



# DEESME

National schemes for energy efficiency in SMEs

**Deliverable 2.7 - Public**

**Intermediate monitoring report**

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## About

Improving energy efficiency is the most cost-effective way to reduce energy-related emissions, improve economic competitiveness and increase energy security. In the European Union, several pieces of legislation aimed at guiding states and companies, regardless of their size, on ways to improve their energy efficiency: one of them is the Energy Efficiency Directive, establishing a common framework of measures and requirements with the goal to remove market barriers and promote a more efficient use of energy in supply and demand. Article 8 of the Directive offers ways to achieve this, requiring Member States to promote and facilitate the implementation of energy audits and energy management systems. The audits are compulsory for large companies and recommended for small and medium enterprises (SMEs). National authorities should encourage both to implement the resulting recommendations.

Member States have all chosen different approaches to transpose the requirements into national laws and to support companies (trainings, websites, helplines and funding support schemes). SMEs have less workforce, technical and financial capacity to perform energy audits, and therefore rarely do so: making them aware of the multiple benefits that can derive from improving their energy efficiency and accompany them in the energy transition, with knowledge and funding from both the public and private sectors, is key. That is what DEESME, a Horizon 2020-funded project (September 2020 – September 2023), aims at.

DEESME enables companies, especially SMEs to manage the energy transition by taking profit of multiple benefits from energy management and audit approaches and provides national authorities with guidelines and recommendations to empower their schemes under article 8, using the multiple benefits' approach.

The project identifies and shares good practices from national schemes, EU projects, and other initiatives with national authorities and support them in developing more effective schemes dealing with energy audits and energy management systems. It assists SMEs to develop and test the technical DEESME solutions by organizing information and training initiatives, realising energy audits, and implementing energy management systems starting from international standard and adding the multiple benefits energy efficiency approach.

The project is built on a consortium of academics, research organisations, consultancies and government offices from Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Poland, namely: IEECP (NL, coordinator), FIRE (IT), SOGESCA (IT), Fraunhofer ISI (DE), CLEOPA (DE), SEDA (BG), ECQ (BG), KAPE (PL), EEIP (BE).

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**DEESME**

National schemes for energy efficiency in SMEs



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## Executive Summary

One of the aims of the DEESME project is the support of EU National Authorities (NAs) to enhance the impact of energy audits and energy management systems (EMS).

Work Package 2 is fully dedicated to activities supporting NAs. Starting from an inventory of needs and requirements of NAs about transposition of Article 8 EED and activities to involve small and medium enterprises (T2.1), a report on best practice for policies on energy audits, energy management and multiple benefits was drafted (T2.2). Based on these outcomes, support material was developed for NAs, in the form of a generic guidance on best-practice and a country specific one (T2.3). For each challenge identified in the assessment, a set of possible solutions (strategies) was proposed based on best practices identified across EU Member States (MS). In the specific guidance, challenges and related strategies have been tailored and customized for each of the 10 MS involved in the project. Furthermore, the guidance provides an overview of the DEESME approach on energy audits and EMS including the evaluation of non-energy benefits (NEBs).

Task 2.4 is about “Monitoring of WP2 quantitative and qualitative results”. Thus, it aims to monitor the results and impact of this work package. In particular, the number of NAs informed and involved in the project, and the policy recommendations implemented will be monitored. Information will be collected that allows to verify:

- a) the quality of the products;
- b) the interest in the products and the possibility that they will be used;
- c) suggestions for improving the products.

The policy-related process in DEESME will be followed-up in WP5, where a direct support will be offered to NAs, building on the evaluation results from WP2.

This deliverable (D2.7) describes the results of the first monitoring round, conducted from July to September 2022. Questionnaires produced within the monitoring report have been submitted to the 10 NAs involved in WP2 to collect their feedback on the use and success of the documents and suggestions for improvements that could feed into further enhancements of the DEESME approach.



## 1. Methodology

The first monitoring round has been conducted in the months of July, August and September 2022, based on the materials developed in the previous WP2 tasks that were disseminated to NA during the last year.

10 National Authorities have been contacted by the responsible project partners asking for their feedback about project materials by filling questionnaires in Excel format.

The questionnaires were split in three main parts:

- general monitoring of DEESME project (e.g. involvement and interest in project activities and guidance documents);
- monitoring of guidance material (in terms of clarity, usefulness and applicability);
- customized monitoring of challenges and strategies identified within guidance documents (relevance of the challenges and applicability of the strategies).

