Consultation on the revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010/31/EU

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

As announced in the <u>European Green Deal</u>, the Commission adopted on 14 October 2020 a strategic Communication <u>"Renovation Wave for Europe - greening our buildings, creating jobs, improving lives"</u>. It contains an action plan with specific regulatory, financing and enabling measures for the years to come and pursues the aim to at least double the annual energy renovation rate of buildings by 2030 and to foster deep renovations. It is expected that mobilising forces at all levels towards these goals will result in 35 million building units renovated by 2030.

The <u>Renovation Wave</u> confirms that the existing legislative measures on buildings will neither suffice to achieve the increased EU 2030 climate target of at least 55% emission reduction target and the planned increase in the ambition for energy efficiency, nor the 2050 climate neutrality objective. Therefore, the Renovation Wave communication announces a revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010/31/EU (EPBD) together with a number of areas of legislative and non-legislative reinforcement in relation to building renovation and decarbonisation of buildings. The EPBD is the cornerstone of European legislation in the area of energy performance of buildings. It aims at accelerating the transformation of the EU building stock into a highly energy efficient and decarbonised building stock by 2050.

The Renovation Wave already indicated some specific aspects which will be addressed in the revision of the EPBD, namely: the phased introduction of mandatory minimum energy performance standards for all types of buildings (public and private), an update of the framework for Energy Performance Certificates, the introduction of Building Renovation Passports and the introduction of a 'deep renovation' standard in the context of financing and building decarbonisation objectives. The requirements for new buildings and measures fostering sustainable mobility are also considered to be updated in line with the enhanced climate ambition of the European Green Deal and the Climate Target Plan 2030. This includes addressing resource efficiency and circularity principles in order to reduce whole lifecycle emissions, digitalisation in design, construction and operation of buildings, climate resilience and health and environmental requirements, as well as accessibility for persons with disabilities, and energy poverty, requires consideration. More information is provided in the Inception Impact Assessment.

This questionnaire is part of a larger stakeholder consultation which will feed into the Commission's work on the revision of the EPBD. It builds upon the results from the very extensive and in-depth public consultation for the Renovation Wave that took place between January and September 2020, whose results have been assessed in a <u>dedicated report</u>.

* Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish
- * I am giving my contribution as
 - Academic/research institution
 - Business association
 - Company/business organisation
 - Consumer organisation
 - EU citizen
 - Environmental organisation

- Non-EU citizen
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

* First name

*Surname

KOOS

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koos@eurowindoor.eu

*Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

EuroWindoor AISBL

*Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

255 character(s) maximum

Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

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* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

- Afghanistan
- Djibouti
- Libya

- Åland Islands
- Dominica
- Saint Martin
- \bigcirc Liechtenstein Saint Pierre
 - and Miguelon

Albania	Dominican Republic	Lithuania	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Algeria	Ecuador	Luxembourg	Samoa
American	Egypt	Macau	San Marino
Samoa			
Andorra	El Salvador	Madagascar	São Tomé and Príncipe
Angola	Equatorial Guinea	Malawi	Saudi Arabia
Anguilla	Eritrea	Malaysia	Senegal
Antarctica	Estonia	Maldives	Serbia
Antigua and Barbuda	Eswatini	Mali	Seychelles
Argentina	Ethiopia	Malta	Sierra Leone
Armenia	Falkland Islands	Marshall Islands	Singapore
Aruba	Faroe Islands	Martinique	Sint Maarten
Australia	Fiji	Mauritania	Slovakia
Austria	Finland	Mauritius	Slovenia
Azerbaijan	France	Mayotte	Solomon Islands
Bahamas	French Guiana	Mexico	Somalia
Bahrain	French Polynesia	Micronesia	South Africa
Bangladesh	French Southern and Antarctic Lands	Moldova	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
Barbados	Gabon	Monaco	South Korea
Belarus	Georgia	Mongolia	South Sudan
Belgium	Germany	Montenegro	Spain
Belize	Ghana	Montserrat	Sri Lanka
Benin	Gibraltar	Morocco	Sudan
Bermuda	Greece	Mozambique	Suriname

