



ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN ACTION Equipping SMEs for a Green Transition

8:30 – 14:00 CET

08:00 – 11:00

Atelier29, Rue Jacques de Lalaing 29

Energy efficiency is not only a cost-saving measure but also a strategic driver of competitiveness, resilience, and sustainability. For Europe's small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), improving energy performance is key to remaining competitive while contributing to the EU's climate neutrality objectives under the European Green Deal.

The EnergyEfficiency4SMEs (EE4SMEs) project, a 36-month initiative involving 23 partners from 10 countries, has been dedicated to empowering SMEs in some of Europe's most energy-intensive sectors: accommodation and food services, agri-food manufacturing, and metalworking. While large companies are required under the Energy Efficiency Directive to carry out regular energy audits, SMEs often face significant barriers to implementing audit recommendations – from limited technical expertise and lack of financing knowledge to uncertainty about actual savings and payback times.

Through collaboration with chambers of commerce and industry along with sectoral associations, EE4SMEs has bridged this gap by:

- Conducting 151 new energy audits and directly supporting 1,000 companies in implementing efficiency measures
- Enhancing the skills of 1,000+ SME staff and 200+ energy auditors and stakeholders through targeted training
- Providing access to tools such as the IMPAWATT platform and a tailored financial matchmaking tool

14:20 – 15:20

The final event will bring together project partners, SMEs, policymakers, and stakeholders to showcase the project's achievements, share lessons learned, and discuss how the knowledge, tools, and methodologies developed can continue to drive SME energy efficiency beyond the project's lifetime. Participants will hear first-hand from companies and chambers involved in capacity building, energy audits, and the implementation of concrete energy efficiency measures – demonstrating how targeted support can translate into real energy savings, lower emissions, and a stronger competitive position for SMEs in the green transition.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN ACTION:

Equipping SMEs for a Green Transition

16 October 2025

Brussels - Belgium

www.ee4sme.com

PROGRAMME

08:30 – 09:00 REGISTRATION AND WELCOME COFFEE

09:00 – 09:20 OPENING

Antonija Božič Cerar, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia - Director of the department for environment, climate and energy
• **Oronzo Daloiso**, CINEA project officer

09:20 – 10:40 FROM AUDITS TO ACTION: RESULTS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURE

This session will highlight the 151 energy audits conducted within the project framework and, more importantly, how these audits translated into action. Through direct support, the project assisted SMEs in implementing over 1,000 energy efficiency measures. Partners and SMEs will share success stories and reflect on the challenges overcome, demonstrating how tailored guidance can turn technical recommendations into meaningful change.

Video teaser

Presentation: EE4SMEs Economic report (Deloitte report)

Q&A

10:40 – 10:45 GROUPE PHOTO

10:45 – 11:10 COFFEE BREAK AND NETWORKING

11:10 – 12:30 BEYOND ENERGY SAVINGS: UNLOCKING THE FULL VALUE OF THE SME ENERGY TRANSITION

This session will explore methodologies and tools designed to support SMEs in adopting sustainable energy practices, how to unlock the value of non-energy benefits, and how to embed SME-focused strategies into national and EU-level energy policies. Q&A discussion

14:20 – 15:20

Presentations

How practical support, training, and digital tools can overcome common SME barriers and improve internal capabilities - **Giuseppe Saija**, Project Manager at Fondazione Fenice Onlus

Expanding the narrative from "saving energy" to "gaining business value" helping SMEs and policymakers better justify investments - **DI Dr Georg Benke**, e7 energy innovation & engineering

Q&A

12:30 – 12:35 CLOSING REMARKS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

12:35 – 14:00 NETWORKING LUNCH