

Title of the measure:	LV 30 Energy Audits and Energy Certification of Residential Buildings
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General description

The described measure had been included in the Latvia's 1st NEEAP [1] for residential sector and continues in the following years.

Energy audits of buildings

In years 2009-2010 the Ministry of Economics had implemented the national support programme for the improvement of energy performance for multi-apartment residential buildings (see Table 1 below, [2]). The total amount of co-financing provided by this programme for all activities was 993 thsd EUR¹ [3]. It was co-financed by the programme in total 872 projects [5].

Table 1.

The layout of co-financed energy auditing activities within the state programme (2009-2010) supporting energy efficiency measures in residential buildings [2].

Co-financed activity	Included by	Maximum support for 1 activity, EUR	Maximum support rate, % of total costs of the activity	Number of supported projects [5]
Energy audits	Basic version	285	not stated	57 (2009)
Energy audits	2009 February Amendments	569	80%	241 (2010) Total 298
Updating energy efficiency evaluation in accordance with the requirements of actual legislative acts	2009 February Amendments	142	not stated	1 (2009) 7 (2010) Total 8
Preparation of the technical project (or simplified technical project) of renovation of multi-apartment building	2009 February Amendments	3557	80%	56 (2009) 254 (2010) Total 310
Preparation of the conclusion of the technical inspection of multi-apartment building	2009 October Amendments	569	80%	28 (2009) 228 (2010) Total 256

At the moment the financial support for preparation of technical documentation related to residential buildings' energy efficiency is provided by a number of municipalities [3,4]. In the years 2010-2016 the total financial assistance of local governments, provided for implementation of energy performance measures in residential buildings, had covered ~ 735 buildings and constituted ~ 8.6 MEUR (this financial assistance amount includes also the assistance for "hard" energy efficiency improvement measures). E.g., in 2014 such support had been provided by 19 municipalities for 86 apartment buildings in total, in 2015 – by 14 municipalities for 81 apartment buildings, in 2016 – by 15 municipalities for 85 apartment buildings [6]. This support is defined by the municipal regulations issued pursuant to Subparagraph (2)(4) and (5) of the Section 27.² "Assistance in the Renovation and Restoration of Residential Housing" of the Law "On Assistance in Solving Apartment Matters [7]. E.g., Ogre

¹ The given co-financing was provided by the funds of the previous EU Phare programme targeted to energy efficiency, left unused after its completion [4].

municipality co-finances 80% of the energy auditing costs and up to 7000 EUR for one building (Ogre municipality by-law No16, 2015).

In the 2007-2013 programming period of EU Funds, the financial support for energy efficient renovation of multi-apartment buildings had been provided by the ERDF². Within the framework of eligible costs provided for renovation works, the financing had been provided also for energy audit and preparation of construction works' technical documentation as the first stage of full renovation project as well as for supervision of construction works, these "soft" costs shall not exceed 10% of the total eligible costs of the renovation project [8].

In the current 2014-2020 programming period of EU Funds, in the basic version of the Cabinet of Ministers Regulations (Article 35.1 of [9]), the costs related to the preparation of the necessary technical documentation for the application, including building's energy certification, had been stated not eligible. However, the Amendments of noted Regulations, adopted 13 March 2018, have stated as eligible costs also the costs of building's energy certificate, building technical inspection documentation, construction project.

The reason why these costs had not been included in the basic version of the Regulation was that had been expected active participation of municipalities to co-finance these costs. However the activity of municipalities in this issue appears not as high as expected. Thus it was decided to amend the Regulations more beneficial for final beneficiaries. Total costs of technical documentation, author's supervision and supervision of construction works shall not increase 10% of the sum of construction contract. [Annotation of the 13.03.2018 Amendments to Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 160 [9]).

Energy certification of buildings

The Governmental Regulations, adopted in January 2009 [10] and issued pursuant in accordance with the Law on the Energy Performance of Buildings [11], which implemented requirements of the Directive 2002/91/EC, had introduced buildings certification and standardised auditing and certificate form, thus providing clear energy consumption indicators, giving reliable information to inhabitants as well as recommendations for improvements. In June 2010 the re-casted Regulations regarding energy certification of buildings [12] came into force replacing previous ones.

In December 2012 re-cast Law on the Energy Performance of Buildings [13] were adopted, implementing the requirements of the Directive 2010/31/EU. In accordance with the new law, the new **Regulations on Energy Certification of Buildings [14]** have been adopted. The new Regulations came into force 19 July 2013. The Regulations determines the procedures by which the energy certification of buildings shall be carried out, the type, sample, content and procedures for the issuance and registration of the energy performance certificate of a building, the system of energy efficiency classes of buildings, requirements regarding energy efficiency and use of high efficiency systems in almost zero energy buildings, the procedures for the inspection of boilers, the rated output of which exceeds 20 kW, and of air-conditioning systems, the rated output of which exceeds 12 kW. The Amendments of the Regulation, adopted 10 November 2015, are adjusting the values of energy efficiency classes.

In general, energy certification is mandatory for new buildings, buildings undergoing reconstruction/renovation as well as for the existing building if this existing building will be sold or rented (regarding part of existing building, the certification is mandatory if this part has an area above 50m² and has individual energy consumption metering).