Bhutan	Greenland	Myanmar	Svalbard and
		/Burma	Jan Mayen
Bolivia	Grenada	Namibia	Sweden
Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba	Guadeloupe	Nauru	Switzerland
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Guam	Nepal	Syria
Botswana	Guatemala	Netherlands	Taiwan
Bouvet Island	Guernsey	New Caledonia	Tajikistan
Brazil	Guinea	New Zealand	Tanzania
British Indian	Guinea-Bissau	Nicaragua	Thailand
Ocean Territory		Ũ	
British Virgin	Guyana	Niger	The Gambia
Islands			
Brunei	Haiti	Nigeria	Timor-Leste
Bulgaria	Heard Island	Niue	Togo
	and McDonald		
0	Islands		
Burkina Faso	Honduras	Norfolk Island	Tokelau
Burundi	Hong Kong	Northern	Tonga
		Mariana Islands	
Cambodia	Hungary	North Korea	Trinidad and
			Tobago
Cameroon	Iceland	North	Tunisia
		Macedonia	
Canada	India	Norway	Turkey
Cape Verde	Indonesia	Oman	Turkmenistan
Cayman Islands	Iran	Pakistan	Turks and
		<u> </u>	Caicos Islands
Central African	Iraq	Palau	Tuvalu
Republic			
Chad	Ireland	Palestine	Uganda
Chile	Isle of Man	Panama	Ukraine

China	Israel	Papua New	United Arab
		Guinea	Emirates
Christmas	Italy	Paraguay	United
Island			Kingdom
Clipperton	Jamaica	Peru	United States
Cocos (Keeling)	Japan	Philippines	United States
Islands			Minor Outlying
			Islands
Colombia	Jersey	Pitcairn Islands	Uruguay
Comoros	Jordan	Poland	US Virgin
			Islands
Congo	Kazakhstan	Portugal	Uzbekistan
Cook Islands	Kenya	Puerto Rico	Vanuatu
Costa Rica	Kiribati	Qatar	Vatican City
Côte d'Ivoire	Kosovo	Réunion	Venezuela
Croatia	Kuwait	Romania	Vietnam
Cuba	Kyrgyzstan	Russia	Wallis and
	, .,		Futuna
Curaçao	Laos	Rwanda	Western
3			Sahara
Cyprus	Latvia	Saint	Yemen
		Barthélemy	
Czechia	Lebanon	Saint Helena	Zambia
		Ascension and	
		Tristan da	
		Cunha	
Democratic	Lesotho	Saint Kitts and	Zimbabwe
Republic of the		Nevis	
Congo			
Denmark	Liberia	Saint Lucia	

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Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

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Part A. Planning and policy instruments

Decarbonisation of buildings

Question 1. The <u>long-term decarbonisation strategy</u> has introduced the concept of zero emission buildings by 2050, in view of achieving carbon neutrality in the long term. Do you agree that such a novel concept should be defined in the EPBD?

- Yes
- No, it is not needed in the EPBD
- No opinion

If yes,

- It should include greenhouse gas emissions covering the whole life-cycle of buildings
- It should include minimum renewable energy share in buildings and city neighbourhoods
- It should refer to a timeline to gradually phase out fossil fuels, in particular for heating and cooling systems

Other - please specify in comment box

* Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

Zero emissions building has to be defined as a clear target standard with concrete minimum requirements: understandable, comprehensible and realizable by market players.

Question 2. Long-Term Renovation Strategies (LTRS) set the vision, roadmap, concrete policy measures and actions, and dedicated financing mechanisms to decarbonise national building stocks by 2050. The <u>first 13 LTRS</u> submitted have been assessed by the Commission. Under the existing legal framework the LTRS are due every 10 years, with a possibility for updates as foreseen under the Governance Regulation.

