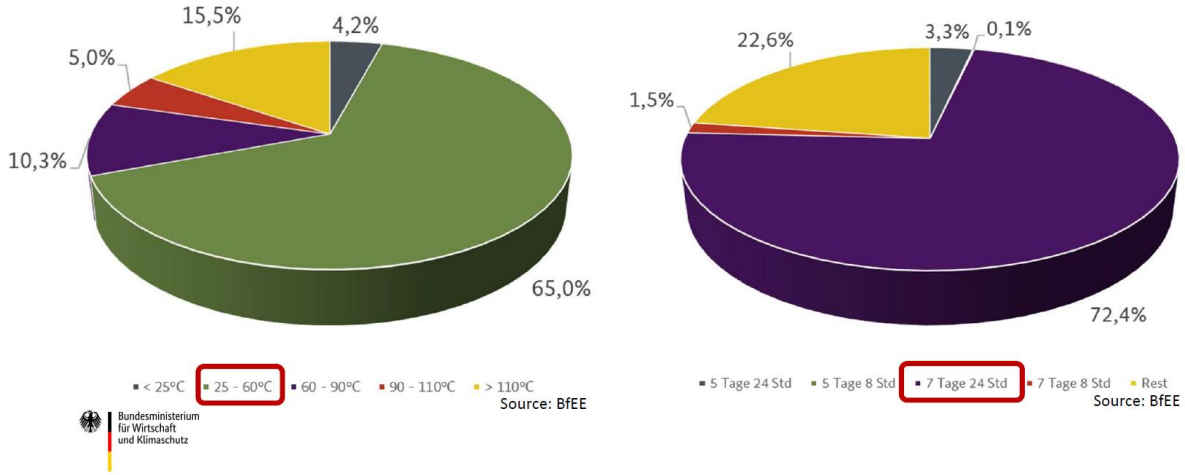


Figure 1: Assessed waste heat potential in Germany (350 TWh) – by temperature level (left) and time availability (right)

A similar, well-structured system of technical and financial support exists in Austria, where WH already accounts for approximately 15% of district heat production. The platform *klimaaktiv*[1] provides financial and technical project support and plays a critical role in facilitating WH utilisation, both internally and within DHC systems, as highlighted by a presentation from Austria (Federal Ministry - Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology).

Heat accounts for about three-quarters of industrial energy demand (1,950 TWh), with one-third of this heat at temperatures below 270°C (730 TWh). The available WH between 40–100ºC is estimated at 220 TWh. Upgrading this WH presents both challenges and significant potential for decarbonizing industrial process heat demand, as emphasized in the presentation by Fraunhofer IEG. The rapid development of larger and high-temperature heat pump (HTHP) technologies has enabled the market availability of large-scale heat pumps up to 70 MW, with heat outputs reaching 120°C. However, for temperatures above this threshold, HTHPs are still considered prototypes (**Figure 2**). Several demonstrated projects have shown the effective use of large HTHPs in industry and DHC systems. Special consideration should be given to the ratio between electricity and natural gas prices, as this has the greatest impact on the economic viability of HTHP investments, which have higher capital costs compared to conventional solutions.