For these three points, open inputs have also been requested in order to point out opportunities for improvement in the further implementation of the project, particularly with regard to the institutionalisation of the DEESME approach in WP5 where outputs of WP2 will serve as an input for the activities.

A full response was provided by Bulgaria, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Poland and Spain (Figure 1), through the reception of filled questionnaires or individual meeting/calls on the content of the questionnaire itself.



*Figure 1, MS with full feedback achieved*

For other MS there were some challenges, partly due to changes of responsible persons within NAs that made it challenging to fully involve them and collect feedback in time. Croatia evaluated the general part of the documents, and Austria, Finland and Slovenia will be covered in the second and final monitoring round.

The following chapters will report the results of each of the three evaluations, provide an overview of the project's indicators and propose follow-up activities.



## 2. Assessment of the project

Based on the monitoring replies of 7 NAs, more than half are following the project's activities (Figure 2). Besides the guidance documents, project activities include general dissemination and events held within other WPs.

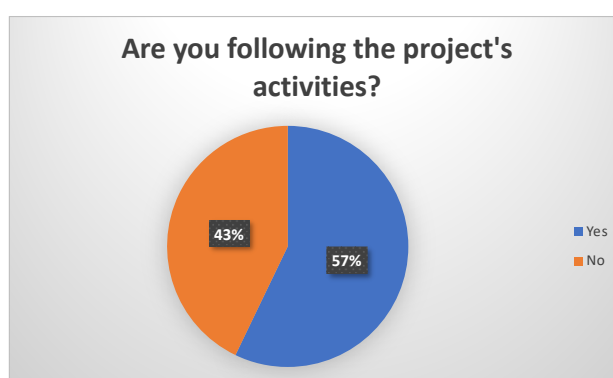


Figure 2 NAs involvement in project's activities

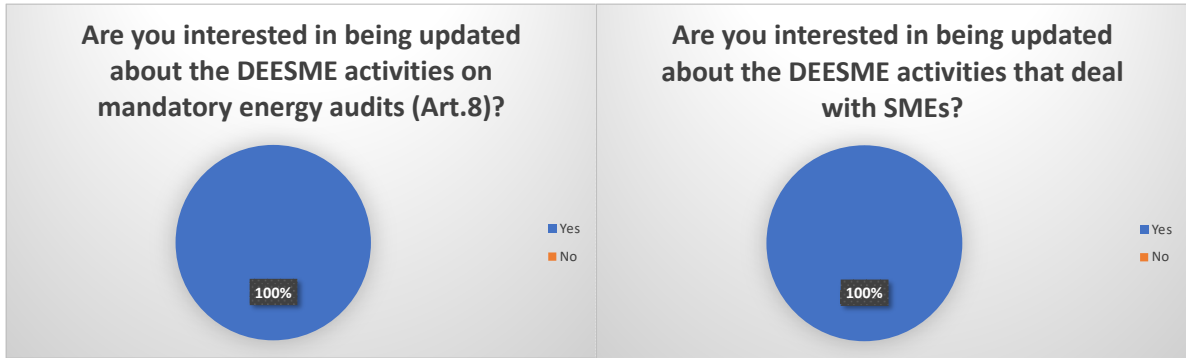
Interest in DEESME activities is highly demonstrated, also by those who have not been able to follow activities until now: all the respondents are interested in being updated about activities both for mandatory energy audits and for small and medium enterprises.

Following are the topics about mandatory energy audits on which respondents are most interested in:

- procedures for verifying data and conducting administrative procedures in other EU countries;
- ensure quality of audits and compliance of obligated companies;
- identification of obligated companies;
- enhance the uptake of measures.

Apart from the first one, that can be a possible topic for the national support in WP5, the other topics have been specifically addressed by the guideline.

About activities for SMEs, the creation of support and guidance mechanism as well as of new databases on energy savings are the topic that NAs would like the project to address.



*Figure 3. Interest in project's activities*

6 of 7 respondents have read and examined the guidance documents, so the following chapters are based on their feedbacks about the materials.



*Figure 4. NAs which have analysed guidance materials*



### 3. Assessment of the guidance materials

In general, feedback on the specific guideline is positive. Figure 5 summarizes the position of the respondents for the respective statements; it is relevant noticing that none of the respondents disagrees on the ease of reference and usefulness of the materials produced. The guidelines are widely considered useful for information and awareness rising, but in some national contexts it's difficult to use them for suggestions of changes in the existing legislation or existing programmes' rules.