Should the EPBD provisions on the Long Term Renovation Strategies be modified?

- Yes
- No

* If yes, how?

1000 character(s) maximum

Long-Term Renovation Strategies (LTRS) and Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) / Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) should be more strongly linked.

The member states should have to submit progress reports to the EU Commission every 3 years.

Question 3. Should the monitoring of the objectives identified by MSs in their LTRS be strengthened?

- Yes
- No

If yes,

- Through a specific monitoring tool to be developed by the Commission
- By requiring a 5-year revision of the LTRS
- By developing a common template and requesting specific data and indicators, in order to make the information provided by Member States more comparable
- By requesting more data, especially on greenhouse gas emission effects, to allow assessing the contributions to the EU climate policy targets
- By linking the LTRS to other policies (heating and cooling, renewables, products, etc.)

Other - please specify in comment box

No opinion

* Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

A more frequent reporting of member states would strengthen LTRS. Regarding greenhouse gas emissions reporting should be done on the use phase oft he buildings as already done in several EPCs.

Question 4. Which measures would you add in the EPBD to further support district and city authorities to increase energy efficiency in buildings and to accelerate the rate of replacement of boilers by carbon free ones based on renewable energy?

1000 character(s) maximum

Measures to increase energy efficiency in buildings:

- Provision of funding programs at EU level and / or at Member State level (e.g. through the European Investment Bank (EIB))
- Ensuring that information / advice is available at national and European level
- Introduction of MEPS are essential to accomplish the overall aim

- Supplement to the main requirement with a requirement for the quality of the building envelope, which balances both transmission heat losses and solar heat gains

Replacement of boilers:

Energy Efficiency First principle should prevail. Replacement of heating systems only make sense once building envelop has been upgraded to stabilize the energy needs at a low level and allow an efficient design of the HVAC systems.

Besides, long-term resilience of the building stock can only be secured through energy renovations which bring multiple benefits via improved indoor climate for building owners and occupants.

Resource efficiency and climate resilience in buildings renovation

The European Green Deal points to energy and resource efficiency. Following this, the new <u>Circular</u> <u>Economy Action Plan (CEAP)</u> adopted in March 2020 acknowledges that reaching climate neutrality by 2050 requires highly energy and resource efficient buildings equipped with renewable energy, considering life cycle performance and a more efficient use of resources for building renovation and construction. The Renovation Wave equally sets our actions in this regard, such as the development of a 2050 whole life cycle performance roadmap to reduce carbon emissions from buildings.

Question 5. Do you think a revised EPBD should include measures to report on whole life-cycle carbon emissions from buildings (manufacturing and construction, use and end of life)?

- Yes
- No, the EPBD is not the right tool for this
- I don't know/ No opinion

lf yes,

- For all buildings (new buildings and renovations)
- For all new buildings
- For renovations only
- For all new public buildings
- For renovations of public buildings only
- For a subset of private non-residential buildings such as shopping centres or datacenters
- The opportunity should be considered in the context of the revision evaluation mandated for 2026

Comment:

500 character(s) maximum

For new buildings as a start. Later it can be extended to cover also renovations when methods, tools and data quality are more matured.

First of all, a uniform European evaluation system such as B. "Level (s)", which must be designed with little bureaucracy, to be brought to a conclusion and its functionality checked.

Question 6. Should the EPBD require that the likely impacts of climate change are taken into account in the planning of new buildings and major renovations?

- Yes
- No, the EPBD is not the right tool for this
- No opinion

If yes,

- For new private buildings (residential and non-residential)
- For new public buildings
- For private renovations
- For renovations of public buildings
- In the case of private buildings, only if they are above a certain size
- In case of private buildings, only for a subset of non-residential buildings such as offices or commercial buildings
- The opportunity should be considered in the context of the revision evaluation mandated for 2026

Question 7. As announced in the Renovation Wave, the Commission will develop

a 2050 whole life-cycle performance roadmap¹ to reduce carbon emissions from

buildings and advancing national benchmarking with Member States. How do you think the EPBD could contribute to this roadmap?

