

EU supports energy reform in Armenia

Armenia has introduced various pieces of energy-related legislation over the past 20 years. However, Armenia still faces a number of serious energy challenges. These include an emerging supply gap, inflated energy prices and a lack of energy supply reliability.

According to the **Armenian Development Strategy (ADS)** and **National Security Strategy (NSS)**, some of the key energy priorities are:

- Increasing energy security
- Developing renewable energy such as hydropower
- Improving system reliability and energy efficiency

Providing vital support

With support from the **Energy Charter Secretariat** under the EU4Energy **Governance Project**, Armenia developed a step-by-step guide for enforcing minimum energy performance for buildings. This initiative led to the government approving the Technical Regulation on Energy Efficiency in Buildings in April 2018.

A roadmap was devised for minimum energy performance and labelling requirements, while an **Energy Investment Risk Assessment Profile (EIRA)** was put in place to mitigate regulatory risks for potential investors.

In February 2018, as part of the **EU-Armenia Partnership Priorities for 2017 - 2020**, the Commission committed to help the country adopt EU environmental standards. The agreement provides funding for transmission infrastructure between Armenia and Georgia, while linking to the European power grid is planned in the longer term.

Hope for the future

There are a number of expected positive impacts from these actions. These include improved energy efficiency and lower energy imports, which help reduce bills. And energy companies considering investing in Armenia will now face minimal regulatory risks, while enhanced energy security will boost competitiveness.

