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Edito

Dear reader,

This autumn marks the 5th anniversary of BPIE's first report publication and first event on the topic of Financing Energy Efficiency in Buildings. Not surprisingly, this topic is still high on the political agenda, maybe even higher than it used to be, as decision-makers increasingly understand the many benefits linked to improving the energy performance of buildings.

During these years, we have always been dedicated to staying at the forefront of innovative thinking and analysis, whether through our work on nearly-Zero Energy Buildings, our European data and policy surveys and our analytical reports on Member States, to name but a few initiatives. Today, we are contributing to shifting the debate on energy and buildings. One of our latest publications is a discussion paper on the "Active Role of Buildings in Transforming the Energy Market". We are convinced that buildings will be active components in a decentralised, low-carbon energy system.

Much of our work is done in a collaborative manner. We are proud of our broad network of partners and supporters, ranging from the European Commission, the World Bank and the European Climate Foundation, to the many research partners based in EU Member States. As a not-for-profit think-tank, we have the freedom to provide analysis which is sometimes "inconvenient", and we have the responsibility to be evidence-based and constructive. And we want to stay relevant, we aim at being innovative and cutting-edge.

I therefore hope that you will continue to follow our work, that you will remain an active stakeholder contributing to our debates and events, and that you will keep supporting our work in the future. The BPIE team is always happy to hear from you!

With warm regards from Brussels,

Oliver Rapf, Executive Director

Highlight



Discussion paper: the active role of buildings in a transforming energy market

Energy efficiency and technologies supporting demand response, energy storage and advanced renewable energy installations are essential for accelerating the decarbonisation of the energy sector. Buildings have an important role to play in transforming the energy market. A new [BPIE discussion paper](#) describes the role of the sector, presents strategies and enabling measures to speed up the interaction between the energy and building sector. The [paper](#) argues for a comprehensive vision for the integration of demand response, renewable energy production and storage in buildings and calls for a stronger policy focus on the topic.

News



[Tool] Datasets on the transition to an nZEB market place

The [ZEBRA2020 data tool](#) offers a user-friendly presentation of indicators of nearly-Zero Energy Buildings constructed after 2010 in selected European countries (AU, BE, CZ, DE, FR, IT, LU, NL, NO, PO, SLO, SE). It aims at providing information related to the overall building stock, including renovation and construction, and monitors the development of Energy Performance Certificates. The [tool](#) differentiates residential and non-residential nZEBs and shows some of the most significant indicators regarding energy performance, passive and active solutions as well as production of renewable energy. Maps and graph data series can be exported. The [tool](#) will soon feature policies implemented in the building sector linked to relevant quantitative indicators.






[Article] Role of Buildings Renovation for Economic Stability and Energy Security in Poland

At the 25th Economic Forum in Poland, a panel discussed how renovation of the building stock contributes to economic growth and stability while improving energy security at the same time. The debate concluded that taking the multiple benefits into account can inspire the creation of ambitious renovation plans, as the expected air quality improvement in Krakow through renovation demonstrates. Mixing local and EU funding is an effective answer to lack of upfront financing. [Read the full article.](#)



[Tool] Launch of the Building Energy Codes Portal

This [web portal](#) supports international knowledge exchange on building-energy-codes implementation by providing information and sharing experiences and resources from around the globe. The material available gives an overview of the implementation of building energy codes according to specific topics such as: history and scope of codes; institutional arrangements for implementation; supportive tools and capacity building; enforcement mechanisms; systems to test and rate building materials. The portal was developed by the Global Buildings

	<p>Performance Network, in consultation with governments participating in the IPEEC Building Energy Efficiency Taskgroup (BEET).</p>
	<p>[Article] Perceptions versus real change. Is the building market ready to value energy efficiency?</p> <p>A recent survey, conducted within the EU-funded project ZEBRA2020 among real-estate agents from 8 Member States and with over 610 respondents, points to difficulties in using Energy Performance Certificates as instruments that create market demand. Real-estate agents were asked for their professional opinion on the main factors that households consider when selecting properties to rent or buy. The analysis of the survey's answers points to a set of significant findings that are further developed in the European Energy Innovation magazine (page 42).</p>
	<p>[Report] Existing monitoring initiatives and database systems</p> <p>This new report puts together a picture of the key features of the ideal Energy Performance Certificates database by analysing a series of best case practices. The authors derive recommendations on how to best draw out the potential of a well-functioning EPC database system and list the many benefits of a reliable system.</p> <p>The report was developed within the EU-funded project Request2Action.</p>
	<p>[Tool] Upcoming launch of a tool to track refurbishment progress</p> <p>A new tool, available from the end of October on BPIE's Data Hub, will allow users to view statistical data related to the energy performance of residential buildings. The tool shows the characteristics of the housing stock current state for 20 countries and modernisation trends determined based on monitoring pilot actions of the energy refurbishment progress for 16 countries resulting from the EPISCOPE project. It allows comparing countries and provides policy information, such as the definitions for nearly-Zero Energy Buildings. To be informed when the tool is available, click here.</p>