[1] https://www.klimaaktiv.at/unternehmen/prozesse/produktion/abwaermenutzung

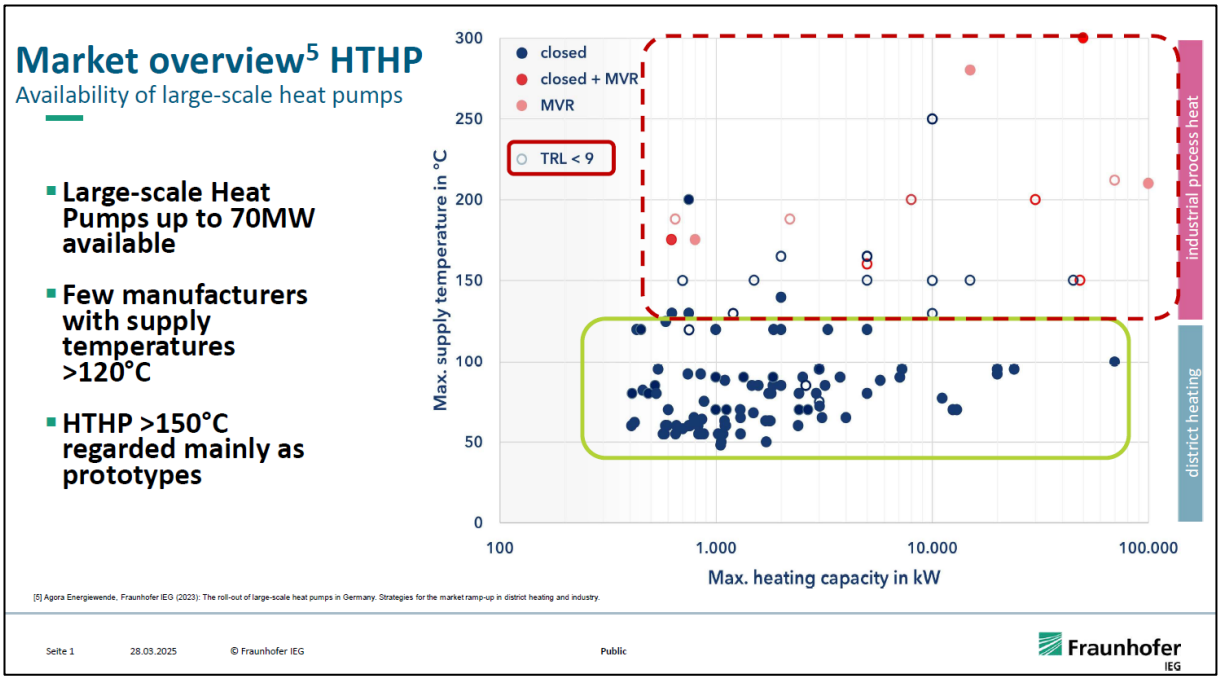


Figure 2: Market overview of large high temperature heat pumps

The final discussion reiterated the importance of establishing a clear and universally accepted definition of WH. Such a definition is essential for recognition of WH at all levels (technical, financing, ESG reporting, etc.) to accelerate the adoption of this sustainable energy source. Different national and regional circumstances allow for greater flexibility in achieving Member States' objectives. Participants also highlighted the need for better risk management strategies in WH supply, considering the future of energy-intensive industries. Additionally, there was a strong emphasis on the necessity of better data collection and improved collaboration among local stakeholders. Internal WH utilisation within companies appears to be the most feasible approach, as reflected in participants' conclusions from the Mentimeter interaction (**Figure 3**.).

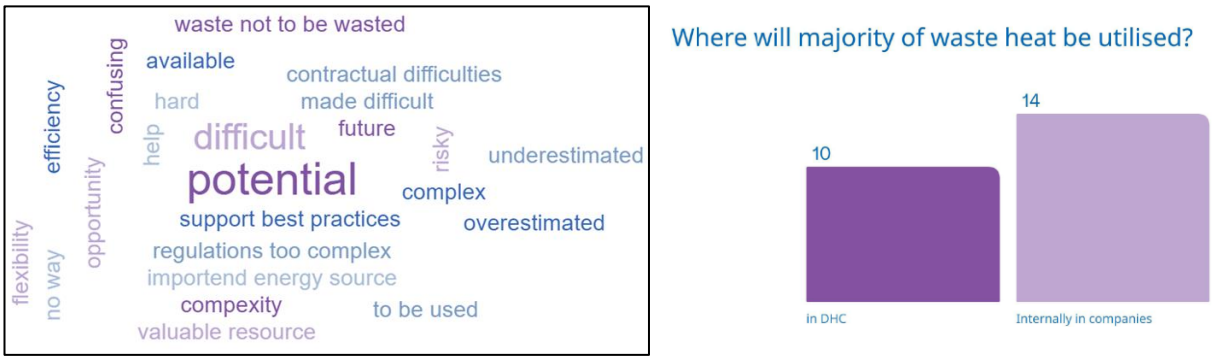


Figure 3: Participant Mentimeter interaction on WH (association and place of utilisation) at the end of the sessions

