



## **CEECAP – Implementing EU Appliance Policy in Central and Eastern Europe**

### **National Verification and Enforcement Plan – List of activities and prepared solutions**

*Deliverable 7  
www.CEECAP.org*

#### **Introduction**

The CEECAP – Implementing EU Appliance Policy in Central and Eastern Europe project was developed with the aim of supporting CEE countries in creating suitable conditions for implementing appliance labelling and efficiency policies in accordance with EU Appliance efficiency legislation and programmes.

The activities listed in this document explain the work undertaken to increase the importance of appliance energy labels within the governmental institutions and to prepare activities with a longer-term impact.

#### **Content and description of the main chapters:**

- **Legislation:**

Mention of any work done to promote new or current legislation to the project target group representatives.

- **National energy strategy:**

How are energy labels included in the national strategies to lower energy intensity? Reflection in the National Energy Strategy, Energy Act, National Energy Efficiency Action Plans, etc., and how CEECAP influenced this.

- **Control organisations:**

Who is in charge of the appliance labels in terms of testing and shop visits? What was the level of CEECAP cooperation with them?

- **Shop verification:**

Description of whether and how appliance labelling is controlled in shops. Description of CEECAP's own evaluation, results and impacts.

- **Internet shops:**

Brief overview of internet appliance sales and the quality of information relating to energy labelling. Activities of CEECAP to improve this.

- **Appliance test:**

Are any appliances tested nationally? Description of discussions of CEECAP held in this field.

- **Appliance producers:**

Contacts of the government with the producers / importers and cooperation on the improvement of distribution and usage of energy labels.

- **Media:**

Any formal media work promoted by governmental organisations.

- **Consumer organisations:**

Any formal cooperation with consumer and/or environmental groups undertaken with governmental organisations.

- **EU Flower**

Formal cooperation with the EU or national Eco-Label and other quality labels and logos.

**Countries covered:**

The Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Lithuania, Poland, plus International.

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# The Czech Republic

- **Legislation:**

The Czech legislation relating to energy labels has been researched in terms of its content, rules, legal rights and obligations given to public and private organisations, and differences from the EU Labelling Framework Directive legislation. The only difference is the obligation to also use energy labels for electric accumulative water heaters. Cooperation with the national organisations responsible for appliance label control or product testing has been established and regular meetings and discussions have been held throughout the project.

- **National energy strategy:**

The Czech national energy efficiency strategy recognised appliance efficiency as one of the key tools for lowering the total national energy consumption. SEVEN, as one of the authors of the proposal of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan, has used the information from CEECAP on suggesting further options to lower household electricity consumption. Also, further national work and the governmental commission, where SEVEN participated, benefited from the knowledge and international experience gained through the CEECAP project. This included detailed predictions of the future energy efficiency of appliances by type and options to increase the share of the most efficient ones in stores.

- **Control organisations:**

Two governmental organisations are responsible for overseeing the appropriate energy labelling of appliances: the State Energy Inspection, which checks the information on labels, and the Czech Trade Inspectorate, which checks the formal presence of labels in shops. Several meetings with the representatives of both organisations took place and discussions have been held on the practicalities of conducting label checks. The project educational materials have been used to instruct them on the proper methodology of the checks. Interaction of the work of both organisations has been agreed and direct information from the market has been supplied to them (observations on the appropriate form of energy labelling of individual appliances or specific store types).

Some of the meetings and discussions have been held with the common participation of both organisations and a future cooperation and information exchange between them has been agreed upon.

Both organisations have also been consulted on selected individual cases of suspicious label information in order to increase the importance of this topic both among the control organisations and the manufacturers and retailers.

The CEECAP project has also been used as one of the referenced European projects listed on the Ministry of Industry and Trade website.

Agreement was reached that cooperation will continue and that education meetings for regional inspection representatives will be held in late 2008.

- **Shop verification:**

Undertaking an independent review of the presence of energy labels in appliance shops was part of the Czech CEECAP activities. This had also been undertaken in previous years and therefore the development of the situation follows the period 2002 –2004 – 2007 in the Czech Republic. In total, 158 shops have been visited and some 3,922 appliances have been checked. In general, over 85% of the appliances seem to be properly labelled within the “traditional” product categories of cooling, washing and dishwashing appliances. Other appliance types show a much lower degree of label display compliance, despite a gradual improvement. The reported EU average is 20 – 30% of unlabelled appliances. A report from these visits has been widely shared and discussed among the governmental organisations and appliance manufacturers and retailers. It has also served as an information source for international research undertaken recently within the EU Label Framework Directive revision work.

- **Internet shops:**

The share and absolute volume of sales of appliances over the internet is growing constantly in the Czech Republic. This also underlines the importance of the proper usage of information from the labels on internet retailer sites. Research on this topic was carried out, and a special paper with guidance has been prepared to instruct the appliance internet distributors on proper information usage, also by giving concrete examples of the most frequent mistakes and questions asked. The paper was distributed to all relevant distributors within cooperation with the national association of retailer distributors.

- **Appliance test:**

While no formal appliance tests are being undertaken in the Czech Republic, some consumer and media tests, partly covering energy performance, have been published during the course of the project. These have been used to increase the media attention given to this topic and to increase the importance the governmental institutions attach to appropriate appliance labelling. Exchange of information on the international level has been considered in detail with other national CEECAP partners and has been described in detail in a specific document.

- **Consumer organisations:**

Consumer protection and environmental organisations have been invited to share the information on appliance labelling and to promote it to their members. Information from consumer product tests has been used to widen the attention given to this topic both by governmental officials and the general public.

The Czech Test Consumer Association has been publishing consequent tests on the quality of dishwashers, washing machines and light sources. All of these articles contain

information on the tested energy performance of the appliances and have been therefore used for wider dissemination of appliance energy efficiency aspects to the general public. Individual article content relating to appliance energy performance and labelling has also been consulted within CEECAP.

