



Energy Efficiency Profile : Romania

October 2008

Energy Efficiency Trends

Overview

Between 1996 and 2005 the energy efficiency index (ODEX) decreased by 26 % at the level of the entire economy in Romania. This was better than the EU 27 average (13 % improvement between 1997 and 2007). All the sectors participated in this improvement.

Industry

Most of the industrial branches registered an improvement in energy efficiency. The most impressive evolutions were registered in the textile and food processing industries whose overall evolution was very favorable. In the great energy consuming branches (chemicals, steel, etc.) some vacillations were registered but, in general, the trend was positive. Some branches had a poor performance (non metallic).

To conclude with, in the 1996-2006 period energy efficiency in industry increased by 35 %.

Households

In the household sector, energy efficiency improved considerably between 1996 and 2006 (by 36 %).

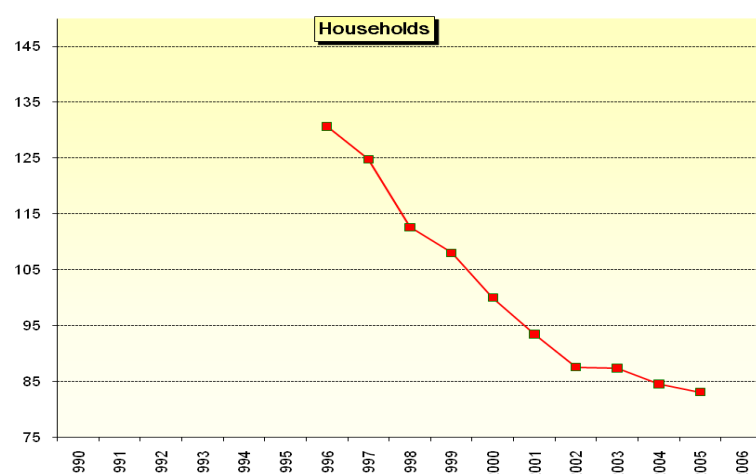
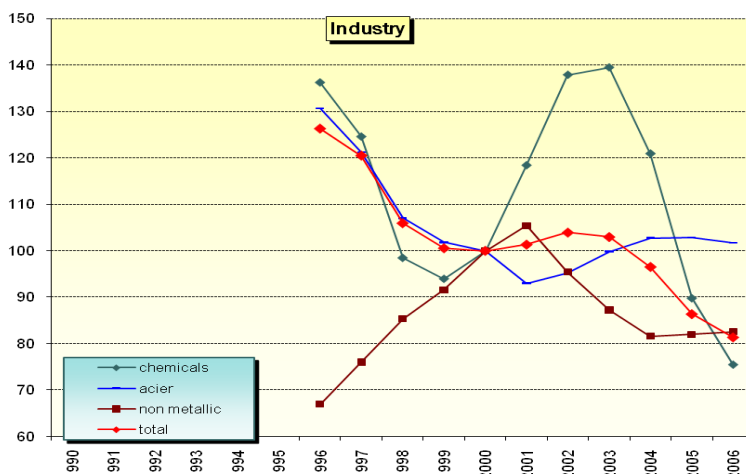
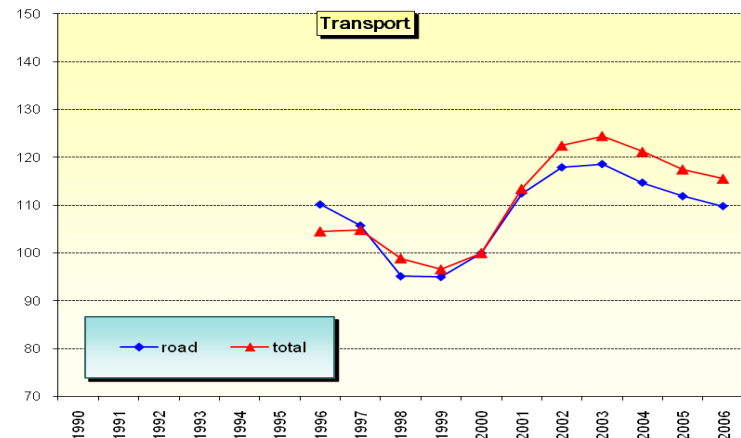
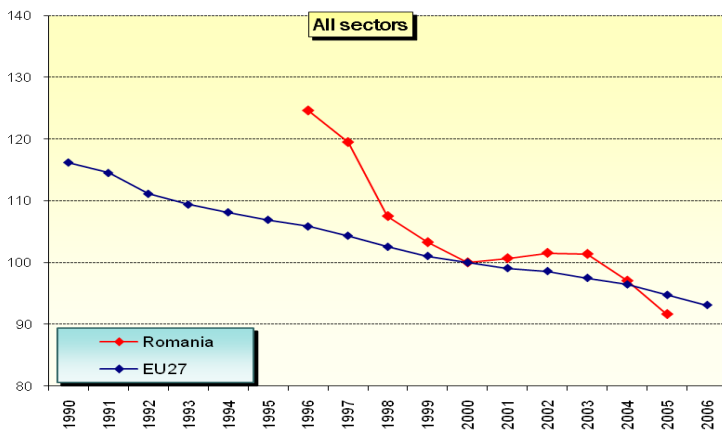
This was possible due to the low level of efficiency at the beginning of the period considered.

Measures for improving the performances of the existing buildings have been taken. Improved standards for the new dwelling places have been developed. Energy labeling of the household appliances and receivers have been extended. The elimination of subsidies and increase in the energy price for population have led to changes in behavior and facilitated energy efficiency increasing measures.

Transport

Between 1996 and 2006 the share of road transport increased continuously and its efficiency decisively influenced the efficiency of the entire sector. Energy efficiency diminishing between 2001 and 2003 was determined by the boom of activity (on the background of economy re-launching) that led to the utilization of non-efficient means of transport. The measures adopted led to performance improvement after 2003 and the trend is considered irreversible.

Energy efficiency index



Energy Efficiency Policy Measures

Institutions and programmes

In Romania the body specialized in energy efficiency is the Romanian Energy Conservation Agency (ARCE) subordinated to the Ministry of Economy and Finance. ARCE participates in the development of energy efficiency policies and is the institution responsible for the policy implementation and monitoring.

From the technical point of view, the actions aiming at increasing the building energy performances are coordinated by the Ministry of Development, Public Works and Dwellings.

In 2007 the first National Energy Efficiency Action Plan was developed according to the provisions of the Directive 2006/32/EC. Romania has committed itself to diminishing final energy consumption by 2800 thousand toe by 2016, which corresponds to an annual average rate of 1.5% between 2008 and 2016.

Industry

All the economic operators whose annual consumption surpasses 1000 toe shall:

- carry out an energy audit every year developed by a physical or legal person authorized by ARCE;
- develop energy efficiency programmes including measures on the short, medium and long term;
- appoint an energy manager authorized by ARCE or conclude an energy management contract with a physical or legal person accredited by ARCE.

The main component of the energy efficiency programme for industry coordinated by ARCE is implementation of Voluntary Agreements on long term to be developed in co-operation with SENTER NOVEM (the Netherlands).

Households, Services

The local public authorities from the localities with more than 20,000 inhabitants shall develop energy efficiency improvement programmes.

Energy labeling of household appliances has been introduced.

In the period 2006-2008 ARCE participated in the CEECAP European programme on the implementation of the EU policy relating to household appliances in Central and Eastern Europe.

The national programme for diminishing the population expenses with energy in the period 2005-2007 resulted in the selection of 113 projects to be co-financed from the budget.

Transport

The companies and the units of the local and central public administration that own more than 25 vehicles shall develop fuel consumption monitoring and management programmes for the respective group of vehicles.

Energy prices and taxes

Since July 1, 2007, all the electric energy and natural gas consumers have become eligible consumers and can choose their own supplier.

The Romanian Energy Efficiency Fund has been established for financing the energy efficiency investments in a revolving system. The Government Ordinance OG no. 22/2008 on energy efficiency and promotion of renewable energy source utilization by the final consumers explicitly stipulates the allocation of funds from the budget for subsidizing the energy efficiency programmes and measures.

Selected Energy Efficiency Measures

Sectors	Title of measures	Since
Industry	Energy audits	1999
	Energy efficiency investment financing through the Romanian Energy Efficiency Fund	2005
	Setting up of the Info- Energy Points network in the main towns of the country	2007
Households	Energy labeling of household appliances	2001
	National Program for Renovation of the Multi Flat Buildings	2003
Transport	Programme for the acquisition of obsolete cars older than 10 years on condition that the amount received be used for acquiring new cars.	2006

Source: MURE data base
www.mure2.com