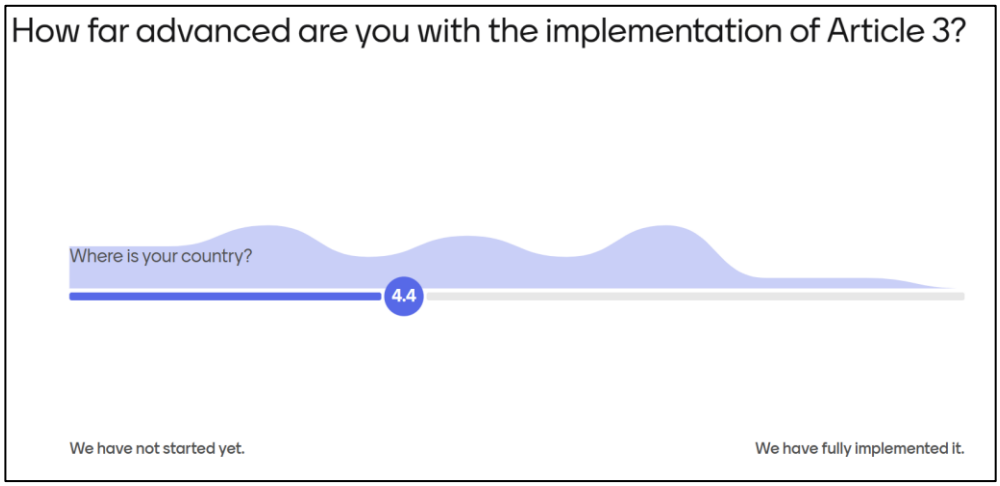
3 Information Parallel Sessions

Information sessions were organised to brief participants about developments on specific topics: Art. 3 EE1st Recommendation: CBA Methodologies (INFO6.4), National Fund and Financing (INFO6.5), Ongoing and new policy measures to achieve energy saving obligations 2021-2030 (INFO6.6), and CINEA/Life project - Mobilising finance for energy efficiency, experiences from the national level (INFO6.7).

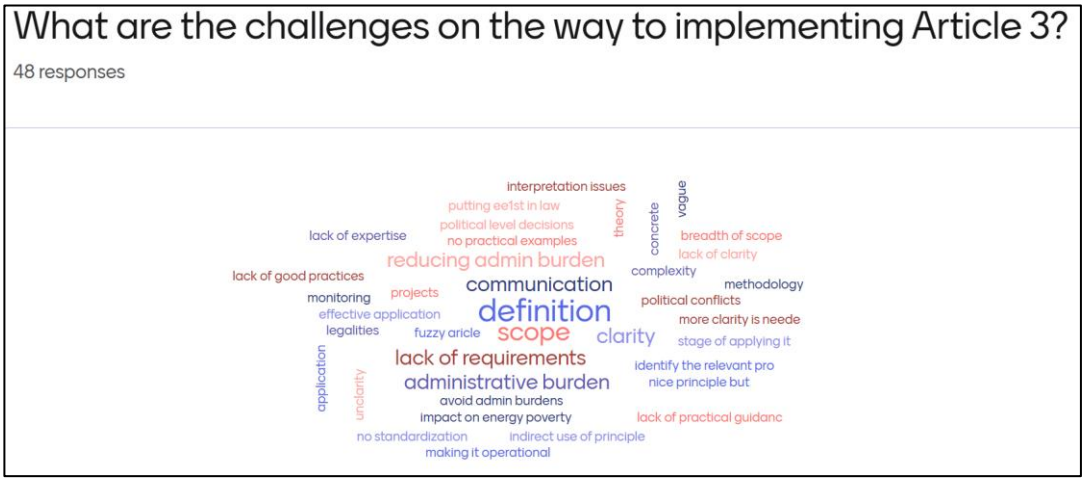
3.1 Info session 6.4 - Art. 3 EE1st Recommendation: CBA Methodologies

Two sessions were dedicated to Article 3 of the EED recast and focused on the Commission's Recommendations and a practical example of a Member State.