1000 character(s) maximum

Define the timeline in good advance for different building types and make sure to make available common templates for reporting. Building passports and EPCs will play an important role in gathering good quality data.

It is important to note in the EPBD that a holistic and integrated approach must be followed in the roadmap to the life cycle assessment. So e.g. take into account that certain carbon emissions are already covered in the EU emissions trading system, e.g. in building materials.

¹The Roadmap is one of the actions foreseen in the Renovation Wave Communication (COM(2020) 662 final) to make the construction ecosystem fit to deliver sustainable renovation.

Nearly zero-energy buildings (NZEB)

Question 8. The EPBD requires all new buildings from 2021 (public buildings from 2019) to be nearly zero-energy buildings (NZEB). According to <u>Article 2</u> "nearly zero-energy building" means a building that has a very high energy performance, as determined in accordance with Annex I. The nearly zero or very low amount of energy required should be covered to a very significant extent from renewable sources, including sources produced on-site or nearby. Do you think that the current definitions for NZEBs are ambitious enough to contribute towards a fully decarbonised building stock?

- Yes, the current definition is ambitious enough
- No
- No opinion

lf no,

- The current definition should be updated to put clear limits to energy use and minimum levels of renewables and incorporate green-house gas emissions targets
- The current definition should be replaced by a definition of "zero emissions buildings"
- Other please specify in comment box

* Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

More holistic approach is needed to secure long-term resilience of new buildings and a sustainable building stock: inclusion of influent parameters such as indoor environmental quality, health, energy and climate.

Question 9. Numeric thresholds or ranges for NZEBs are not defined in the EPBD. While this allows Member States to set their NZEB levels taking into account their national context, it also results in widely differing definitions from country to country. Is a more harmonised definition of NZEB necessary?

- Yes
- No, it is not necessary
- I don't know/ No opinion

Deeper building renovations

Question 10. Deep renovation is understood to be a renovation that should generate at least 60% energy savings, whether carried out in a single stage or in a number of staged renovations. In your view, would it be beneficial to provide a legal definition of "deep renovation" in the EPBD?

- Yes
- No, a definition would add further complexity
- I don't know/ No opinion

If yes,

- The definition should relate to energy savings only
- The definition should relate to energy savings also expressed in terms of greenhouse gas emissions related to the use of energy
- The definition should relate to both operational and embodied greenhouse gas emissions covering emissions from the full life-cycle of buildings
- The definition should cover broader aspects that have an impact on the quality of renovations, such as health and environmental standards, accessibility for persons with disabilities, climate resilience or others - please specify in comment box
- Other please specify in comment box

*Other broad aspects? Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

Renovation quality like indoor environmental quality, health and climate during winter and summer as well as security and accessibility for persons with disabilities is of higher impact for building owners than energy efficiency and should therefore be included as critical parameters to define "deep renovations". See Navigant Study for the European Commission, 2019 https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/1.final_report.pdf

Mandatory renovation/minimum performance requirements are one of the most impactful measures for increasing the rate of building renovation and have already been explored and implemented in some Member States. Their aim is to firm up investors' expectations by setting a path for the improvement of the energy performance of different classes of buildings thus gradually increasing the average performance of the national building stock. Mandatory renovation/minimum performance requirements could be introduced progressively and target specific segments as a priority.

Question 11. In your opinion, should the EPBD introduce mandatory minimum energy performance standards to be applied in the EU, subject to specific conditions to be determined?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know/ No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

The successful implementation of MEPS will strongly depend on a solid financing framework at both EU and Member State level to ensure ad-hoc and tailor-made financing schemes.

Question 12. What type of minimum energy performance standards do you consider most appropriate?

