

PRESURCE

Actors and Activities in the field of Resource Efficiency in the Czech Republic

Combined presentation of the results from mapping actors and from mapping activities (at policy and economic level), relevant projects and networks in the field of resource efficiency in one country report (relates to outputs 5.1.3. and 5.1.11)

Enviros



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1. Summary

As an overall result of the review of actors relevant for resource efficiency (RE) in small and medium-sized enterprises of the manufacturing sector and their activities in the Czech Republic (done within the PRESOURCE project in 2013) the following can be stated :

- The Czech Government (predominantly the Ministry of Industry and Trade as well as the Ministry of Environment) engages for RE in the framework of their New State Environmental Policy for 2013-2020 in conjunction with a Raw Materials Policy and an Energy Concept
- For these Ministries but also other Public Actors in the Czech Republic – next to the Environmental Policy - the National Sustainable Development Strategy is very important
- Private actors are practicing bottom-up applications of existing Instruments (e. g. EU-Programmes, EMAS, EU-label). An important network in the Czech Republic is EMPRESS – Platform for resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production. The EU Roadmap fits perfectly to the already existing efforts in the Czech Republic in the field of RE

2. Introduction

One of the deliverables of the PRESOURCE project is an overview of actors relevant for resource efficiency in small and medium-sized enterprises of the manufacturing sector and another deliverable is to provide an overview of their activities in the Czech Republic.

The activities of different actor categories have been screened and those, who engage actively in promoting resource efficiency – especially in SME of the manufacturing sector – have been described in this country report on actors and activities.

The following actor categories have been found to initiate, support or manage relevant activities: national and regional government ministries and related agencies, other agencies and associations, chambers of commerce, norms and standards institutions, research institutes and think tanks, local networks, economic clusters and municipalities.

The activities relevant for resource efficiency in small and medium-sized enterprises of the manufacturing sector found in all mentioned actor categories are shortly described in the report, so that it provides a unique overview of actors and activities relevant for that thematic focus. The combination of the different levels from the public and private sectors gives a full picture of how different actors interact and complement in delivering progress on the way to a resource efficient economy. This research is a necessary condition to develop the ability to analyse the complex societal structure and the division of labour leading to desired political outcomes.

The second part of the report takes the perspective of activities and describes relevant forms of support structures, instruments and tools. It provides some concrete examples but does not repeat all activities of the above-mentioned actors. The relevance of the actors is determined by their activities, which are detailed in their descriptions. As for example nearly all actors are providing information services and some of them provide consultation services, the kind of information or consultation service they provide is explained in the description of the actors and their activities above. The second part mainly gives an overview of possible practical approaches, whose implementation and combination with other instruments can vary considerably.

3. Stakeholders & Activities

3.1. Additional national policies

Have additional national policies, incentives, voluntary agreements and strategies in the production sector been developed to fulfil objectives set in the Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe?

- New State Environmental Policy (2013 – 2020) has recently been approved by the government
- Government (Ministry of Industry and Trade) has been preparing new State Energy Concept and Raw Materials Policy. The latter includes Policy of Secondary Raw Materials as separate part

- However, all three documents would have been prepared (as revision of previous ones) even without the Roadmap. On the other hand, they partly reflect intentions and objectives of the Roadmap

3.2. National/regional government ministries and agencies

Who is responsible for the topic of Resource Efficiency in the production sector on the governmental level? (e.g. Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Environment) Which department is taking the lead? Which activities and actions to enforce RE are taken? In case of federal states, please include information on national and sub-national level.

