



ENERGY EFFICIENCY FIRST

On-line Launch Event

Recommendation and Guidelines on Energy Efficiency First: From principles to practice

28 September 2021, 14.00 – 17.00 CET

“Energy efficiency first” (EE1st) has been a guiding principle in European climate and energy policies for many years. It considers energy efficiency as a source of energy in its own right and as a “first fuel” in planning processes and investment decisions. It has been an essential element of the Energy Union and the Clean Energy Package. It is defined in the Governance Regulation which *inter alia* requires Member States to consider it in their National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs). In the *Fit for 55*-package adopted in July 2021, the Commission proposes to incorporate the principle as a legal provision in the Energy Efficiency Directive.

While EE1st is not new as a concept, there has been a need to make the principle more operational and to support its practical implementation, and this across different sectors, ranging from the energy supply and distribution to the end-use sectors. With the recommendation on EE1st, the Commission has also issued guidance on how to apply and implement the principle, offering practical solutions.

The Commission will present the recommendation and guidelines at the event. Following that, stakeholders from the different most relevant sectors for the implementation of the principle, will illustrate what energy efficiency first means specifically for their sector and how its application could look like.

The event will also launch the Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group (EEFIG) working group on EE1st. The aim of this working group is to further explore and facilitate the application of the principle in the finance sector.

The event will be opened by Commissioner Kadri Simson. The speakers will represent various stakeholders from the energy sector, the main energy end-use sectors and the finance community.

The on-line event will be conducted in English and moderated by Hans Van Steen, Advisor on Renewables, Energy Efficiency, Research & Innovation at Directorate General for Energy, European Commission.

This event is organised as part of the Sustainable Energy Investment Forums contract, funded under the EU Horizon 2020 programme and managed by the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA).

AGENDA

28 September 2021, 14.00 – 17.00 CET, ON-LINE

- 14:00 – 14:10 **Opening** by Commissioner Kadri Simson
- 14:10 – 14:45 **The new provisions of the Energy Efficiency Directive on the EE1st principle, recommendation and guidelines**
Ms Paula Pinho, Director of the Directorate for Just Transition, Consumers, Energy Efficiency and Innovation, Directorate General for Energy, European Commission
- 14:45 – 15:30 **Panel session 1**
EE1st in the energy sector: energy system, energy markets, energy planning
- Harald Proidl, Head of the Eco-Energy and Energy Efficiency Department, E-control
 - Paul Voss, Managing Director, Euroheat & Power
 - Arianna Vitali, Secretary General, Coalition for Energy Savings
 - Vlasis Oikonomou, Managing Director, Institute for European Energy and Climate Policy
 - Claire Roumet, Director, Energy Cities, European association of local authorities in energy transition
- 15:30 – 15:40 Break
- 15:40 – 16:25 **Panel session 2**
EE1st in energy end-use sectors: Buildings, Water, ICT, Transport
- Adrian Joyce, Secretary General, European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings
 - Alix Chambris, Vice President Global Public Affairs and Sustainability, Viessmann and member of the Association of the European Heating Industry
 - Monica Frassoni, President, European Alliance to Save Energy
 - Emma Fryers, Associate Director, Climate Neutral Data Centre Pact
 - Tomas Zwolinski, Chief specialist, Municipal Economy Department, Municipality of Krakow
- 16:25 - 16:35 **Launch of the Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group (EEFIG)'s working group on the EE1st principle in the financial sector**
Steven Fawkes, EEFIG Team leader
- 16:35 – 16:55 **Panel session 3**
EE1st in sustainable finance
- Ralf Goldmann, Head of Division, Energy Efficiency and Energy Advisory, European Investment bank,
 - Richard Kooloos , Director of Group Sustainability, ABN AMRO, Sustainable Banking,
- 16:55 – 17:00 **Closing**
Claudia Canevari, Head of Unit, Energy Efficiency, Directorate-General for Energy (ENER.B.2)