The first session started with a survey via Mentimeter to find out how far the Member States are with the implementation of the Energy Efficiency First Principle (EE1st). The first question gave an overview of the status of implementation of Article 3 in the Member States, on a scale from 1 (not started) to 10 (fully implemented). It turned out that Member States are progressing since the last Plenary Meeting (average score of 3,6) and a few are already advanced.



In addition, most Member States have not yet designated the competent authority responsible for monitoring the application of the EE1st in accordance with Article 3(4). There is a mixed picture as to which institution this will be: the National Regulatory Authority, the energy agency or the ministry. The majority of Member States have not yet applied the EE1st in practice, but when they have, it is for energy, industry or buildings. When asked about the challenges on the way to implementing Article 3, Member States replied that they did not yet know exactly how to implement (definition and scope) and monitor Article 3.



The meeting continued with a presentation by the Commission, who shared the draft Recommendation on the design of CBAs for EE1st Requirement of Article 3(6) of EED recast ahead of the session and presented the highlights. This Recommendation is expected to be adopted in Q2/2025. The Commission also presented the sector-specific guidelines for the application of EE1st but with less details. This document is expected to be adopted in Autumn 2025.

The second session focussed on a practical example of the EE1st and a representative of the SEED MICAT project presented their project and software, which offers a comprehensive approach to estimate multiple impacts of energy efficiency by providing a publicly available and easily usable online tool (https://micatool.eu/).

In both sessions, table discussions on the EE1st were held and participants asked many questions to the presenters. The participants were particularly interested in how they could use the MICAT tool for their own potential applications.

The Management Team already discussed the topic for the next Plenary Meeting with the National Contact Points and for this Domain, it was agreed to continue with a combined working group on energy efficiency performance and waste heat utilization in data centres (Article 26 and 12).

3.2 Info session 6.5 - National Fund and Financing

At Info session 6.5 on National Energy Efficiency Funds and Financing, the focus was on the need to increase financing in energy efficiency. According to Article 30 (1) EED 2023 Member States are encouraged to establish financing facilities for energy efficiency improvement measures. In this session, one of the instruments highlighted in the directive—the National Energy Efficiency Funds (NEEF), as described in Article 30(11) and related provisions—was discussed.

According to the guidance from the Commission, the overarching purpose of these funds should be to support Member States in meeting their national energy efficiency contributions and their energy savings obligations in line with Article 4 and Article 8 of EED 2023. It also has a link to Article 8(3) and Article 24, since the national energy efficiency fund shall support the implementation of measures as a priority among people affected by energy poverty, vulnerable customers, people in low-income households and, where applicable, people living in social housing.

The European Commission started by explaining why leveraging private financing and investments is conditional to achieve the Union's climate and energy targets. In total there is a need for 370 billion EUR/year in investments in energy efficiency. Public budget support represents no more than 15% of the needs.

According to the Commission, establishing or relaunching a National Energy Efficiency Fund (NEEF) can be a key building block to improve national financing framework and deploy (innovative) financing tools for energy efficiency. Today 16 out of 27 MS have a NEEF and they vary greatly in terms of financing volume and type of funding support provided. The core message from this presentation was that MS could address barriers to blended financing solutions, for example a lack of coordination between different programmes and streams of financing and limited sector-specific expertise. One advantage a NEEF could offer is to aggregate financial and technical sector-specific resources into one single entity at national level.

Next, two MS shared their experiences on setting up and running energy efficiency funds.

In Norway, the Norwegian Climate and Energy Fund is managed by Enova and financed mainly via the national budget. The department for the building and household sector at Enova, presented the main features of the fund. Besides support for energy efficient projects related to labelling, the activities consist of support for feasibility studies and energy mapping, training and financial support for energy management, support for piloting new technologies / contract types. In 2024 Enova supported projects with 11 971 million NOK or 1 billion EUR.

In Spain the NEEF is an important part of the National Energy Savings System, where obligated parties make annual financial contributions to the National Energy Efficiency Fund. The National Energy System department at IDAE that manages the fund, presented their work. The National Energy Efficiency Fund is devoted to financing mechanisms of economic, financial, technical assistance, training or other measures, in such a way to attain the national energy target set according to article 8 of EED.