3.2.1. Ministry of Industry and Trade

<http://www.mpo.cz>

- Preparation of and responsibility for State Energy Concept and Raw Materials Policy
- Financial support of resource efficiency measures from Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation (OPEI; from EU Cohesion Policy). Primarily energy efficiency has been supported. For new programming period (2014-2020), a separate sub-programme for secondary raw materials is being prepared
- Support (partly financial) of activities of EMPRESS – platform for resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production in the Czech Republic
- Within the Ministry, the Department of Ecology is the most active

3.2.2. Ministry of Environment

<http://www.mzp.cz>

- Preparation of and responsibility for State Environmental Policy. Resource efficiency is supported through environmental objectives (reduction of emissions, CO2 and waste, reduction of water consumption, protection of non-renewable resources etc.) rather than resource efficiency objectives. Prevention is highlighted as a preferable strategy of environmental management
- Financial support of measures fulfilling the above mentioned objectives through Operational Programme Environment (OPE; from EU Cohesion Policy)
- Within the Ministry, the Section of Environmental Economy and Policy is responsible for the issue

3.2.3. Government

- National Sustainable Development Strategy
- Reports are available at: http://www.mzp.cz/en/first_progress_report

3.3. Additional comments

Any additional comments on the responsibilities of Resource Efficiency? (e.g. unclarity about distribution of responsibilities, main political driver)

- No additional comments.

3.4. Agencies, chambers, associations and networks

Which are relevant actors contributing to the implementation of Resource Efficiency actions concerning the production sector?

3.4.1. Public agencies (state owned)

CzechInvest

<http://www.czechinvest.org>

- Implementation agency for OPEI

State Environmental Fund

<http://www.sfzp.cz>

- Implementation agency for OPE

Technology Agency of the Czech Republic

<http://www.tacr.cz>

- Implementation agency for R&D projects. Some topics include resource efficiency as well (e.g. energy)

3.4.2. Private sector agencies

INOTEX

<http://www.inotex.cz>

- Research, development, service and transfer of textile technologies
- Runs the Centre of Textile Technologies and Education

3.4.3. Chambers (e.g. Chamber of Commerce, Chamber of Industry)

Czech Chamber of Commerce

<http://www.komoracz.eu/>

- Environmental Section is established as expert advisory body, chaired by vice-president responsible for energy and environmental issues
- Support of resource efficiency (cleaner production) by information activities; but not so intensive

3.4.4. Associations (e.g. Association of Engineers)

Czech Green Building Council

<http://www.czgbc.cz>

- Support and promotion of resource efficiency in building sector, with main focus on energy issues (buildings, constructions, materials)
- Active participation in Czech EPD Programme (CENDEC). They are interested in relation to Construction Products Regulation

Czech Chamber of Authorized Engineers and Technicians in Construction

<http://www.ckait.cz/co-je-ckait/o-nas>

- Acts on the profession of authorized architects and the profession of engineers and technicians active in construction
- Responsible for authorisation of engineers including energy auditors

Union of Chemical Industry of the Czech Republic

<http://www.schp.cz/>

- Branch specific association promoting tools like Responsible Care which includes resource efficiency

3.4.5. Networks (e.g. Resource Efficiency Network)

EMPRESS – Platform for resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production

<http://www.empress.cz>

- Network of Czech key experts in a field of RE / SCP
- Promotion of RE / SCP at national level
- Realization of CP / SCP projects: (i) capacity building projects, (ii) implementation of (S)CP measures in companies
- Strong link to international networks:
 - PREPARE (EMPRESS leads the secretariat 2012 – 2014)
 - UNIDO RECP Net (founding member)
 - EIONET

Czech Business Council for Sustainable Development (branch of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development)

<http://www.cbcsd.cz>

- Network of progressive entrepreneurs focusing on sustainable development including resource efficiency
- Promotes resource efficiency in policies and within practice of its members

3.5. Norms and standards institutions

Who is determining the norms, standards and guidelines for Resource Efficiency in SMEs in the production sector?

3.6. Research institutes and think tanks

Which research institutes and think tanks are engaged in Resource Efficiency in the production sector?

3.6.1. Czech Technical University – Faculty of Civil Engineering

<http://www.fsv.cvut.cz>

- Several R&D, educational and practical activities and projects in resource efficiency of buildings and construction materials (primarily from energy point of view).
 - RD centre CIDEAS (www.cideas.cz)
 - CSBS (Czech Sustainable Building Society, www.cesb.cz)
 - Conference CESB 2013 (Central Europe Towards Sustainable Building, www.cesb.cz)

3.6.2. R&D / innovation departments within enterprises

- Under OPEI, a sub-programme Potential exists that supports enterprises in their R&D / innovation activities by funding establishment or development of specialized R&D / innovation departments – i.e. support of technical and personal capacities.
- More than 400 projects of this nature have been supported, including some with RE focus, e.g.:
 - Centre for environmental technologies and waste management;
 - Efficient low-energy and environmental-friendly production of silicon;
 - R&D centre for recycling technologies.

