



EUROPEAN ALLIANCE TO
SAVE ENERGY

Creating an Energy-Efficient Europe

TELLING THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY STORY

2022 IN REVIEW



E3G







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FOREWORD



“How to save energy” might have been one of the most searched keywords in 2022. The unprovoked Russian invasion of Ukraine and Putin’s efforts to break Europe’s unity has prompted a gas supply crisis that many experts consider could have been avoided should the EU have started its energy transition sooner.

For European governments, businesses, and citizens, saving energy has suddenly become a priority, even if not as much as it would be necessary. Indeed, energy efficiency not only allows us to save money and reduce CO2 emissions, but it is also crucial to strengthen Europe’s energy security.

During 2022, the Alliance threw its weight behind demonstrating to EU decision makers that existing energy efficiency solutions are key to address the energy crisis and reach climate neutrality globally. We were critical in ensuring that the EU’s reply to the energy crisis, through the REPowerEU plan and other initiatives, leveraged the important role of energy efficiency in the transition, in combination with renewable energy sources.

We continued our work on the implementation of a work programme which involved all our members and was structured around four main objectives:

- Energy efficiency boosted by policy and regulatory framework
- Unleashing the energy savings potential of water efficiency in EU legislation
- Financing energy efficiency
- Smart, digital and effective communication to achieve advocacy objectives

Through the continuous work of its Advocacy, Water and Sustainable Finance Working Groups, the Alliance has been effectively advocating for an ambitious revision of the «Fit for 55» package with the Energy Efficiency First principle as the stepping stone of it all, while further highlighting the potential of the water-energy nexus to gain water and energy savings.

Furthermore, together with our members, the Alliance started a pilot project, building networks, especially at a regional level, to ensure that the vast amount of public resources available with the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility and Cohesion Policy are effectively targeting energy efficiency programs.

This year we also organised the first edition of the European Energy Efficiency Day. The initiative brought together leading businesses, policymakers, NGOs and energy experts to explain why energy efficiency is such an essential element of the EU Green Deal and discussing the challenges to overcome and build alliances to deliver it. We are committed to continuing this important work, so get in contact to know more about next year’s edition.

I hope you will enjoy reading the next pages of this report, in which you will find more details about our accomplishments and activities for a more sustainable and efficient Europe.

Yours sincerely,

Monica Frassoni

President

European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE)

2022 in figures

44 INSTITUTIONAL MEETINGS

20 WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

5 PUBLICATIONS & RESPONSES TO CONSULTATIONS

12 ADVOCACY LETTERS & PRESS RELEASES

9 PUBLISHED OPINION ARTICLES

8 PUBLIC EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

5 GENERAL ASSEMBLY & BOARD MEETINGS

19 MEASURES IN OUR CATALOGUE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY SOLUTIONS

873 NEW FOLLOWERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

13,045 USERS ON WEBSITE

1 DAY

6 SESSIONS

30 SPEAKERS

16 SUPPORTERS

300+ PARTICIPANTS

1 GOAL: #THINKENERGYEFFICIENCY

EUROPEAN ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY

On 13 October, we hosted the first edition of the European Energy Efficiency Day, which brought together leading businesses, policymakers, civil society organisations and energy experts who exchanged in a series of stimulating discussions.

To find out more, visit energyefficiencyday.eu



Click on the images below to dive into the topics discussed:



#EEDAYEU22

Among the speakers, we had the pleasure to welcome **Frans Timmermans, Vice-President for the Green Deal of the European Commission**, in the opening session of the event. In his speech, Mr. Timmermans stressed that “the era of cheap fossil fuel is over and it will not come back”. Therefore, while pushing forward on renewable energy it is clear that saving energy, not using energy, is the cheapest energy we have. Read more in the [report](#)



Watch all sessions of the conference on our [website](#) & [Youtube Channel](#).



Click on the images below to find out more:





ENERGY EFFICIENCY BOOSTED BY EU REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

We reached out to and actively engaged with EU and national decision-makers to put energy efficiency at the center of the legislative overhaul that is the “Fit for 55”, to help the Union achieve a reduction of at least 55% of emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 levels.

