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Working Group 1 – Energy Efficiency and Buildings Performance

What

Working Group 1 (WG-1) on energy **efficiency and buildings performance** is one of the four working groups of the Consultation Forum for Sustainable Energy in the Defence and Security Sector Phase IV (CF SEDSS IV). The key objective of this WG is to continue exploring how to better assist ministries of defence (MoDs) in improving the **operational energy efficiency of the military building stock and fixed infrastructure.**

Based on experience, outcomes, and identified shortfalls from CF SEDSS phases I–III, WG-1 will continue working on identifying opportunities and challenges that derive from the application of the amended **Energy Efficiency Directive** (EED), the amended **Energy Performance in Buildings Directive** (EPBD) and, whenever relevant, the **Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action** in relation to, for example, the following topics:

- using buildings as carbon stores;
- reducing energy dependence and carbon footprint;
- lifecycle assessment of the buildings;
- using AI-powered metering devices for defence;
- reaching the highest energy efficiency without compromising operational effectiveness;
- use of energy performance contracting in building performance;
- lowering total energy costs while minimising environmental impact; and,
- contribution to European and national energy security.

How

By providing a platform for discussion and sharing of knowledge among MoDs, academia, industry, and research and technology organisations, WG-1 will address the following objectives:

Examine energy efficiency primarily in relation to infrastructure, as energy in buildings and fixed infrastructure constitutes a considerable amount of energy used by the armed forces and in the EU as a whole.

Explore the applicability of energy efficiency in military sites and camps on EU territory and seek to learn lessons from EU-led military overseas operational deployments.

Explore in line with the EPBD the electro-mobility requirements for new buildings and those undergoing major renovations.

Share best practices, knowledge and information about the appropriate measures that could accelerate the rate of building renovation of military sites towards more energy efficient systems and strengthening the energy performance of new buildings, making them smarter.

Develop recommendations to the MoDs to develop defence energy strategies including plans of action to achieve long-term energy efficiency and reduce energy consumption without any compromise to the operational objectives, assisting, at the same time, in the implementation of the EU energy targets.

Explore how to better support the MoDs to utilise the more sophisticated data management tools that are available and build automation and control systems.

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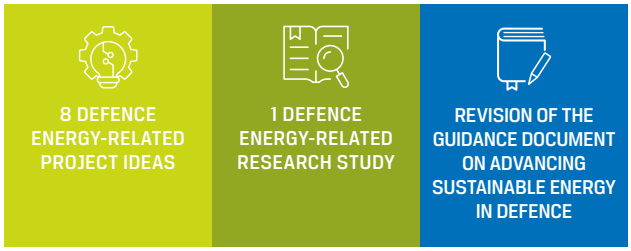
Produce guidelines to assist the MoDs in improving the energy efficiency of military building stock and fixed infrastructure.

Develop guidelines or other energy-related studies for raising awareness and increasing knowledge of the significance of promoting energy efficiency in the EU defence and security sector.

Describe and generate defence energy-related projects/ best practices, including dual-use synergies within the defence and civilian markets (8 information sheets).

Deliverables

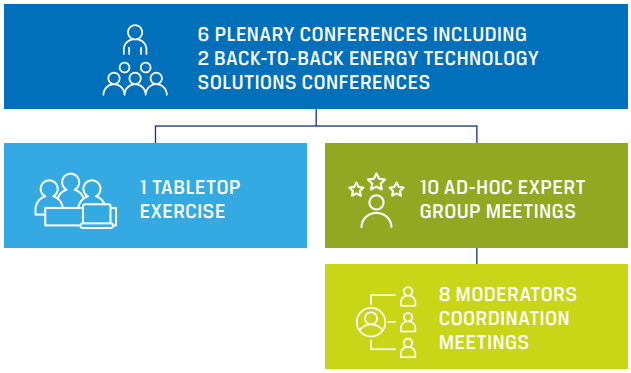
WG-1 will produce the following deliverables during Phase IV of the Forum:



These will assist ministries of defence in achieving their **sustainable energy objectives** and thus contribute to the **EU's long-term ambition of climate neutrality by 2050.** They may include guidance on procurement, and funding or financing opportunities to enable collaborative opportunities.

Events

WG-1 will contribute to several events running **from January 2025 to September 2028,** including six plenary conferences, two energy technology solutions conferences, at least two ad-hoc expert group meetings, and the energy efficiency and buildings performance component of a table-top exercise.



These events will allow WG-1 to thoroughly address energy efficiency considerations, facilitate closer collaboration between MoDs and relevant experts from industry, academia, and research institutions, and ensure the continuity of research activities initiated during the plenary conferences.

Impact

Through the CF SEDSS Phase IV deliverables and activities, WG-1 aims to further its research on ways buildings and their respective systems may operate more efficiently and save energy. Towards the end of the project, WG-1 will produce recommendations, for example, on how to meet **nearly zero-energy building (NZEB) standards** to ensure military buildings with a very high energy performance.

Ultimately, making buildings more energy efficient will contribute significantly to the EU achieving its energy and climate goals. By using energy more efficiently and thereby consuming less, the MoDs can **lower their energy costs, help protect the environment, and reduce the EU's reliance on external suppliers** of oil and gas while **becoming more resilient to energy supply disruptions**.

About CF SEDSS

CF SEDSS is a **European Commission initiative managed by the European Defence Agency (EDA)** in collaboration with the European Commission Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) and the Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA). The fourth phase, which has a duration of 4 years expiring on 30 September 2028, is co-funded by the European Union's **LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme** under the Grant Agreement No. 101191127 and the EDA.

For additional information visit our website: