

Press Release

Kiev, 13 November 2015

“Ecodesign and Energy Labelling can contribute to greater energy security for Ukraine and reduced utility bills for Ukrainian households”

Kiev – In recent years, Ukraine has moved forward in transposing two EU Directives - on Energy Labelling and Ecodesign. Energy labelling has been a cornerstone of EU energy policy since 1992 and provides consumers with information on the relative energy performance of different products available on the market so that energy efficiency choices can be part of the buying decision. Ecodesign defines minimum requirements of products with regard to their energy and environmental performance.

The adoption of both these EU Directives will have an important impact in improving the environment, reducing energy consumption and providing greater energy security to Ukraine. The EU-funded programme INOGATE, has raised awareness about Energy Labelling and Ecodesign at the VIIth International Investment Business Forum on Energy Efficiency (EE) and Renewable Energy (RE) on 13 November.

Ecodesign: the experience of the EU and first steps for Ukraine

On 13 November, INOGATE organised a workshop on energy labelling and ecodesign which focused on past and current developments in Energy Labelling and Ecodesign in the EU and on current activities of the State Agency on Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving of Ukraine (SAEE). Among the speakers were ITS experts, experts from ICF International, SAEE, the Ministry of the Economy and the National Technical University of Ukraine. Opening addresses were delivered by Mr Krzysztof Gierulski of the European Commission, and on behalf of Mr Sergey Savchuk, Head of SAEE. There was widespread agreement among the participants at the workshop that the adoption of the respective EU Directives in Ukraine will be a milestone towards greater energy security.

Awareness Raising for Energy Efficiency

A separate half-day workshop on “Awareness Raising for Energy Efficiency” was held later on the same day to present the EU experience in raising public awareness on energy efficiency, recent initiatives of ITS in Eastern Partnership countries as well as the corresponding initiatives of SAEE in Ukraine. Among the speakers were representatives of SAEE, ITS and ICF International, a management, technology, and policy consulting firm.

Visitors to the Forum were also able to enter the “expert zone” where ITS experts provided information and answered questions on EU and Ukrainian product policies, and particularly on Energy Labelling and Ecodesign. Mr. Wolfgang Lutz, INOGATE Expert stressed that “according to a recent EU study, Ecodesign and Energy Labelling measures can decrease EU dependency on imported natural gas and coal by 23% and 37%, respectively. Considering that energy independence is an important issue for Ukraine, Ecodesign, together with Energy Labelling, can significantly contribute to improving the energy security of Ukraine.”

More information on this event is available at: <http://www.inogate.org/activities/627?lang=en>

About INOGATE

INOGATE is an EU-funded programme promoting international energy co-operation between the European Union and the Partner Countries of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. It works to support the EU policy frameworks of the Baku Initiative, the Eastern Partnership – Energy Security Platform, the Energy Community and the Central Asia Development Cooperation.

INOGATE works in four key areas: convergence of energy markets on the basis of the EU principles, enhancing energy security, supporting sustainable energy development, and attracting investment towards energy projects of common and regional interest. INOGATE is one of the longest running EU programmes since 1996.