

Energy efficiency moldova

The residential sector in Moldova is to benefit from substantial support in the field of increasing energy efficiency, after a financing package worth 20.6 million Euros was announced today. A cooperation intention regarding the financing of energy efficiency works in the residential sector in Moldova was signed between the Ministry of Energy and the representatives of Germany, Norway and the European Union.

The financing aims to support the implementation of the "Energy efficiency and renewable energies in the Republic of Moldova" project, financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by GIZ, which is oriented towards strengthening energy security, reducing gas emissions with greenhouse effect and identifying sustainable solutions for the residential housing sector in Moldova.

The project, with a budget of 5 million Euros, provides extensive consultancy to the Ministry of Energy, the National Center for Sustainable Energy and local public authorities, serves as a platform for initiatives presented by other development partners.

The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) will co-finance a component of the BMZ project with 12.6 million Euros from the Nansen Support Program; Norwegian support includes non-reimbursable funding for the EcoVoucher program for the replacement of old household appliances (7.5 million Euros) and the Residential Energy Efficiency Fund (1 million Euros). This support will support the vulnerable groups of the population of the Republic of Moldova in overcoming the consequences of the energy crisis.

The European Union will co-finance the project with 3 million Euros from the annual EU action plan for the Republic of Moldova for 2023. The EU contribution includes a non-refundable funding of 1 million Euros for the energy renovation of individual houses inhabited by extremely vulnerable families from an energy point of view and 2 million euros to support the strengthening of capacities and the exchange of experience and information for state institutions in the Republic of Moldova.

The Law on Energy Efficiency, with the amendments voted today in the second reading, provides the Ministry of Energy with new instruments, including financial ones, to realize and encourage investments in energy efficiency measures and introduces concrete targets for energy savings at country level.

Thus, the Energy Efficiency Fund will be set up for the renovation of buildings of public institutions and the residential sector, which account for about 50% of energy consumption and have a high potential for savings.

The Agency for Energy Efficiency will also be transformed from an administrative authority into a public institution and will thus be able to implement a number of energy efficiency programs:

Subsidy program for energy efficient household appliances (currently piloted in partnership with UNDP under the EU-funded "Addressing the Impact of the Energy Crisis in the Republic of Moldova" program) - approx. EUR 3.9 mln for the piloting phase until August 2023, applied to 30 000 households;

Green House Program, which will provide subsidies to households when implementing energy efficiency measures (currently piloted in partnership with UNDP under the same program) - approx. 500 thousand EUR from EU for the piloting phase until August 2023 - 100 - vulnerable households;

Residential energy retrofit program; Support the development of the biofuels sector; Programs to renew the existing vehicle fleet by replacing vehicles with internal combustion engines with electric vehicles, as well as the expansion of public electric charging infrastructure and other programs.

Another tool available to the Ministry of Energy will allow accounting for alternative energy efficiency measures in both the public and private sectors. Also to be created is the Energy Management Information Subsystem (EMIS), which is a tool for monitoring the performance of energy and water use and related costs in public buildings and buildings in which public institutions and/or public authorities operate.

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