

National Energy Efficiency Program for Multifamily Residential Buildings Renovation, Bulgaria



Description of the programme

The National Energy Efficiency Program for Multifamily Residential Buildings (NPEEMB) aims to carry out renovation of multifamily residential buildings through the implementation of energy efficiency measures and aims to ensure better living conditions for citizens in multifamily buildings, better thermal comfort and higher quality of the living environment.

Targeting: Residential buildings constructed industrially to three or more floors of a minimum six (6) separate objects with residential use up to 36 separate objects with residential use and massive buildings, designed before April 26, 1999 of three or more floors with six (6) or more separate objects with residential use.

Financial support: In the state budget for 2017, a state guarantee has been included in the amount of BGN 1 billion. Up to 100% grant support for eligible expenditures covering mainly measures to: improve the EE of the buildings (thermal insulation of building envelope improvements of the heating, electrical work, etc.) and common spaces; and measures to improve the structural soundness of the buildings to, amongst other things, comply with the current building code, if needed.

Measures to be implemented should bring the energy consumption of buildings to at least Class C (energy use of 191 kWh/m² to 240 kWh/m²) at the lowest cost.

The program coordinator is Bulgarian Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works.

The program is an alternative measure under art. 7 EED in addition to the utilities obligations.

Critical success factors

The program combines many and different institutions – beside the coordinator certain roles and responsibilities have also: Ministry of Finance, Bulgarian Development Bank, Municipal administrations, Homeowners Associations and Regional Governors. The roles are strictly regulated and that facilitates the process even though there are many players in it.

The NPEEMB activated the Homeowner Associations establishment.

Innovation

Given the ongoing amendments of the NPEEMB, it is possible to include buildings with historical and cultural heritage significance within the scope of the Program. In these cases, the approval of projects, concerning their rehabilitation, will be done according to the Cultural Heritage Act.

Each of 22 reviewed municipalities (9 surveys with in-depth interviews) have indicated significant experience and structures for executing different social services towards the local society.

Key achievements

Number of Homeowners associations established	6 819
Renovated buildings	1 578
Number of renovated homes	61 961
Improved housing infrastructure (expected total for the Program, m ²)	11 525 389
Energy savings from renovated residential buildings (expected total for the Program), MWh/ann.	975 226
Estimated annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (CO ₂ equivalent) - incl. saving of kt CO ₂ /ann.	319

Changes you would make in the future

Less than 100% grant! Homeowners contributions would be required.

Higher minimum class of the renovated buildings as a mandatory requirement.

Trainings for the municipal administration's experts.

Lesson learned

Up to 100% grant was needed to rose the interest of the households.

Building a new expertise was needed for the municipal administrations (facilitators of the Program).

Wide-ranging information campaign was needed.

Replicating your approach

Good ideas:

Involving municipal administration as facilitators of the Program – homeowners don't have and don't need to have the needed knowledge on the legislations concerning energy audits, public procurement, etc. Municipal administrations on the other hand have enough expertise to develop Program documents and to organise public procurements.

Further information



Final comments

Future plans are under development. New approach is subject of discussions with a consultancy support from World Bank .

Further information

- [Program Operator Web page](#)
- [Bulgaria - National Program for Residential Energy Efficiency Project : environmental assessment - Environmental and social systems assessment \(English\)](#)

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