It is introduced by the new Regulations [14] six (A-F) energy efficiency classes of residential buildings. presented in Table 2.

² see the MURE database Household Sector measure HOU-LV41 „Increasing Energy Efficiency in Apartment Buildings: 2007-2013”

Table 2 .

2.1. Residential Buildings Energy Efficiency Classes in Latvia [14]

Class	Maximum Specific Annual Energy Consumption for Heating
A	40 kWh/m ² , Requirements for the almost zero energy building Corresponding with the A class and fulfilling following additional requirements : 95kWh/m ² , total for heating, hot water, mechanical ventilation, cooling, lighting at least 75% of heat losses due to ventilation have to be recuperated, the low efficiency fossil fuel based heating systems shall not be installed, energy supply shall be provided by renewables at least partially
B	40 – 60 kWh/m ²
C	60 - 80 kWh/m ² ,
D	80 – 100 kWh/m ²
E	100 – 150 kWh/m ²
F	more than 150 kWh/m²³, the building needs energy performance improvement measures

2.2. Transitional period to almost zero energy buildings for new residential buildings [14]

The period of approving the building plan	Maximum Specific Annual Energy Consumption for Heating	
	Multi-apartment buildings	Single and 2-apartments buildings
Up to 31 December 2016	70 kWh/1 m ²	80 kWh/ 1m ²
01 January – 31 December 2018	60 kWh / 1m ²	70 kWh/1 m ²
01 January 2019– 31 December 2020	50 kWh/ 1m ²	60 kWh/ 1m ²
After 01 January 2021	almost zero energy building	almost zero energy building

For residential buildings undergoing reconstruction/renovation, energy consumption for heating after reconstruction shall not exceed 90 kWh/1m²/year (multi-apartment buildings) and 100 kWh/1m²/year (single family and two-apartment buildings).

The inspection of heat boilers shall be done: (1) for the gaseous fuel boilers with rated output above 100 kW – at least once at 4 years, (2) for the boilers with rated output above 100 kW, fuelled by other fuels, – at least bi-annually, (3) for the gaseous fuel boilers with rated output in the range 20-100 kW – at least once at 5 years, (4) for the boilers with rated output in the range 20-100 kW, fuelled by other fuels – at least once at 4 years.

The inspection of air-conditioning systems shall be done: (1) if the system is equipped with automatic control and monitoring equipment – at least once at 6 years, (2) in other cases – at least once at 4 years.

Simultaneously with the new Regulations on Energy Certification of Buildings the Regulations defining the method of energy efficiency calculation [15] and the Regulations regarding independent experts in buildings' energy efficiency [16] have been adopted as well.

³ The Chapter IV „Requirements for Ensuring the Energy Efficiency of a Residential House” [20] of the Governmental Regulations No.907 „Regulations Regarding the Survey, Technical Servicing, Current Repairs and Minimal Requirements for Energy Efficiency of the Residential House” states the energy efficiency measures are obliged in case the average annual heat consumption, calculated during previous 3 calendar years, exceeds: (i) 200 kWh/ 1m² annually for heat and hot water, or (ii) 150 kWh/ 1m² annually for heat only - see the MURE database Household sector measure HOU-LV35 “Minimal Requirements for Energy Efficiency of Residential Apartment buildings”

Impact evaluation (methods and results)

No separate impact evaluation provided. The impact should be evaluated for the complex package of interacting measures.

The calculated national energy saving target in residential sector, defined by the Latvia's First NEEAP, is 2701 GWh (9.7 PJ) in year 2016 and this value is not changed by the Latvia "Information Report On the Progress towards the Indicative National Energy Efficiency Targets in 2014-2016 according to Directive 2012/27/EU On Energy Efficiency" (see [17], Table 4 in page 13).

For comparison:

- the overall final energy consumption in Latvia residential sector in year 2009 (i.e., before the start-up of the multi-apartment residential buildings' renovation programme supported by ERDF) constituted ~ 65 PJ from which ~ 44.5 PJ (climate correction is taken into account) was used for heating [18].
- the overall final energy consumption in Latvia residential sector, average in years 2012-2014 (i.e., before the start-up of the impact of the 2014-2020 financial planning period) constituted ~ 54 PJ [19].

Interaction of measures

The financial support for energy efficiency measures in multi-apartment buildings in the EU Funds' programming period of years 2007-2013 had been provided by the ERDF, see the MURE database Household sector measure HOU-LV41 "Increasing Heat Energy Efficiency in Apartment Buildings: 2007-2013".

The Financial instrument for co-financing of energy efficient renovation of multi-apartment buildings is applied in the current programming period, 2014-2020, of EU Funds as well, see the Latvia measure HOU-LV42 „Increasing Energy Efficiency in Multi Apartment Buildings: 2014-2020” in the MURE database Household sector.

Important measure is the Latvia national informative campaign "Let's Live Warmer". In 2015 the campaign "Let's Live Warmer" was announced as the national winner of Energy Globe Award; see the MURE database Household sector measure HOU-LV29.

References

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