- **EU Flower**

Regular cooperation has been initiated and carried out with the public organisation responsible for the national eco-labelling system. Common promotion of labels took place by distributing project materials at various public events and the project target groups have been informed of the advantages of using proper labels.

## Slovakia

- **Legislation:**

The quality and scope of legislation has been evaluated and compared with the legislation requirements resulting from the EU Labelling Framework Directive and with the other national directives in place in countries of the CEECAP project. The specific focus has been given to the duties of the national control organisations, the framework of their activities in place and discussions relating to the potential to increase the effectiveness of their control activities.

One part of the information activities of CEECAP has been the production of the D1a information brochure, which has been distributed among the key target group representatives. Due to the high demand for this brochure, a second Slovak edition has been printed and distributed.

Individual discussions with legal and executive representatives of the governmental organisations have been held on the potential to increase the visibility and attention given to energy labels both on the central level and by the general public.

The Slovak version of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan contains a separate chapter focused on the support for increased appliance energy efficiency, including the proposed establishment of an Energy Efficiency Fund, which would partly fund the purchase of the most energy efficient appliances. The creation and content of this action plan and of the Fund has been followed within the project as it could bring further positive input to the increased promotion of efficient appliances.

- **National energy strategy:**

As mentioned above, the Slovak National Energy Efficiency Action Plan contains a proposal for an Energy Efficiency Fund, as well as an information campaign for consumers, and an improvement of consulting services through training for importers and vendors of appliances. All of these proposals combine a financing combination of state, EU and private sources.

The Energy Efficiency Fund, which is being created as of the writing this report in June 2008, would last for three years and would consist of a non-repayable grant to pay a portion of the costs relating to the purchase of selected white goods (refrigerators, freezers) with lower energy consumption than that currently seen in the best-selling A category, i.e. support to the appliances in the A+ or A++ category.

The education and information activities would be supported by newly established education and lifelong learning system projects.

The experience of the CEECAP project in Slovakia shows that smaller shops and consumers in smaller towns in particular face a lack of information. Therefore, the support to further activities will be given to such plans focusing on these target groups.

- **Control organisations:**

Both the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan of the Slovak Republic and the independent activities of CEECAP in Slovakia show that a significant improvement of appliance labelling verification and enforcement could be reached by increased attention being given to this topic by the central control institutes, such as the trade and energy inspectorates. A proposal has therefore been made to their representatives to initiate educational activities and training courses to improve the education of the inspectorates and inspectors in the field of appliance labelling. The further evolution of this will be monitored and followed by the project follow-up activities.

- **Shop verification:**

Due to the lack of regular and significant shop visits focused on checking the presence of energy labels on appliances, this aspect has been one of the discussion topics during the formal meetings and discussions with the governmental organisation representatives. In addition, similarly to other CEECAP countries, individual random shop visits have taken place where the presence of appliance labels has been monitored. Some 150 shops have been visited with the observation of over 80% of correctly labelled appliances. The situation was then discussed individually with the shop assistants and managers, and the representatives of the retailer headquarters. It was then also discussed with the government officials to increase their attention to this issue.

The quality of label presence in larger cities and shop networks has been shown to be on a satisfactory level, further attention by both the retailers and government authorities should be given to smaller shops and smaller towns.

The importance of shop verification and education of the general public, inspectors, and retailers will increase with the implementation of the planned revision of the EU Labelling Framework Directive.

- **Internet shops:**

An independent review of the situation within appliance sales on the internet has been performed as well. The overview showed a generally good situation, with only exceptional cases of lack of information.

A common situation describing the proper form of presenting appliance energy requirements, developed also within the activities in the Czech Republic, has been distributed to the association of electronic retailers.

Individual cases of misinformation have been communicated individually with the retailers and the reason for improvement has been explained.

- **Appliance test:**

Appliances are not being formally tested in Slovakia, as is the case in the majority of EU countries. Discussions have been held within the CEECAP project with the representatives of the EnR Labelling and Ecodesign working group relating to the eventual exchange of information about the test results conducted in other countries.

Such an international exchange of information would be beneficial for Slovakia too, since the governmental organisations would receive information which would otherwise not be available to them.

- **Appliance producers:**

Regular communication with selected appliance manufacturers and with the Slovak office of the CECED association has been held throughout the whole project. Discussions have been led on the proper form of supporting appliance manufactures in promoting appliance efficiency and energy labelling. All CECED outputs produced in Czech and English have been delivered to the CECED Slovakia representatives.

CECED Slovakia has also been co-financing one half of the second edition of the Deliverable 1a brochure.

In addition, CECED Slovakia has been active in developing the common project leaflet aimed at the general public (Deliverable 12). Instead of the planned 1,000 copies, over 5,000 have been printed. The vast majority of them have been distributed by the CECED members, the individual manufacturer representatives, throughout the retailer shops in Slovakia. CECED has also been involved in correcting the proposed text and ensuring that information relevant for Slovak consumers is placed in it.

- **Media:**

Presentation of the project and the importance of energy labels took place in June 2008 at the ENKO 2008 – Energy Policy and Security conference held in Bratislava, Slovakia. The conference was attended by top governmental, utility, policy and research organisation representatives. Appliances were presented as one of the key successful examples of promoting energy efficiency in an effective matter.

All Slovak documents have also been published immediately on the project website (results section) and the website itself has been promoted in Slovakia by the printed materials (brochures, leaflets) and the presentation.

The leaflet produced within cooperation with the CECED association has also been distributed to the general public, mainly in the retailer shops, but in part was also distributed to media representatives, consumer groups, governmental officials, etc. for their own dissemination and education activities.