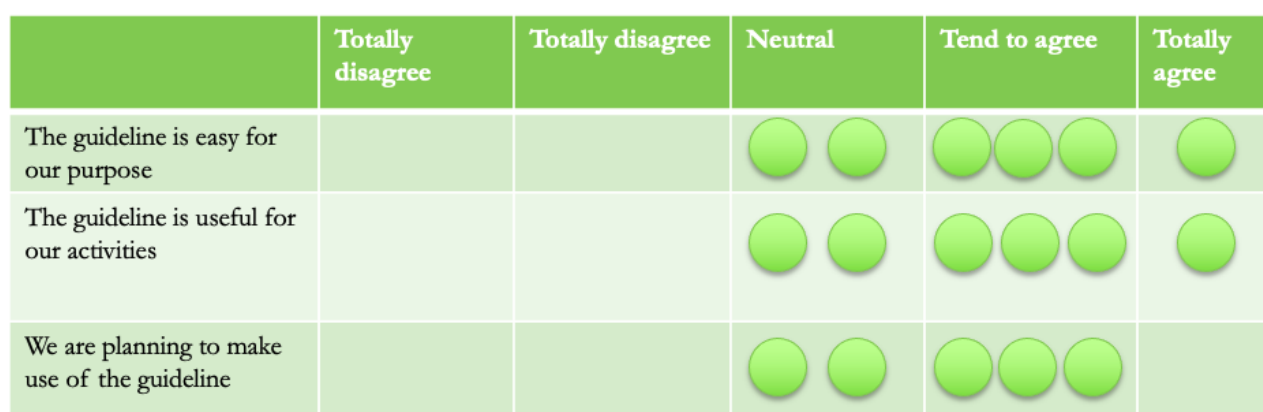


Figure 5 Number of responses received for each statement in the overall guidance evaluation

The possibility to make use of the guideline is not normally just up to the respondent authority but has to be shared with other national bodies (e.g. ministries), and there are resource constraints that can delay any action in this sense.

The guideline is made up of the following section:

- Introductory overview of the national transposition
- Summary of country specific challenges identified
- Country specific solution strategies
- Suggestion for the promotion of energy audits, EMS and NEBs
- Generic guideline (Appendix)

The following subchapters are dedicated to the individual monitoring of the sections.

#### 3.1. Introductory overview of the national transposition

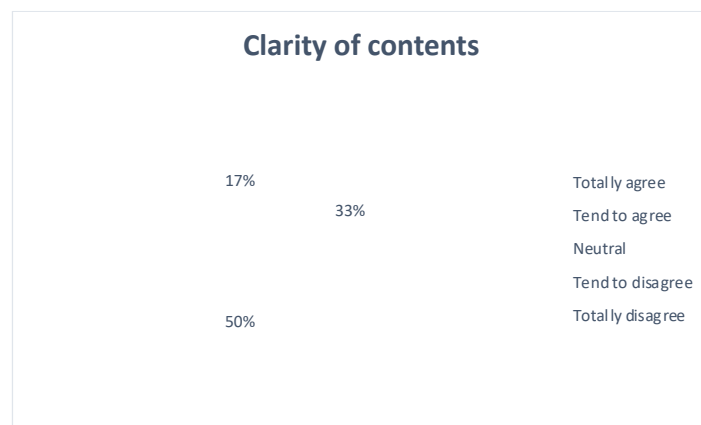
All the respondents tend to agree on the clarity of the overview of national transposition produced in the document for each MS (Figure 6). No particular changes/updates have been proposed.



*Figure 6. Clarity of contents of introductory overview of the national transposition section*

### 3.2. Summary of country specific challenges identified

The section about the country specific challenges was assessed to be clear (Figure 7), with no particular additional topics that might need exploration.



*Figure 7. Clarity of contents of summary of country specific challenges section*

### 3.3. Country specific solution strategies

Section about the country specific solution strategies was assessed to be moderately clear (Figure 8), with no particular strategies difficult to grasp.





Figure 8. Clarity of contents of country specific solution strategies

### 3.4. Suggestion for the promotion of energy audits, EMS and NEBs

Suggestion for promotion of energy audits are clear for the whole respondents (Figure 9).

