Ministry
of Industry and Trade
of the Czech Republic

Utilizing Existing Framework to Progress Energy Efficiency

Energy Efficiency First Principle

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Transposition principles

- Maximising the use of existing institutional and planning frameworks that already work
- Approach focuses on integrating the principle **into established decision-making and planning processes,** while minimising additional administrative burden for all the entities

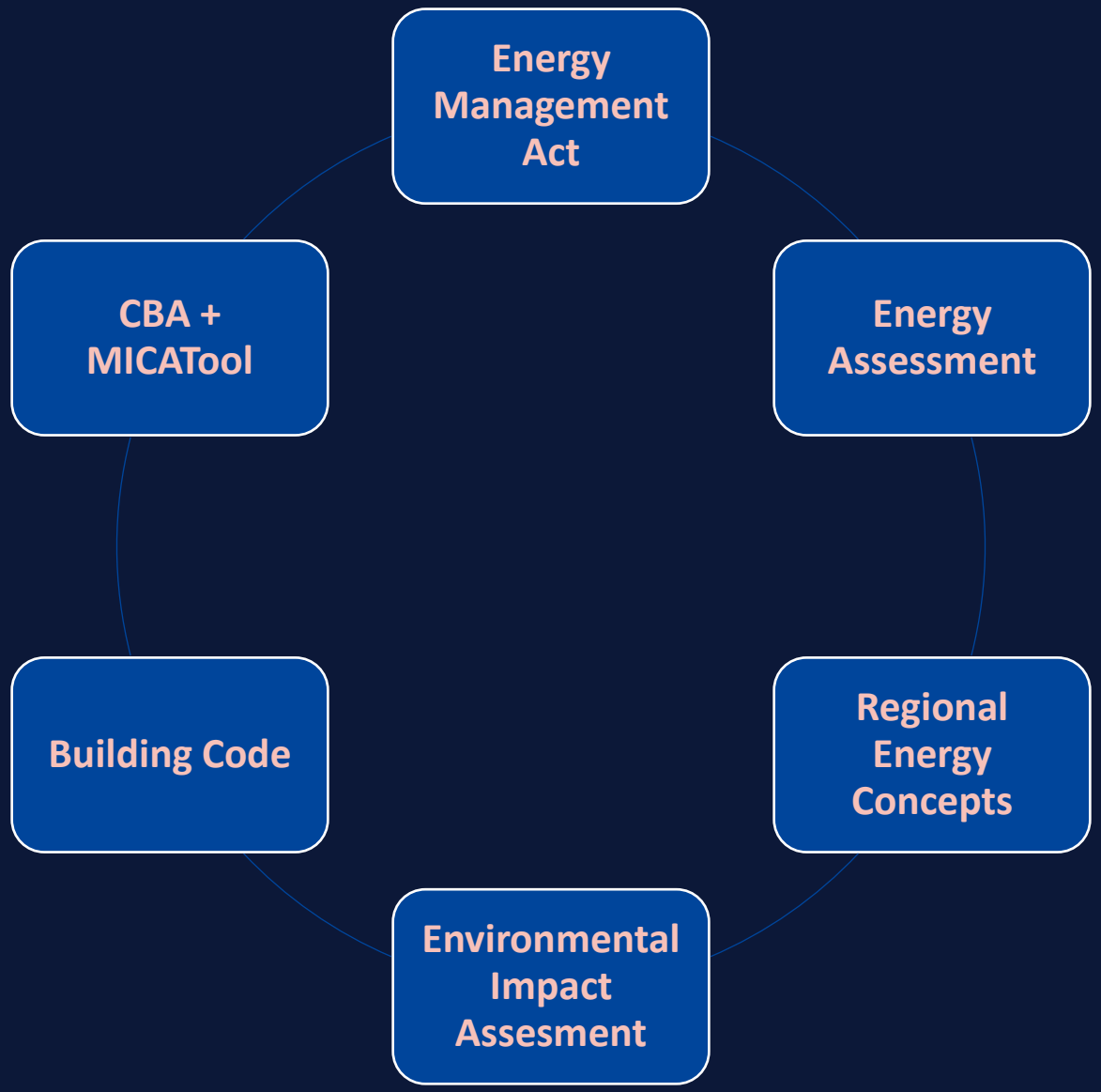
Transposition principles

- The thresholds required by the EED are relatively high – not many projects fall within the scope
- Therefore, we chose not to develop a completely new and complex institutional structure that would unnecessarily burden both obligated entities and public administration
- **Instead, we focus on integrating the principle into the existing framework**

Framework

- To support the implementation, we commissioned an analytical study to assess which existing institutional and planning frameworks could best accommodate the Energy Efficiency First principle in the Czech context
- 10/2023-12/2025

Framework


Energy Management Act
Energy Assessment
Regional Energy Concepts
Environmental Impact Assesment
Building Code
CBA + MICATool

Energy Management Act

- § 2a Act No. 406/2000 Coll.

  (1) The principle of energy efficiency first means giving the greatest possible consideration to alternative cost-effective measures in the area of energy efficiency with the aim of making energy demand and energy supply more efficient, in particular through cost-effective energy savings in final consumption, initiatives aimed at reducing energy demand and increasing the efficiency of energy conversion, transmission, and distribution of energy.

  ⟶ Energy assessment (§ 9a), regional energy concepts (§ 4)

Regional Energy Concepts

- To support the implementation, an analytical study was commissioned to assess suitable institutional arrangements in the Czech context
- The study recommends using regional and local energy planning frameworks (Regional Energy Concepts) as the main platform for applying the EE1 principle in practice
- This approach enables systematic consideration of energy efficiency in regional energy planning and investment decisions, building on existing energy planning tools

Regional Energy Concepts

- Strategic energy planning documents prepared by regions, cities and municipalities, typically with a planning horizon of around 25 years
- Analyse current energy consumption and production, identify opportunities for energy savings and local renewable energy sources, address the development of energy infrastructure, including district heating networks and support for combined heat and power