# Bulgaria

- **Legislation:**

The harmonization of the Bulgarian legislative framework with the European one in the field of appliances has been conducted through the introduction of the European acts of the *acquis communautaire*, which form part of the Global Approach and the New Approach. The European Directives, incorporated in the New Approach, are introduced in the country by virtue of ordinances, which define the significant specific requirements for these products on the grounds of the Law on Technical Requirements with Respect to Products. Directives related to the Global Approach, which deal with the requirements for labelling of appliances, are introduced in Bulgarian legislation by the Law on Consumer Protection. During the project implementation several meetings and discussions have been held with national organizations responsible for appliance's labeling legislation.

- **National energy strategy:**

Energy efficiency of household appliances in Bulgaria is acknowledged as one of the important instrument for decreasing the total national energy consumption. The first National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for 2008-2010 has been adopted during the project period and energy efficiency of appliances has been included as one of the important issues. Using the knowledge and experience gained from the CEECAP project EnEffect has participated in the action plan development process.

- **Control organisations:**

The Ministry of Economy and Energy is working on the development of the economic and energy policy of the Bulgarian state. In the ministry three directorates are closely engaged in the development and implementation of standards and labeling policy and programs in the country - the Energy Efficiency and Protection of the Environment Directorate, the Consumer Protection Directorate and the European Integration Directorate.

The Commission for Consumer Protection within the Ministry of Economy and Energy performs control functions according to the power of authority assigned to it by the Law on Consumer Protection. One of the tasks assigned to the commission is the control with respect to labelling of consumer goods, including with respect to their energy efficiency. The Market control department and its regional subsidiaries are directly engaged in the monitoring of the implementation of the provisions of the Ordinance for energy labelling of appliances, whereat by virtue of law they have the right of free access to retailer shops, the right to request the appropriate documents related to their control, to take samples for laboratory testing, to involve experts of the respective fields in the cases when the check is particularly complicated and requires specific knowledge, as well as to sanction identified violations.

Close cooperation with both organizations have been established. Several meetings have been held, copies of training programmes for national government officials and experts and for market players have been translated into Bulgarian and have been delivered to these institutions for further dissemination. The national Verification and Enforcement Plan (V&E) and Market Introduction Plan (MI) plans were discussed in detail and their comments and proposals are included in the final versions produced. CEECAP project activities and results have been presented at 6 regional workshops in Bulgaria organized by the Ministry of economy and energy. The CEECAP project educational materials have been submitted to the Commission for Consumer Protection to be used for training of the responsible inspectors on the proper methodology of the controls. Report on the results of the independent shop visits carried out by EnEffect under the project was disseminated and discussed in the respective responsible government organizations.

- **Shop verification:**

Independent shop visits were carried out to review the energy label's presence in appliances stores. The bigger shops of the largest retail chains in Sofia (the capital of the country) were visited. About 1,800 appliances were checked. The analysis of the general results shows over 66% properly labeled appliances, nearly 18% unlabelled and about 16% non-properly labeled. It is important to note that these are the results for the general sample. Significant differences were found in different retail chains. More than 95% properly labeled appliances were found in the shops of one retail chain while this percentage was less than 35% in the shops of another chain. About 70% of the products from the categories cold appliances, washing and dishwashing machines and ovens seem to be properly labeled. The share of the non-labeled and/or not properly labeled air-conditioners is still very low - only about 25% of the surveyed units had been properly labeled. The summary report from the visits was disseminated and discussed with the responsible government organizations.

- **Internet shops:**

The share of the sales of appliances over the internet in Bulgaria is very low. However general review of the existence of proper EE labeling has been done. It showed that in most cases the Internet labels include more or less one and same general information as energy class of the appliances but not detailed information such as energy consumption, etc. The results of the review have been discussed with respective responsible government organization.

- **Appliance test:**

No formal appliance tests are being taken in the Republic of Bulgaria. As one of the most "expensive" activities in the whole Verification and Enforcement implementation plan the actions undertaken by the respective government organizations are very rare yet. However during the CEECAP project implementation information has been collected and presented to the Commission for Consumer Protection regarding the existing testing and

verification capacity within the country. In addition, detailed information was presented by EnEffect to the Bulgarian Market Control Department of the Commission regarding the existing experience of EU countries on appliance testing, including detailed discussions of the Danish procedure (described in the *Training Programme for National Government Officials and Experts*, CEECAP Guideline) and the Swedish experience (*Ten Years of Energy Labelling of Domestic Appliances 1995–2005*, Swedish Energy Agency, ER 2006:18).

- **Consumer organisations:**

Consumer NGOs have been invited to the main events organized during the project. They expressed their interest towards joint activities especially in those related to consumer awareness and information dissemination. National promotional materials produced under the project have been delivered to them to be widely disseminated via their own information channels.

## Romania

- **Introduction**

*The CEECAP project* contributes to increasing the experience of the government and energy agency experts (*Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of the Environment, ARCE and ANPC*) regarding the implementation of legislation, control and verification of the market introduction aspects. Their participation in the seminars and workshops of national contact groups in the CEECAP project, discussions, involvement in drafting and implementing the VE Plan, has been a good opportunity to increase their practice in national decision-making regarding energy efficiency policies and the energy labelling system too.

Activities took place within the project to sustain the improvement of the national verification and enforcement plan: training in appliance energy efficiency legislation development, implementation and monitoring of energy appliance policy for government institutions, ARCE and ANPC experts; sustaining and promoting the adoption of the new legislation that could help to improve energy efficiency and conduct with regard to energy saving, interactive activities with all target groups; ongoing development of the ARCE communication strategy that includes promotional materials for consumers, message, logo, media activities, etc.; sustaining info points in municipality centres or in ARCE territorial branches offices.

