

Implementing Energy Efficiency First: Lessons learnt from pilot cases

Joint workshop of ENEFIRST Plus and the Energy Community Secretariat

5 November 2026 (10.00 to 12.00 CET) | online

AGENDA

(Note: please register to receive the connection link)

Background and objectives

This workshop aims to share experience with Energy Community Contracting Parties in operationalising the Energy Efficiency First (EE1st) principle in practice, through the lessons learned from four [pilot cases](#) done in the ENEFIRST Plus project, covering the following planning processes or policies:

- National energy planning and National Energy & Climate Plans (Croatian pilot case)
- Transport measures (Greek pilot case)
- Local energy and climate action plans (Italian pilot case)
- Financial incentives for building renovations (Polish pilot case)

This will complement the previous joint workshop done on 29 May 2026, where the findings from the [first set of ENEFIRST+ pilot cases](#) were presented and discussed.

The part on national energy planning will also present findings from a review of a selection of NECPs through the EE1st lens.

Then the presentations about the pilot cases will be complemented with a quick tour of ENEFIRST+ resources, including a CBA (Cost-Benefit Analysis) guidebook, a CBA Excel tool and a catalogue of energy efficiency solutions.

Through concrete cases and interactive discussions, the workshop will help participants identify practical entry points for applying EE1st within their institutional responsibilities. We will also discuss the added value that the EE1st principle can bring to planning, policy design or investment decision.

Targeted audience (or invited participants)

The workshop's targeted audience are ministries, agencies, regulatory authorities and energy efficiency funds, with a focus on their complementary roles in planning, regulation and financing.



Agenda

(total duration: 2h)

Time	Item	Speaker (Affiliation)
10.00	Welcome and opening remarks	Energy Community Secretariat
10.10	Embedding EE1st in national energy planning: findings from the Croatian pilot case	Vesna Bukarica (EIHP & HROTE, Croatia)
10.20	Q&A	
10.25	National energy planning through the EE1st lens: findings from a review of five countries	Diana Süsser (IEECP)
10.35	Q&A	
10.40	<u>Implementing EE1st in Transport Planning:</u> findings from the Greek pilot case	Christos Tourkolias (CRES)
10.50	Q&A	
10.55	<u>Embedding EE1st in SECAPs, from planning to action:</u> findings of the Italian pilot case	Patrizia Pistochini and Fabio Cignini (ENEA)
11.05	Q&A	
11.10	Plugging Energy Efficiency First into Building Renovation Subsidies finding from the Polish pilot case	Pawel Gilewski and Hanna Pilzak (KAPE)
11.20	Q&A	
11.25	Quick tour of ENEFIRST Plus' resources • CBA guidebook • CBA Excel tool • Catalogue of Energy Efficiency Solutions	Tim Mandel and Sirin Alibas (Fraunhofer ISI)
11.40	Q&A	
11.45	Take away's from the lessons learnt in ENEFIRST+	Jean-Sébastien Broc (IEECP)
11.55	Wrap-up	Energy Community Secretariat
12.00	End of the workshop	

About Enefirst Plus

Enefirst Plus is a 3-year project (November 2023 – October 2026) co-funded by the EU LIFE programme. Building on the previous Horizon 2020 **Enefirst** project, the aim of Enefirst Plus is to provide key stakeholders in all Member States with the technical support needed to effectively implement Energy Efficiency First across various sectors, particularly focusing on key decision-making processes.

Energy Efficiency First (EE1st) is an overarching principle for planning, policies and major investments having an impact on energy consumption. EE1st is about considering **energy efficiency and demand-response as energy resources** in the energy system, just as supply-side resources (e.g. generation capacities, network infrastructures). Implementing EE1st means that in planning exercises, policy design or decision-making about investments, the options considered include energy efficiency and demand-response, and that these options are compared with supply-side options on a **fair basis**, considering **multiple impacts and a long-term perspective**.

Implementing EE1st is easier said than done. Therefore, the general approach of Enefirst Plus is to complement existing resources to **plug EE1st in the decision making** for investments in energy infrastructure, energy planning, and designing incentives and policies.

Enefirst Plus is testing this approach in four countries (Croatia, Italy, Greece and Poland) and scrutinise the implementation of EE1st with **pilot cases** in each country. Two cycles, with four pilot cases each, will provide a diversity of **real-life examples** addressing typical situations where EE1st should be implemented. The new resources and pilot cases produced by the project, as well as experiences from other countries, serve as foundational elements for capacity building and experience sharing activities, and for the development of a community of practice.

Enefirst Plus' partners



Stay in touch!

Enefirst Plus' platform: <https://ee1st.eu>

Continue the discussions on social media with **#EnefirstPlus**



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