3.6.3. Technological platforms

- Under OPEI, a sub-programme supporting establishment of technological platforms exists.
- 19 technological platforms have been supported; some of them have / might have relevance for RE, e.g.:
 - Sustainable power industry in CZ
 - Vehicles for sustainable mobility
 - Sustainable water sources
 - Passive houses

3.7. Other actors and multipliers

Which other actors are multipliers to SMEs for Resource Efficiency in the production sector? (e.g. Suppliers, Tradesmen)

3.7.1. EKIS Centres in each region of the Czech Republic

<http://www.mpo-efekt.cz/cz/ekis/strediska-EKIS>

- Limited free of charge consultancy for SMEs in area of energy conservation

3.7.2. SCP Managers

<http://www.empress.cz>

- Realization of concrete SCP projects in enterprises

3.7.3. Private consultants, energy auditors, etc.

- Commercial resource efficiency projects

3.8. Economic clusters, regions and municipalities

Are there economic clusters, regions or municipalities that are particularly known for their initiative/support concerning Resource Efficiency in SMEs? If yes, which ones are they and what are they famous for?

- Under OPEI, a sub-programme supporting establishment of clusters exists. They are mainly branch- / industry-oriented and it is hard to assess how much they focus also on RE activities. There are a few focusing on energy (including renewable sources) and one focusing on processing waste materials for their reuse
- Municipalities active in Local Agenda 21 often pay attention to energy consumption and efficiency, however usually only with relation to their property (i.e. premises of municipal council / city hall, schools and kindergartens, municipality-owned service companies), not to private organizations
- Regional Government of Liberec implemented project supporting identification of resource efficiency potential within SMEs (2011 - 12)

4. Instruments/Tools

4.1. Support structures (awards, EMAS)

Which support structures exist to highlight resource efficient approaches in SMEs? (e.g. Awards, EMAS)

4.1.1. Awards

<http://www.csr-online.cz>

<http://www.byznysprospolecnost.cz>

- There are three main awards in the field of CSR:
 - Award for Health and Safe Environment (serves also as nomination for European Business Awards for Environment)
 - TOP Responsible Company (serves also as nomination for European CSR Award)
 - National CSR Award (under Ministry of Industry and Trade)

4.1.2. Governmental programmes for voluntary instruments

<http://www.mpz.cz>

- For EMAS, Ecolabel and Cleaner production, specific governmental programmes exist setting up an organizational structure and framework for their support and promotion. Nevertheless, the Ministry of Environment that is responsible for them is not supporting them practically so much at the moment.

4.2. Other specific tools and instruments

List existing instruments/ tools that are used to improve Resource Efficiency in SMEs (please indicate whether instruments are used by private actors, public actors or both)

4.2.1. Related to production processes

- Cleaner production
- Energy audit and Energy management

4.2.2. Related to products

- Ecodesign (but it depends whether the company is owner of the life-cycle and thus is able to influence it)
- EPD

4.2.3. Related to the entire supply chain

- Instruments mentioned in “products” have potential to influence the whole supply chain
- The same is relevant for CSR

4.3. Labelling

Which resource efficient labelling exists?

4.3.1. Ecolabel

- in the Czech Republic, we have national eco-label “Environmentally-friendly product” and EU Ecolabel (criteria in relevant product categories include also resource efficiency)

4.3.2. EPD

4.3.3. Wood-related labelling (FSC, PEFC)

4.4. Standards

Which standards regarding the measurement of Resource Efficiency exist?

4.4.1. Monitoring and Targeting

- Tool for sophisticated implementation of energy management

4.4.2. Measurement and Verification

- International Monitoring and Verification Protocol is being promoted by ENVIROS

4.4.3. Reporting standards

- Like GRI

4.4.4. Sectoral benchmarking