The Local Energy Transition: From Strategies and Financing to a Better Quality of Life for Citizens

20th Conference of the Association of Bulgarian Energy Agencies

26 November 2026, Sofia, Hemus Hotel

09:00 – 09:30	*Registration*
09:30 – 09:45	**OPENING**
09:45 – 10:15	**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: [TOPIC TO BE CONFIRMED]** *Government representative*
10:15 – 10:35	*Coffee break*
SESSION 1A (Hall 1): ENERGY COMMUNITIES: NEW MODELS AND THE ROLE OF MUNICIPALITIES	
10:35 – 10:50	**ENERGY COMMUNITIES: NEW MODELS AND INITIATIVES. THE GREEN-COM PROJECT** *Speakers: Stanislav Andreev, Todor Popov (EnEffect)*
10:50 – 11:05	**AN INNOVATIVE MODEL FOR SUPPORTING ENERGY COMMUNITIES IN BULGARIA: THE ECOss PROJECT** *Speaker: Diana Paunova-Galeva (SOFENA)*
11:05 – 11:25	**SMART METERS AS A PREREQUISITE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY COMMUNITIES** *Genady Kondarev, Lyubimka Georgieva, Black Sea Energy Research Centre (BSERC)*
11:25 - 12:10	**FIVE PROBLEMS AND TEN SOLUTIONS. RECOMMENDATIONS TO INSTITUTIONS** *Panel discussion moderated by Maria Trifonova, Black Sea Energy Research Centre (BSERC)*
12:10 - 12:20	**GOOD PRACTICES: HOW OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE SOLVED THE SAME PROBLEMS** *Austrian Energy Agency*
12:20 – 12:30	***DISCUSSION***
SESSION 1B (Hall 2): PLANNING AND FINANCING BUILDING RENOVATION AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT	
10:30 – 10:50	**POLICIES AND INSTRUMENTS FOR FINANCING BUILDING RENOVATION** *Speaker: to be confirmed (EnEffect; Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works invited)*
10:50 – 11:10	**NEW FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS FROM THE FUND MANAGER OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS IN BULGARIA** *Speaker: to be confirmed (Fund Manager of Financial Instruments in Bulgaria invited)*

11:10 – 11:30	**NATIONAL DECARBONISATION FUND: NEW INSTRUMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS** *Speaker: to be confirmed (National Decarbonisation Fund invited)*
11:30 – 11:50	**SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT FUND: FINANCING FOR SUSTAINABLE AND CLIMATE-NEUTRAL CITIES** *Speaker: Ina Karova, Energy Agency of Plovdiv*
11:50 – 12:10	**INNOVATIVE CLIMATE PLANNING SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE AND CARBON-NEUTRAL RESIDENTIAL AREAS: THE INFIRE PROJECT** *Speaker: Martin Ivanov, Regional Energy Agency of Pazardzhik*
12:10 - 12:20	**HeatInvest: KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE IN ACTION AND A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION** *Speaker: Nina Nikolova (Chamber of Installers in Bulgaria)*
12:20 – 12:30	***DISCUSSION: the National Building Renovation Plan to 2050 and financing opportunities***
12:30 – 13:30	*Lunch*
SESSION 2A (Hall 1): CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND EU MISSIONS	
13:30 – 13:45	**EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE: EUROPEAN COMMISSION COMMUNICATION "A RESILIENT EUROPE IN A CHANGING CLIMATE"** *Speaker: Svetlana Zhekova*
13:45 - 14:00	**THE ADAPTATION HUBS PROJECT: A PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE AND INTERINSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION** *Speaker: Dragomir Tzanev, EnEffect*
14:00 - 14:15	**THE SOFIA EXAMPLE: INTEGRATED POLICIES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION** *Speaker: Sofia Municipality (invited)*
14:15 - 14:30	**THE ROLE OF INSURANCE IN CLIMATE ADAPTATION** *Speaker: Hristo Sharkov, GrECo Bulgaria*
14:30 - 14:45	**ReMED: A TOOL FOR CLIMATE RISK ASSESSMENT** *Speaker: Antonia Novakova, EnEffect*
14:45 - 15:00	**EU MISSION FOR 100 CLIMATE-NEUTRAL AND SMART CITIES: OPPORTUNITIES FOR BULGARIAN CITIES TO PARTICIPATE** *Speakers: Maria Minkova, Kamelia Georgieva, National Trust EcoFund (invited)*
14:50 – 15:00	***DISCUSSION***

