Terms of reference for CAN Europe's energy savings work on planning, implementation and overshooting the EU 2030 energy efficiency target

1. Aim of the work

The aim of the work is to advance the energy savings work of CAN Europe with regards to three workstrands, which can be combined.

- 1) The national implementation of the new 2023 Energy Efficiency Directive (EED)
- 2) The evaluation of the final National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) with regards to energy savings
- 3) Steering the success of the 2030 and 2040 energy efficiency framework via the revision of the Governance Regulation

Target audiences:

- Member States
- Members of CAN Europe
- The European Commission and the European Parliament

2. General background

The Commission is expected to have developed and published general guidelines on how key elements of provisions should be implemented by Member States by late summer 2024. At the same time, some Member States are already enshrining the updated Directive into national laws with little operational guidance for its implementation from EU level and equally too little scrutiny, keeping in mind that the due date of the transposition of the EED approaches in October 2025. Furthermore, final NECP updates by Member States, due end of June 2024, will be the litmus test to see which kind of ambition level regarding energy savings objectives and measures are envisaged and whether the plans will comply and ideally overshoot the new requirements of the EED at EU level, including the 2030 energy efficiency target and the measures to achieve the target. It shall be therefore noted that the final National Energy and Climate Plan updates can also serve to give important impulses towards the upcoming Governance Regulation review.

It is likely that the Commission will envisage the revision of the Governance Regulation, which is a crucial instrument for steering the success of the future energy efficiency framework. The European Commission is currently preparing a <u>review report</u> assessing how the Regulation has operated to date (as per the review clause in Article 45). This report will be published in late June. It is not yet certain whether this report will be followed by legislative changes. It will be up to the next Commission to decide whether or not to reopen the text.

3. Role

The work takes a central role in the efforts of a strong EED implementation at the European and the national level, which includes the involvement of members and partners of CAN Europe. In this regard, the work consists of monitoring the implementation of the EED in Member States, in conjunction with our network and encouraging and supporting national NGOs through information sharing, a webinar and bilateral exchanges, in case needed. A focus should be set on the energy efficiency contributions, while keeping an eye on the energy efficiency first principle, public buildings and the public sector obligations, the energy savings obligation and the heating provisions.

With regards to the NECPs, the idea is to support CAN Europe members' participation in their efforts to scrutinise and evaluate the NECP updates. In this regard, the previous assessments of the draft NECPs by CAN Europe and the Coalition for Energy Savings should be used to evaluate the final plans of Member States. This can give important impulses for the further work by Member States with regards to the EED implementation and the Governance Regulation review. In total this workstrand focuses on 13 countries, which are the priority countries identified under the Together for 1.5 project; however the NECP update assessment usually encompasses all EU-27 Member States, with a broader involvement of the national members from the focus countries into CAN Europe's work on NECPs.

Actively engaging in the legislative process of the revision of the Governance Regulation with regards to energy savings is the third strand of this work. CAN Europe wishes to push for an enabling framework for energy savings through the Governance regulation, especially with regards to the achievement of 2030 and the 2040 energy savings goals. The idea is to further develop arguments for demands regarding the bindingness of national contributions and ambitious gap mechanisms, which after the release of latest data by the European Commission with regards to the Ambition Gap mechanism have not achieved the goal to avoid repeating a gap towards the 2030 EU energy efficiency target. The Governance regulation review should be also used as an avenue to push for more energy sufficiency and behavioural change alongside to energy efficiency, depending on members approval.

4. Activities, possible deliverables and timeline

NECPs work and energy savings & EED implementation			
Activity & possible deliverable	Possible timeline	Comment/ Notes	
Analysis of the final NECP updates with regards to the energy efficiency dimension and input into	Autumn/winter 2024	Approx. 60 - 90 hours, help with members coordination from	

CAN Europe's papers/reports/overview documents regarding the NECP assessment. There are two deliverables connected to this currently foreseen: An NECP traffic light system in October with a focus on EE-contributions and a final report in Feb/March	The first deliverable, the traffic light system is likely to be published on the date when the Commission presents its "State of the Energy Union" The second deliverable will be published before the Commission publishes its own assessment of final NECP updates.	"Together for 1.5" team lead by Brigitta Boszó
Support the CAN Europe staff's engagement with members (e-maillist/WG meetings/speaking points/coms packages)	Ongoing	Every month about 1 – 5 hours, only in case of requests or important events
Contribution to answer CAN Europe members questions regarding energy savings and NECPs (mostly from TF 1.5 project, ongoing), also via providing background for bilateral exchanges	Ongoing	Every month about 1 – 5 hours, only in case of requests
Monitoring of EED implementation in different Member States (ideally an excel table with updates and a possible final report as an outcome, which is connected to the webinar) Organization of a webinar on EED implementation with examples of different Member States (this includes beforehand a thorough	Early 2025	Approx. 60 – 90 hours in total
research on the status of the EED implementation in the different MS, via members/without members)		
Supporting the organization of working group meetings on the EED implementation/NECPs assessment, depending on the amount of meetings taking place	Happening in a bi-monthly cycle, the next WG meetings are most likely in September 2024 and Nov/Dec 2024	5 – 6 hours preparation, only in case of requests

Total	September 2024 – February 2025	182-372 hours overall, depending on hourly rate and experience
Input into CAN Europe's possible publications/papers on the Governance Regulation review and possible further requests on the Governance Regulation (e.g. after evaluation of the European Commission review report in July)	Possible start in late autumn 2024	Approx. 50 -120 hours, subject to political timeline

The exact activities, deliverables and the timeline are heavily context dependent, therefore this work will need to be carried out with a certain degree of flexibility. This is especially due to the fact that the submission of the final NECP updates of many Member States are considerably delayed and the fact that it is still unclear when and if the Governance Regulation will be reviewed.

The consultant would agree to monthly meetings in order to keep CAN Europe informed about the preliminary results of the work and in order to discuss adjustments to the work that is carried out.

5. Procurement process

If you would like to carry out this work, please send us a quote no later than Friday 9 August to cornelia.maarfield@caneurope.org with your hourly or daily rates and a short description of your suitability to carry out this work, based on previous experience. To choose the consultant, we will take the price offer and the experience of the consultant into account with equal weighing.