

Online Workshop I: European Union Data Centre Energy Efficiency Assessment and Reporting Scheme (EU DCEAR)

February 11, 2025

10:00 am - 11:30 am CET



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Agenda

Time	Agenda item	Content
10:00 - 10:15	Welcome and introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening remarks and objectives overview by DG ENER• Introduction of the study team
10:15 - 11:15	Presentation of the study objectives, methodology and work outline (including coffee break)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of the study objectives, methodology and work outline• Assessment of the sustainability of data centres in EU and of the respective reporting scheme• Next steps towards a sustainable data centres sector• Overview of stakeholder engagement activities
11:15 - 11:30	Recap of the workshop, next steps and closing remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summary of key points, questions and action items• Timeline and expectations for the next stages of the study• Closing remarks by the study team and DG CNECT

Workshop objective

The first workshop aims to introduce the study, outline its timeline and expectations and establish a platform for open discussions with stakeholders in the EU data centre sector.

- 1. Study overview** - Objectives, scope and alignment with EU goals.
- 2. Timeline and milestones** - Key phases and stakeholder engagement opportunities.
- 3. Stakeholder dialogue** - Exchange insights, discuss challenges and gather feedback to shape the study.

Study objectives, methodology and work outline



Study objectives



Support the European Commission in assessing data centre energy efficiency and proposing additional measures in conjunction with refining the already established EU-wide rating scheme for the sustainability of data centres.



Assess the energy efficiency and sustainability of data centres in the EU, as well as the reporting scheme, the reported data and the user experience of the reporting entities.



Identify strategies for implementation, including establishing an EU-wide rating scheme and minimum performance standards, and recommend improvements to enhance efficiency and support the transition to a net-zero emission data centre sector.



Support the preparation of the Report to the European Parliament and the Council on the progress of the establishment of a common EU rating scheme for data centres and its impact for the EU and the Member States.

Topic 1: Assessment of the sustainability of data centres in EU and of the respective reporting scheme

Assess the energy efficiency and sustainability of European data centres, including the reporting scheme, the reported data and the user experience of the reporting entities.

- **Data completeness assessment** - Proportion of reporting data centres and completeness of reported information and KPIs
- **Data quality assessment** - Comparing reported data against baseline numbers from desk research and stakeholder engagement activities.
- **Complement reported data** - Fill gaps in the data using additional sources
- **EU data centres energy efficiency and sustainability assessment** - Aggregating several metrics on data centre energy performance and sustainability based on the reported and collected data, benchmarked with available sources

Topic 1: Assessment of the sustainability of data centres in EU and of the respective reporting scheme

Assess the energy efficiency and sustainability of European data centres, including the reporting scheme, the reported data and the user experience of the reporting entities.

- **User experience assessment** - Gather inputs from reporting entities on their experience in participating on the reporting scheme.
- **Data management assessment** - Gather inputs from the European Commission team and MS authorities managing the reported data on the data collection, processing, storing and sharing processes.