Under the title “Using the tools from EED to attract more financing into energy efficiency” the last speaker at the session, from Climate Strategy, gave some perspectives from the market. During the presentation they very much stressed that private finance and investment is critical to meeting the EU’s Energy and Climate targets, and that the public money is used where they most needed. Some of the ideas he brought forward included increased EU grants for renovating energy-poor homes and to develop an EU Renovation Loan. In this, he suggested, the NEEFs could be used as cash collateral for lending to homes, and that the team that manages the NEEF could provide knowledge on energy efficiency and act as a human resource base for banks that do not have this knowledge themselves.

The objectives for the session were to present some of the possibilities the establishment of a National Energy Efficiency Fund may offer, to share experiences and good practices between Member States and give a wider view on how the tools from EED can be used to attract more financing into energy efficiency. The speakers successfully achieved this by far!

3.3 Info session 6.6 - Ongoing and new policy measures to achieve energy saving obligations 2021-2030 (Art. 8-10)

In Spring 2024, Domain 1 had a Working Group focused on planning the implementation of Articles 4 and 8 in the EED recast. Based on the results from 26 Member States in the questionnaire conducted in January 2024, the continuation or modification of ongoing energy efficiency measures dominated the most important measures reported by Member States in their pursuit of reaching the Article 8 cumulative energy savings obligation for the period 2021-2030.

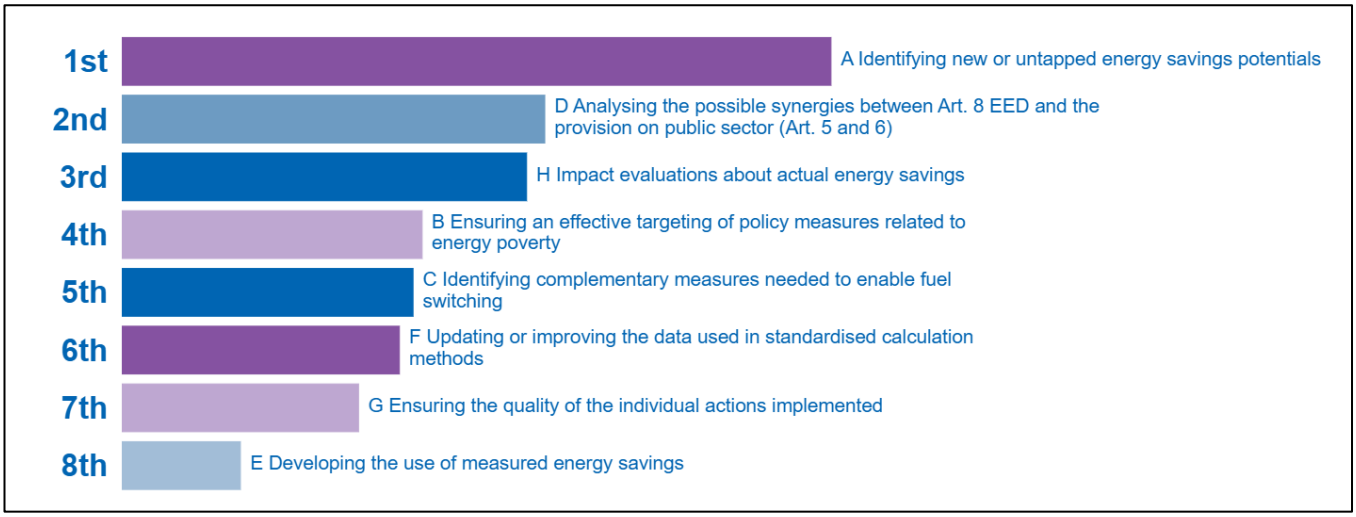
When the transposition period has progressed further, the aim of the INFO session in Berlin was to update the available snapshot of the policies and measures that Member States will use for the implementation of EED recast Article 8 to fulfil their cumulative energy savings target for the period 2021-2030.