Specifically, the Alliance worked on various legislations that are still under revision: the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED), the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), the revision of the Gas package and the extension of a carbon pricing mechanism to the EU building’s sector through the ETS. For this, the AWG prepared position papers, policy briefings and several recommendations that were delivered in due time to the European Commission, the Council of the EU and the European Parliament.

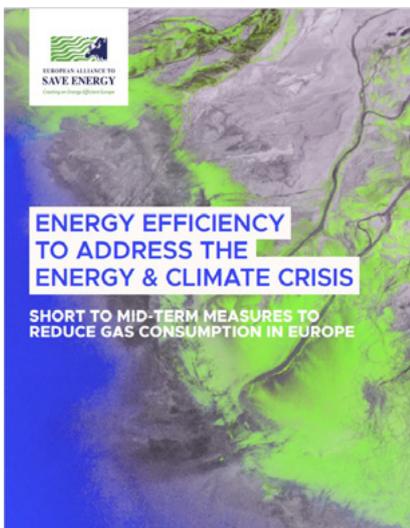
We also worked on the REPowerEU strategy to tackle the energy price crisis, exacerbated by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. In particular, we advocated to increase the energy efficiency target in the EED to at least 13% (2020 reference scenario).



[Find out more](#)



[Find out more](#)



[Find out more](#)



UNLEASHING ENERGY SAVINGS IN WATER

The year 2022 was marked by the revision of directives relevant for the water-energy nexus. The Alliance continued to engage with policymakers, following up work initiated in 2021.

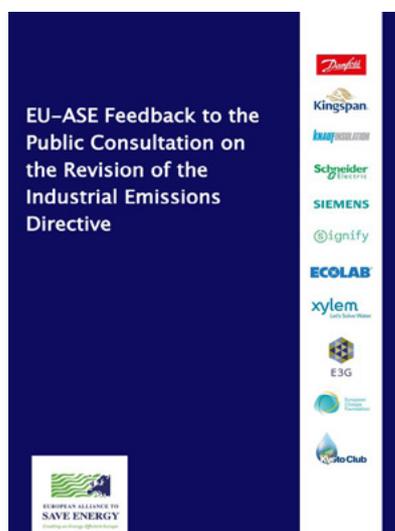


[Find out more](#)

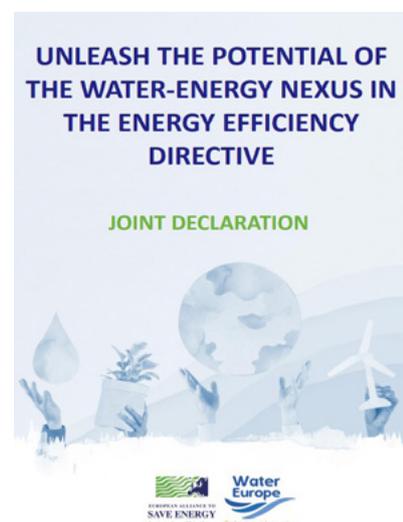
To kickstart the year, we issued a declaration, in cooperation with Water Europe, on how to improve the Energy Efficiency Directive. During the course of the year, we drafted position papers and suggestions for amendments on the Industrial Emissions Directive and on the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive.

Similarly to 2021, we hosted a policy session during European Sustainable Energy Week 2022.

Our President Monica Frassoni also intervened as a speaker in two events organised by the MEP Water Group and Water Europe respectively to discuss energy efficiency water management.



[Find out more](#)



[Find out more](#)

FINANCING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Throughout 2022 we successfully continued our activities on sustainable finance, with the aim to promote public and private financial support to energy efficiency in the short and medium term.

We followed the developments related to the RePowerEU plan and its finance aspects, reaching out to the EU Council and to Members of the European Parliament to safeguard the application of the Energy Efficiency First principle in the dedicated chapters of the Recovery and Resilience Plans.