- Building-level performance standards, focusing on the overall energy efficiency of the building (for example linked to an Energy Performance Certificates ('EPC') class or the energy codes, specific energy consumption, another carbon metric, etc.)
- Building element-level performance standards, setting specific minimum levels of building elements (for the envelope and/or the technical building systems including heating and cooling)
- Minimum quality standards, including also other aspects beyond energy performance, such as thermal comfort - please specify in comment box
- Others please specify in comment box
- I don't know / No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1500 character(s) maximum

We consider it necessary to observe the following criteria when introducing minimum standards:

- Economic feasibility of the standards
- Established in stages over the following decades
- Introduction with a very long lead time
- Climate-neutral target standard,
- Intermediate steps, if necessary by energy classes.

Setting standards for building elements could have a excluding and prescribing effect and is unfavourable since innovation could be counteracted.

The future MEPS Framework should secure the engagement and strong acceptance from end-users and building-owners by encompassing minimum quality standards (health, comfort, Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) levels).

Question 13. In your view, for which category of buildings should mandatory minimum energy performance standards be applied?

at most 2 choice(s)

- All residential and non-residential buildings
- All residential buildings being sold and/or rented out
- All residential buildings
- A subset of residential buildings to be defined (please specify in comment box)
- All non-residential buildings
- All non-residential buildings being sold and/or rented out
- A subset of non-residential buildings to be defined (please specify in comment box)
- All public buildings (with a total floor area of more than 250 m2)
- Only to worst-performing buildings irrespective of their ownership and use profile
- Other (please specify in comment box)
- I don't know / No opinion

*Other? Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

It should be a phased approach starting with prioritized building segments, like maybe public owned ones. Historical heritage and listed buildings should of course benefit from and exemption to preserve the architectural integrity.

Question 14. Do you think that mandatory minimum energy performance standards should be introduced:

- Yes
- No, I don't believe that mandatory minimum standards are appropriate
- I don't know / No opinion

If yes,

- Linked to specific moments in the life cycle of a building, for example a transaction (e.g. the sale, rental or lease of a building)
- On the basis of a timetable for a staged approach to achieve specific energy performance levels
- Other please specify in the comment box

* Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

MAPS should be introduced, but linked to specific moments of the buildings life cycle and should occur in stages.

Question 15. In your view, what is the most important element that could guarantee a successful roll-out of mandatory minimum energy performance standards?

- The availability of financial support to buildings owners
- The correct identification of the worst-performing buildings
- The presence of a stable legal framework
- The availability of adequate workforce capacity to do renovations
- The availability of emerging technologies facilitating rapid renovation works
- Other please specify in comment box
- I don't know / No opinion

* Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

MAPS should be introduced, but linked to specific moments of the buildings life cycle and should occur in stages.

Public buildings

Question 16. In your view, which of the following regulatory measures should be envisaged to increase the rate and depth of renovation of public buildings in a sustainable manner?

- Introduction of more stringent minimum energy performance requirements for renovation of public buildings
- Introduction of minimum energy performance standards in public buildings, with an obligation to achieve progressively more ambitious levels
- Introduction of life cycle aspects in the design, construction and operation of refurbished public buildings (e.g. circular approaches like extension of service life, adaptability and flexibility, reuse and recycling of materials)
- Introduction of climate resilience aspects in the design and operation of new and refurbished public buildings
- Other please specify in comment box
- I don't know / No opinion

* Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

Introduction of minimum energy performance standards in public buildings, with an obligation to achieve progressively more ambitious levels, as well as Introduction of life cycle aspects in the design, construction and operation of refurbished public buildings.

Public bodies should lead by example and become front runners to transform EU buildings into a sustainable and healthy building stock.

Electromobility

Question 17. The provisions on electromobility in Article 8 of the EPBD targeting the installation of recharging points in car parks adjacent to buildings were recently introduced. With the strengthened climate ambition and the increased incentives towards the uptake of electric cars but also with the strong increase in (electric) bike /cargo-bike use, do you think there is a need to strengthen the requirements?

