Webinar

Overview of Stakeholders Participation in Adoption & Implementation of Building Energy Codes

VOLHA ROSHCHANKA
Joint Global Change Research Institute
University of Maryland

MEREDYDD EVANS*
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
(*presenter)

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Building Energy Codes: Stakeholders and Implementation

➤ Buildings account for over 1/3 of global energy consumption
➤ Energy codes can help curb building energy use, but also improve economic performance, reduce CO₂ emissions and other pollutants, improve energy security
➤ Why and how engage stakeholders in code adoption and implementation?

➤ Analyzed implementation of building energy codes in 22 countries:
  ■ Country information and contacts are available
    http://www.gbpn.org/laboratory/building-energy-codes-portal

➤ IPEEC report:
Building Energy Codes: Stakeholders

Who are the stakeholders?
- **Code adopters:** country- or state-level officials/policymakers
- **Code enforcers:** local government officials/policymakers
- **Code implementers:** building developers and owners
- **Suppliers:** building material/appliance manufacturers & industry associations
- **Others:** Local utilities and utility commissions, energy efficiency advocates

Across countries: a gap between code adoption (typically, at the national or state level) and implementation (typically, at the local level)

Need for stakeholder engagement to fill that gap
Stakeholder Engagement: Code Cycle

- **Development and adoption**: identify stakeholder and public concerns, create acceptance and shorten implementation time
  - Particularly important, where federal government does not have the jurisdiction to mandate code implementation
  - E.g., Australia’s work with multiple stakeholders on a single national code

- **Implementation**: improving code rigor, such as when regulators lack data on real costs, savings and supplies
  - E.g., efforts in the U.S. to assess implementation and hold focus groups on compliance software

- **Building capacity** for implementation
  - Stakeholders come together through engagement and get informed; adoption of code revisions also requires updating skills of inspectors, developers and others
  - E.g., Canada, Australia, EU, Singapore, China
Different Needs In Building Code Policies

- Stakeholders can express their concerns at different stages
  - In the U.S., very common at code development and adoption stages
  - In many other regions, implementation stage may be the focal point

- Code adoption/implementation cycle also determines how to engage stakeholders:
  - Initial code adoption vs. revision and implementation stages
  - A clear schedule of code revisions facilitates stakeholder engagement
Pathways for Stakeholder Engagement

- Regulatory proceedings
  - Entails formal notice and comment periods, public hearings/workshops, and maintenance of information portals to ensure transparency
  - Often used for code development, revisions and adoption

- Focus groups, surveys, conferences
  - Planned interactions, but without a formal set of rules and/or proceedings
  - Used to assess implementation elements and to share updates

- Meetings as needed with individual stakeholders; hotlines
  - Helpful to obtain and/or share specific data
Ways to Engage Stakeholders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Outreach</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public meetings/conferences</td>
<td>Canada, France, Spain, United Kingdom, United States</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working groups and technical committees</td>
<td>Australia, China, Indonesia, Italy, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, United Kingdom, United States</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surveys</td>
<td>Australia, Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newsletters</td>
<td>Canada, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>A dedicated website or set of webpages</td>
<td>Australia, Canada, France, Indonesia, South Africa, Spain, Singapore, United Kingdom, United States</td>
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Sources:

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Case Study: How Australia Got Its Building Energy Code

- Australia: a federation of eight states and territories

- In 1994, the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) was formed by an inter-government agreement as the representative body for all the governments

- The ABCB consists of representatives of the eight States and Territories as well as representatives from industry and the Commonwealth Government

- Introduced the energy efficiency component of its building code in 2003
Case Study: Code Assessment in Australia

Commitment to continuously engage stakeholders in code development/revision through:
- Technical committees
- Working groups
- Web-site & stakeholder surveys

More recently, stakeholder engagement helped assess weaknesses in compliance. The National Energy Efficient Building Project engaged 1,000 stakeholders from various stages of the construction cycle:
- Most stakeholders brought up issues with compliance and perceived that the practice of compliance with building energy codes is weak
- Effort to engage with key stakeholders to improve compliance with minimum standards and encourage obtaining beyond minimum requirements
Conclusions

- Countries increasingly recognize the role of stakeholder engagement as codes get more complex, nuanced and stringent
  - Stakeholder engagement can increase code feasibility, completeness, and acceptance and improve implementation capacity, thereby reducing compliance costs and time

- Countries have different needs in stakeholder engagement and it can take different forms
  - Engagement can help stakeholders voice issues; while some countries have greatest challenges at code development and adoption stages, other regions find implementation most challenging
  - Regular revision cycles facilitate stakeholder participation
References Consulted