- **Legislation:**

The representative of the Romanian Government participates in the European Forum for consultation relating to updating the revision of the 92/75/EEC labelling framework directive, progress regarding the Eco-design 2005/32/EC framework directive (the Ministry of Economy and Finance has been nominated the ARCE representative in this forum).

The previous European Directive No. 32/2006, on Energy Services, will be transposed into Romanian legislation and the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan has been drawing attention to the energy performance of appliances and their role in energy saving.

ARCE participates in the working group constituted within the Ministry of Economy and Finance encharged with the proposal of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan, in accordance with Article 14 of European Directive No. 32/2006, on Energy Services. The experience gained by ARCE from the CEECAP project is taken into consideration; one of the energy efficiency measures proposed in the package of the National Action Plan is reduction of energy consumption in the residential sector through the promotion of purchase of efficient appliances and lamps by consumers. To sustain this measure, ARCE has proposed a draft of a new legislative measure which will encourage the replacement of old appliances with A and A<sup>+</sup> class appliances by means of incentives from the state budget (a bonus of about 50 euros for purchasing an A/A+ class appliance).

The Ministry of Economy and Finance and ARCE are organising a meeting with the representatives of the electro-technical and electronic manufacturers association to discuss their participation in the Energy Star programme.

To sustain and inform about this programme, ARCE published on its website [www.arceonline.ro](http://www.arceonline.ro) information related to the “Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the European Community on the coordination of energy-efficient labelling programmes for office equipment approved by Council Decision No. 2006/1005/EC”. For more details, ARCE recommends that all persons interested in participating in this programme visit [www.eu-energystar.org](http://www.eu-energystar.org).

Training with the ARCE representatives involved in the market survey took place in April 2008 concerning the revision of the 92/75/EEC labelling framework directive, progress regarding the Eco-design 2005/32/EC framework directive, the new proposal for energy labels, the EnR statement on the consultation document regarding the revision of the energy labelling directive.

- **National energy strategy:**

The first National Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2007-2010, established in accordance with Article 14 of European Directive No. 32/2006, on Energy Services, includes one of the energy efficiency measures related to reducing energy consumption in the residential sector: the promotion of purchase of efficient appliances and lamps by consumers. To sustain this measure, ARCE has proposed a draft of a new legislative measure which will encourage the replacement of old appliances with ones of A and A<sup>+</sup> class by means of incentives from the state budget (a bonus of about 50 euros for the purchase of an A/A<sup>+</sup> class appliance). The experience from the CEECAP project and the exchange of best practices between the participants in the project have contributed to this decision.

- **Control organisations:**

The authorities in charge of overseeing the application of the legislation regarding labelling and standard product information on the consumption of energy (labels in shops, (product) fiche, technical documentation, accuracy of information, tests of appliances, if any, etc.) are ARCE and ANPC. The representatives of ARCE and ANPC are the national group contacts in the CEECAP project and have participated in workshop, discussion and others activities in the project. The project contributes to the improvement of their activities.

A special control plan is annually prepared by both ARCE and ANPC which lists when, where and which appliances will be checked. The results of the checks are then elaborated in an annual report. Inspectors conducting the checks are also being trained bi-annually on the appropriate form of shop controls.

- **Shop verification:**

ARCE and ANPC monitor on an ongoing basis retailers’ activities related to the implementation of the label system and support an increased number of shop visits by ARCE and ANPC:

*Total number of ARCE shop visits in 2003: 461, of which 239 with ANPC*

*Total number of ARCE shop visits in 2004: 778, of which 505 with ANPC*

*Total number of ARCE shop visits in 2005: 515, of which 337 with ANPC*

*Total number of ARCE shop visits in 2006: 966, of which 495 with ANPC*  
*Total number of ARCE shop visits in 2007: 1,090, of which 502 with ANPC*

In the CEECAP project the data collection on appliance sales and stock has been improved so as to have more information about the structure of market introduction by energy class classification: in March 2008 an evaluation of the energy efficiency appliances market was made during the control actions. An example is Oradea, one of the ARCE territorial branches, and the results can be seen below:

Number of interviews (shops): 19

**Refrigerators: 18 shops**

- class A and A<sup>+</sup>: 18 shops / between 60% - 100%
- class B: 3 shops / between 10% - 30%

**Washing machines:**

Number of interviews (shops): 18

- class A and A<sup>+</sup>: 18 shops / between 60% - 100%
- class B: 4 shops / between 10% - 30%

**Air conditioners:**

Number of interviews (shops): 12

- class A: 8 shops / between 15% - 80%
- class B: 9 shops / between 15% - 70%
- class C: 6 shops/ between 30% - 60%
- class D: 1 shop/ 20%

Increase in consumers' interest in the energy labelling system:

Number of respondents: 19

Moderate interest: 11 answers (58%)

High interest: 8 answers (42%)

Type of actions considered useful for improvement of the energy labelling system: 19 interviews (shops):

<i>Type of action</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Training for retailers</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Information campaign in shops</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Promotion of energy labels to consumers</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>2</i>

- **Internet shops:**

The internet shops are not represented by a large share of purchasing decision in Romania. If somebody wants to buy from an internet shop, they can find information related to the appliance's energy performance, including the energy class and energy consumption. Hence, in this way consumers can see the energy consumption and the energy class when they make their choice. The situation was controlled within the project and no major obstacles have been identified.

- **Appliance test:**

Tests are not carried out. No appliances are currently being tested to verify the information on their labels. The main reason for this is the lack of public financial funds for these tests. A testing laboratory that can carry out appliance performance testing does not exist in the country and no such tests have yet been contracted to a testing laboratory outside the country.

ARCTIC – a Romanian manufacturer of household electrical appliances – invests in its own testing facilities that may be used for quality control and product development research and for classification of its products.