Coffee Break

Please be back in 5 minutes

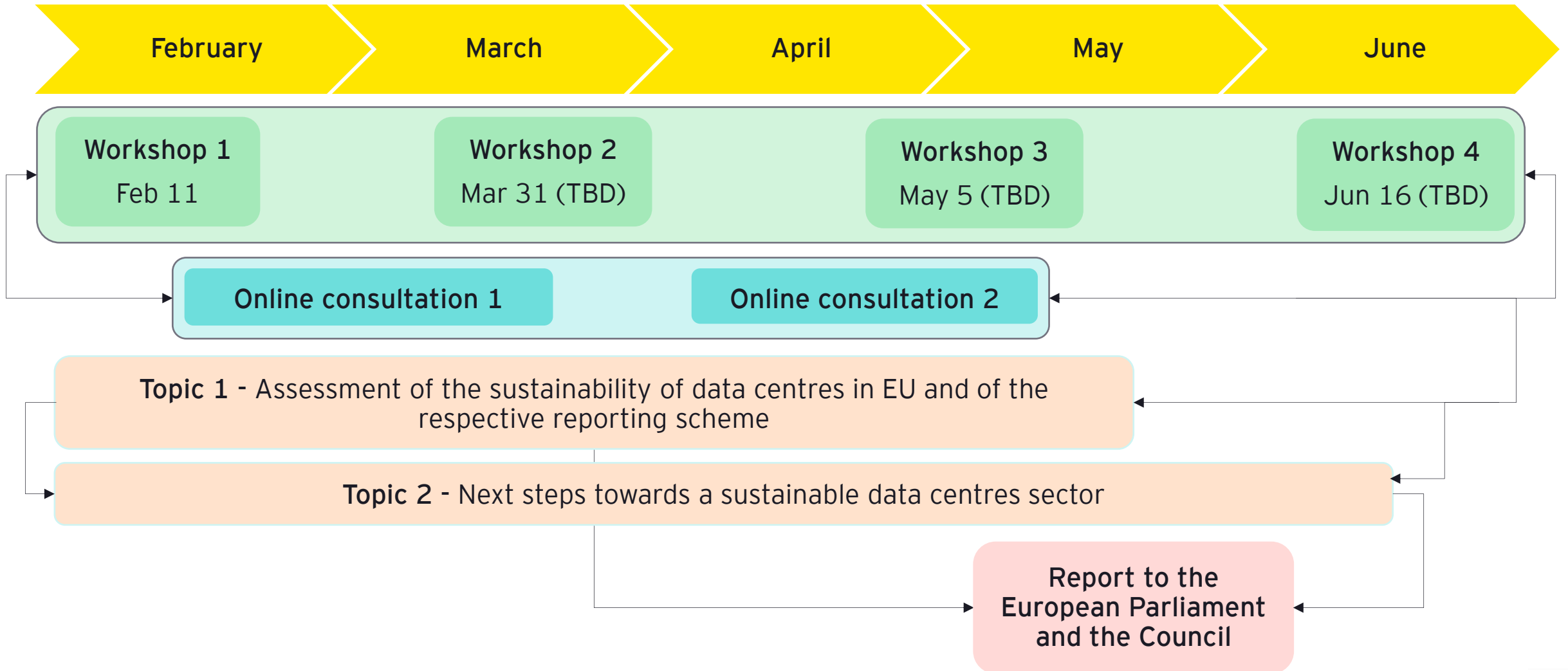


Topic 2: Next steps towards a sustainable data centres sector

Support the development and implementation of measures to enhance sustainability in the data centre sector by:

- Evaluating the need for a common EU rating scheme for data centres and propose potential implementation approaches.
- Identifying opportunities to improve energy efficiency in data centres, including the establishment of minimum performance standards.
- Assessing the feasibility of transitioning towards a net-zero emission data centre sector.

Work outline and stakeholder engagement activities



Stakeholder engagement activities

Workshops: The workshops aim to gather different data centre stakeholders from different backgrounds in order to share ideas.

Workshop N°	Workshop Scope	Time
Workshop 1	Introduce the study, its objectives and methodology, work outline and timeline and set expectations for future workshops	February 11
Workshop 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of data completeness and quality from the first reporting period • Overview of user experience and data management from the first reporting period • Preliminary energy efficiency and sustainability assessment • The needs and ways to implement an EU-wide rating scheme for data centres 	Week of Mar 31
Workshop 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall energy efficiency and sustainability assessment • Preliminary assessment on the establishment of an EU-wide rating scheme for data centres • The needs and ways to improve the energy efficiency of data centres, including establishing minimum performance standards 	Week of May 5
Workshop 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall assessment on the establishment of an EU-wide rating scheme for data centres • Overall assessment on improvements to the energy efficiency of data centres, including establishing minimum performance standards 	Week of June 16

Stakeholder engagement activities

Surveys & Interviews: The surveys aim to gather more general information on the current trends and dynamics of the industry while the interviews aim to gather more detailed information from targeted group of experts/stakeholders.

Objectives	Target respondents	Time
<p>Survey/Interview 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gather industry average on the reported KPIs and collecting missing information from the reporting scheme for particular KPIs or MSs The need and feasibility of establishing an EU-wide common rating schemes for data centres and minimum performance standards and transitioning into a net-zero emission data centre sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy providers and grid operators Data centre operators / owners 	<p>3rd week of Feb - 4th week of March</p>
<p>Survey/Interview 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> User experience and data management of the reporting scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data centre operators / owners European Commission team and MS authorities managing the reporting scheme 	<p>1st week of April - 1st week of May</p>

Recap of the workshop, next steps and closing remarks



Next steps

Project landing page: <https://www.borderstep.org/projekte/eudcear/>

Survey & Interviews - Phase 1:

- **Objective:**
 - Gather industry average on the reported KPIs and collecting missing information from the reporting scheme for particular KPIs or MSs
 - The need and feasibility of establishing an EU-wide common rating schemes for data centres and minimum performance standards and transitioning into a net-zero emission data centre sector
- **Timeline:** 3rd week of February - March 31, 2025
 - The survey will be opened next week Wednesday, February 19
- **Participants** will be contacted via Qualtrics
 - **Target audience:** Energy providers and grid operators and data centre operators / owners
 - Participants can inform the study team of their interests to participate in in-depth interviews

Next steps

Workshop 2:

- **Scope:**
 - Overview of data completeness and quality from the first reporting period
 - Overview of user experience and data management from the first reporting period
 - Preliminary energy efficiency and sustainability assessment
 - The needs and ways to further refine the EU-wide rating scheme for data centres
- **Timeline:** Week of March 31
 - Registration will be opened on the week of February 24
- **Participants** will receive an invitation via Qualtrics
 - The workshop link, agenda and booklet will be provided closer to the workshop date

Thank you for joining us!