The session started with a presentation by DG ENER. They focused on the Commission's analyses of the cross-country, EU-wide overview of the measures based on the final NECP updates from 22 Member States. Regarding expected savings, the presentation included a comparison between the achieved savings during the obligation period 2014-2020 and the expected savings for the obligation period 2021-2030. Based on that data, it can be said that, for example, the share of savings related to energy or CO_2

taxes has clearly decreased, while the share of savings related to financing instruments has significantly increased. There were some changes in the expected energy savings distribution per end-use sector but still the cross-cutting measures are dominating. According to the data shared, there were some changes in the expected energy savings distribution per end-use sector, but cross-cutting measures continue to dominate. Correspondingly, based on the presented analyses, more than 100 newly reported measures were identified by over half of the Member States for which data was available (13 out of 22 MS). Although newly reported measures were identified, it was pointed out in the discussion that it is quite obvious that it is beneficial for Member States to focus on ongoing measures and try to update and strengthen those. Building up a new measure normally takes time before it is up and running and delivering savings, which, due to the Article 8 cumulative savings target, is not optimal. Instead, long-lasting savings would be especially important to achieve as early as possible.

Another presentation was made by Greece on behalf of the ENSMOVPlus Life project. The presentation was based on ENSMOVPlus work using NECPR2023 and final NECP updates information, complemented with national sources, mostly from the ENSMOVPlus partner countries, and interviews with national experts. The ENSMOVPlus presentation also included information on energy poverty relevant to the implementation of Article 8(3) in the EED recast. Related to that, examples from Slovenia, France, and Ireland were highlighted about targeting priority groups and tackling energy poverty.

The second part of the presentation focused on country factsheets that are currently being prepared and included a short interview on those with Croatia and Hungary. All ENSMOVPlus material can be found from the webpage http://energysavingpolicies.eu/ and https://ieecp.org/projects/ensmov-plus/. In addition, during the session, a Menti-ranking exercise was conducted among the session participants aiming to help the ENSMOVPlus project to prioritise their future work on the topics that are most interesting to receive information, experience, or support. Results from the 29 participants in the session ranking their top three topics/issues from the prelisted options are shown in the figure below.



The INFO6.6 session was well attended. Approximately 50 participants were present, representing various ministries, energy agencies, energy authorities, as well as a representative from the Commission and CINEA.

3.4 Info session 6.7 - CINEA/Life projects - Mobilising finance for energy efficiency, experiences from the national level (Art. 30)

In this session, CINEA and three project representatives offered insights into concrete examples of mobilising finance for energy efficiency through national stakeholder dialogues, the so-called “National Finance Roundtables”. The concept of bringing relevant stakeholders together to discuss needs and solutions to mobilise private finance for energy efficiency within a national context had started under the initiative “Sustainable Energy Investment Forum” and has been complemented by the ‘National Finance

Roundtables' supported under H2020 and LIFE-CET. These experiences continue to inform the "National hubs", a key element under the newly launched European Energy Efficiency Financing Coalition, launched by the European Commission in 2024 for EU countries, financial institutions and the Commission to collaborate on energy efficiency financing.

In her introduction to the session, CINEA explained the rationale and common denominator of these initiatives, notably to match demand and supply; the work around this relies on three pillars - mainstreaming of energy efficiency in the finance sector; deploying innovative financing schemes; and mobilising finance at local level. Anette gave an overview of the landscape of national stakeholder dialogues and presented the initiatives that are complementing these, e.g. the almost 200 ELENA- and Project Development Assistance (PDA) projects; the more than 50 One-Stop Shops-projects, both in the private and public sector; the EU City Facility that has been giving support to more than 400 municipalities, and the more than 50 projects that explore approaches and products towards derisking and innovating financing for energy efficiency.

Three project representatives had been invited to present experiences and lessons learnt from the National Finance Roundtables in their countries.

SEVEn presented set-up and outcomes of the national roundtable ("GreenDeal4Buildings") that was organised jointly for two countries, Czechia and Slovakia. The round table was based on three working groups that included more than 200 stakeholders from the Finance, the Energy and the Construction Sector and included for example government representatives, public as well as private banks, energy service companies, industry and business associations, consultants and technical experts. The roundtable identified more than 50 measures and had moreover direct impacts on the regulatory framework, e.g. on the State budget rules that were adapted to accommodate Energy Performance Contracting.

