

Report about the successful completion of deliverable 5.4

Workshop: Beyond Energy Efficiency – How to develop the potentials of energy sufficiency

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**Beyond Energy Efficiency –
How to develop the potentials of energy sufficiency
Workshop held in contribution to WP 5 of the EUFORIE Project
Frankfurt, Ka1, Kasseler Str. 1, Saturday, 3. June 2017**

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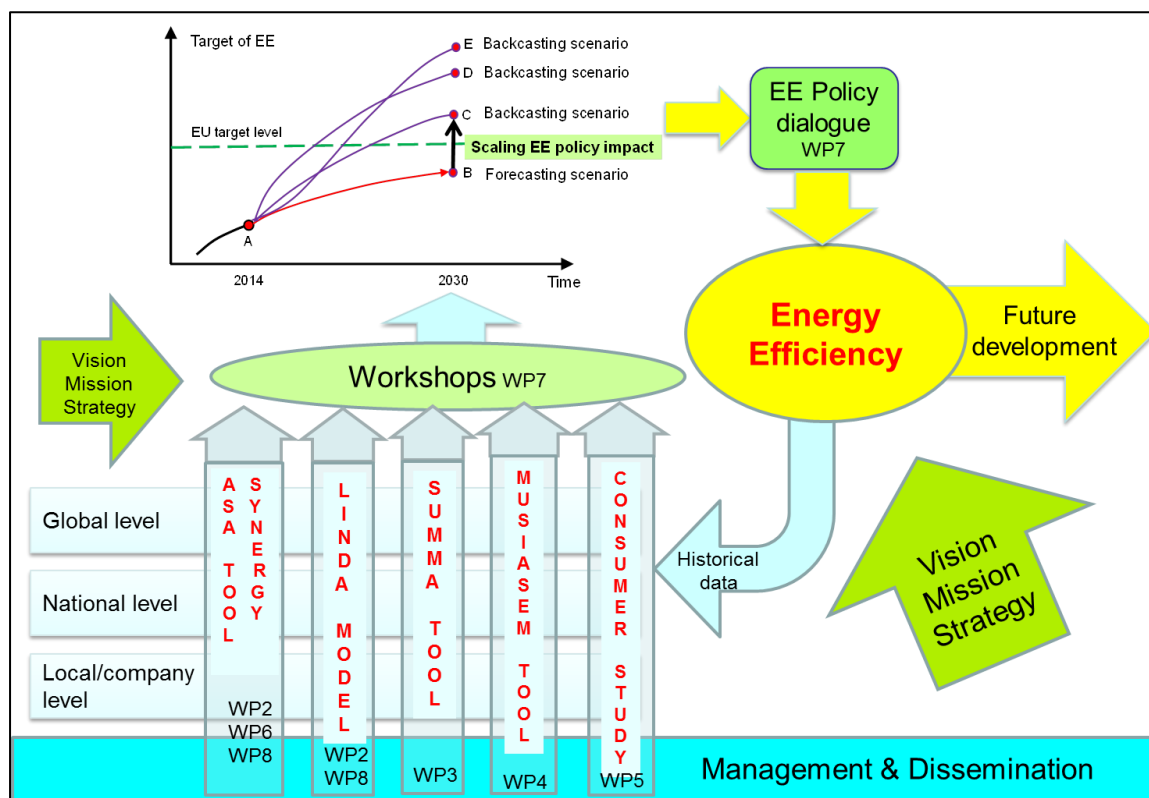
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The EUFORIE project

The strategic goal of the EUFORIE project is to provide useful and accurate information and knowledge in the field of energy efficiency for the EU Commission and stakeholders in the Member States. The tangible objectives are the following:

1. To provide energy and energy efficiency trends and their drivers, synergies and trade-offs between energy efficiency related policies, as well as energy efficiency scenarios (WP2).
2. To provide data about implementation of energy efficiency in specific processes, sectors and entire systems, in order to understand bottlenecks/efficiency drops and suggest improvements (WP3).
3. To carry out analyses of efficiency of provision, from making useful energy carriers from primary energy sources, and from conversion of energy carriers to end uses across macro-economic sectors (WP4).
4. To identify policy instruments and other measures leading to significant reduction in the energy consumption of households (WP5).
5. To analyse the relationship between investments and change in energy efficiency, and to develop indicators to describe changing energy efficiency at the company level (WP6).
6. To carry out participatory foresight for European stakeholders of energy efficiency with a target of providing ideas for the energy efficiency vision and strategy in the European Union (WP7).
7. To compare energy efficiency policy instruments and measures and their impacts in China and the European Union (WP8).

The EUFORIE Work Packages relate to each other. The project applies different quantitative and qualitative analysis methods to energy efficiency in the EU and its Member States at different levels and from different perspectives. These analyses provide input for foresight activities, which serve European energy efficiency vision and strategy process by generating useful information. Management (WP1) and dissemination (WP9) run in parallel with the research and innovation activities.