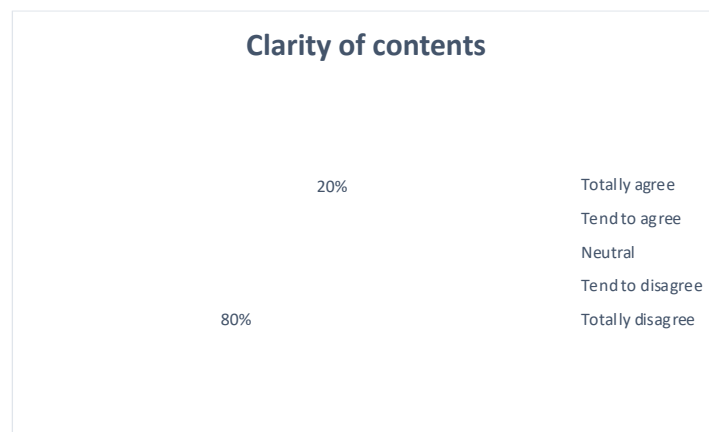


Figure 9 Clarity of contents of suggestion for the promotion of audits, EMS and NEBs



### 3.5. Generic guideline (Appendix)

The generic guideline, included as an Appendix to the specific one, is as well clear for all the respondents (Figure 10).

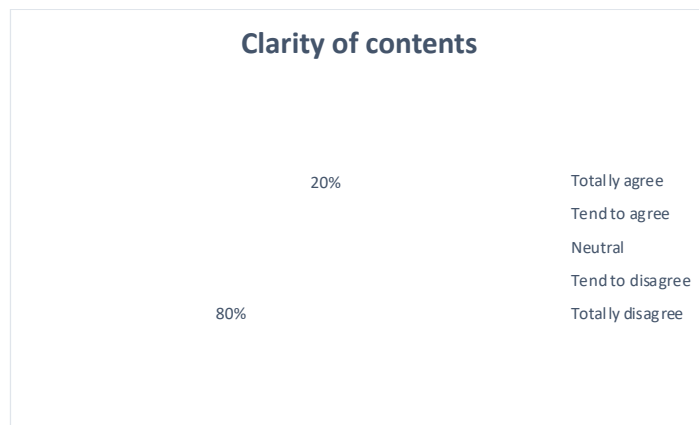


Figure 10. Clarity of contents of generic guideline



## 4. Customized assessment of identified strategies and challenges

Basing on an initial informal needs assessment with the 10 National Authorities, in the specific guideline possible main challenges have been identified and examined, proposing suitable strategies to overcome them. One of the scope of WP2 monitoring is to confirm the relevance of the challenges and verify with NAs the effectiveness of the proposed strategies. For the latter in particular three areas have been checked:

- easiness of understanding;
- eligibility for country purposes;
- easiness to implement.

Given the wide customisation of the topics, results are reported separately for each country. To ensure a harmonized setup, the evaluation is based on a qualitative 5 -point Likert scale, ranging from “totally disagree” to “total agree”.

### 4.1. Bulgaria

In Bulgaria the following challenges have been identified within the specific guidance:

- Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies
- Enhancing the uptake of measures
- Guiding SMEs with limited available resources to action

The following paragraphs are dedicated to the individual monitoring of the challenges and the strategies identified to address it.

#### *Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies*

NA tend to agree with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategy are evaluated in the following Table 1:

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Assisting in self-declarations	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	



Database-oriented approach	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		

Table 1. Evaluation of strategies for identification and ensuring compliance of obliged companies in Bulgaria

### Enhancing the uptake of measures

NA tend to agree with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 2:

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Underline the added value of audits	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
Use informational instruments to enhance the uptake of measures	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		

Table 2. Evaluation of strategies for enhancing the uptake of measures in Bulgaria

### Guiding SMEs with limited available resources to action

NA tend to agree with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 3:



Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Provide a clear overview of available support schemes	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
Simplify the application process	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		

Table 3. Evaluation of strategies for guiding SMEs with limited available resources to action in Bulgaria

## 4.2. Greece

In Greece the following challenges have been identified within the specific guidance:

- Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies
- Guiding SMEs with limited available resources to action
- Raising awareness on opportunities and create support mechanisms

The following paragraphs are dedicated to the individual monitoring of the challenge and the strategies identified to address it.

