

Financing Sustainable Buildings

“Quizzing the Stakeholders”



25th June 2013

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Session 1: Sustainable Buildings – What are the Benefits

- 1) In addition to high performance on energy efficiency, which are the major benefits of sustainable buildings?
 - they focus on performance throughout their life-cycle
 - they minimise resource use and generate less waste
 - they promote comfort and well-being of occupants
 - **all of the above**

- 2) On average, how many direct new jobs are created in Europe for every 1 million euro invested in ambitious energy efficiency measures in buildings¹?
 - 4
 - 12
 - **19**
 - 27

- 3) A recent UK study² demonstrates that for each 1£ invested in energy efficient renovations, the health costs to the UK public finances will be reduced by:
 - £0.24
 - £0.36
 - **£0.42**
 - £0.56

- 4) The measured additional cost of building a sustainable building as compared to a building that just meets current regulations is in the range³:
 - **0-5%**
 - 6-10%
 - 11-15%
 - 16-20%

- 5) According to a recent study⁴ what is the top social reason globally for companies (architects, engineers contractors, owners and consultants) to choose Building Green?
 - **The impact on health and well-being**
 - Due to company-set sustainable business practices
 - Increased worker productivity
 - Local community relations

¹ How many jobs ?, A survey of the Employment Effects of Investment in Energy Efficiency of Buildings, The Energy Efficiency Industrial Forum, 2012

² Kirkless Warm Zone, the Project and its Impact on well-being, University of Ulster, Liddell, Morris, Lagdon, 2011

³ Sector guide on Buildings – Exploring the sustainable buildings of tomorrow, Sustainia

⁴ World Green Building Trends, McGraw Hill Construction, 2013

Session 2: EU Policies for Buildings – What Next?

- 1) Which are the 3 sectors accounting for 70-80% of all environmental impacts in Europe⁵?
 - Industry, Mobility and Housing
 - Energy, Mobility and Industry
 - **Nutrition, Mobility and Housing**
 - Health, Energy and Housing

- 2) What is the proportion of materials extracted from the earth which is used for buildings⁶?
 - 20%
 - 30%
 - **50%**
 - 65%

- 3) In OECD countries, what percentage of their life do people spend on average inside buildings?
 - About 30 %
 - About 50%
 - About 70%
 - **About 90%**

- 4) According to the 2008 EU Directive on Waste, what is the percentage of construction and demolition waste to be recycled by 2020?
 - 30%
 - 50%
 - 60%
 - **70%**

- 5) A recent EU Study⁷ showed that the value of societal benefits from investments in energy efficient renovations in the EU budget in the period up to 2018 could be as high as:
 - €100 billion
 - €145 billion
 - €215 billion
 - **€290 billion**

⁵ Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe, 2011

⁶ Communication on Sustainable Buildings, 2012

⁷ Multiple Benefits of Investing in Energy Efficient Renovations - Impact on Public Finances, Copenhagen Economics, October 2012

Session 3: Financing Models – Which are Successful and Why?

- 1) What is the most used form of financial incentive used by EU Member States?
 - **Grants and subsidies**
 - Tax reductions
 - Preferential loans
 - Reduced VAT on services

- 2) Which country used the biggest % of its EU funding toward energy efficiency projects in the 2007-2013 period?
 - Sweden
 - Poland
 - **Lithuania**
 - UK

- 3) What is the average proven energy savings that can be achieved through the use of an Energy Performance Contracting approach?
 - 15%
 - **27%**
 - 35%
 - 52%

- 4) What is the rate of return⁸ that an ambitious energy efficient renovation programme can deliver:
 - Less than 5%
 - 6-10%
 - **11-14%**
 - Greater than 15%

- 5) What is the best policy instrument to boost investor confidence in energy efficient, sustainable buildings?
 - Reduced taxation on labour intensive services
 - **Binding energy efficiency targets for buildings**
 - Binding greenhouse gas emissions targets
 - Banning the rental of low performance buildings

⁸ Europe's buildings under the Microscope, A country-by-country review of the energy performance of buildings, Buildings Performance Institute Europe, 2011