



Energy Efficiency Profile: Slovakia

October 2012

Energy Efficiency Trends

Overview

Over the period 2000-2010, the energy efficiency of final consumers, as measured from the overall energy efficiency index (ODEX), only improved by 4 % in Slovakia. This index is an approximation due to the lack of data available. Compared to the EU-27 in terms of the mentioned period, the values are worse on average by about 4 percentage points.

Industry

Energy efficiency improvements in industry are low and can only be observed between 2005 and 2008. Probably due to financial crisis in 2009 and 2010 a deterioration of this index occurred, mainly in the steel industry (which represent around 50 % of the energy consumption in industry). In some other branches such as chemicals, non metallic, there are significant energy efficiency improvements, up to 70 % in chemicals, around 40% for non metallic. This is due to the transition from heavy chemical manufacturing to less energy intensive production.

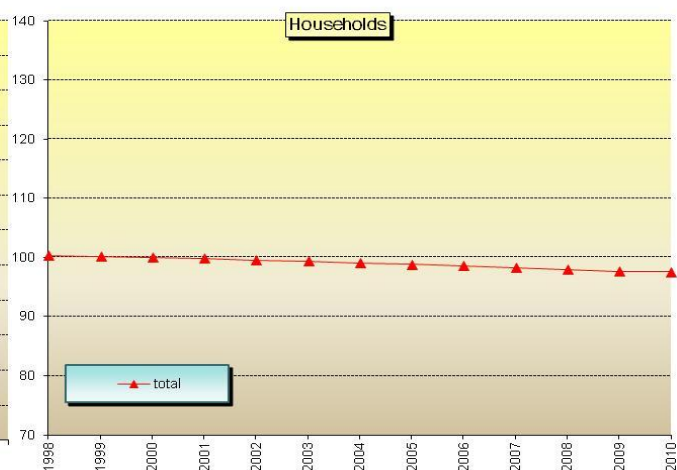
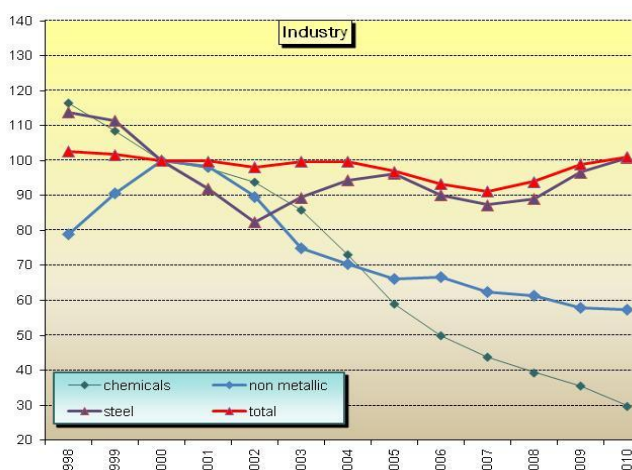
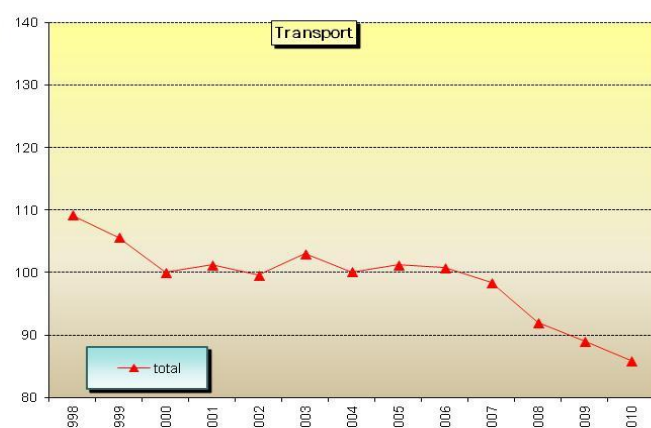
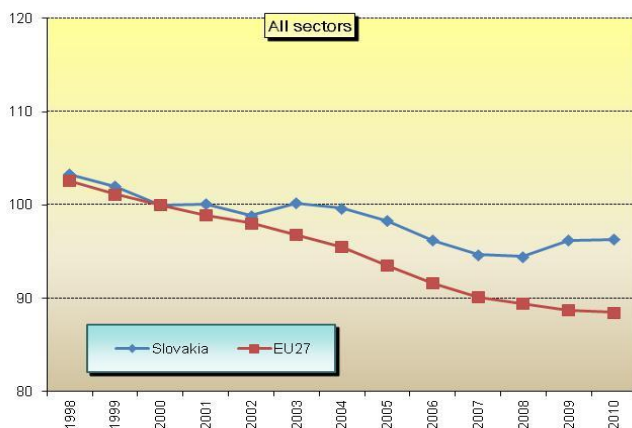
Households

