

Revision of the MEErP

(Methodology for Ecodesign of Energy-related Products)

Minutes of the 1st stakeholder webinar (Webex, 12/11/2020)

Participants:

• EC DG GROW	• Eurovent	• Fraunhofer ISI
• EC JRC	• Fraunhofer IZM	• Ingwill Nilsen
• EC DG ENVI	• BSH	• EHPA
• German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy	• Norwegian Agency for Public and Financial Management	• Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate
• Bulgarian Ministry of Economy	• French Ministry for the Ecological Transition	• Technology Industries of Finland
• Eurofer	• European Aluminium	• Mondragon Componentes
• The Danish EPA	• CEN/CLC Eco-CG	• Huawei
• AZTERLAN	• Intel	• Sony
• Liebherr	• Apple	• RICS
• Daikin Europe	• ECOS	• BIOIS
• German Environment Agency	• Spanish Ministry for the ecological transition	• Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic
• Oeko-Institut e.V.	• EEB	• EuPC
• SIMPPLE	• Elektrovent srl	• EPEE
• Lighting Europe	• iFixit	• Vimar SpA
• Netherlands Enterprise Agency	• Energy Authority of Finland	• Japan Business Council in Europe
• Kreab	• Electrolux	• AMCA
• CLASP	• Orgalim	• maki Consulting GmbH
• Belgian Ministry of Environment	• Mitsubishi Electric Europe	• Swedish Energy Agency
• PrE Sustainability	• Andreas Stihl AG & Co.	• Airflow
• APPLiA	• CECIMO	• Vortice S.p.A.
• IALD	• Feica	• BEUC
• Swedish EPA	• Danish Energy Agency	• Stiebel Eltron GmbH & CO.
• Miele	• NIBE AB	•

Agenda

1. Welcome and general aspects of the project and Q&A (DG GROW)
2. Presentation of project Tasks, followed by Q&A after each task (JRC):
 - a. Task 1 - Updating of the EcoReport tool
 - b. Task 2 - More systematic inclusion of material efficiency aspects and of environmental footprint/ecological profile aspects
 - c. Task 3 - More systematic inclusion of societal life cycle costs
 - d. Task 4 - More refined evaluation of the economic impacts in task 7
 - e. Task 5 - Other updates and integrations
3. Closing of the meeting (DG GROW)

1. Welcome and general aspects of the project:

DG GROW presented the aim of the meeting, as well as the general aspects, objectives and timeline of the MEErP revision project.

- A participant asked whether any material efficiency aspects could be considered for Energy Labelling purposes. DG GROW reiterated that project's scope is to have a look in the ways to better characterise environmental impacts related to material efficiency; not where they will be used afterwards. In this specific case, the study will look to methods for the quantitative assessment of material efficiency aspects at product level, leaving out the policy analysis.
- A participant asked whether there is intention to extend scope of MEErP to non-ErP. DG GROW responded that the project's scope is aligned with the current scope of the Ecodesign Directive. This aspect will be possibly investigated within the framework of the Sustainable Product Initiative¹.
- Another representative asked whether material efficiency aspect trade-offs will be considered, and also which aspects to be chosen for what product. DG GROW responded that trade-off aspects e.g. durability vs repairability will be considered.
- DG GROW clarified that data used (e.g. energy mix) will be generally based on EU average levels.
- A participant asked whether an online tool could be considered instead of an Excel-based tool. DG GROW reiterated that the intention is that the current approach of the Tool should be maintained as freely downloadable. Could explore online, but IT management-related complications could arise.

2. Presentation of project Tasks

The JRC presented Task 1 of the project.

- A representative asked how can a proper comparison with base case/among solutions be ensured with the use of different datasets from different sources, and also whether hazardous substances of concern will be considered. JRC responded that the databases is an issue already existing and consistency is sought. DG GROW pointed out that aspects specifically related to hazardous substances are considered out of the scope of the project.
- A representative asked whether a mandatory ecological profile will be assessed, also differently from the method used so far. DG GROW responded that ecological profile technical aspects is within the scope of the project, potentially considering granularity of databases currently outside of the Ecoreport Tool. However, legal aspects themselves (e.g. setting ecological profile requirements) are out of the scope of this project.
- A participant asked whether resources are considered for the acquisition of data related to e.g. sales, stocks, use. JRC responded that the purpose of the project is the modelling and data acquisition is a step further than the MEErP analysis of this project.
- Two stakeholders asked whether linkages with PEF will be sought, and JRC responded that indeed it will be considered.

The JRC presented Task 2 of the project.

- A representative asked whether product reuse and reused components will be considered, besides recycled content. Another participant said that aspects such as repair, durability or

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12567-Sustainable-Products-Initiative>

recycling not only influence lifetime, but also resource volume. JRC responded that product reuse will be considered as lifetime extension, but reused components would require a different modelling approach yet to be determined. The same principle was followed for the influence of repair/durability on resources; there needs to be balance between accuracy and simplicity. JRC still pointed out that the environmental impacts of recycling will need to be taken into account in the EcoReport Tool at the end-of-life modelling.

- A participant pointed out that the energy mix and conversion coefficients used in the studies are a disadvantage to regions which have a higher renewables share. DG GROW pointed out that Ecodesign takes into account the average European conditions. Capturing the accuracy on region-by-region specificities is not in the 'intrinsic nature' of internal market legislation.
- A representative asked whether preparation for reuse and business models such as leasing will be considered. DG GROW responded that the Ecodesign framework addressed products that are placed on the market, in other words, the “-ability” of a product rather than the actual processes the product undergoes, in particular after the placing on the market.

The JRC presented Task 3 of the project.

- A participant asked how will the externalities and costs from this Task be ultimately used. DG GROW explained that the LLCC principle remains the same as it is today, however the presentation of design options will be associated with information on externalities costs.
- A participant asked whether peak power and energy system issues will be taken into account. DG GROW responded that this issue is product-specific.
- Another representative out that in LLCC might be a challenge the burdens vs benefits are different between actors: LLCC from a consumer perspective, recyclability requirements would penalise manufacturers and benefit recyclers. DG GROW reiterates that the LLCC principle remains the same, but again societal costs could be considered separately on the side and on product-specific level.

The JRC presented Task 4 of the project.

- A participant made a proposal for the MEERp tasks structure: might be better to have the market and stock analysis on MEERp task 7 (rather than task 5) where market forecast is considered together with the product level analysis. JRC said this could be reflected upon.

The JRC presented Task 5 of the project.

- A participant asked whether the reporting tool can be used to extract indicators on climate change, energy efficiency, energy aspects, linking with other policies and EU targets. DG GROW responded that this seems to be out of the Ecodesign scope, and therefore of MEERp.
- Another participant asks if the EcoReport Tool will be transparent. DG GROW responded that the EcoReport Tool is available and downloadable; moreover, Task 5 of preparatory studies typically presents the results of the EcoReport calculations. JRC mentioned that we will try to improve the transparency of the aspects that will be modified and smoothen the process of introducing datasets. However, there cannot be a product-specific application in this project.
- A representative asked whether product energy efficiency will still be considered. DG GROW reassured that energy efficiency and aspects will remain a main pillar of the Ecodesign framework. The reason why it is not discussed as much in the context of this project is that the focus here is on methodological terms, and energy efficiency is already well covered methodologically in the MEERp.

3. DG GROW thanked all participants and closed the meeting.