Key findings and summary for stakeholders

1. Sufficiency is not a goal in itself but shall contribute to sustainable development and help to shape it. Therefore it is important to constantly check if and in how far a sufficiency policy instrument contributes to the achievement of social, institutional, ecological and economic sustainability, including reducing energy consumption.

2. Regarding the consumption of energy and other resources, efficiency and sufficiency can, but need not be complementary. Thus for any given goal different combinations may be necessary and a choice must be made based on the political feasibility and the contribution to overall sustainability.

3. Energy sufficiency policy has strong links to cornerstones of sustainable degrowth, such as distributional justice, taxation, good work, etc. It is important to both realise what is the specific contribution of sufficiency (i.e. not confuse or merge issues) and to exploit the linkages for mutually strengthening policies.

4. As far as energy sufficiency goes beyond reducing resource consumption to include issues such as deceleration and reducing competition pressures in everyday life, energy sufficiency as part of more general sufficiency policy can be characterised, in a nutshell, as a contribution to 'making a good life possible'. 'Good life' in this context refers to value systems, life satisfaction and quality of life, less strict than some more philosophical concepts have it, but opposed to the notion that more is always better. It does not call for an improvement in the sense of having more of the same, but for suitable criteria for having enough. As a contested concept, the terminology has to be defended against hostile takeovers (like it is the case for concepts and terminologies of justice, sustainability or peace). 'Making possible' clearly indicates that this is not mainly an individual task, but a societal one, for politics, business and civil society.

5. Those who have the possibility and opportunity to provide enabling measures, structures or other offers supporting and enabling energy sufficiency-oriented behaviour also have the (moral) duty to do so. Refusing or failing doing so should be criticised as an assault against sustainable development orientations. Once policy embarks on a substantial sustainability trajectory including energy sufficiency policy, legal measures will need to be taken assuring that the potentials in supporting energy sufficiency-based orientations and behaviour are indeed realised.

Tasks of this deliverable related to WP 5

WP5 - Consumers and energy efficiency

Task 5.4. Workshop: Beyond Energy Efficiency – How to develop the potentials of energy sufficiency.

Work package 5 of the EUFORIE project started with a stock taking of administrative, economic or informational instruments targeting energy consumption in households including the behavioural aspect the investment phase but also indirect influences changing the consumption environment. Countries' analysed were Germany, [Finland](#), [Hungary](#), [Italy](#), [Latvia](#), [Romania](#), [Spain](#) and the [UK](#). Next to public policies attention was given to the support coming from the private sector complementing public activities over the whole range of relevant activities from planning (architects, planners), financing (e.g. specific green loans from banks to private owners and other investors), consulting (in particular for modernisation) (see [D 5.1](#)). From there promising instruments and instrument mixes for energy efficiency were identified (see [D 5.2](#))

As the analysis on energy efficiency uncovered major pitfalls on the way to reduced energy consumption and related environmental burden, the second phase of the work package turned towards the aspect of energy sufficiency. Here again a stocktaking of available initiatives and research on energy sufficiency (see [D 5.3](#)) provided the floor and served as input for this deliverable which documents a workshop held with German scientific, business, administration and civil society experts on sufficiency. The more detailed content and results of the workshop feed into further publications and presentations and will be documented on the project website.

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1 Organizational Note

This deliverable summarises the presentations and discussion of a one day exchange workshop between partners of the EUFORIE project and leading researchers and practitioners on sufficiency from Germany. Their background ranged from policy to NGOs, from business to practitioners. Specific support was provided by Bund für Umwelt- und Naturschutz BUND/Friends of the Earth Germany. For intensive debate the group initially was envisioned to consist of 20 persons. Resulting from further interest finally 23 persons participated.

The workshop was attended by stakeholders of various societal groups:

- 5 representatives from academia
- 7 representatives from business
- 4 representatives from NGOs
- 3 representatives from public authorities
- 3 representatives from research SMEs
- 1 representative from an international organization

The workshop combined compact information with explicit broad time for discussion and further elaboration. In most slots next to a key input presentation a further resource person provided substantial knowledge and background information on the respective topic. This paper documents the carrying out of the workshop and thus the fulfilment of deliverable D 5.4.

2 Summarising Report

Welcome and introduction of the EUFORIE Project

Dr. Joachim H. Spangenberg, vice-chair, SERI Germany, welcomed the participants and briefly introduced the project

Limits of energy efficiency policies in Germany

Input was provided by *Dr. Werner Neumann, BUND BAK Energy*. Presentation and discussion pointed towards the need for energy sufficiency to complement energy efficiency measures mainly because of the limited success of actual policies and various counteracting measures. Explicitly highlighted were: the business model for energy companies is still to sell kWh, wasting of energy is still subsidized, consumers receive misleading information, and ambitious restrictions for energy inefficient technology is missing.

Sufficiency concepts and definitions

Dr. Joachim H. Spangenberg, SERI Germany, paved the floor for the day through settling sufficiency in the context of 'living well with less' and elaborating on the two aspects of sufficiency: on one hand having enough to live a decent live and on the other hand accepting a level where having more would be inequitable.