As part of our focus on Fit for 55, we advocated for the inclusion of innovative financing schemes in the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), currently under revision.

With DG REGIO and the Italian authorities, we followed the negotiations and adoption of the Partnership Agreements between Italy and the European Commission. The Alliance also monitored the developments related to Spain's cohesion policy programming and partnership agreement.

In the first part of the year, we got in touch with several Italian regions to advocate for the inclusion in regional ERDF programmes of ambitious energy efficiency targets covering buildings, public lighting and industrial processes. In the second half of 2022, thanks to a new grant funded by the European Climate Foundation, we launched a cycle of thematic workshops to support regions in the implementation of the efficiency objectives in their ERDF programmes. The workshops aim to share best practices and projects carried out by leading companies and energy efficiency experts. This activity will continue in the course of 2023.

In a joint effort with partners, we continued the work to boost energy efficiency through the revision of EU State Aid rules. As part of this effort, we analysed the European Commission's revised State aid Guidelines on Climate, Environmental Protection and Energy (CEEAG) and followed the adoption of a Temporary Crisis Framework to support the EU economy following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. With DG COMP, we provided inputs for the revision of the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) regarding aid measures for the green and digital transition.



AGENDA SETTING AND THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

We are the most influential business-led organisation on energy efficiency in Brussels. Throughout the year, we contributed to shaping the EU energy debate through meetings with key policymakers, timely policy debates, high-quality position papers and media outreach. We did so by showing leadership and knowledge and by sharing our policy and regulatory priorities elaborated with the support of our members.

We were invited to take part in numerous public events and were, once again, partner of the EU Sustainable Energy Week 2022, the biggest sustainable energy policy conference in Europe.

CLEARLY EXPRESSING POLICY ASKS

Our publications, delivered through a mix of traditional and social channels, brought the point of views of our members to policymakers and kept energy efficiency relevant in the broader debate on the European Green Deal.

PROMOTING OUR VIEWS

Over the year, the Alliance produced insightful opinion articles which were published in well-known media, such as Euractiv, Foresight Climate & Energy as well as in the official blog of the EU Sustainable Energy Week 2022.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE POLICY DEBATE

Events and workshops were organised with distinguished experts and policymakers, either publicly or behind closed doors, to facilitate exchange of views and knowledge building.



[Find out more](#)



[Find out more](#)

Online Workshop | 28 January 2022, 10:00 - 11:30 CET

SHAPING THE DECADE OF BUILDING RENOVATIONS

INCREASING ENERGY EFFICIENCY, REDUCING GHG EMISSIONS AND LOWERING ENERGY PRICES THROUGH THE REVISION OF THE EPBD



#EPBD
#RenovationWave
#EnergyEfficiency

[Find out more](#)

Webinar | 7 Abril 2022, 10:00 - 11:30 CET

CÓMO ACCELERAR LA REHABILITACIÓN ENERGÉTICA DE EDIFICIOS EN ESPAÑA: RETOS Y SOLUCIONES



#PlanRecuperación
#RehabilitaciónEnergética
#EficienciaEnergética

[Find out more](#)