	Yes	No	I don't know/ No opinion
For new residential buildings		0	0
For refurbished buildings	0	0	0
For new non-residential buildings	0	0	0
For refurbished non-residential buildings	0	0	0

Question 18. In your view, what kind of requirement would be needed?

	Yes	No	l don't know/ No opinion	
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The installation of recharging points to support smart charging, allowing to monitor, control and optimise energy usage when recharging electric vehicles	0	0	0
The inclusion of provisions for recharging points for vehicles other than cars (e. g. e-bikes)	0	0	0
To give owners of an apartment in multi-dwelling buildings the right to install a recharging point for their parking spot in the shared parking garage (right to plug)	۲	0	O

Other measures? Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

Question 19. Are you aware of administrative barriers preventing the deployment of charging points in buildings in your country?

- Yes
- No

Part B. Information provision and energy performance certificates

Energy performance certificates (EPCs)

Energy performance certificates (EPCs) is an instrument aimed at informing building owners, tenants and users about the cost of heating and cooling, savings that investments would bring and offer benchmarks to compare similar buildings. EPCs are also needed to link preferential financing conditions to quality renovations. Under the existing EU regulatory framework, EPCs are compulsory for buildings being built, sold or rented and the energy class of the EPC must also be shown in advertisement media. They are also compulsory for buildings over 250 m2 occupied by a public authority and frequently visited by the public. EPCs can also be used to plan policy or to monitor the performance of measures when these are implemented. However, the coverage of such certificates strongly differs across Member States.

Question 20. Do you agree that the framework for Energy Performance Certificates should be updated and their quality improved?

- Yes
- No, it's not necessary
- Other please specify in the comment box
- I don't know / No opinion

* Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

Public bodies should lead by example and become front runners to transform EU buildings into a sustainable and healthy building stock.

Question 21. Is harmonization of EPCs needed to accelerate the increase of building performance and how can it be achieved?

- Yes, it is needed and can be achieved by introducing a common template
- Yes, it is needed and can be achieved by other means please specify in comment box
- Yes, it is needed but some national specification should be retained please specify in comment box
- No, harmonisation is not needed
- I don't know / No opinion

*National specifications? Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

On a national level specific differences can be made based on climate and economical possibilities.

Please explain your choice:

500 character(s) maximum

The introduction of harmonized energy certificates should take place gradually. In the case of private buildings, the introduction should remain mandatory depending on the occasion (construction, sale, rental).

Question 22. How would you rate the following elements in order to improve the quality and impact of EPC requirements?

- 0 No opinion
- 1 Not important
- 2 Of little importance
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Important
- 5 Very important

	0	1	2	3	4	5
Improve training for independent experts	۲	0	0	۲	۲	\odot
Develop professional qualification schemes or labels for installers of technical buildings systems	0	0	0	0	۲	0

Improve quality control mechanisms	0	0	0	0	۲	0
Include further information on estimated costs, energy savings or cost savings	0	0	0	0	۲	0
Include information on non-financial benefits such as increased comfort and climate resilience	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Tailor the recommendations towards deep renovations	۲	۲	۲	0	۲	0
Develop an accessible EPC database with further information on the EPC, explanation of the different terms, benchmarks and comparison with similar buildings	0		0	۲	0	0
Increase the number of mandatory indicators to include: greenhouse gas emissions, generation of renewable energy, breakdown of different energy uses (e.g. heating, ventilation, lighting, etc.) or type of systems installed	0	0	0	۲	0	0
Increase the interoperability with other tools such as digital building logbooks, SRIs and renovation passports.	0	0	0	0	۲	0

Comment:

500 character(s) maximum

User-accessible information should strengthen information that are relevant for building owners and occupants, and inform them about parameter that could trigger more renovation (indoor climate, comfort, health)

In the project to improve the energy certificates, it is very important that the practical feasibility is guaranteed with the lowest possible effort and without financial and bureaucratic burden. This is also important to ensure that this project is accepted by the citizens.

