

Highlights CT3

Decarbonising heating and cooling

3rd CA-RES IV Plenary Meeting

9th-10th November 2022

Session 3: Statistics for waste heat

According to the Renewable energy directive (RED), waste heat can be included for the target for renewable H&C of article 23. Up to now, there are no data for waste heat in the energy statistics and there is little information on the actual use of waste heat. To improve it the session focused on the following issues:

- Current statistics on waste heat.
- Possibilities to improve these statistics.
- Implementation of the definition of waste heat.
- Examples of projects where waste heat is used.

The main outcomes from the questionnaire and the session were:

- For many countries waste heat is not important in their energy balance.
- Very few countries have data on the amount of waste heat.
- If data are available, it is about the supply of waste heat to district heating.
- The definition is implemented in about half of the member states.
- The opportunities for using waste heat from datacenters are mentioned by many countries.
- Waste heat contributes little towards the RES H&C-targets.
- Big efforts are needed to increase use of waste heat. Projects with waste heat are difficult to develop, because there is no stakeholder that takes the lead.

Session 13: The role of renewable H&C to reduce the need for natural gas in the building sector

The need for greater use of renewable heating and cooling is becoming more urgent with the current energy crises and exploding price of fossil fuels. The RE-power EU proposal aims at increasing the application of renewable energy technologies. In this session, we focused on the possibilities to increase the take up of renewable H&C technologies in the building sector and some examples of policies, including extraordinary measures and contingency plans developed by Member States to tackle the current crisis. Particular attention was given to better understand:

- Rationale behind choosing natural gas as fuel for heating.
- Obstacles to install renewable H&C technologies, with a particular focus on heat pumps.
- Policies/grants to promote the substitution of natural gas by renewable sources of energy.
- Energy poverty and sectoral integration-related issues.

Main conclusions were that the main incentives for industry and individuals are funding and regulation. Regarding funding, Slovakia works with a voucher system for listed qualified installers. They can get the voucher after installing the measure. Slovakia is willing to present the system on a coming CA-Res session if it fits the topic.

Regarding regulation, there is a trend already seen in different Member states to set more obligations (for example obligation to connect to district heating).

As a crosscutting issue, the worry about the availability of qualified installers and potential issues with the break of the value chain was mentioned by several Member states.