Potential unfulfilled

EU funds can do more for sustainable energy investments in CEE

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http://www.inforse.org/europe/seminar_2010_BXL.htm
The potential of investing in sustainable energy and climate change mitigation in CEE countries

- Decrease GHG emissions
- Reduce energy poverty and dependency
- Reduce energy intensity
- Create green jobs
- Strengthen local economies
- Boost innovation and leverage private investment
“Potential unfulfilled”

Bankwatch and FoE Europe study on EU structural and cohesion funds for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects:

• Based on the research in 7 new member states in 2009
• Collection of data for RE/EE allocations and spending
• Assess absorption barriers in EU funds for RE/EE projects
• Draw conclusions on the link between the EU climate objectives and EU funds in CEE countries
The volume EU funds

EU funds allocation

bn EURO

Total 2007 - 2013: 347
for CEE: 177
for sustainable energy and climate change mitigation in CEE: 4.2
EU-funded EE and RE projects in CEE

Average absorption EE 16.3%:  
Average absorption RE 5.7%
Absorption obstacles ...

The absorption is slow:

- Significant delays in the programming process
- Limited capacity of managing authorities
- The complexity of the application procedure
- Upfront investment needs and co-financing requirements
The demand for financing is steadily on the rise:

- EE/RE allocations are failing to meet the interest
- Energy saving demand increases with economic crisis
“Potential unfulfilled” conclusions

✓ Acceleration (MS) of the implementation
✓ Increase (MS) allocations of EU funds for RE/EE already within current programming period
✓ Selection of RE/EE projects according to adequate quality criteria
✓ Combine different source of funding
✓ Mainstreaming of sustainable energy measures in other/future cohesion projects in CEE
✓ Set (EU) mandatory energy saving targets
Thank you!

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