

Project Summary

Residential Monitoring to Decrease Energy Use and Carbon Emissions in Europe (REMODECE)

Contract number:EIE-05-124Start of project:1 January 2006Duration:30 months

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Summary

Although significant improvements in energy efficiency have been achieved in home appliances and lighting, the electricity consumption in the average EU-25 household has been increasing by about 2% per year during the past 10 years. Some of the reasons for such increase in the residential sector electricity consumption are associated with a higher degree of basic comfort and level of amenities (particularly in the new EU member countries) and also with the widespread utilization of relatively new types of loads whose penetration and use has experienced a very significant growth in recent years.

The overall objective of the REMODECE project is to contribute to an increased understanding of the energy consumption in the EU-25+2 households for the different types of equipment, including the consumers' behaviour and comfort levels, and to identify demand trends. This project will evaluate the potential electricity savings that exist in the residential sector in Europe, and that can already be implemented by existing means, like the use of very efficient appliances or the elimination/mitigation of standby consumption. The availability of high quality data is an essential condition for the definition of policy recommendations to influence through a combination of measures

the energy efficiency of the equipment to be sold in the EU-25+2 in the next decade, as well as to influence the user behaviour in the selection and operation of that equipment.

Different approaches for market transformation, in consultation with the most relevant market stakeholders, will be analysed for different types of equipment, leading to a set of specific policy recommendations for each type of equipment.

The fundamental results of the project are:

- -An updated European database on residential consumption, including also new Central and Eastern European countries as well as new accession countries (Bulgaria and Romania).
- -Innovative methodologies to combine the use of selective monitoring with wider-scale surveying with questionnaires.
- -A software tool to enable users a cross comparison of the energy performance of similar households in the countries involved, using both standard efficiency and high efficiency equipment.
- -A set of policy recommendations to promote energy efficient equipment in the residential sector addressing both conventional appliances and new fast growing loads (e.g. information and telecommunication technologies, education/entertainment, standby loads).

The project results will be disseminated through a combination of channels, including a dedicated web-site, an Electric Appliance Energy Guide in the national languages of each partner, press releases, publications in key international energy efficiency conferences, in trade and technical magazines, as well as one dissemination workshop in each country.