Question 23. Which elements are the most important to ensure compliance with EPC requirements?

at most 3 choice(s)

- Provision of detailed guidelines for EPC (including use of visual identity, common logo, recommended indicators)
- More stringent penalties in case of non-compliance, for instance in relation to the advertisement of sales or rent of buildings
- Extend liability to all the market actors involved in the selling/renting of properties
- Making EPCs mandatory to access any financial incentive targeting buildings renovations
- Accessible EPC database with benchmarks allowing comparison with similar buildings

- Introduce information flow and cross-checks between EPC databases and other databases containing information on buildings or products (e.g. national building registry or cadastre, energy labelling database for products, digital building logbooks, other national statistics, etc.)
- Other measures please specify in comment box

Smartness of buildings and wider modernisation

Question 24. The objective of the Building Renovation Passport (BRP) is to provide a long-term, step-by-step renovation roadmap for a specific building based on quality criteria, following an energy audit, and outlining relevant measures and renovations that could improve the energy performance and the quality of the building. The BRP schemes and initiatives in the EU are diverse and most of them have not reached their full potential, while some are still at the research phase. Which measures do you think could best support the uptake of a building renovation passport?

at most 3 choice(s)

- Guidelines and best practice exchange on how the BRP can support the objectives of the Long Term Renovation Strategy
- National/regional communication campaigns to increase awareness of the BRPs
- Training of energy experts
- Making funds, such as the European Energy Efficiency Fund or ELENA, available to the Member States for BRP development and implementation
- Guidelines on how to support and enable banks to offer a favourable interest rate on loans/mortgages which are linked to a BRP
- Legal requirement to be introduced in the EPBD review for the Commission to develop a common template for BRPs
- Legal requirement to be introduced in the EPBD review for the Commission to develop a voluntary BRP scheme
- Legal requirement to be introduced in the EPBD review stating that BRP becomes mandatory for certain building types (replicating the EPC regulations, buildings for sale, etc.) after 2030.
- No measure is necessary
- Other please specify in comment box
- I don't know / No opinion

Question 25. The Commission has created a uniform scheme for Smart Readiness Indicators in the EU. The scheme is currently voluntary, and has the potential to promote the digitalisation of buildings and the role that buildings can play in smart sector integration.

What would you consider to be the best ways in which the Smart Readiness Indicator could support the role of buildings in smart sector integration?

- Continue with the current framework and focus on its implementation on a voluntary basis
- Introduce SRI as mandatory requirement for non-residential buildings
- Introduce SRI as mandatory requirement for all new buildings
- Introduce SRI as mandatory requirement for all buildings
- Support the development of links between the SRI and other schemes (e.g. EPCs, building renovation passports, building logbooks, etc.)
- Other please specify in comment box
- I don't know / No opinion

* Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

The existing SRI needs to be revised into a more holistic approach taking into account other aspects than energy (e.g. daylight, indoor environment and dynamic envelope).

Question 26. Do you think that the EPBD can contribute in making a wider range of building-related data on the energy performance of a building and its related construction and renovation works, across its life cycle, available and accessible? (note: building related data can come from a variety of sources: SRI, logbook and EPCs, Level(s), grant schemes, building permits, digital models)

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please explain your answer:

1000 character(s) maximum

It could create a better holistic framework and overlapping of different regulations could be avoided.

Part 3. Enabling more accessible and affordable financing for building renovation

Question 27. The Renovation Wave Communication identify the need of sensible additional investments in building renovation in order to double the yearly renovation rate across Europe, decarbonise the building stock and achieve 2030 energy efficiency targets. Public financing alone will not be enough to achieve these objectives; it will be seminal to enable more accessible and affordable private financing options for building renovation. How would you rate the following possible forms of support to renovations?