### *Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies*

NA totally agrees that the challenge is relevant for their activities; they are trying to find a solution but are not totally committed on this topic.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 4:

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree



Define simplified requirements	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
Enhancing push and pull factors for compliance	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	

Table 4. Evaluation of strategies for Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies in Greece

### Guiding SMEs with limited available resources to action

NA totally agrees that the challenge is relevant for their activities; they are trying to find a solution but are not totally committed on this topic.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 5

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Highlighting available support schemes	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
Simplifying application processes	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	



	The strategy can be easy to implement					●	
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Table 5. Evaluation of strategies for Guiding SMEs with limited available resources to action in Greece

### Raising awareness on opportunities and create support mechanisms

NA tends to agree that the challenge is relevant for their activities; they are trying to find a solution but are not totally committed on this topic.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 6

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Active facilitation such as dedicated events to engage SMEs	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
Establishing cooperation with regional institutions and share success stories	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	

Table 6. Evaluation of strategies for Raising awareness on opportunities and create support mechanisms in Greece

### 4.3. Ireland

In Ireland the following challenges have been identified within the specific guidance:

- Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies
- Quality of audits
- Enhancing the uptake of measures
- Guiding SMEs with limited available resources to action
- Raising awareness on opportunities and create support mechanisms

The following paragraphs are dedicated to the individual monitoring of the challenge and the strategies identified to address it.



*Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies*

NA totally agrees that the challenge is relevant for their activities, but they are not actually planning to find a solution for it.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 7

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Gather and update information about companies registered in Ireland and to inform obligated companies to carry out the energy audits (SEAI)	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes		●			
	The strategy can be easy to implement	●				
Promote carrying out energy audit by showing its benefits on other company's examples	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement		●			

*Table 7 Evaluation of strategies for Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies in Ireland*

*Quality of audits*

NA totally agrees that the challenge is relevant for their activities, and they are really planning find a solution for it.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 8

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Verification of the quality of the energy audits and	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	





monitoring the quality checks	The strategy can be easy to implement									
Examination and prepare additional trainings for auditors	The strategy is easy to understand									
	The strategy can fit for our purposes									
	The strategy can be easy to implement									

Table 8. Evaluation of strategies for improving quality of audits in Ireland

### Enhancing the uptake of measures

NA tends to agree that the challenge is relevant for their activities, but they are not really planning to find a solution for it.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 9

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Use informational instruments to enhance the uptake of measures	The strategy is easy to understand					
	The strategy can fit for our purposes					
	The strategy can be easy to implement					
Use obligations to directly/indirectly increase the uptake of measures	The strategy is easy to understand					
	The strategy can fit for our purposes					
	The strategy can be easy to implement					

Table 9. Evaluation of strategies for enhancing the uptake of measures in Ireland



*Guiding SMEs with limited available resources to action*

NA tends to agree that the challenge is relevant for their activities, and they are planning to find a solution for it.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 10

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Engaging SMEs with networks to facilitate access to information	The strategy is easy to understand			●		
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		
Simplify the process of the energy audit for SMEs	The strategy is easy to understand			●		
	The strategy can fit for our purposes		●			
	The strategy can be easy to implement					●

*Table 10. Evaluation of strategies for Guiding SMEs with limited available resources to action in Ireland*

*Raising awareness on opportunities and create support mechanisms*

NA totally agrees that the challenge is relevant for their activities, and they are strongly planning to find a solution for it.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 11

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Use informative activities such as workshops, e-learning platforms and	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	



topic-specific information materials to show potential benefits of energy audits	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		
Establish cooperation with regional institutions to facilitate access to financial instruments and to minimize a research effort for SMEs	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes					●
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		

*Table 11. Evaluation of strategies for Raising awareness on opportunities and create support mechanisms in Ireland*

#### 4.4. Italy

In Italy the main issue has emerged in the initial phase of the implementation, in 2015/2016, when a capillary action of diffusion of the obligation between the trade associations and all the stakeholders involved has been made. The sanctioning part was also of help. To date compliance with Art. 8 of the decree is very high and there are very few companies that do not conduct the audit pursuant to Art. 8. The dissemination of a simple but not trivial concept is also very important: transforming audits from a mere regulatory obligation to an opportunity. This step took time and was met with considerable reticence, but in the end NA managed to get it through.

The following challenges have been identified within the specific guidance:

- Identification of obligated companies
- Compromise between reporting effort and monitoring, and enhancing the uptake of measures
- Creation of support mechanisms and overcoming the scarce availability of resources
- Raising awareness on opportunities

The following paragraphs are dedicated to the individual monitoring of the challenge and the strategies identified to address it.



