**INOGATE Meeting celebrates 15 successful years**

The EU-funded INOGATE regional energy programme celebrated 15 successful years at its meeting in Brussels on 18-19 May 2011, involving 90 participants, including INOGATE Country Coordinators and Working Group Members from all Partner Countries, the European Commission, Team Leaders of INOGATE projects, International Financial Institutions and the Energy Community Secretariat. INOGATE is a unique programme supporting energy policy partnership between the EU and the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, and one of the longest-running of its kind. The meeting reviewed partner countries’ progress on the Astana Energy Road Map, reviewed current and agreed future developments of the INOGATE Programme. It was also announced that a further Ministerial Conference, on the topic of Sustainable Energy, is to be scheduled for 2012. Information about the meeting, and copies of the presentations made, are available for download here.

**SEMISE Round Table on EE/RES in Kiev**

The SEMISE project hosted a Round Table in Kiev, Ukraine, on 10-11 March, co-organized with ULIE (the Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs) to discuss finance of energy efficiency and renewable energy. The meeting, which was introduced by ULIE President Anatoliy Kinakh, Mr. Hans Rhein of the European Delegation and Mr. Kyniakos Morfis of the ITS, provided a forum for businesses and lenders from Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus, and over 40 delegates from all sectors heard with great interest presentations on regional initiatives, the experience of banks and ESCOs, use of international finance and issues of energy audit. The Round Table developed a significant dialogue which should support sustainable energy investment initiatives in the participating countries.

**SEMISE training course on Energy Market Convergence**

Participants from Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova and Ukraine. The objective was to target electricity and gas companies, to acquaint their senior and middle level staff with the advantages and problems of restructuring and liberalisation of electricity and gas industries, and the introduction of totally new market players (system operators, traders, exchanges) including a strong and independent energy regulator. The 28 trainees confirmed that the course enhanced their knowledge on issues important for both their professional work and their countries.

**Study Tour and Final Conference of the Harmonisation of Electricity Standards Project**

The closing conference of the INOGATE project Harmonisation of Electricity Standards was held in Kiev, Ukraine on 8 February 2010, following a successful study tour to Brussels, Paris and Vienna in January. The Conference was able to report a series of significant achievements, which had been supported by the Project’s Steering Committee. These included the establishment of technical working groups in partner countries, the development of the harmonisation process for two agreed standards on medium/high voltage supply and on overhead lines, and a strategy and handbook for harmonisation (presentations downloadable from the INOGATE web portal).

**Final Conference of Boyarka Metrological Centre Validation and Certification Project**

The successful outcomes of the project Validation and Certification of the Eastern European Regional Centre for Gas Metrology in Boyarka were outlined at a conference in Kiev, Ukraine on 30th March. These included development of a quality management system, training on calibration techniques, preparation for the certification of laboratories, promotion of the Centre’s services, and preparation of a business plan and a website which has been passed to the Centre’s parent, Naftogaz of Ukraine. The Centre also received under the project equipment specifically designed to achieve highest accuracy in metering actions. INOGATE support for Boyarka continues with the project Feasibility studies for expanding the Boyarka Centre.

**SKPI Workshops in Azerbaijan and Georgia**

The project Support to Kyoto Protocol Implementation (SKPI) organized two events in February: on 8 February a national workshop in Baku, Azerbaijan on ‘Climate Change Mitigation and CDM Projects’, and on 10-11February its third Regional Workshop, on ‘Legislation and Policies to Promote Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy’, in Tbilisi, Georgia. Both events attracted about 50 participants from a wide range of stakeholders. The Baku workshop featured a case study of solar energy in Azerbaijan, a presentation and discussion on international climate change negotiations and demonstration of the upgraded Carbon Footprint Calculator. The Tbilisi Regional workshop included sessions on energy balances and sectoral efficiency indicators in the EU and in INOGATE Partner Countries; on energy efficiency/renewable policies and carbon financing for EE/RE projects; and on the legal, institutional, economic and financial barriers to energy efficiency investment.

**Forthcoming INOGATE Events**

- **SEMISE Study Tour to Slovakia and Austria (EE/RES Promotion)**, 13-16 June 2011

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