- Provide a framework for integrating energy considerations into spatial planning and regional development, and contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving energy efficiency and strengthening security of energy supply
- **Provide an established framework where the Energy Efficiency First principle can be systematically integrated into regional energy planning and investment decisions**

Environmental Impact Assessment

- Act No. 100/2001 Coll. on Environmental Impact Assessment
- Based on the systematic examination and evaluation of potential effects of planned projects on the environment and public health
- The EIA process applies to projects listed in Annex 1 of the Act, including construction works, roads, industrial facilities, and mineral extraction, both for new developments and for modifications such as expansions, technological changes, or capacity increases
- EIA documentation must describe the **project's impact on the climate, including energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, and potential energy-saving measures**
  - EIA checks whether proposed equipment and systems meet modern efficiency standards (e.g., ecodesign requirements).
  - The EIA process requires evaluating more efficient options if they reduce environmental impacts.

Building Code

- Act No. 283/2021 Coll.
- Links to energy-related obligations through references to other laws (especially Act 406/2000 Sb.) and through requirements for sustainable development and technical standards
- **Energy saving is a fundamental legal requirement for all buildings** (§145(1)(f)).
- Buildings must ensure sustainable use of natural resources, including energy (§145(1)(g))
- Technical systems must be designed to achieve the lowest possible energy consumption (§150)
- Every building must be explicitly energy-efficient in its design, construction, operation, and maintenance (§150)

CBA + MICATool

- We have also prepared a separate cost-benefit analysis (within the analytical study) – **but our approach is to make use of existing tools and methodologies wherever possible**
- SEVEn, the Energy Efficiency Center in the Czech Republic, collaborates closely with the Fraunhofer Institute on this project and we have actively participated in several workshops to understand the tool's capabilities and functionalities
- We are now looking into how MICATool could be applied in practice

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Thank you for your attention!

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