The government develops some activities and support for setting up testing labs through research programmes as follows:

- Ministry of Economy and Commerce “Programme for increasing products’ competitiveness” - GD 1247/2005 (budget financing to fit out and/or arrange testing labs, products’ compliance and/or receiving the Eco-label)
- Ministry of Education and Research – Excellency research – Programme 4.

In the CEECAP project we sustain access to the internet or other ways to information relating to the results of the test reports undertaken in EU laboratories.

- **Appliance producers:**

There is ongoing monitoring of manufacturers’ activities related to their obligation to label appliances by energy class before their introduction on the market.

Manufacturers support proper labelling and increase the involvement in the promotion of labels.

Manufacturers and retailers sustain the promotional activities related to information for consumers; they multiply the promotional material produced by ARCE within the CEECAP project and distribute it in shops or by internet in their chain of distribution.

Hence, in the CEECAP project the importers or manufacturers’ representatives sustain education campaigns to promote energy labels to customers. Whereas ARCE has printed 1,000 leaflets in the project, in collaboration with importers, dealers, etc. (Candy, Gorenje, Indesit/ Ariston, Whirlpool, Domo) 11,000 have been printed.

- **Media:**

At the info points in municipalities or in ARCE territorial branch offices promotional materials and information relating to the energy efficiency labelling system can be found. Also, when ARCE was invited by TV or other media to give an interview the importance of the energy performance of appliances and the increase in consumers’ interest in procurement of the best energy class were mentioned. ARCE staff also supplies information to media representatives and journalists related to appliance labelling and household energy efficiency upon request.

- **Consumer organisations:**

The NGO consumer associations are active and visible on the market. There should be more future cooperation with them.

- **EU Flower**

ARCE participates in conferences and workshops together with representatives of the Ministry for Environment and Water Management to promote energy efficient appliances. A government decision is in the course of approval related to green procurement for the public sector to sustain the important role of the public sector in energy savings over the next 3 years.

The Ministry of Economy and Finance is working on the implementation of the Eco-design 2005/32/EC framework directive. In cooperation with representatives of the Netherlands government a technical assistance project was launched to exchange best practices concerning the implementation of this directive and to be a starting point in Romania. A study tour will take place in July 2008 for the Romanian experts.

# Lithuania

- **Legislation:**

In Lithuania, the current legislation in place is in accordance with the EU labelling legislation and is similar to the legislation of other new EU member states. This relates to the list of labelled appliances, the institutions empowered to oversee the mechanism of labelling, the system of potential actions to be taken to enforce labelling.

When implementing the CEECAP project, LEI established close cooperation with the Ministry of Economy and the National Energy Agency. These government and public officials are responsible for the labelling legislation and implementation of the labelling programme in Lithuania.

Regular meetings and discussions about implementation of the labelling programme in Lithuania have been held throughout the project.

- **National energy strategy:**

In Lithuania there are two key documents reflecting the objectives of Lithuanian energy efficiency policy:

1. National Energy Strategy (from May 1994)
2. National Energy Efficiency Programme (from September 1992)

Efficient use of energy sources and energy are among the priority activities of the National Energy Strategy and National Energy Efficiency Programme. The housing sector is the largest sector (in terms of final energy consumption, approximately 40% of the total final consumption), with estimated potential savings of approximately 40-50%. Hence, improving the energy efficiency of household labels and increasing the energy efficiency of appliances are very important in Lithuania.

In the CEECAP project implementation period the Lithuanian Energy Efficiency Action Plan was prepared and confirmed (Order of the Minister of Economy of the Republic of Lithuania, 2 July 2007, No. 4-270). As a result of close cooperation between LEI and responsible authorities of the Ministry of Economy, the data from the CEECAP project concerning energy labelling of appliances were included in the Energy Efficiency Action Plan. The purpose of the Action Plan is to provide measures under implementation and measures planned to be taken which, by aiming to increase energy end-use efficiency (including energy labelling), are necessary to ensure the achievement of the national energy savings target for 2008-2016. The intermediate energy savings target for the period of three years equals 1.5 per cent of the average final energy consumption during 2001-2005, which corresponds to 54 ktoe when calculated in accordance with the requirements laid down in Directive 2006/32/EC.

The CEECAP project was also publicly presented at the national conference “Science and Industry, Energy and Technologies”, 31 January – 1 February, 2008, Kaunas, Lithuania. The organiser of the conference was Kaunas Technical University.

- **Control organisations:**

Meetings and individual consultations were organised with the representatives of the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of the Environment, Energy Agency, State Non-food Inspectorate, State Energy Inspectorate, State Consumer Rights Protection, Certification Centre of Electro-technical Products, Lithuanian Association of Consumers, Lithuanian National Federation of Consumers.

The Ministry of Economy, together with the National Energy Agency and the Ministry of the Environment, is responsible for harmonisation of legislation in the field of energy efficiency with EU legislation.

Control functions are delegated to two organisations:

- Lithuanian State Non-food Inspectorate;
- State Energy Inspectorate.

The State Non-food Inspectorate checks the formal presence of labels in shops. The State Energy Inspectorate checks the information on labels.

Close cooperation with all the mentioned responsible organisations implementing the CEECAP project was established, a large number of meetings and discussions organised. The CEECAP project educational materials have been used for training responsible inspectors in appropriate control methodology. Joint inspections in shops were organised and implemented.

Two special round table discussions were organised (24 January, Vilnius, Energy Agency, and 21 February, Kaunas, LEI). In April 2008 a project seminar was organised to discuss in detail the future national appliance labelling activities.

- **Shop verification:**

As result of close cooperation between LEI and the responsible control organisations, 44 control visits to the main shopping centres were organised (7 visits together with the State Non-food Inspectorate). In total, 34 shops have been visited and some 2,380 appliances have been checked.

