

Introduction to Panel 3

Policy, finance and governance

Panel leader: **Marine Cornelis**

Next Energy Consumer

Italy

marine.cornelis@nextenergyconsumer.eu

Panel leader: **Clemens Rohde**

Fraunhofer Institut für System- und Innovationsforschung ISI

Germany

Clemens.Rohde@isi.fraunhofer.de

Introduction

This panel focuses on how energy efficiency policies can be financed, designed, implemented and managed to generate optimal and lasting energy savings. The panel will focus on topics in relevant European Union Directives, on their interactions and the need for coordination between the Directives. Discussions related to the sufficiency of the Directives, as well as compliance of the Directives are welcome. The panel is divided into five different sections. The first section looked at decision-making to foster energy efficiency. The second section concentrates on smart solutions for heating and cooling. The third looked at local solutions to foster end-user's engagement. The fourth section focused on the opportunities to stimulate energy efficiency policies. The final section looked at finance and governance perspectives.

Lessons learned from the panel

The research presented cover so many different but complementary topics that it is difficult to list everything that can be learned from this panel. However, the following points can be noted. Energy efficiency policies, to be implemented, are supposed to have very different stakeholders on board, from households to industries, from local governments to international investors. There's no one-size-fits all solution but a combination of opportunities. For example, CHP can be relevant in certain contexts but challenging in some others. At the governance and end-user's commitment level, the local level seems the best way to engage, but international frameworks are also needed to set up the objectives. Therefore, international frameworks must be created and enforced, such as binding laws and targets that actually promote energy efficiency and encourage

action. The burning questions remain those of compliance and finance: is finance the silver bullet for policy action?

Going to the next step – decision making to foster energy efficiency

Eric Bush et al show how topten.ch, the Swiss platform for sustainable products, enables rebate programmes to be effective (peer-reviewed paper 3-022-21). Amandine Gal et al present the Super ESCO model and how it works in the Canadian context, taking the SOFIAC model as an example (peer-reviewed paper 3-074-21). Jürgen Fluch et al show how the TrustEE platform works in the Austrian context, as holistic project development and implementation support for industrial efficiency and renewable projects (peer-reviewed paper 3-098-21). Stefan Büttner & Werner König present their findings of trigger points leading to action in the decarbonisation process (peer-reviewed paper 3-141-21).

Warming up in a digital world

Erwin Cornelis share some thoughts about the need to scale up CHP or not in the Belgian context (extended abstract 3-035-21). Timothy Foxon & Noam Bergman investigate the role of digitalisation in low carbon scenarios (peer-reviewed paper 3-135-21). Juan Pablo Jiménez Navarro et al report on Efficient District Heating and Cooling and their role in the 2050 decarbonisation goals (peer-reviewed paper 3-170-21). Vlasios Oikonomou & Wolfgang Eichhammer analyse how the Energy Efficiency First principle was applied in Regional Governance at the EU level (peer-reviewed paper 3-117-21).

It's about all of us: local action, end users driving the change

Tanja Kenkmann et al examine the impact of municipal climate action managers in Germany (peer-reviewed paper 3-043-21). Didier Bosseboeuf et al (peer-reviewed paper 3-064-21) investigate how energy poverty is tackled in 10 European countries and what lessons can be learnt. Many good practices have been developed at the local level to tackle fuel poverty but we need to scale up to tackle this problem effectively. Sea Rotmann et al (peer-reviewed paper 3-154-21) analyse the impact of Covid-19 on hard-to-reach energy users. Those are the energy users who don't participate in efficiency and conservation programmes despite continuous efforts from administrations and bodies in charge. The situation has been reviewed in the U.S., UK, New Zealand and Sweden.

Beefing up energy efficiency policies

Paolo Bertoldi analyse how we can actually achieve energy sufficiency within the current economic paradigm (extended abstract 3-225-21). Dominique Osso et al assess the obligation levels in Energy Efficiency Obligation schemes (peer-reviewed paper 3-060-21). Tedd Mose present the existing and envisioned global legal framework to enable the global energy transition (peer-reviewed paper 3-156-21). Samuel Thomas et al (extended abstract 3-168-21) talk about the compliance issues related to Article 7 of the Energy Efficiency Directive, in

the framework of the 55 % emissions reductions by 2030, compared to 1990 envisioned by the EU. Stronger targets in the Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR) could boost real energy savings. Ivana Rogulj et al monitor the impact of Covid-19 on policies related to energy obligation schemes (Article 7 of the Energy Efficiency Directive) (extended abstract 3-196-21).

Who's to pay?

Diana Wang & Stefan Büttner (extended abstract 3-145-21) suggest implementing energy and environmental KPIs in CSR reporting in order to boost companies' climate neutrality. Bettina Dorendorf (extended abstract 3-159-21) analyse the impact of the EU Taxonomy on sustainable economic activities in various legislative and political contexts. It will have a tremendous impact on business models and investments, including in energy efficiency, for instance on InvestEU, the European Recovery and Resilience Facility, EU Green Bond Standard, EU Sustainable Finance Strategy. Klemens Leutgöb et al (peer-reviewed paper 3-174-21) analyse the different market growth models for Energy Efficiency Financing. They investigate the opportunity to use various channels to get additional finance, beyond mortgages and traditional company loans, to boost energy efficiency investments. Lia Weinberg et al (extended abstract 3-177-21) analyse the criteria for building climate-compatible building finance in Switzerland. Clear criteria are crucial to determine the investments towards a more sustainable building sector.