As second speaker, the Federation of the Belgian Financial Sector, presented the experiences with the Belgian roundtable ("LIFE BE FREE") which is still ongoing. The Belgian roundtable is led by financial institutions themselves; it is structured across thematic roundtables and covers themes as Energy Performance Certificates, co-ownership, subsidies, social lending and district renovation. They outlined the challenges, for example linked to the regional differences of Belgium but also linked to the relatively old building stock. As key areas for the future, Geert highlighted the need for a better consistency and accessibility of Energy Performance Certificates and related data and the introduction and integration of a Multi Year Maintenance Programme.

Finally, ENEA / Italy, presented the Italian National Round Table ("GREENROAD") which has been structured across two separate roundtables; the roundtable addressing Instruments and Good Practices identified barriers, good practices and adaptation needs of the regulatory framework. The roundtable addressing Policies and Recommendations evolved from an expert roundtable led by the Italian Banking Association and explored new instruments and how to use public funds more effectively. The Roundtables were interlinked with local focus groups which mainly included local stakeholders, including public authorities and investors. As main outcomes, they highlighted the interaction with the Ministry to revitalise the national National Energy Efficiency Fund, the cooperation with banks to provide guarantees for energy refurbishments under the "First home' guarantee fund" and measures to facilitate the integration of different financial sources and funds. The work is foreseen to be continued in the national hub inside the Energy Efficiency Financing Coalition, with involvement of ENEA as national energy agency.

The session concluded that important work has been done over the last 8 years, but which given the huge investment needs will need to be continued and enhanced, notably in the framework of the Energy Efficiency Financing Coalition.

4 Other Parallel sessions

4.1 Open Space session: Social Climate Plan

The Open Space Session on the Social Climate Plan was both informative as focused on exchange. As a warming-up, the Social Climate Fund was situated as part of the ETS II scheme that will be introduced in 2027 for buildings and road transport. By submitting a Social Climate Plan in 2025, Member States can claim substantial budgets (total of €64.5 billion for 2026-2032) to relieve the impact of the ETS II taxation on vulnerable households, transport users and micro-enterprises. An important focus will be on reducing the cost for heating and support the transition to decarbonized heating. This offers a great opportunity for the implementation of the EED-goals, especially in meeting the rt. 8 objectives for vulnerable households. The experiences with the preparation of the Social Climate Plan in Belgium so far were presented. In the interactive part of the session, Germany and Lithuania presented their approach and insights. Various questions of participating member states that were collected beforehand, were addressed. It certainly will be interesting during future coffee breaks to learn more on how these plans are put into practice and how they will support EED-implementation.

5 Bonus session

The bonus session was jointly delivered by the Commission and IEA and focused on the presentation of studies and modelling work that underline the importance of energy efficiency in delivering the green transition, historically as well as in the future. The IEA talked about the wider impacts of energy efficiency, with a focus on security, competitiveness and affordability, based on the IEA 2024 Energy Efficiency report. The Commission presented the results of the latest edition (2024) of the JRC decomposition analysis of the EU energy consumption, the results of the DG ENER study to develop methodologies that can complement official Eurostat data by generating informed estimates (up to 6 months before today), and the results of the JRC Global Energy and Climate Outlook.

6 Closing Plenary Session

The Closing Plenary Session provided participants with an overview of the discussions and results of the Working Group sessions and included a presentation from the CA EED Coordinator as well as an invitation to the next Plenary Meeting.

Conclusions presentation WG6.1 – Selection and prioritisation of public buildings

Conclusions presentation WG6.2 – Qualification, accreditation and certification schemes

Conclusions presentation WG6.3 – Waste heat (Art. 26), industrial applications

Conclusions presentation INFO6.4 – EE1st Guidance documents and practical application

CA EED Coordinator Closing presentation 6th PM, *RVO*

Invitation to Cyprus, *Ministry of Energy Commerce and Industry*

7 Presentations

A number of presentations provided participants with valuable insights into Member States' EED implementations as well as examples from EU projects and information from the European Commission. All presentations are available on the CA EED website.