Efficiency and Sufficiency in the energy debate – insights form the EUFORIE project

Dr. Sylvia Lorek, SERI Germany, introduced the findings of the stocktaking of social innovation for energy sufficiency. She pointed towards the importance of space as component of energy use and presented actual initiatives including technical, behavioral and financial experiments to foster energy sufficiency. A second stain of this slot concentrated on the necessary stakeholders needed for change and how to engage them best. Specific attention was given to planners and architects, housing companies and cooperatives, craft man, municipalities and public policies.

Economic implications of sufficiency and sufficiency polities

Prof. Dr. Rudi Kurz, Hochschule Pforzheim, kicked off the session. Agreement was made, that it will hardly be possible to stay within climate targets with energy efficiency approaches alone. For a real decoupling of BIP from energy use respectively environmental impacts in general it would need a factor 4 in efficiency. To ensure a continuous better life could be achieved through double decoupling. Discussion evolved around the questions how misguiding mainstream economic theory is in targeting at the same time reduced energy consumption but increased BIP.

Business aspects of sufficiency

Prof. Dr. Werner Wild, TH Nürnberg, explained that sufficiency for the time being is completely ignored in the context of business administration, as concept as well as an instrument. Nevertheless, in general companies have the possibility and the flexibility to define a 'right' size for themselves, to operate within this size and thus to escape the forces to grow. They as well have the possibility to reflect on social questions such as 'Is my business model (beyond economically successful)

ecologically and socially responsible?’ or , Do the products support consumers in a sufficient lifestyle?’. It was agreed, that a broader uptake of such criteria and their success requires political support turning away from shareholder value driven transnational corporations towards family and foundation based companies as well as new forms of collaborative economies.

Breakout group: Energy sufficiency policy in Germany in architecture and planning

A main sufficiency component is the better use of available room. This requires a consequent mixture of common and private spaces. To reach and support this flexible structures (removable walls) have to go hand in hand with technical support (accounting systems which can adopt when flats are changing size) financial (rentability calculation tend to focus on private space only and neglect common spaces) and legislative ones (if in houses with common ownership a room ‘moves’ from one flat to another it needs notary attesting). It was suggested to promote a campaign for a cap on per capita living area. 35m² by 2040 was mentioned as a good proxy but not agreed upon. Nevertheless, it was agreed that promoting a target would induce societal debate and creative thinking in the various stakeholder groups.

Breakout group: Energy sufficiency policy in Germany implication for education and research

As a societal goal energy sufficiency was seen as an important and promising topic to be debated in formal and informal education. As target was postulated a value change towards less material/energy intensive lifestyles. The questions were raised how to influence curricula, research agendas.

Breakout group: How could a successful campaign for energy sufficiency policy in Germany look like and where to find collaborators

The discussion circled around the questions of the best strategic framing of sufficiency (how to sell it). Different consumption can be better communicated than non-consumption. As a common understanding appeared that we have to overcome the framing of sufficiency as a private issue. One elaborated suggestion was to anchor sufficiency in a David vs. Goliath setting. Which options for a sufficient lifestyle are kept back from us. As an example served the ongoing privatization of previously public space (transforming inner city parks to shopping malls). A second strain considered which *leitbilder* would be needed or could be adopted from other fields? Autonomy, emancipation or ‘do it yourself’ all have a positive connotation in various cultures which could be used in the context of the sufficiency debate.

Annex: Workshop Agenda

Beyond Energy Efficiency – How to develop the potentials of energy sufficiency

9.00 Welcome and introduction of the EUFORIE Project
(Dr. Joachim H. Spangenberg, vice-chair, SERI Germany)

09:10-9.40h Limits of energy efficiency policies in Germany
(Dr. Werner Neumann, BUND BAK Energy)

9.40-10.00h Sufficiency concepts and definitions
(Dr. Joachim H. Spangenberg, vice-chair, SERI Germany)

10.00h-10.20h Efficiency and Sufficiency in the energy debate – insights from the EUFORIE project
(Dr. Sylvia Lorek, Chair, SERI Germany)

10.20-11.00h Diskussion

11.00h-11.15h Coffee break

11.15-11.45h Economic implications of sufficiency and sufficiency polities
(Prof. Dr. Rudi Kurz, Hochschule Pforzheim)

11.45-12-15h Business aspects of sufficiency
(Prof. Dr. Werner Wild, TH Nürnberg)

12.15-13.00h Diskussion

13.00-14.00h Lunch break (at the venue)

14.00-15.30h Strategies for sufficiency policies (Brainstorming)

- Energy sufficiency policy in Germany in architecture and planning
- Energy sufficiency policy in Germany implication for education and research
- How could a successful campaign for energy sufficiency policy in Germany look like
- Where to find collaborators for energy sufficiency policy in Germany

Coffee will be served within the breakout groups

15.30-16:00 Discussion and outlook