

Responsible authority: Ministry of Environment and Energy

Managing authority: CRES (Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Savings)

History, current targets and results

The scheme started in 2017, with the publication of the bylaw about its regulation on 11th of April.

The first period will last until 2020, while an energy efficiency target has been appointed equal to 333 ktoe of cumulative final energy savings representing 10% of the total target for EED article 7, which has been undertaken by Greece.

The target has been expressed in cumulative energy savings taking into account the lifetime of the implemented measures within the duration of the scheme (2017-2020).

The annual targets have been specified with a minimum threshold to be achieved in the target year: 100 ktoe and 30% in 2017, 133 ktoe and 50% in 2018, 67 ktoe and 50% in 2019, 33 ktoe and 100% in 2020.

The continuation of the scheme was decided within the framework of NECP: the contribution of the scheme to the national target for the period 2021-2030 amounts to 20%.

Scope and focus

Actions and measures are eligible in all end-use sectors, taking into account the guidelines for the implementation of EED article 7.

Energy savings are evaluated utilizing either 26 predefined standard bottom-up methods or other methods for scaled or metered savings. The OPs can apply for using new methods, which are then controlled, edited, improved and then publicized by CRES.

Actions tackling fuel poverty are eligible getting a bonus factor of 40%.

Key actors, roles and options

The Ministry of Environment and Energy specifies and enforces the rules of the scheme including the determination of the targets.

CRES is the implementing body, in charge of measurement, monitoring, control and verification and submits proposals to the Ministry for scheme's improvement.

The obligated parties (OP) for the reference year 2017 consist of electricity (4 companies), gas (4 companies) and oil products (LPG, gasoline, diesel and heavy fuel oil; 24 companies) suppliers or retailers, whose market share is higher than 1% and representing in total at least the 95% of the sold energy for each fuel separately.

The number of the OPs in 2018 and 2019 was equal to 29 (4 electricity, 4 gas and 21 oil products companies) and 35 (6 electricity, 4 gas and 25 oil products companies) correspondingly.

OPs have the option either to implement measures themselves or to assign their obligation to third parties or to use the "buy out" option.

Exchange of energy savings among OPs is allowed under the prerequisite the units of energy savings have been verified.

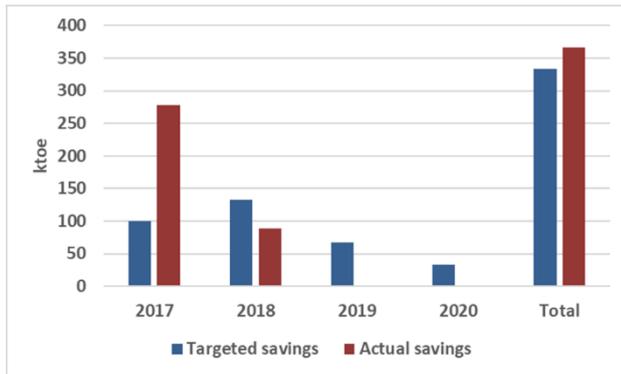
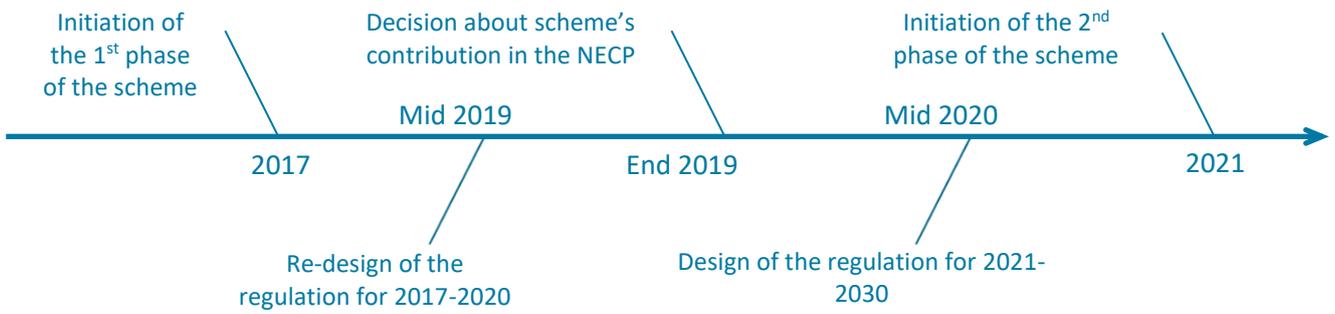
The OPs have the alternative option to contribute to a fund instead of achieving savings directly through energy efficiency measures, while penalties are foreseen in the case that an OP do not manage to fulfil its annual target.

Monitoring, Reporting and Verification

OPs must submit the Annual Compliance Plan to CRES by July each year, presenting how they plan to achieve their target. CRES reviews these action plans beforehand, in particular to agree on the documentation and prevent further issues. OPs report by the end of each year to CRES their achievements including the submission of the required evidence through a specialised submission tool. Finally, CRES verifies the submitted files and performs checks sampling on them, including on-site verification when it is required.

