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THE DIRECTIVE ON THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND THE ENERGY SERVICES: TARGETS, PROBLEMS, AND ONGOING SUPPORT ACTIONS

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Overview

The EU Directive on Energy Efficiency and Energy Services is the most important legislation for energy efficiency which has been enforced over the last years. However, implementing the Directive requires to develop further the culture to evaluate energy efficiency measures in the different EU Member States. The Directive requires quantitative targets of 9% savings in 9 years, and although these targets are not mandatory, the measures taken by the EU Members to fulfil the Directive will be closely scrutinised by the EU Commission. For this purpose it is necessary that detailed guidelines are developed for the evaluation of measures undertaken to improve energy efficiency.

Method

The paper will report on the most critical issues at debate in the evaluation of energy efficiency measures and the results of the various harmonisation efforts on evaluation guidelines obtained so far. This will concern in particular, how energy efficiency could be measured in both bottom-up or top-down approaches and what kind of evaluation methods and assessment tools are most suitable for a give type of measures. The paper also discusses various types of effects such as free-rider effects that might hamper the determination of energy savings