The shops survey results are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 Shops survey results

Type of appliance	Correctly labelled share
1. Refrigerators	52%
2. Refrigerators-freezers	52%
3. Freezers	49%
4. Washing machines	41%
5. Washing machine-tumble dryer combination	39%
6. Dishwashers	36%
7. Ovens	33%
8. Water heaters	0

Joint control visits to shopping centres made it possible to evaluate the current situation of energy labelling. A report from the control visits has been widely shared and discussed among governmental organisations, retailers and importers. Data from the joint control visits will be presented in the 2008 Report of the State Non-food Inspectorate. The results of the joint control visits will help to inform the public and experts about energy efficient appliances, about the role of energy labelling in increasing the efficiency of electricity consumption in households and other buildings.

- **Internet shops:**

More than 95% of appliances are imported, European and world brands vary. Products from the following leading appliance makers are on the Lithuanian market at the present time: Bosch, Liebherr, Elektrolux, Gorenje, Beko, Zanussi, Whirlpool, etc. A large range of appliances is sold by internet shops.

The total share and volume of sales of appliances over the internet is not large. At the present time, 9 internet shops exist.

Most appliances presented in internet shop catalogues have information about class and energy consumption. When implementing the project, LEI had close contact with internet shops (individual consultations, training, workshops). Owners of internet shops regularly received information about CEECAP results, results of its control activities, etc. Control of internet shops shows much better results in energy labelling of appliances compared with other types of shops.

- **Appliance test:**

No appliances are currently tested to verify the information on their labels. There are technical possibilities to test only a few types of appliances (refrigerators, water heaters, gas stores) in the laboratories of Kaunas Technical University and the Lithuanian Energy Institute, but only the laboratory of LEI is accredited.

The manufacture SC Snaige, a local producer of refrigerators and freezers, invests in its own testing facilities that may be used for quality control and product development research and for testing its products.

During the CEECAP project implementation period, a series of discussions on tests of appliances were organised. Participating in the discussions were authorities from the Ministry of Economy (responsible organisation for implementing the energy labelling system in Lithuania), SC Snaige, retailers, importers. The biggest barrier to establishing national testing laboratories is the lack of public financial resources for these tests. The Ministry of Economy is only planning in future to establish several national testing laboratories for the main types of appliances. At the present time, only data about the results of the tests carried out by testing laboratories of other EC countries using CEECAP project results is collected, evaluated and presented for interested organisations.

- **Consumer organisations:**

Meetings with consumer organisations show that consumer interest in energy efficient appliances is a very important factor when selecting and buying appliances. The biggest barrier to the most efficient appliances is the real economic situation in the country. The

existing income of consumers prevents the usage of the most energy efficient appliances. During the project, LEI was in close contact with the main consumer organisations. LEI provided for consumer organisations information about energy labelling and efficient appliances, information about control visits to shops, and invited them to organised workshops. This activity increased the general knowledge of consumers in the energy labelling field and it would also help to further increase the attention paid by retailers and manufactures to this topic.

- **EU Flower**

The Eco Flower logo (for environmentally friendly products) can be used on energy labels for selected environmentally friendly products. The Ministry of the Environment is responsible for promoting the Eco Flower logo.

During the CEECAP project, LEI supported the Ministry with promotional material about environmentally friendly products, including energy labels (EU information, information from other project partners, etc).

## Poland

- **Legislation:**

KAPE took part in implementing the 32/2006 Directive requirements by preparing brochures in cooperation with the Ministry of Economy. The brochures are part of the Ministry of Economy information campaign. KAPE is the author of the brochures. CEECAP information and materials were used to write the brochure for producers, distributors and retailers.

Two brochures were printed and distributed: “Intelligent energy – guidebook for users” (5,000 copies) and “Intelligent energy – guidebook for appliance producers, distributors and retailers” (5,000 copies).

The brochures were sent in December 2007 to ministries and authorities, educational authorities, energy agencies, NGOs, appliances producers and producers associations, shops and distributors, energy and environmental associations and schools.

- **National energy strategy:**

Aspects of the energy efficiency of household appliances have been incorporated within national energy policies and documents: National Energy Efficiency Action Plan and Polish Energy Policy for 2030. The documents were established by the Ministry of Economy.

- **Control organisations:**

The Polish Trade Inspectorate is the institution that checks labels in shops. There have been no tests since the new ordinance came into force (2005). The survey carried out by KAPE was sent to the Trade Inspectorate to introduce the situation of labelling in shops.

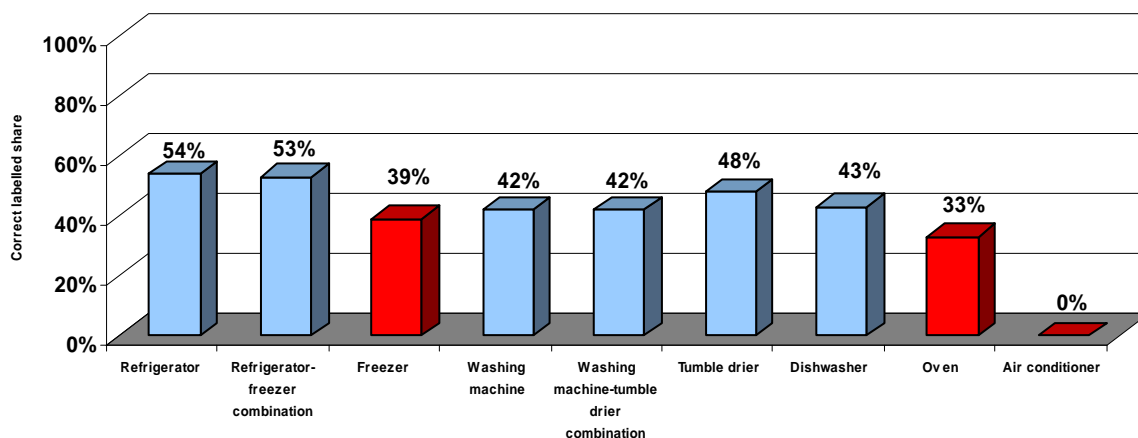
- **Shop verification:**

Appliances are sold in Poland mainly in big hypermarkets specialised in equipment selling.

