

The Benefits of Energy Efficiency Projects for SMEs

January 18th, 2023 - Seminar briefing

Ivana Rogulj presented the benefits of energy efficiency projects for Small and Medium Enterprises, going through the multiple barriers that SMEs face and how EU-funded projects have paved the way to fill in the missing gaps and allow SMEs to implement energy efficiency.

The IEECP Lunch Seminars offer short insights into ongoing projects and how they play a central role in the energy transition.

Useful links:

- [DEESME H2020 Project](#)
- [DEESME 2050 Project, use #DEESME2050](#)
- [IEECP projects](#)

Barriers for SMEs

- **Lack of awareness** as SMEs are not very energy intensive.
- **Low Capital** which is specific to SMEs, they are risking opportunities to be attractive to financial institutions.
- **Difficulty to access financing.**
- **Lack of technical human resources.**
- **Doubts around actual savings potential**, it is not seen as a priority but it is becoming less of a barrier due to the energy crisis.

Benefits of implementing energy efficiency

- Better use of waste.
- Reduction of dust and gas emissions.
- Better facility reliability.
- Stronger product output (quality, performance, timing, reliability).
- Less needs for personal protective equipment and better services (lighting, air quality, temperature, noise levels).
- Environmentally friendly image.

EU-funded projects enabling SMEs to incorporate energy efficiency

- **DEESME** focuses on enabling companies to profit from the multiple benefits of energy management and audit approaches and provides national authorities with guidelines and recommendations to empower their schemes under article 8, using the multiple benefits' approach.
- **DEESME 2050** follows in those footsteps to capacitate, assist and motivate companies to overcome the obstacles in energy efficiency measures uptake.



Covenant of Companies

A new pilot initiative from the European Commission, to help companies to transition to the net zero economy.

More on audits!

Audit2Measure:

Pushing companies to "get things done" after energy audits