Activity 2.4. Upgrading of testing laboratories in the partner countries, including purchase of testing equipment and training of the personnel.

It is planned to determine the necessary additional capacities in the EEA countries on the basis of data on available capacities of laboratories and the required number of tests. For specific laboratories (created or upgraded), recommendations will be developed on the composition of new equipment, its productivity and operating costs. Accreditation issues will also be elaborated and options will be offered for inter-laboratory comparisons, including the study of international accreditation and the recognition of test results.

The project will provide expert support to the project partners at the stage of procurement of laboratory equipment and will help organize the training of laboratory personnel.

In Kyrgyzstan and Armenia, it is planned to purchase equipment for laboratories in the field of lighting (spectrometers, goniophotometers, luxmeters and ancillary equipment) at the expense of the Project and train specialists. Staff training can be conducted locally or on the basis of operating laboratories in the Russian Federation or other partner countries.

Additionally, within the country components of the project, equipment can be purchased for testing certain types of small household appliances, such as televisions, domestic fans, electric heaters, etc.

At the end of the project, at least 2 laboratories will be established or modernized and at least 20 specialists will undergo a training course or familiarization practice.

Output 3. Consumers' awareness raising on options and benefits of energy efficient technologies, assessment of greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

Activity 3.1. Development and support of a web portal for consumers' awareness raising on energy efficiency and utilization of energy efficient technologies in the EEU countries.

It's planned to develop and maintain regional web portal to accumulate information on the complex support measures to promote energy efficiency. The portal will serve to inform consumers on options and benefits of energy efficient technologies and contribute to activities aimed at energy saving.

The portal will also provide information on the project implementation process and will create additional opportunities for creating a network and exchanging information between target audiences. In the course of the project, various groups of consumers will be provided with access to up-to-date information on energy saving, exchanges of experience and concrete achievements are organized. The portal can be the implementation of specific public initiatives in the form of on-line voting and aimed at promoting energy efficient and environmentally friendly technologies.

Activity 3.2. Elaboration of a roadmap of measures to popularize energy saving in the EEU countries.

The project will focus on raising public awareness of the importance of energy efficiency issues and on simple measures for rational energy use, as well as strengthening the capacity of government authorities to conduct educational and training activities.

The project will conduct an annual review of planned activities and their ranking by mass and target impact. The project will, first of all, analyze all major measures on the polarization of energy efficiency in the EEA countries, prepare a roadmap and suggest synchronizing the activities of countries in this area. This will significantly reduce the costs of project partners in promoting energy efficiency policies, involve more people, and give international status to many successful events. The road activities being developed will take into account the information needs of citizens of the target groups and places of residence.

Activity 3.3. Assessment of impact of energy efficiency standards introduction through sociological surveys and analysis of consumer groups. Assessment of GHG emissions reduction impact.

Studies will be conducted to discover constraining factors influencing utilization of energy saving technologies. The outcomes of these studies will be used for drafting recommendations on differentiated information development and distribution among different group of consumers and introduction of energy efficiency standards. For example, influence of MEPS on utilization of low efficient lamps (incandescence lamps or compact fluorescent lamps) will be estimated. According to the estimation results, additional requirements may be proposed, and energy consumption and GHG emission reduction will be estimated.