In the November/December 2007 period KAPE conducted a shops survey verifying obligatory energy labels on domestic appliances displayed for selling. Twenty large hypermarkets offering appliances in Warsaw were checked.

The appliances verified were: refrigerators, refrigerator-freezer combinations, freezers, washing machines, washing machine-tumble dryer combinations, tumble dryers, dishwashers, ovens and air conditioners. A correct label meant an accepted colour background and data strip, an incorrect label meant no label or only a data strip. The best result was in the case of refrigerators (54%, but still not satisfactory), the worst in the case of air conditioners (0%), ovens (33%) and freezers (39%).

### Shops survey results



The report from the shops survey was sent to:

- The Trade Inspectorate, whose role is to check labels and the accuracy of information on the labels.

Moreover, a letter with the conclusions of the report and suggestions for providing shop controls was signed by KAPE and sent to the Trade Inspectorate.

- The Consumer Federation – initiates pro-consumer changes in legislation, works on standardisation and certification committees, creates a consumer lobby to promote consumers' interests.

After sending the report, KAPE had a response from the president of the Consumer Federation in which the CF pledged to cooperate in promoting energy efficient appliances and to inform consumers about energy labels. The report is published on the CF website [www.federacja-konsumentow.org.pl](http://www.federacja-konsumentow.org.pl).

- The Association of Polish Consumers – an expert group with no mass membership. The Association tests products and services, publishes the results of tests, takes part in standardisation work and develops and promotes consumer education projects.

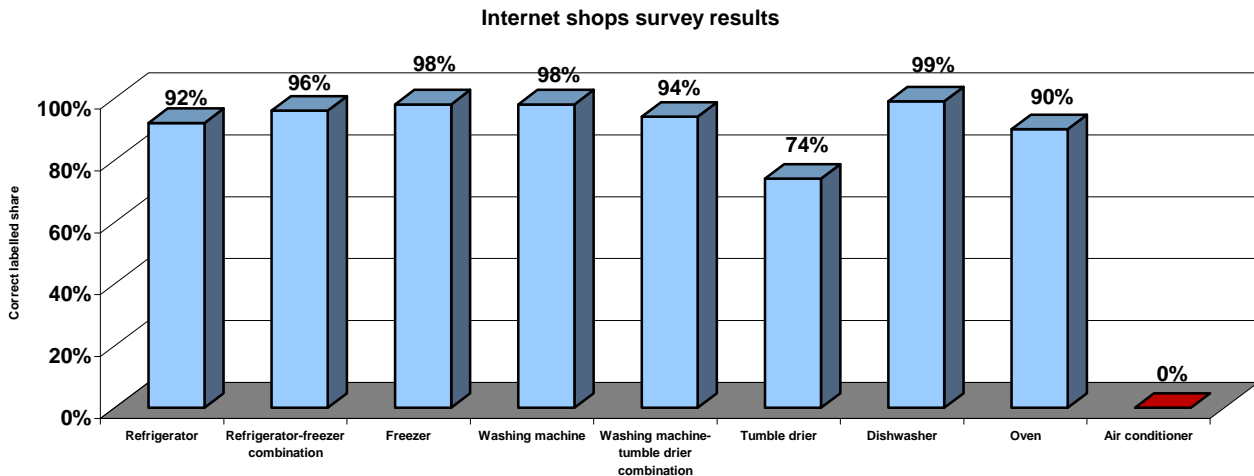
On 22 January there was a meeting between KAPE and APC and a discussion about the necessity of promoting energy labels. APC pledged to join KAPE promotional and information projects.

- CECED Poland – member of the European Committee of Manufacturers of Domestic Equipment, which cooperated in a stakeholders meeting in April 2008.

The report made the institutions aware of the necessity of labelling system control and promotion.

- **Internet shops:**

Internet shops are also an important part of appliance sales on the Polish market. KAPE conducted an internet shops survey verifying obligatory energy labels on domestic appliances offered in internet shops. Thirteen internet shops offering appliances in Poland were checked. The same group of appliances was verified. A correct label meant one providing information about energy class; an incorrect label meant no information was given on the website. In most cases the result is satisfactory (90-98%). The worst result is in the case of air conditioners (0%).



- **Appliance test:**

There are no appliances tested in Poland. KAPE verified the possibilities of testing appliances nationally. There is a laboratory in Warsaw at the Polish Centre for Testing and Certification. The body that assigns the tests is the Polish Trade Inspectorate, but to date no tests have been carried out.

- **Appliance producers:**

Representatives of the government, producers and retailers got together at a stakeholders meeting organised by KAPE.

KAPE organised on 23 April 2008 a seminar – stakeholders meeting “Rational energy use – energy efficient appliances in the household and office”. There were 74 participants, representing the Ministry of the Environment, local governments, ecological organisations, consumer organisations, environmental funds, manufacturers and distributors of appliances, Warsaw energy utility.

For representatives of the Warsaw energy utility the seminar was also a training course. They will pass the knowledge gained on to the consumers visiting the utility’s customer service points.