Report Launch | 14 March 2022, 10:00 - 11:30 CET

WHY THE TRANSITION TO ENERGY EFFICIENT AND ELECTRIFIED BUILDINGS STRENGTHENS EUROPE'S ECONOMY



#Decarbonisation
#RenovationWave
#EnergyEfficiency

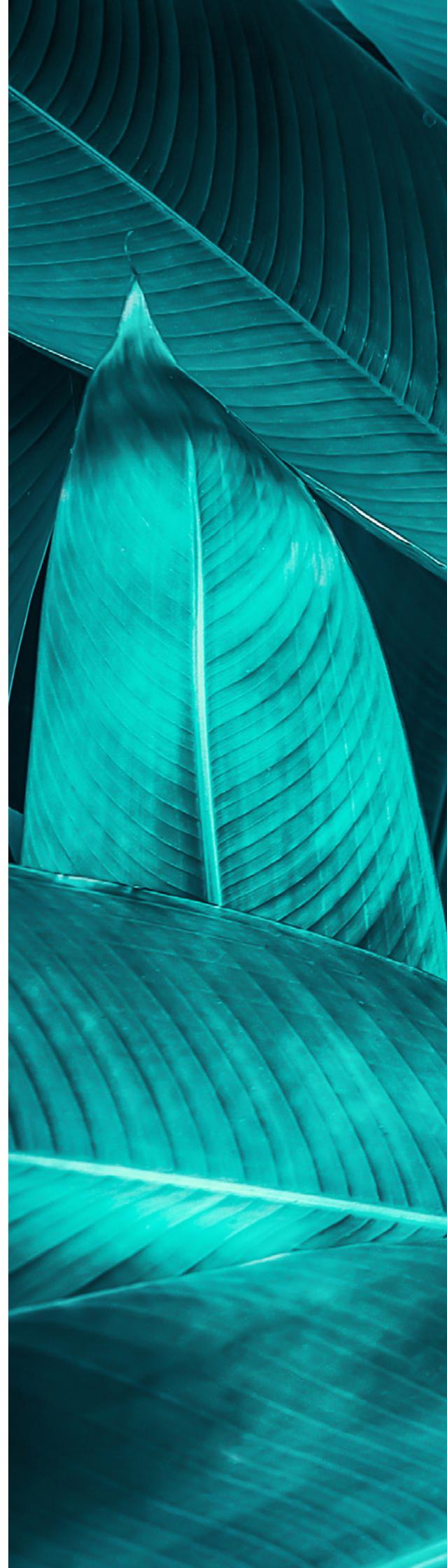
[Find out more](#)

ENERGY SYSTEM EFFICIENCY FOR A COST-EFFECTIVE DECARBONISATION AND ENERGY RESILIENCE

28 SEPTEMBER 11:30 - 13:00 CET



[Find out more](#)

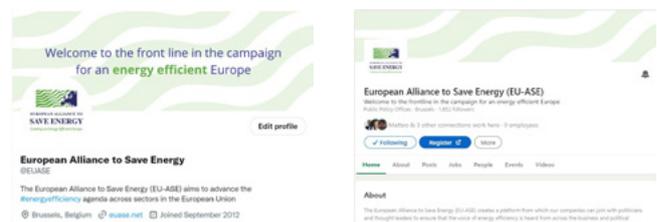


DIGITAL OUTREACH

Throughout the year, a continuous flow of high-quality digital communication contributed to our advocacy objectives. This included publishing's on our website, posts on our Twitter and LinkedIn social media channels; as well as sending newsletters.

STEADY GROWTH IN WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA FIGURES

Our online visibility continued to grow in 2022, both in the number of views on our website as well as our followers on Twitter and LinkedIn. Our Twitter audience has grown to over 3K followers, while our LinkedIn page is now followed by more than 1,8K users. We have attracted over 26,672 page views to our website.



A REGULAR FEED OF INFORMATION TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH MEMBERS, POLICYMAKERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

We kept our members informed about the latest activities and the key policy news from Brussels. Every two weeks members received in their mailbox our Fortnightly Roundup.

In 2022 we further continued to send the quarterly public newsletter: The Energy Efficiency Corner, a simple way to keep key EU policymakers and energy stakeholders informed about our activities.

Fortnightly Roundup

24 June 2022

THE LATEST FROM THE SECRETARIAT



Energy Efficiency Corner



The President's notes

by Monica Frassoni

More than two hundred days have passed since Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, starting a tragic **conflict** in Europe with no clear end in sight. The use of energy as a weapon by Vladimir Putin shows that by delaying plans for a clean energy transition, the EU is more **vulnerable** and insecure.



WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2023: MAKING ENERGY EFFICIENCY A STRUCTURAL RESPONSE TO THE ENERGY AND CLIMATE CRISIS

2022 was a challenging year for Europe and the world. The energy crisis and price hikes exacerbated by the Russian invasion of Ukraine put a lot of pressure on governments, citizens and businesses, who were still recovering from the pandemic shock. The crisis brought to the attention of everyone that energy efficiency is a key solution to reduce our energy consumption, increase Europe's energy security and cut GHG emissions.