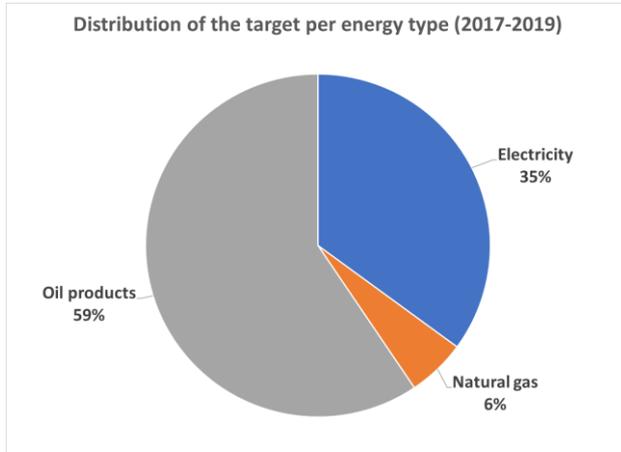
CRES completes the verification within the period of two months and then prepares an annual report indicating the outcome from the clearance of the OPs energy savings. Currently, 87% of the achieved savings has been verified through on-site verification of the respective control items regarding the realization of the energy efficiency measures.





The oil product companies have been undertaken the majority of the energy saving target for the period 2017-2019 (59% share), while the shares of electricity and natural gas companies are considerably lower (35% and 6% respectively).

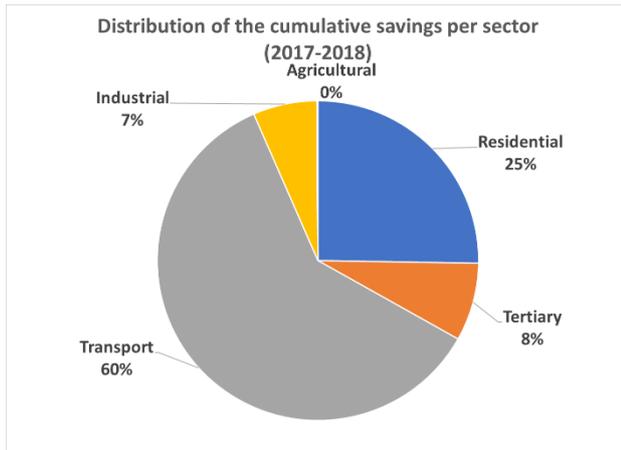
The OPs for the reference years 2017 and 2018 managed to surpass the total energy saving target for the whole period. Specifically, they managed to deliver 366 ktoe of cumulative energy savings compared to 333 ktoe, which was the total appointed target for the corresponding period.



The cumulative energy savings have been resulted for the reference years 2017 mainly by information campaigns in residential, tertiary and transport sector (47% share).

30% of the energy savings have been derived by fuel additives, while the contribution of the promotion of high efficiency lubricants and the energy upgrade of heating systems in residential sector was lower (6% and 4% shares respectively).

Finally, 8% of the energy savings has been resulted by interventions in the industrial sector.



The highest portion of the achieved energy savings has been delivered in transport sector (60% share), while the shares of energy savings in residential, tertiary and industrial sector were lower and equal to 25%, 8% and 7% respectively.

Considering the measurement framework, 92% of the achieved energy savings were reported using the 26 predefined bottom-ups equations, while only 8% other ones.

Costs for obligated parties

No information about the cost for the fulfilment of the energy efficiency target has been collected.

No recovery mechanism is foreseen, while the OPs have the capability to pass the costs to their customers.

Other information about costs and benefits

No impacts on energy prices have been observed.

Two man-years are required on annual basis in order to cover the administrative burden of the administrator.

Interview with Christos Tourkolias

Energy Expert
CRES



1) What have been the main changes and lessons learnt since 2017?

The new regulation for the period 2017-2020 foresees specific changes in the timetable of the various steps in order to facilitate the conduction of the measurement, monitoring and verification procedures. Moreover, it has been decided for the case of the potential deviations from the annual energy efficiency target to set as a penalty the obligation to deliver additional energy savings.

Considering the main lessons learnt, it is important for a newly introduced scheme to handle the first period as a learning phase providing the required technical support to the OPs ensuring that the planned interventions will meet the technical requirements of the scheme and manage to achieve the imposed targets.

Practical challenges consist the active involvement of all the OPs and the application of common conditions to all OPs.

The completion and submission of the Annual Compliance Plan has contributed to the familiarization of the OPs with the technical requirements of the measurement, monitoring and verification (MRV) framework, while crucial was the role of the administrator in order to facilitate the smooth adaptation to the scheme.

The submission tool can be assessed as user-friendly and effective facilitating the implementation of a common framework of measurement of the achieved savings and fostering the uniform conduction of verification procedures.

2) And more specifically about monitoring, verification and controls?

Firstly, it is essential to standardize the control and verification procedures in order to reduce the administrative burden.

Moreover, additional studies are required in order to clarify crucial issues, such as the estimation of the affected population in the behavioural measures, the identification of the unique customers consuming oil products and the quantification of the impact of the free-riders, the autonomous actions and the rebound effect.

3) What are the main interactions with other policies?

The design of the compliance cost led the OPs to specific interventions, which were excluded from the scope of the other initiated policy measures. Moreover, the administrator gave specific attention to avoid the double counting of the implemented measures in relation with the other policy measures through a structured reporting procedure.

4) Are there challenges or changes foreseen for the coming years? (especially after 2020)

The most crucial challenge is to increase the implementation of the technical measures, which must be the most cost-effective, and to promote the development of ESCos.

Moreover, the MRV procedures should be conducted through an integrated online information system for reducing the triggered administrative burden.

Finally, it is important to provide access to both available information systems and existing administrative data sources facilitating the application of the MRV procedures.

5) If you could go back in time, what would you do differently?

Potentially, the determination of different energy efficiency targets for the various end-use sectors taking into account the available technical potential may have led to more targeted energy efficiency measures.