*Identification of obligated companies*

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 12.

As it can be noted, the proposal to help companies in self-declarations is evaluated as unworkable, at least in Italian context. No Ministry or agency can do it since the burden of obligation falls exclusively on the legal representatives of companies and it is not possible, from an operational point of view, to introduce external elements in the individual fulfilment of an obligation; this would create discrepancies between companies. Moreover, it would be almost impossible to update in real time the list of obliged companies, making it difficult to guarantee that everyone has the same opportunities.

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Assisting in self-declarations	The strategy can fit for our purposes	●				
	The strategy can be easy to implement	●				
Underline the added value of audits	The strategy can fit for our purposes					●
	The strategy can be easy to implement					●

*Table 12. Evaluation of strategies for Identification of obligated companies in Italy*

*Compromise between reporting effort and monitoring, and enhancing the uptake of measures*

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 13

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	



Choose scope depending on feasibility	The strategy can be easy to implement					●	
Use informational instruments to enhance the uptake of measures	The strategy can fit for our purposes					●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement					●	

Table 13. Evaluation of strategies for Compromise between reporting effort and monitoring, and enhancing the uptake of measures in Italy

*Creation of support mechanisms and overcoming the scarce availability of resources*

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 14

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Design an adequate financial support system	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		
Make information easily accessible	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	

Table 14. Evaluation of strategies for Creation of support mechanisms and overcoming the scarce availability of resources in Italy



*Raising awareness on opportunities*

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 15

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Use facilitation such as peer networks	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement		●			
Collect success stories and provide dissemination hub	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		

*Table 15. Evaluation of strategies for Raising awareness on opportunities in Italy*

### 4.5. Poland

In Poland the following challenges have been identified within the specific guidance:

- Limited transposition resources
- Identifying and ensuring compliance of obligated companies in Poland
- Quality of audits
- Increasing the implementation of measures
- Creating support mechanisms
- Raising awareness of opportunities

The following paragraphs are dedicated to the individual monitoring of the challenge and the strategies identified to address it.

*Limited transposition resources*

NA tends to agree that the challenge is relevant for their activities, and they are planning to find a solution for it.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 16



Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Automation of repetitive processes	The strategy is easy to understand		●			
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		

Table 16. Evaluation of strategies for Limited transposition resources in Poland

*Identifying and ensuring compliance of obligated companies in Poland*

NA tends to agree with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 17

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Helping companies to self-declare	The strategy is easy to understand			●		
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		
Considering a change towards a system database-oriented	The strategy is easy to understand			●		
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement		●			
Reducing the burden on other businesses	The strategy is easy to understand		●			



than SMEs with particularly low energy consumption	The strategy can fit for our purposes		●			
	The strategy can be easy to implement		●			

*Table 17. Evaluation of strategies for Identifying and ensuring compliance of obligated companies in Poland*

*Quality of audits*

NA totally agrees with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 18





Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Defining and monitoring requirements for energy auditors	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes					●
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
Providing support materials for conducting audits and creating reports from audits	The strategy is easy to understand			●		
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		
Checking that quality standards are met	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement		●			
Highlighting the added value of audits	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement		●			

Table 18. Evaluation of strategies for Increasing quality of audits in Poland



*Increasing the implementation of measures*

NAs tends to agree with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 19

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Use of mandatory recommendations to directly increase the input of results audits	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		
Using mandatory recommendations to indirectly increase the input of results audits	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	

*Table 19. Evaluation of strategies for Increasing the implementation of measures in Poland*

*Creating support mechanism*

NA tends to agree with the relevance of this challenge in their activities but they are not really planning a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 20

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Use of information instruments for	The strategy is easy to understand			●		
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		



creating awareness of effectiveness energy	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		
Designing the right support financial system	The strategy is easy to understand			●		
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement		●			

Table 20. Evaluation of strategies for Creating support mechanism in Poland

#### Raising awareness of opportunities

NA tends to disagree on the relevance of this challenge, they are not planning to find a solution. Evaluation of strategies is not here reported since the poor significancy for the Polish NA.

#### 4.6. Spain

In Spain the following challenges have been identified within the specific guidance:

- Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies in Spain
- Quality of audits
- Enhancing the uptake of measures
- Create support mechanisms and guiding SMEs to participation
- Raising awareness on opportunities

The following paragraphs are dedicated to the individual monitoring of the challenge and the strategies identified to address it.

#### Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies in Spain

NAs totally agrees with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 21

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
	The strategy is easy to understand					●



Assisting in self-declarations	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
Towards a database-oriented approach	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
Enhancing push and pull factors for compliance	The strategy is easy to understand				●	
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement					●

Table 21. Evaluation of strategies for Identification and ensuring compliance of obligated companies in Spain

### Quality of audits

NAs totally agrees with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 22

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Ensuring education and expertise of auditors	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
	The strategy is easy to understand					●



Ensuring quality of audit reports	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
Carry out quality checks of audits	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	

Table 22. Evaluation of strategies for Increasing quality of audits in Spain

### Enhancing the uptake of measures

NAs tends to agree with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 23

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Use of information instruments to enhance the uptake of measures	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		
Use of financial instruments to enhance the uptake of measures and use obligations to directly increase the uptake of measures	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		

Table 23. Evaluation of strategies for Enhancing the uptake of measures in Spain



*Create support mechanisms and guiding SMEs to participation*

NAs totally agrees with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 24

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Highlighting available support schemes	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes				●	
	The strategy can be easy to implement				●	
Simplifying application processes	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		

Table 24. Evaluation of strategies for Create support mechanisms and guiding SMEs to participation in Spain

*Raising awareness on opportunities*

NAs totally agrees with the relevance of this challenge in their activities and on the planning of a solution for that.

Proposed strategies are evaluated in the following Table 25

Strategy		Totally disagree	Tend to disagree	Neutral	Tend to agree	Totally agree
Sharing success stories	The strategy is easy to understand					●
	The strategy can fit for our purposes			●		
	The strategy can be easy to implement			●		

Table 25. Evaluation of strategies for Raising awareness on opportunities in Spain



## 5. Monitoring of key performance indicators

According to the monitoring concept, various items of information need to be collected to determine the values of the quantitative KPIs. The aim of WP2 is to involve at least 10 National Authorities: the necessary information for the evaluation of the involvement include:

- the number of National Authorities that are following the project's activities and are interested to be updated;
- the number of National Authorities that have gone through the guidelines.
- the number of National Authorities that have attended the workshops.
- the number of National Authorities that have implemented, or planned to implement, policy recommendations based on guidelines for the Art.8 (to be finalized in WP5).

Next to the previously mentioned quantitative indicators, a set of qualitative indicators shall serve in the evaluation of the developed materials in WP2. This evaluation shall in particular cover the perception of the developed materials.

Differently from the previous quantitative indicators, no specific indicators have been suggested in the proposal. Therefore, a new set and methodology is introduced here. In the first monitoring round, this methodology for the qualitative evaluation covers two areas: a general evaluation on the overall approach and an in-depth part dedicated to the produced material (generic and specific guidelines).

The aim of the **general part** is to verify the interest in the DEESME approach about Art.8 and SMEs. It covers the following areas:

- Interest in Art.8 policy activities: topics where NAs are most interested regarding mandatory energy audits?
- Interest in SMEs policy activities: topics where NAs are most interested regarding policy addressed to SMEs?

The aim of the **specific part** is to obtain a generalized overview of the performance of the entire set of material produced within the WP, namely the *Generic guidance for national authorities on overcoming challenges in the implementation of Art.8 EED* and the *Country specific guidance document for the implementation of Article 8 EED*. Feedback is requested on the following aspects:

- Ease-of-understanding: are the contents clear?
- Ease-of-application: are the outputs easy to implement?
- Perspectives: is the **developed** material likely to be re-used in the future by the NA?

### 5.1. Monitoring of quantitative indicators

The following Table 26 shows the progress of the quantitative indicators' achievement:  
DEESME 2.7 Intermediate monitoring report – October 2022



	Target	After 1 <sup>st</sup> monitoring	After 2 <sup>nd</sup> monitoring
Number of National Authorities that are following the project's activities	10	4	
Number of National Authorities that are interested to be updated	10	7	
Number of National Authorities that have gone through the guidelines	10	6	
Number of National Authorities that have attended the workshops	10	18	

*Table 26. Overall monitoring of quantitative KPIs*

The second half of monitoring will have to bring on board the missing numbers, profiting of the simultaneous start of WP5 that will help to engage National Authorities through a new set of planned events and documents. As it can be noticed from the table, there is an expression of interest in project's topic but an effective follow-up of project's activities must be achieved.