Focus on... coming events

Discuss the future of buildings efficiency with DG Energy, the German Ministry of Economic Affairs, German Energy Agency dena and BPIE, October 21, Brussels

This workshop, "[Raising Energy Efficiency in the European Building Stock](#)", will allow participants to discuss the political parameters that apply to energy-efficient building refurbishments in Europe. Concrete market-oriented strategies used by selected Member States to tap into the energy efficiency potential in the building sector will be explored. A [detailed agenda and registration](#) are available.

Renovating Germany's building stock: an economic appraisal from the investors' perspective, November 10, Berlin

The event will present results and recommendations from BPIE's latest report, to be launched on November 10. The report informs and supports the development of a comprehensive buildings strategy for Germany. Different scenarios are explored focusing on the economic viability of different levels of renovation, with the perspective of an investor. [Pre-register to this event and receive more information when available.](#)

Workshop: Towards an energy efficient European housing stock, November 18, Brussels

Building stock models to assess refurbishment processes and plan future energy consumption are important to monitor progress on national and European level. This [workshop](#) will present scenario analyses conducted in 16 European countries to track the implementation of energy saving measures and their impact on consumption in practice.

Leading experts and representatives from the European Commission will discuss methods of building stock monitoring, scenario analyses of trends and perspectives of energy performance and CO2 emissions. The discussion will also highlight the necessary supporting policy actions. [Registrations are now open.](#)

Innovative retrofitting solutions, November 26, Turin

[Restructura Expo](#) gathers experts from across Europe active in the field of energy efficiency in buildings. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in a constructive debate on innovative retrofitting solutions, organised by the [EASEE consortia](#). The market penetration of these solutions will also be explored. [Registrations are now open.](#)

A roadmap for the improvement of earthquake resistance and eco-efficiency of existing buildings and cities, November 26-27, Ispra

This technical forum, organised by the Joint Research Centre in Italy, will convene experts from across Europe, including BPIE. It will address the challenge of improving structural safety and resilience as well as eco-efficiency (sustainability, energy efficiency, use of resources) of the European existing building heritage. Different plenary sessions will cover aspects such as Architecture and City Planning, Energy, Materials, Structures and Finance. [Download the brochure.](#)

Buildings Day at COP21, December 3, Paris

This year's UNFCCC COP21 will feature the first '[Buildings Day](#)', an event presenting how the building and construction sector can tackle climate change. The current 30% of global CO2-emissions from the building and construction sector could rise to 50% by 2050. Therefore, the '[Buildings Day](#)' will focus on public strategies and policies, finance and value chain solutions to reduce carbon emissions, and provide an opportunity to launch an alliance of organizations. The Global Buildings Performance Network (GBPN) is part of this alliance. A recent [BPIE article](#) summarises the developments.

Save the date: World Sustainable Energy Days 2016, February 24-26, Wels

The [World Sustainable Energy Days \(WSED\) conference](#) in Austria offers a unique combination of events on sustainable energy, including important contributions to raise awareness in the fields of renewable energy and energy efficiency. WSED is one of the largest annual conferences on this topic in Europe and has already been taking place for over 20 years. Last year it gathered experts from over 750 participants from 64 countries.

Call for abstracts - Improving Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings (IEECB'16) and Smart Communities, March 16-18, Frankfurt

[IEECB's conference](#), addressed to energy policy-makers, academic, researchers and energy efficiency experts, ESCOs and much more, aims at promoting and diffusing the concept of energy efficiency in new and existing commercial buildings and enlarge the market for low-consuming and sustainable buildings. A [call for abstract](#) is opened until October 30. Topics range from lighting to building envelope, HVAC and ICT.

Where to meet us?

In addition to the events announced above, BPIE will participate to the following events in the coming weeks:

- [30 October - NEED4B Low Energy Buildings Symposium, Mons, Belgium](#)
- [18-20 November – RENEXPO South- East Europe, 8th International Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Trade Faire of Romania, in Bucharest](#)
- [19 November - 5th European Grid Conference – “Digital Energy and the Power Grid: Trends and Opportunities” in Brussels](#)

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