

# Increasing energy efficiency in Ukraine

Improved energy services aligned with EU standards help to cut consumption and costs

## The challenge: High energy intensity in Ukraine

In 2011, Ukraine joined the Energy Community, an international organisation that brings together the European Union and its neighbours to form a pan-European energy market with binding rules and principles. In 2014, Ukraine signed an Association Agreement with the European Union, committing itself to implementing the EU Energy Efficiency Directive (EED). This has led to an increasing awareness of the importance of energy efficiency in reducing costs, ensuring a reliable energy supply and climate protection. The country therefore aims to reform its energy sector and halve its energy consumption by 2030. However, the EED has not yet been adopted and regulations and other legal provisions required to put new laws into effect are drafted in piecemeal fashion. Institutional responsibilities are unclear, and the staff of national institutions require more experience and expertise to move the reform processes forward.

Meanwhile, the government is allocating more and more funds to universities and vocational training schools to develop a range of courses. This will go a long way to tackling the current deficit of specialists to plan, implement and monitor energy efficiency measures.



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While the environment for energy efficiency in Ukraine is improving, many offers are not being taken up. Only 35 percent of places on technical and engineering courses related to energy efficiency have been filled in Ukrainian universities and vocational training schools. This results in a shortage of skilled professionals and workers, which hinders the implementation of existing energy efficiency plans.

## Our approach: Enabling an efficient provision of energy services

On behalf of the German Federal Government and the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, GIZ works to support the framework conditions for energy efficiency in Ukraine. Building on its in-country experience, and working with its partners, GIZ strengthens the legal, regulatory and institutional framework for increased energy efficiency in Ukraine according to EU directives. This will contribute to Ukraine implementing changes to the energy sector through the sustainable and efficient provision of energy and energy services, open up new market sectors and help to create jobs. It will reduce high energy consumption and lower costs for public and private buildings, helping households and businesses to plan, budget and implement their own efficiency measures. This will benefit Ukraine's entire population and allow the country to meet its climate change goals.

GIZ advises the Ukrainian government on improving laws related to the large-scale thermal modernisation of the country.



Ukrainian municipalities learn to improve energy efficiency

GIZ strengthens the decision-makers, specialists and functional staff members in Ukraine's municipalities to learn more about energy management. Establishing a sustainable system that constantly improves energy efficiency in public buildings, such as schools and hospitals, will allow for better learning and health outcomes. At the same time, the project partners learn how to plan, implement and monitor the results of the investments in their regions.

GIZ improves academic and vocational qualifications for students and professionals in the energy efficiency-related construction sector, such as engineers and construction workers. Training according to the best international practices will not only improve the quality of work in the construction sector, but will also lead to higher employment rates among professionals and career entrants. This is especially important for young professionals and women – groups that are traditionally under-represented in technical courses.



GIZ supports Ukrainian ministries to improve energy efficiency – even in the COVID pandemic



Energy efficiency: a priority for the Ukrainian government



## Oleksiy Chernyshov: “People shall live and work comfortably”

Oleksiy Chernyshov, Minister for Communities and Territories Development of Ukraine, is convinced by energy efficiency reform and the many advantages it offers:

## Our results: Impactful changes in the energy field

Earlier cooperation between GIZ and its Ukrainian partners in the energy sector resulted in a host of draft legislative acts and political documents, such as an ‘Argumentarium’ on the implementation of the EED and White Books on the implementation of Articles 5 and 8 of the EED. As part of the national strategy of thermal modernisation in buildings, a national database of energy performance in buildings was successfully launched in 2020. This database is the basis for the national energy monitoring system of public buildings, and contains energy characteristics of 13,000 public buildings from 23 regions in Ukraine. GIZ continues to support the collection of data and development of new legislation.

To improve the capacities in the sector, GIZ continually organises training courses, workshops, webinars and online conferences for actors in the field. New energy efficiency-related training courses are being developed and implemented in educational institutions and vocational training schools. As a result, around 4,000 workers and professionals will learn more about energy efficiency, of whom at least 20 percent are women. In the long term, this will lead to a better qualified workforce and market-oriented offers in energy efficiency-related professions.

GIZ supports 25 thermo-modernisation projects. Each one of these projects will contribute towards a reduction of energy consumption of at least 20 percent. The 32 participating partner municipalities will implement a ‘municipal energy management’ programme, which will allow them to reduce their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The lessons from these projects will be shared with relevant bodies, enabling them to implement similarly complex projects in the future.

*“Energy efficiency is not only about us and our needs; it is our commitment to both the EU and our nation. After all, we want people to live and work in comfort – in warm houses, without mould on the walls, without having to pay vast sums for communal services.”*

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