Looking at 2023, we expect energy efficiency to become a structural priority area of the energy transition in response to the energy and climate crisis. Energy efficiency is no longer a 'nice to have' but has become a 'no longer can do without'. In the short-term and to get through the winter, the European Commission launched a REPowerEU plan calling on Member States to diversify their energy sources and on citizens and businesses to adapt their habits to reduce consumption wherever possible. For the mid-term, the plan is to boost investments in renewables and energy efficiency and accelerate the transition toward systemic changes of our economy.

There is no time to lose to achieve the EU energy and climate goals for 2030 and pave the way for climate neutrality by 2050. Energy efficiency investments are indispensable to decarbonise key sectors of our society, from our ageing and inefficient building stock to industry and transport. In this effort, transitioning to renewable sources is key. Yet the transition to clean energy (including sustainable hydrogen and nuclear) will need time to scale and impact. So, while addressing our energy supply, we must first and foremost take care of the demand side, starting from the immediately available solutions and thus unlock the potential and benefits of energy efficiency.

To solve unprecedented energy and climate challenges, the European political and business community must join forces with civil society and environmental organisations. The European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE) can play a pivotal role to advance this agenda and has proven the success of a model involving large companies, environmental campaigners and cross-party politicians.

Next year will be critical to test the real ambition of the EU Green Deal. An ambitious revision of the Energy Efficiency and Energy Performance of Buildings Directives will reach its final steps. This will need to be followed up by implementation on the ground and the continued delivery of national recovery and resilience plans, accompanied by the RePowerEU chapters.

Businesses stand ready to play their part and with the support of a clear and future-proof regulatory framework, will plan their investments in innovative solutions and skills. This will be another paramount issue to address during 2023 - the European Year of Skills.

With this in mind, we look forward to the new year with optimism and commitment to create a smarter, healthier and more energy efficient Europe.

Harry Verhaar

Head of Global Public & Government Affairs, Signify
Chairperson of the Board of directors, EU-ASE

PEOPLE



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Antoan Montignier
Policy & Advocacy



Sophie Graftieaux
Policy & Advocacy



Santa Millere
Communication



Esther Millet
Communication

Advocacy meetings

European Commission:

- DG ENER, Unit Energy Efficiency: Multiple exchanges throughout the year
- DG REGIO, Desk Officer for Italy - Energy: Multiple exchanges throughout the year
- DG COMP, General Scrutiny and Enforcement, IPCEI, Environment & Innovation: May
- DG ENV, Veronica Manfredi: June
- DG ENER, Paula Pinho & Robert Nuij: October
- DG ENER, Paula Pinho: December

European Parliament:

- MEP Peter Liese, EPP: January & July
- MEP Ville Niinisto, Greens: January & July
- MEP Mohammed Chahim, S&D: February
- MEP Morten Petersen: March
- APA of MEP Niels Fuglsang, S&D: May & September
- MEP Eleonora Evi, Greens: June
- MEP Ciaran Cuffe, Greens: June, October
- MEP Cristophe Grudler, Renew: July
- APA of MEP Ciaran Cuffe, Greens: July
- MEP Hildegaard Bentele, EPP: July
- APA of MEP Othmar Karas, EPP: July
- APA of MEP Nils Torvalds, Renew: July
- MEP Sean Kelly, EPP: July
- MEP Ladislav Ilcic, ECR: July
- APA of MEP Mohammed Chahim, S&D: September
- MEP Pascal Arimont, EPP: October
- MEP Niels Fuglsang, S&D & MEP Ciaran Cuffe Greens: October, European Energy Efficiency Day Reception
- MEP Iskra Mihaylova, Renew: November
- APA of Ciaran Cuffe, Greens and Heike Leberle, Greens Policy Advisor in ITRE: November
- MEP Kumpula Natri, S&D, November
- APA of MEP Marion Walsmann, EPP: November

EU Council and Members States:

- DG Fondos Europeos, Ministry of Finance of Spain: February
- Italian Permanent Representation: February
- Regione Emilia-Romagna (Italy): February
- Regione Piemonte: February (Italy)
- Regione Toscana: February (Italy)
- Regione Lombardia: February (Italy)
- French Permanent Representation: March
- EU-ASE Board - Czech Permanent Representation energy attaché: March
- Regione Puglia: April (Italy)
- Regione Veneto: April (Italy)
- Michał Kurtyka, Minister of Climate and Environment until October 2021: June, Polish National Mission (Warsaw)
- Dir. Leszek Drogosz and Jacek Kisiel, Office of the Infrastructure of the capital city of Warsaw: June, Polish National Mission (Warsaw)
- Dir. Marcin Janiak, Dep. of European Funds, Ministry of Climate and Environment: June, Polish National Mission (Warsaw)
- Dir. Andrzej Kaźmierski, Low-emission Economy Dep., Ministry of Development: June, Polish National Mission (Warsaw)
- Regione Campania: June (Italy)
- Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition: July (Italy)
- Martin Peřimovský, Czech Energy Attaché: August

Opinion articles

Click on the article to find out more

- Investing in energy efficiency: if not now when?
- Energy Efficiency and renewables are two sides of the same lucky coin
- Decarbonisation through digitalisation: The key role of smart city districts in boosting energy efficiency
- Water efficiency could help Europe drive decarbonisation and boost industrial competitiveness
- A battle for the climate inside buildings
- The water-energy nexus: an untapped resource for major energy savings
- Adding energy efficiency into the energy mix is essential to delivering Europe's climate goals
- To get rid of Russian fossil fuels, the EU needs to put energy savings first
- Interview with Radio24 (Italy)

Organised events & speaking opportunities

Click on the event to find out more

Organised & Co-organised events:

- January: Shaping the decade of building renovations
- March: Why the transition to energy efficient and electrified buildings strengthens Europe's economy
- April: Cómo acelerar la rehabilitación energética de edificios en España: retos y soluciones
- May: EU-ASE Seminar on Embodied and Whole-Life Carbon
- September: EUSEW - A legislative framework supportive of the water-energy nexus: exploiting synergies between water & energy savings
- September, Brussels: EUSEW - Energy System Efficiency for a cost-effective decarbonisation and energy resilience
- October: European Energy Efficiency Day
- November: Buone pratiche di riqualificazione energetica per un'efficace implementazione dei programmi regionali 2021-2027: Edifici e impianti pubblici, inclusa l'illuminazione
- April: Per la decarbonizzazione: efficienza energetica e riscaldamento negli edifici in Italia - Aspettative dalla legislazione italiana e UE
- April: FORESIGHT Forum
- June, Poland: Successful renovation of buildings: How to save energy and reduce its costs
- June, Denmark: IEA's 7th Global Conference on Energy Efficiency
- June: Water Innovation Europe 2022: What is the role of water in a net-zero carbon society?
- July, Italy: La povertà energetica al tempo della crisi
- August: EE Solutions Summit - Next steps
- September, Italy: Festival internazionale dell'economia circolare e della transizione ecologica - L'energia in transizione
- November, Italy: Ecomondo - The Green Technology Expo
- November: Air Products Sustainability Panel
- November: Powering our buildings: how policies can support energy efficiency through building electrification
- November: Transition Plans: Beyond Sustainable Finance
- November, Italy: Green Economy - Rilanciare lavoro e crescita di qualità in Lombardia

Speaking opportunities

- February: How to make the energy efficiency directive Water-Smart?

NOT A MEMBER YET? JOIN US NOW!

The European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE) aims to advance the energy efficiency agenda in Europe. The Alliance allows some of the world's leading multinational companies to join environmental campaigners and a crossparty group of Members of the European Parliament.

EU-ASE business members have operations across the 27 Member States of the European Union, employ over 340.000 people in Europe and have an aggregated annual turnover of €115 billion.

For more information:

www.euase.eu

info@euase.eu





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