Between 2000 and 2010, energy efficiency improved by 2,5 % in the household sector. However, Slovakia, in this sector does not fully follow the general trend of the EU-27, where during the period 2000-2010, energy efficiency improved by 15 %. Contradicting developments can be observed in this sector that could not be full accounted for in the energy efficiency index. On the one hand, there is a rapid rise in prices of electricity, natural gas and heat since 1999 that tend to limit energy use. On the other hand, there is an improvement in living conditions (increase in floor area of new housing), increase in the living comfort, growing number of home appliances, but with better energy properties.

Transport

In the period from 2000 to 2010, energy efficiency in transport has improved by 14 %, influenced mainly by improvement of efficiency in road and rail transport. At EU level, energy efficiency improved by only 9 % over the same period.

Energy efficiency index (base 100=2000)*



*All indicators measured as a three-year moving average
 Source ODYSSEE
 For more information : <http://www.odyssee-indicators.org/>

Energy Efficiency Policy measures

Institutions and programmes

Key responsibility for the energy policy preparation and implementation in the Slovak Republic lies on the Ministry of Economy; the policy is approved by Government and implemented also by other relevant ministries (mainly Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development). Ministry of Environment cares for environmental issues linked with energy.

In January 2006, the Slovak Government has approved the latest Energy Policy of the Slovak Republic. It covers a period of 25 years and will be updated in 2013. National climate policy is based on the Strategy of the Slovak Republic Relating to the Global Climatic Change.

Energy legislation related to energy efficiency, energy conservation and wider RES utilisation consists of nine fundamental Acts: Energy Act, Heat Energy Act, Regulatory Act, Energy Performance of Buildings Act, Act on Regular Inspections of Boilers and AC-systems, Act on Energy Labelling and Ecodesign Act, Energy Efficiency Act and Act on Promotion of RES and high efficient CHP. There are other executive regulations to above mentioned acts which are prepared in an advanced stage of legislation process. Act amendments are in preparation in accordance with recast of relevant EU directives. There are several strategic documents existing in the Slovak Republic, e.g. National Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2011 ÷ 2013 and Concept of Energy Efficiency of the Slovak Republic.

Industry

Together with the general energy conservation measures set by the legislation (mandatory energy managers, mandatory boiler checks, minimum boiler efficiency and energy audits) there are programmes subsidising energy conservation and RES utilisation and the support of RES through Green Certificates and obligatory feed-in tariffs. The energy efficiency effort is supported also by EU Structural Funds. Emission trading is already under the way.

Households, Services

The effort is focused on the energy consumption of buildings. Thermal insulation standards exist since the early sixties, but more stringent regulations started in the nineties. The labelling of domestic appliances has started in 2002 and the awareness of the population about this informative label is already significant. Energy conserving activities go on under the subsidy programme "Subsidies for Housing Development" since 2007.

Transport

Highway toll, motor vehicle tax and excise tax on motor fuels could help to conserve energy and in some cases to switch over from road to rail; however, no significant effect of these measures has been observed so far. Prescribed minimum quantity of bio-fuels is in force since 2006. A new Act on Promotion of Energy and Environmentally Efficient Vehicles has been adopted.

Energy prices and taxes

Until 1999 prices of electricity and gas for households were practically stable, unrealistically low and cross subsidised. The removal of these prices distortion started as late as in 1999; the price increases were then very steep and this brought about strong energy awareness and energy conservation in the household sector. Similarly, though not with so high price increases, it produced similar energy conservation effects in industry and services.

Selected Energy Efficiency Measures

Sectors	Title of the measure	Valid*
All	National Energy Efficiency Action Plans	2008
Industry	Mandatory Energy Manager in Heat Delivery Branch	2005
Industry	Efficiency Standards for Boilers	2005
Industry	Feed-in Tariffs for RES based Electricity and CHP	2008
Households and tertiary	Energy Performance Certificates of Buildings	2008
Households and tertiary	Subsidies for housing development	2007
Households	Subsidy programme for purchase of solar thermal collectors and biomass boilers	2009
Transport	Minimum Quantity of Automotive Fuels Produced from RES	2006
Transport	Regular Emission Inspection of Vehicles	1996

* The table contains the latest edition of the measure, some measures were introduced much earlier

Source MURE

