

EEW4 External Event Report

Title of the event: Energy Efficiency Policy Conference 2021

<i>Date & location:</i>	23 June 2021, Wels/Austria
<i>Organiser(s):</i>	OÖ Energiesparverband
<i>Summary of the event</i>	<p>The "Energy Efficiency Policy Conference" was held as a compact half-day event in the context of the annual international conference World Sustainable Energy Days (WSED, www.wsed.at) on 23 June 2021. 426 participants took part, mostly online.</p> <p>High-level speakers from the European Commission and IEA presented latest information on energy efficiency policy in Europe and concrete measures of the EU Green Deal. An important programme point was the dissemination of EEW project activities and results, as well as first policy considerations on how to complement policy instruments with successful narratives. Participants also received insight on financing solutions for scaling up investments in energy efficiency.</p> <p>The conference was held during the covid pandemic. Despite the much higher efforts required, it was organised as hybrid event to allow for valuable networking and interaction between on-site speakers and participants. The large number of participants shows the high level of interest in the presented topics. Overall, the event was considered a success by the organisers and attendees.</p>
<i>Objective & main programme point</i>	<p>The main objectives of the Energy Efficiency Policy Conference included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offering an update on energy efficiency policy in Europe and presenting concrete measures of the EU Green Deal • disseminating the results of the EEW expert survey and key input elements for narrative development • presenting the case studies on narrative building that are being developed in the EEW project as well as first policy considerations on how to complement policy instruments with successful narratives • giving insight on financing solutions for scaling up investments in energy efficiency



"The project EEW4 has received funding from the European Union Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 847153"

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The conference started with the session "Policy and Financing: A green recovery through the energy transition". The opening speech was held by Upper Austria's Regional Minister for Economy and Energy. Carlos Sánchez Rivero from DG Energy presented the European Commission's energy efficiency policies and programmes for a green recovery. Brian Motherway from the IEA gave a global update on progress in energy efficiency and an outlook to 2020.

The second part of the session focussed on triggering more investments in the energy transition and financing solutions to achieve this. Christophe Milin from the European Commission (CINEA) presented how "Integrated Home Renovation Services" are key to increasing the renovation rate and moving towards climate goals. Gerhard Dell, Manager of the regional energy agency (OÖ Energiesparverband) and Energy Commissioner of Upper Austria, explained how increased investments in the energy transition are being triggered in Upper Austria. Helena Mölter from the Wuppertal Institute presented findings from the "Green Recovery Tracker" on whether EU member states' national recovery plans are sufficiently contributing to the green transition. This was followed by a presentation by Karsten Löffler from the Green and Sustainable Finance Cluster on redesigning the finance system for the energy transition. As final speakers of the session, Ralf Goldmann from the European Investment Bank, presented the EIB's Climate Bank Roadmap for financing the Green Deal.

The second session of the conference was titled "Best practices in energy efficiency policy - solutions for the post-pandemic era". The pandemic and resulting societal changes offer opportunities for new narratives for energy efficiency and the energy transition. In this session, participants learnt about how such narratives can be developed and how innovative policies can make energy efficiency the new normal. An important programme point in this session was the dissemination of EEW project activities and results. Christiane Egger (OÖ Energiesparverband) presented key input factors for developing narratives for the energy transition from the extensive EEW4 expert survey. Daniel Becker (Guidehouse) presented case studies on narrative building that are being developed in the EEW project as well as first policy considerations on how to complement policy instruments with successful narratives.

	<p>As additional element to the main programme points, the Regional Minister for Economy and Energy of Upper Austria presented the annual Young Energy Efficiency Researcher Award.</p>
<p><i>Conclusions</i></p>	<p>The large turnout of over 400 experts shows the high level of interest in the presented topics. High-level speakers from the European Commission and IEA presented latest information on energy efficiency policy in Europe and concrete measures of the EU Green Deal. The conference also offered a platform for disseminating results of the extensive EEW4 survey of experts, as well as other project activities.</p> <p>The conference was held as a compact half-day event embedded in the WSED, one of Europe’s major conferences on the energy transition and climate neutrality. Participants took the opportunity to also attend other events of the WSED such as the Industrial Energy Efficiency Conference, Smart E-Mobility Conference, Innovation Workshops and more.</p> <p>The conference was held during the covid pandemic. Despite the much higher efforts required, it was organised as hybrid event to allow for valuable networking and interaction between on-site speakers and participants. Overall, the event was considered a success by the organisers and attendees.</p>
<p><i>Programme</i></p>	<p>09:00 - Policy and Financing Session: A green recovery through the energy transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and opening Markus Achleitner, Regional Minister for Economy and Energy, Upper Austria • Energy efficiency policies and programmes for a green recovery Carlos Sánchez Rivero, European Commission, DG Energy • Energy Efficiency 2020: a global update and outlook Brian Motherway, International Energy Agency • Best Young Energy Efficiency Researcher Award • Home renovation services: a boost for the green recovery Christophe Milin, European Commission, CINEA

- **The energy transition investment boom in Upper Austria**
Gerhard Dell, OÖ Energiesparverband, Austria
- **The "Green Recovery Tracker": recovery packages under scrutiny**
Helena Mölter, Wuppertal Institute, Germany
- **Shifting the trillions: a finance system fit for the energy transition**
Karsten Löffler, Green and Sustainable Finance Cluster, Germany
- **Financing the Green Deal**
Ralf Goldmann, European Investment Bank

11:30 - Best practices in energy efficiency policy: solutions for the post-pandemic era

- **Energy Efficiency Watch: New narratives for energy efficiency**
 - **The missing WHY: insights from 1,270 energy efficiency experts**
Christiane Egger, OÖ Energiesparverband, Austria
 - **Case Studies for energy transition narratives**
Daniel Becker, Guidehouse, Germany
- **Energy efficiency and the digitisation of the economy**
Benoit Lebot, Ministère de la Transition Écologique, France
- **Better policies for better lighting**
Ourania Georgoutsakou, LightingEurope
- **Energy Efficiency First: What does it mean in practice?**
Jean-Sébastien Broc, Institute for European Energy and Climate Policy, NL

13:00 End of the conference