Working Group 6.1 -Selection and prioritisation of public buildings and pathway to achieving the targets (Art. 6)

WG6.1 Introduction - Selection and prioritisation of public buildings for renovation

Alternative approach and analysis of findings to date – Ireland, *SEAI*

Energy performance of buildings Directive (CA EPBD), *SEAI*

Implications of Article 6 for Denmark, *Danish Energy Agency*

Defining NZEB (Nearly Zero-Energy Building) - Luxembourg, *Ministry of the Economy*

Article 6 EED Recast, *European Commission*

Working Group 6.2 - Qualification, accreditation and certification schemes (Art. 28)

WG6.2 Introduction - Accessibility of qualification, accreditation and certification schemes, *The Warsaw University of Technology*

The BUILD UP Skills Initiative – European Commission, *CINEA*

Finland's approach to Article 28, *The Finnish Energy Authority*

Integrated Energy Providers – Ireland, *SEAI*

Certification and Training Scheme for (Future) Energy Auditors – Hungary, *Hungarian Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority*

Working Group 6.3 - Waste heat (Art. 26), industrial applications

WG6.3 Introduction – Waste heat (Art. 26), industrial applications, *Jožef Stefan Institute*

Waste Heat Potential and Support – Experiences from Austria, Johannes Mantler, *Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology - Austria*

Effective Support Framework for Waste Heat Utilisation, *BMWK*

Renewable Energy Directive: Waste Heat in Renewable Heating and Cooling articles (CA RES), *IDAE*

EED Article 26 Recommendation 2024/2395 on Waste Heat – European Commission – *DG ENER*

Industrial waste heat applications with High-Temperature Heat Pumps – *Fraunhofer IEG*

Info session 6.4 - Art. 3 EE1st Recommendation: CBA Methodologies

INFO6.4 – EE1st Recommendation on Article 3

INFO6.4 – EE1st Guidance documents and practical application

EE1st principle: update on state of play and on upcoming documents - European Commission, *DG ENER.B2*

The Multiple Impacts of Energy Efficiency – The SEED MICAT Project – *Fraunhofer ISI*

INFO6.4 Mentimeter Results

Info session 6.5 - National Fund and Financing

The Norwegian Climate and Energy Fund, *enova*

National Energy Fund – European Commission, *DG ENER.B2*

Using the tools from EED to attract more financing, *Climate Strategy & Partners*

The Spanish Experience - Energy Efficiency Fund, *IDAE*

Info session 6.6 - Ongoing and new policy measures to achieve energy saving obligations 2021-2030 (Art. 8-10)

INFO6.6 introduction - Ongoing and new policy measures to achieve energy saving obligations 2021-2030 (Art. 8-10), *Motiva Oy*

Article 8 – Overview of the Policy Measures – European Commission, *DG ENER*

Sharing experience about the implementation of Article 8 EED (ENSMOV Plus), *CRES*

Info session 6.7 - CINEA/Life projects - Mobilising finance for energy efficiency, experiences from the national level (Art. 30)

INFO6.7 introduction - Clean Energy Transition Projects, *CINEA*

National Roundtables in CZ, *SEVEn*

Life Be Free, *Febelfin*

GREENROAD: national roundtables as tools to facilitate investments in energy efficiency - Italy, *ENEA*

Open Space – Social Climate Plan

Open Space – Social Climate Plan presentation, *Flemish Energy and Climate Agency*

Bonus Session

Global Energy and Climate Outlook 2024, *DG ENER*

Legal Disclaimer

The Concerted Action for the Energy Efficiency Directive (CA EED) was launched in 2013 to provide a structured framework for the exchange of information between the 28 Member States and Norway during their implementation of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED). The CA EED is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 and is in its third phase.

For further information please visit **www.ca-eed.eu** or contact the CA EED Coordinator Lucinda Maclagan at **lucinda.maclagan@rvo.nl**

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