SESSION 2B (Hall 2): PEOPLE-CENTRED RENOVATION: ONE-STOP SHOPS, ENERGY POVERTY AND HOUSEHOLDS	
13:30 – 13:45	**RESULTS OF PILOT TRAINING FOR ONE-STOP SHOP EXPERTS UNDER THE BUSHROSSS PROJECT** *Speaker: Nina Nikolova, Chamber of Installers in Bulgaria*
13:45 – 14:05	**LIFE REHABITA: PEOPLE-CENTRED ENERGY RENOVATION: A PLAN TO MINIMISE DISRUPTION** *Speaker: Milena Agopyan, Energy Agency of Plovdiv*
14:05 – 14:25	**LIFE REHABITA: FROM VULNERABILITY TO RESILIENCE. CLIMATE ADAPTATION THROUGH RENOVATING HOMES AND THEIR SURROUNDINGS** *Speaker: Milena Agopyan, Energy Agency of Plovdiv*
14:25 – 14:35	**POLICIES TO ALLEVIATE ENERGY POVERTY: THE COMACTIVATE AND ENERGY POVERTY NEXUS PROJECTS** *Speaker: Teodora Stanisheva, EnEffect*
14:35 – 14:50	**A LARGE-SCALE PROGRAMME TO MONITOR HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN SEVERAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (TRUE-LIFE PROJECT)** *Speaker: Evelina Stoykova (Energy Centre Sofia)*
14:50 – 15:00	***DISCUSSION***

15:00 – 15:30	*Coffee break*

SESSION 3A (Hall 1): MUNICIPALITIES IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION: PLANNING, ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND RENEWABLE ENERGY	
15:30 – 15:45	**TOOLS FOR MUNICIPAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT: THE LEEAN-CET AND REDESIGN PROJECTS** *Speakers: Stanislav Andreev, Kamen Simeonov, EnEffect*
15:45 – 16:00	**BUILDING MUNICIPAL CAPACITY FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION: HANDS-ON** *Speaker: Nadya Nikolova-Deme (SOFENA)*
16:00 – 16:30	**METHODOLOGY FOR DEVELOPING MUNICIPAL PLANS AND POLICIES FOR SUSTAINABLE HEATING AND COOLING** *Genady Kondarev, Black Sea Energy Research Centre (BSERC)*
16:40 – 16:45	**ROOFTOP PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DECARBONISE THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING STOCK: BRIGHTROOF** *Speaker: to be confirmed (WWF, Rayna Popova)*

16:45 – 17:00	**AGRIVOLTAICS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMBINE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE WITH RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION: THE EAGER PROJECT** *Speaker: Dimitar Chavdarov, Regional Energy Agency of Pazardzhik*

SESSION 3B (Hall 2): NEW SKILLS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND HVAC SECTORS	
15:30 – 15:40	**TRAINING FOR CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS: A NATIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORM** *Speaker: Dragomir Tzanev, EnEffect*
15:40 - 15:55	**DEMAND FOR QUALIFIED PERSONNEL IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR** *Speaker: representative of the Bulgarian Construction Chamber (invited)*
15:55 - 16:10	**NEXT STEPS IN DEVELOPING THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATION SYSTEM FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING** *Speaker: Lyuba Krasteva, National Agency for Vocational Education and Training*
16:10 - 16:25	**GOOD PRACTICES IN TRAINING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS AND PROFESSIONALS** *Speaker: Yordan Nikolov, Bulgarian Association for Insulation in Construction*
16:25 - 16:40	**VIRTUAL REALITY TRAINING TOOLS: THE DIVIRTUE PROJECT** *Speaker: Dragomir Tzanev, EnEffect*
16:40 – 17:00	**BRIDGING THE SKILLS GAP IN THE HVAC SECTOR. NEW STANDARDS IN PRACTICAL HEAT PUMP TRAINING** *Speaker: Georgi Pisanov, Energy Agency of Plovdiv*

17:00	**CLOSING**

Certain thematic presentations incorporate materials developed

within the framework of:

