

## **DART Partnered with Enercon on Finalization of Building Energy Code (BEC)**

Buildings in Pakistan, after transport and industry are the third largest energy consuming sector. Out of 36 million TOE of annual energy consumption, buildings consume nearly 30%, with a potential to save 35-40% and which translates into an annual saving of electricity, by around 1100 MW.

Energy demand in buildings is essentially on account of cooling, while heating demand is secondary in larger part of the country. Inappropriate building designs, orientation, features and use of in-efficient materials, heating and cooling equipment and apparatus not only provide less comfort to occupants but higher energy bills.

Fast growing energy demand, against a highly constrained supply: with limited resources, has led to a crisis like situation. A relatively quick solution to meet demand from thermal power plants leads to large scale emissions of sulphur, carbon and other pollutants, besides putting a heavy drain on country's forex reserves.

Enercon (Energy Conservation Centre) of the Ministry of Environment drafted BEC and had invited public comments. Owing to relatively poor awareness of Professionals, Regulators, Builders and Residents on the issue, no substantial progress was made on finalization, approval and adoption of BEC as a regulation.

DART undertook an initiative, to re-activate the process of finalization of Code through a fair consultation process with the stakeholders. Enercon on board; DART organized a full day workshop on 11<sup>th</sup> February at Islamabad, as a partner organization. Minister of Environment, Government of Pakistan, was pleased to inaugurate the workshop.

Large number of Engineers, Designers, Architects and Builders, Suppliers and Equipment manufacturers and their association representatives participated. Relevant Government Departments, including various Development Authorities, Public Works, Defense Authorities, Civic Bodies and Housing and Town Planners keenly participated. Participants were distributed into four working groups to provide their valued inputs, comments and recommendations on four building elements duly provided in the Code: Building Envelop, HVAC, Service Water Heating and Lighting. One working group deliberated on the Regulatory Environment and the implementation, assessment and training related issues.

DART representative gave a detailed presentation on "[Why BEC](#)", in the inaugural session: to set the tone for the day's proceedings and to challenge the status quo, maintained by the Professionals and the Regulators on this issue, so far.

Based on the input and feed back of the stakeholders, Enercon is in the process of finalizing the Code and establishing a "Steering Committee" of Government and Private sector stakeholders, to facilitate the Government on adoption, implementation, and creating awareness on Code and to offer their expertise on training and capacity building issues. DART has been specifically authorized to prepare the final version of BEC, for onward submission to the Government for its approval.