- 0 No opinion
- 1 Not important
- 2 Of little importance
- 3 Moderately important
- 4 Important
- 5 Very important

	0	1	2	3	4	5
Public guarantee for commercial banks to offer low-interest loans for renovation of worst performing buildings	۲	۲	0	0	۲	0
Direct grants support to low-income citizens living on worst performing buildings	۲	۲	۲	۲	0	0
ESCOs financing of low-interest loans payback through on-bill recovery		۲	۲	۲	0	0
Tax incentives during a period of time to provide additional economic support	۲	۲	۲	0	0	۲
One stop shops for all types of renovation advice	0	۲	۲	۲	۲	\odot
Support the development of energy efficiency mortgages and other innovative financing options that will enable private financing institutions to offer low-interest loans based on the improvements of energy performance of buildings or on building renovation passports	0	0	0	0	۲	0
Technical assistance facilities supporting the development of building renovation project for the building stock of local and regional authorities	0	0	0	۲	0	0

Other kind of support? Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

Question 28. Deep renovations do not always result in a rapid return on investment. In your opinion, how public financial incentives can be used to stimulate deeper renovations across the EU?

1000 character(s) maximum

Following the Energy Efficiency First principle the return on investment will increase. At first the building envelop has to be upgraded to stabilize the energy needs at a low level, which allows an efficient design of the HVAC systems when replacing afterwards.

Question 29. Do you think that funding support to renovations should be linked to the depth of renovation?

- Yes
- No, it is not necessary
- I don't know / No opinion

If yes,

- The intensity of funding should depend on the depth of renovations based on the Energy Performance Certificates ('EPC') class achieved
- All public funding scheme for private building renovation should consider a mandatory minimum requirement of at least 60% energy savings
- All public funding scheme for private building renovation should consider a mandatory minimum requirement of at least 30% energy savings
- Other please specify in the comment box

* Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

Public funding should support deeper renovation, but should not exclude funding of minor renovation as this could be the only option available for low-income households to initiate energy renovations.

Question 30. In your view, which of the following measures would help to further support the renovation of public buildings?

- Technical assistance for public authorities (national, regional, local) to design and implement comprehensive renovation programmes (ELENA model), including linkages other related climate-resilience policies in urban and rural areas
- Enhanced deployment and capacity building for energy performance contracting in the public sector (including accounting rules)

- Financial incentives to support companies providing energy performance contracting
- Public-private partnerships to inform and assist efforts of public authorities for building renovation and ease access to financing
- Framework contracts at national, regional or local level with the specific objective of renovating public buildings
- Other measures please specify in comment box
- I don't know/ No opinion

Question 31. As part of their Long-Term Renovation Strategies (LTRS), Member States must outline relevant national measures to reduce energy poverty. The Renovation Wave Communication indicates a number of measures to tackle energy poverty and renovate worst-performing buildings, including social housing. It also states that vulnerable households must be shielded from rent increases that may follow renovations. What do you think are the most important policy areas addressing energy poverty to be further reinforced?

at most 3 choice(s)

- Targeted financial support for lower and middle income households
- Minimum energy performance standards coupled with financing that limits the monthly net expenditure of the inhabitants
- Other additional legislative measures (please specify in the comment box)
- The Affordable Housing Initiative
- The Energy Poverty Observatory
- Other measures (please specify in the comment box)
- I don't know / No opinion

Further comments

Question 32. Do you have any further comments on policy aspects relevant for the decarbonisation of building which are not covered above?

1000 character(s) maximum

We recommend supporting via the EPBD the implementation of energy requirements for renovation based on energy balance instead of heat losses only to better account for the windows' contribution and to have a more realistic evaluation of expectable energy savings.

Currently, Member States have regulated windows mainly by Uw-values (heat-loss). However, when the effect of solar gain is left out, the real performance is not reflected and this is not in line with the objectives of sustainable development or giving the right assessment of a window's real contribution to the performance of a building envelope.

We support a binding energy efficiency target of at least 40% and recommend introducing in the EED a sector-specific sub-target for the building sector. A sector specific sub-target for the building sector could be connected with the Long-Term Renovation Strategies in the EPBD.

Contact

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