

Report of the Training workshop “Guidelines and Best Practices for MSMEs in delivering energy efficient products and in providing renewable energy equipment”

The Training workshop “Guidelines and Best Practices for MSMEs in delivering energy efficient products and in providing renewable energy equipment” was organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and held online on 14 September 2020. The workshop was attended by 52 participants, of which 18 women, from the following countries: Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Serbia (UNECE member States and RPTC programme countries); Ireland, Lithuania, Romania, and Russian Federation (UNECE member States); Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Palestine, Qatar, and Tunisia; as well as the following organizations: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN ESCWA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNECE, and the Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency.

The study *Guidelines and Best Practices for micro-, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in delivering energy-efficient products and in providing renewable energy equipment* served as a basis for this training workshop. The study contains an analysis of the environment that clean energy MSMEs face as a result of the Covid-19 crisis. It presents examples of best practices in the energy efficiency sector and in the area of renewable energy relevant for MSMEs’ response to the Covid-19 crisis and post-crisis recovery, as well as case studies on practical measures for MSMEs in getting access to markets, to financing, and to advanced technologies. The report provides guidelines to MSMEs on such access and recommendations to Governments for developing policy guidelines and establishing financial incentives schemes. The study has been developed by the UNECE Sustainable Energy Division (consultant Andrey Dodonov) in the framework of the UN Development Account project “Global Initiative towards post-Covid-19 resurgence of the MSME sector” led by UNCTAD and UN ESCWA (UNECE is one of the implementing partners). The overall goal of the project is to strengthen the capacity and resilience of MSMEs in developing countries and economies in transition to mitigate the economic and social impact of the global Covid-19 crisis.

The workshop was opened by Oleg Dzioubinski, UNECE Regional Adviser for Energy. The training course was presented by Andrey Dodonov (consultant) and Vitaly Bekker (independent expert). The presentation was followed by a short discussion among participants with answers provided by the consultant, independent expert, and regional adviser.

All workshop materials are posted at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=55077>, including the recording of the workshop, the presentation, and the study *Guidelines and Best Practices for micro-, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in delivering energy-efficient products and in providing renewable energy equipment*. The press release on the study is available at <http://www.unece.org/info/media/presscurrent-press-h/sustainable-energy/2020/unece-guidance-for-the-energy-efficiency-and-renewables-sector-will-support-small-businesses-to-drive-the-green-recovery/doc.html>.