COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP ON A CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE FOR STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIONS AND INTER-MINISTERIAL COORDINATION

25 September 2018, Baku

Funded under the EU4Energy Initiative of the European Union
Research base of the GAP-Analysis

1. Desktop research

2. Kick-off meeting in country

3. Face-to-face interviews with appr. 30 respondents

4. Analysis of various websites

5. Longstanding experience in the sector and in country
Perception of the Azeri energy sector & stakeholder mapping

- Not all General Public
- Few Donors
- Few Business Sector
- Very few NGOs and CSOs
- Very few Media
- Few Ministry of Energy
- Few Regulator
- Few Parliament
- Few Cabinet of Ministers
- Few Socar
- Few Oil & Gas sector
- Few Azerishiq
- Few Azerenerji
- Few Ministry of Justice
- Very few EE & RES sector

Closed and secret sector
Stakeholder group: Donors

- EU
- USAID
- EBRD
- UN
- ADB
- Others
- WB
Stakeholder group: Business sector

- More active cooperation with governmental sector wished
- Lack of cooperation and consolidation between different players

Business Associations (national & intern.)

Caspian Business Club

AZPROMO
Stakeholder group: NGOs

- Energy related topics
- Renewables and energy efficiency
- Environmental issues
- Social topics and related issues

Very few NGOs active in the field

Very few

Some
Stakeholder group: General public

- General public was named very seldom as main stakeholders.
- Public should have a say in some legislative processes, but not in the energy sector.
- General public would not understand the technicalities of the sector and are not sufficiently educated.
- The public is represented in the consultation process through the public council.
Stakeholder group: Media

- Very few interested and knowledgable of the sector
- Majority of journalists is not skilled enough
- Traditional media vs electronic media
- Media is mainly interested in scandals
Formal law draft processes in the Azeri energy sector
Law draft consultation process

Rather closed government-internal process

Green papers / Law initiatives

Working groups are set up formally through decree of the Ministry of Energy

Members of working group (usually civil servants from different ministries and some experts)

Public participation process at the Parliament website and via public hearings (personally and via internet)

After consultation is closed there is no clear feedback on decision-making process provided to stakeholders.

At this point public consultation starts formally via the website of the Parliament.

Would be beneficial to have more stakeholders included at this point

Usually lack of feedback on comments given
EU best practice examples
Your Voice in Europe
https://ec.Europa.eu/info/consultations_en

Consultations (467)

Showing results 1 to 10

Consultation status: OPEN
Public Consultation to support the Fitness Check of the EU Ambient Air Quality Directives
Topics: Environment
Consultation period: 8 May 2018 - 31 July 2018

Consultation status: OPEN
Public consultation on the Evaluation of the 7th Environment Action Programme
Topics: Environment, Climate action
Consultation period: 3 May 2018 - 26 July 2018
Estonia: Digital tools
EIS – Estonian Information System for Legal Drafts

Linked to government institutions and interest groups

At an early stage of the legislative process put on website

Available throughout the whole consultation process

Describes issue

Assessing possible impacts

Analysis options for addressing the issues

All draft documents are uploaded and regularly updated (taking into account modifications)

National and EU legislation is available online to comment
Denmark: Business Forum for better regulation

**Situation:** Danish Ministry of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs seeks to maintain close dialogue with business community (review and revise business regulations)

**Forum participants (inter alia):**
- Industry associations
- Labour organisations
- Businesses
- Technical experts

**Meeting frequency:** 3 times per year

**Topics elaborated (inter alia):**
- Barriers to growth
- Digitalisation
- Tourism
- Transport
- Implementation of EU regulations

721 proposals submitted, 266 were implemented

„Complain or explain“-principle: www.enklereregler.dk
Belgium: Advisory Boards

**Situation:** Belgian Stakeholder engagement is institutionalised through permanent advisory bodies (Attention: Should ideally be complementary to public consultations).

Government defines composition and scope of advisory bodies. They act on three levels:

- **Federal**
- **Regional**
- **Community**

They provide input on:
- Strategic advice
- Conduct studies on development in different sectors
- Assess potential impacts of government decisions
- Formulate opinion on draft document
Stakeholder communication
• How do you understand stakeholder communication?
• How does a successful stakeholder communication in the energy sector look like?
• What are the benefits?
• What are the disadvantages?
Important factors for a successful stakeholder communication and consultation

- Co-ordination
- Openness
- Structured planning
- Accessibility
- Regularity
- Information management
Working session:
How can a successful stakeholder communication look like?

⇒ How do you understand 'stakeholder communication'? What does it mean to you?
⇒ Please, collect in a brainstorming session what comes in to your mind spontaneously, when you think of stakeholder communication in the energy sector in Azerbaijan.

Some supporting questions:
• How do you understand stakeholder communication?
• What should be taken into consideration in AZ?
• What are the benefits?
• What are the disadvantages?

⇒ You have 15 minutes to collect and write down all your thoughts on the flipchart paper.
⇒ Afterwards you should present your findings briefly to the other participants.
Successful stakeholder communication – an example

- Appointing a coordinator
- Determination of the objectives of the stakeholder communication
- How often should the meetings take place?

- Where are the meetings taking place?
- How can contact details be collected and managed?
- Who should participate and why?

- How many people should be invited?
- Should there be mixed management levels participating?
- How can the information elaborated during the meetings be collected, processed and managed?
Possible stakeholder communication approach

⇒ First meeting: Person should present his/her professional background, department and organisation. Max. 3-5 minutes per person.
⇒ Presentation of a topic followed by a moderated discussion of the whole group.
⇒ Brainstorming in working groups. Groups should be mixed. Results should be presented after elaboration and protocollled.
⇒ Representatives of each Ministry present one major topic, which is currently important. In groups there should be overlaps identified.
⇒ Three main outcomes of the meeting should be written on a flipchart. Those will be used as the basis for the next meeting. Meanwhile participants will collect more information on the elaborated outcome.
Stakeholder communication as first part of Code of Good Practise
Stakeholder Communication
(First part of Code of Good Practice – Partner Dialogue)

Coordinator (sets up database with contacts)

Organisation of meeting

Conduction of meeting – Further procedures to be determined

Expert working circles established

In principle similar to stakeholder communication (same questions to be asked and similar procedures)
Green papers / Law initiatives

Working group (set up formally and sometimes non-formally, depending on topic)

Members of working group (usually only civil servants)

Public participation process through the website of the parliament и т.д.

After consultation is closed there is feedback on the consultation process published.

Members of the working circles could become consultees to the working group at this stage.
Wrap-up and conclusions
Thank you very much for your co-operation and your attention!