Presentations:

- “EU and Polish energy efficiency policy” – Mr Tadeusz Skoczkowski, President of KAPE
- “Energy labelling system, including results of the shops survey” – Ms Marta Mazurkiewicz, KAPE
- “New labels proposal of the European Committee of Manufacturers of Domestic Equipment” – Mr Wojciech Konecki, Mr Krzysztof Zakrzewski, cecedPolska
- “Green procurement and life cycle assessment of appliances” – Mr Dariusz Koc, KAPE
- “Tips for energy efficient use of household appliances” – Mr Wojciech Konecki, Mr Krzysztof Zakrzewski, cecedPolska
- “Tips for energy efficient use of office equipment” – Ms Joanna Ogrodniczuk, KAPE
- “Energy efficient lighting – sources and systems” – Mr Ryszard Zwierchanowski, KAPE
- “Energy Trophy – goals, participants and best motivation campaign examples” – Ms Monika Jarzemska, KAPE
- “Energy certification of buildings” – Mr Arkadiusz Węglarz
- “Intelligent Energy-Europe as a tool for education, promotion and support of eco-attitudes” Ms Joanna Ogrodniczuk, KAPE

There were several topics discussed, mainly the labelling system and the revision of Labelling Directive 92/75/EEC. Proposals of CECED and the European Commission were discussed. The Association of Polish Consumers also took part in the discussion.

- **Media:**

KAPE cooperated with the media and participated in TV and radio programmes as an energy expert. KAPE took a part in:

- “Pytanie na śniadanie” – TVP2 - nationwide TV, morning programme, discussion about energy saving, including energy efficient appliances, 21 September 2007
- “Radio dla Ciebie” – regional radio for the Mazovia Region, a programme about energy saving in households, including energy efficient appliances, 5 December 2007
- “Kawa czy herbata?” – TVP2 – nationwide TV, morning programme, discussion about energy saving, including energy efficient appliances and lighting, 18 December 2007
- “Sygnały dnia” 1 Programme – nationwide radio station, programme about energy saving in households, including energy efficient appliances, 21 January 2008

- “Pieniądze od rana” – TVN CNBS Business - nationwide TV, programme about energy and money saving in households, 4 February 2008.

Another presentation of the project took place in the Energia magazine of KAPE, listing its EU-related projects.

The project was also presented in November 2007 during the EIE Information Days, as a sample case study project.

In October 2007 a presentation was given at the 4th Energy Power System Operators and Energy and Fuel Customers Forum.

- **Consumer organisations:**

KAPE cooperated during the project with the Consumer Federation and Association of Polish Consumers.

The Consumer Federation took part in labels promotion and distributed the leaflets of the CEECAP project in its branches in different regions of Poland. In addition, the shops survey carried out by KAPE is published on the Consumer Federation’s website.

Representatives of the Association of Polish Consumers participated in a stakeholders meeting on 23 April 2008 and exchanged information and opinions with CECED about proposals for a new labelling system. After the stakeholders meeting, these organisations intend to remain in contact and continue the process of discussion on this issue.

A shops survey carried out by KAPE on labelling issues was also promoted by the Polish Green Network association on the website: [www.ekonsument.pl](http://www.ekonsument.pl).

- **EU Flower**

The Eco-Label was promoted to national authorities and producers at “Energy labelling of domestic appliances – rules, obligations and enforcement” seminars organised by KAPE in 2006 by a representative of the Polish Centre for Testing and Certification.

## International

While all of the project activities focused on individual countries in Central and Eastern Europe, some of the activities performed have had an international nature and are listed here separately:

- **Sustainable Energy Europe**

The CEECAP project applied to the Sustainable Energy Europe campaign and joined it in 2007. The project is listed on the SEE website and the logo of the campaign has been added to the project website.

- **EU Labelling Directive revision**

The CEECAP partners have welcomed the efforts of the European Commission to revise the Label Framework Directive and published a consulting paper in which they expressed the project opinion on the questions posed by the Commission, mainly in terms of the future revisions of energy classes and new appliances added to the system. The position paper is published on the Commission's Stakeholders' Contributions website.

- **Member state compliance monitoring**

SEVEN, within the CEECAP project, has also been invited to fill in a questionnaire prepared by the Fraunhofer and BSR institutes for the European Commission within the study: Framework Directive on Energy Labelling – Member states monitoring and testing. Information relating to the situation in the Czech Republic has been provided.

- **EIE News**

An article about the project and the possibility to ask for the Deliverable 1a and 1b manuals was published in the EIE News magazine, issue 2 / 2007.

- **EIE Inventory of Tools**

CEECAP has been approached by the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), which in collaboration with other institutes is preparing Tools and Guidebooks for Energy and Transport Management on behalf of the EACI. This publication should come out in early 2009 and the CEECAP labelling guidelines have been submitted to the authors of this publication.

- **EnR Labelling and Ecodesign working group**

All of the CEECAP project meetings have been associated with the bi-annual EnR Labelling and Ecodesign working group meetings. Therefore, some of the CEECAP members took part in these meetings in the period 2006 – 2008 and used the opportunity

to network and exchange the latest information and national experience relating to appliance labelling activities. Individual cooperation on separate project activities has been agreed upon too.

- **EnR group and CEECAP position paper**

One of the concrete activities achieved with the EnR group was a common position paper relating to appliance testing and the potential of conducting such tests on an international level or with an intergovernmental exchange of information about the test results.

- **International presentations**

While the goal of the project was to present its activities to at least one international topic-related conference, six presentations on an international level have taken place. All of these are listed on the project website: Results, Deliverable 13. While not charged as an extra cost to the project, these presentations have widened the audience and increased the attention given to appliance labels.

- **International organisations**

Cooperation with the International Energy Agency and CLASP has taken place during the project to exchange information, search for the latest documents and studies and disseminate project results worldwide. A summary report on shops visits has also been disseminated among these organisations, as well as the final project brochure.

- **ManagEnergy Case Study**

The project activities will be also described in the form of a ManagEnergy.net case study, in accordance with the case study template. This will bring another dissemination channel to the project activities and results.

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