

How to Make the Most of It! *Energy Efficiency Legislation in the 'Clean Energy for All Europeans' Package* *Position Paper of EuroACE*

Message: “Clean Energy for All” is best delivered by energy renovation of buildings

Why?

Because rolling out ambitious energy renovation programmes will contribute to increased **growth, more local quality jobs, and improved health, well-being and comfort** for all Europeans.

The energy renovation market in the EU is estimated to be worth about €100bn annually and is employing around 880,000 people¹. **Boosting this market** from its current low level of activity (1% per annum) to achieve the real potential in existing buildings (3% per annum) will therefore **significantly contribute** to increased economic activity and job creation in the EU.

There is a **once-in-a-decade opportunity** to improve the regulatory framework and make it fit for accelerating investments in energy renovation works. Implementing energy efficiency first in buildings is truly a policy for the people and for a **better life at home, at school or at work**. Moreover, energy renovation that delivers highly energy efficient buildings is the cornerstone for the decarbonisation of the building stock and an essential enabler for the transformation of our energy system.



Background

On 30th November 2016, the European Commission unveiled a *Winter Package* entitled ‘**Clean Energy for all Europeans**’, which included proposals for reviewing the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) and a Regulation on Governance.

EuroACE, whose member companies employ over **280,000 workers** in the manufacture and sale of products, equipment and services for energy efficient buildings, realises that these publications are just a first step in the legislative process towards the creation of a coherent, ambitious legislative framework for significantly improved energy performance and comfort of buildings in the EU. EuroACE will work to ensure that its recommendations are taken into account in the months ahead.



This paper provides an overview of the **EuroACE Position** on certain files from the *Winter Package* (EPBD, EED, Governance), including **some examples from the local or national level**, showing that the approaches suggested by EuroACE are already implemented in some parts of the EU, bringing tangible benefits for governments, businesses and people. EuroACE calls on the co-legislators to **ensure that there is real coherence** between the different pieces of legislation included in the *Winter Package*, which need to be **discussed in parallel** during the negotiation phase.

¹ See Chapter 1 of *Energy Transition of the EU Building Stock* by OpenExp at:

<http://openexp.eu/publications/energy-transition-eu-building-stock-unleashing-4th-industrial-revolution-europe>

EuroACE Recommendations to the Co-Legislators:

Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)

Revisions should result in a better regulatory framework for action on existing buildings as it is widely acknowledged that the energy savings that need to be made to achieve the 2030 target must come from energy renovation works across the EU. The building stock must also be prepared to play its full role in a re-designed, transformed energy system.

- #1 Include an ambitious and clearly defined long-term vision, that puts **Energy Efficiency First** delivering a highly energy efficient, comfortable and decarbonised building stock by 2050
- #2 Elaborate, strengthen and implement **national long-term renovation strategies** to deliver the 2050 vision, taking account of adopted standards that ensure high energy performance and increased comfort
- #3 Provide a framework that inspires Member States to set **appropriate trigger points** in the life of their buildings for energy renovation works to be undertaken
- #4 Ensure better information to building owners and users promoting the evolution of Energy Performance Certificates into **Building Renovation Passports**
- #5 Optimise **technical building systems** to enhance energy efficiency and controllability of buildings and accelerate digitalisation and use of advanced technologies towards **Smart Buildings**

Energy Efficiency Directive

Setting the right, cost-effective level of energy efficiency target will deliver policy predictability and instil confidence in market players such as investors, industry and building owners. The tools put at the disposal of Member States via the articles of this directive should therefore be geared to boost energy renovation rates across the EU.

- #6 Boost certainty for energy efficiency markets by setting a **40% energy efficiency target for 2030** binding at EU level
- #7 Ensure that **Article 7 unlocks investments** in energy renovations and helps to achieve the long-term ambition for buildings
- #8 Clarify precisely **which measures are eligible** for inclusion under Article 7 and **accurately define additionality**

Governance Regulation

Restructuring the reporting, evaluation and enforcement procedures that govern the implementation of the Energy Union Framework, should strengthen the probability that the EU will achieve its 2030 and 2050 targets. It will be best achieved via full stakeholder involvement and alignment with the commitments made under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

- #9 Guarantee that the preparation, reporting and monitoring of national energy and climate plans are **fully aligned and coherent with** the adopted timeline for similar actions under the **Paris Agreement on Climate Change**
- #10 Set the enabling conditions for **full engagement of relevant stakeholders** in the preparation and implementation of national energy and climate plans

We invite the co-legislators and concerned stakeholders to support our recommendations, which are further developed in the narratives contained in the following pages.