## 5.2. Monitoring of qualitative indicators

The following figures shows the overall evaluation of the qualitative indicators, expressed through the three axes identified in the previous paragraph:



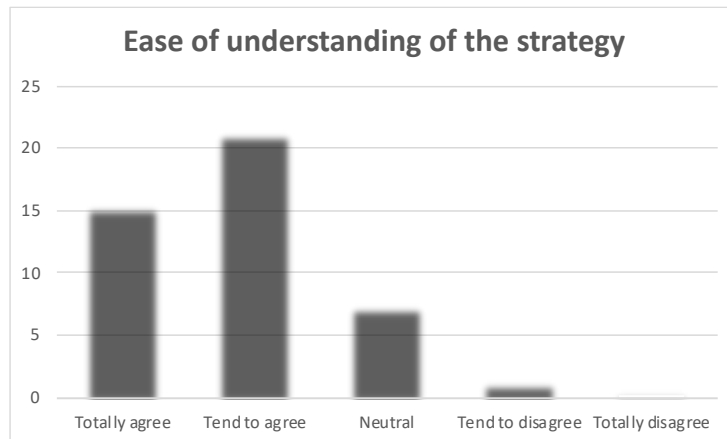


Figure 11. Overall monitoring of ease of understanding of the strategies

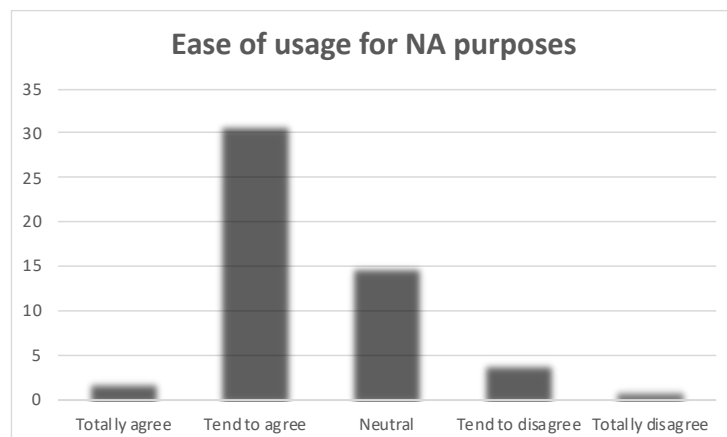
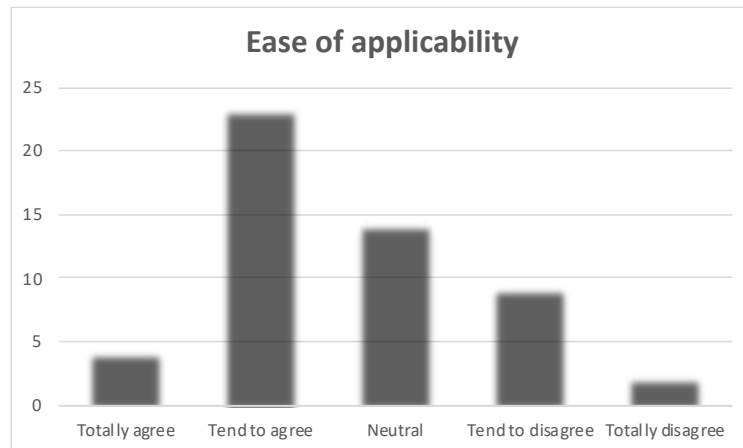


Figure 12. Overall monitoring of ease of usage of the strategies for NA purposes

Most of respondents have a positive evaluation of the proposed strategies. Clarity (Figure 11) and understandability (Figure 12) of the strategies is highly agreed upon, while for their usability and application (Figure 13) to the national contexts there are more different views.



*Figure 13. Overall monitoring of ease of applicability of the strategies*

In conclusion, there is a unanimous agreement on the challenges identified within WP2, that are considered relevant for all the NAs involved in the monitoring in their country-context. The proposed strategies to overcome these challenges are able to raise a widespread awareness among the respondents, as demonstrated by the positive feedback in terms of ease of understanding (Figure 11) and usage (Figure 12).

Guidance can as well act as a starting point for the customized support for those countries that will be involved in WP5. There is a consensus on the applicability of many strategies but further actions are required to better adapt the recommendations to the specific country-contexts as demonstrated by the fair number of *Neutral* and *Tend to disagree* responses to the related question (Figure 13).



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