

January 2016

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## Editorial

Dear reader,

The year 2016 carries high hopes regarding action to reduce our climate footprint. The Paris Agreement at COP21 and its global temperature increase limit of 1.5 degrees Celsius empowers decision-makers in policy and business to develop and act on measures to stay below this threshold. Our new report on the [untapped innovation potential in the construction sector](#) highlights the many opportunities to transform the industry so that it is able to respond pro-actively to the challenge of climate change. With this innovation opportunity comes an enormous investment opportunity which can provide reliable and stable long-term returns. In an [economic appraisal from the investors' perspective](#), we analyse the effects of policy measures on the economic attractiveness to renovate the German building stock. Well-targeted financing instruments are essential to trigger renovation investments, as we also shown in a [new status report on Poland](#).

In 2016 we need to act in the spirit of the Paris agreement. A string of events to which I would like to invite you gives us an opportunity to discuss and develop the right steps.

Oliver Rapf, Executive Director

## Highlights



### Renovating Germany's building stock: an economic appraisal from the investors' perspective

This new analysis finds that a large part of the German Building stock can be renovated cost-effectively within 15 years, achieving significant energy savings. This could be realized through different combinations of policy tools and targeted support measures meant to stimulate investments in the building stock. However, the currently existing policy framework is insufficient to achieve the government's long term goal of decarbonising the building sector as the renovation of only 33% of the floor area is cost-effective within the next 15 years. The report, [available in English and German](#), concludes with recommendations ranging from: setting an appropriate strategic context and focusing financial support where it is most needed to providing the right support infrastructure and systems.

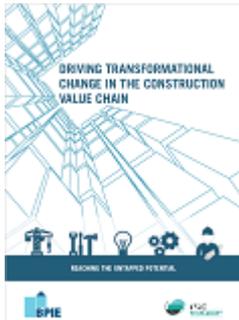


### Energy Financing building energy performance improvement in Poland

An effective renovation strategy supported by proper financing schemes can solve vital environmental problems such as lowering CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions and improving air quality. However, although a large variety of financing mechanisms exists and a lot of funding will be available until 2020, not all measures seem to be effective.

This [report](#) analyses the energy performance of the Polish building stock and the characteristics of the renovation market. It also covers financing schemes and their impact on the renovation market as well as mapping the existing funding to building typologies.

Finally, a series of policy recommendations to achieve deep renovations are included.



### **Driving transformational change in the construction value chain - Reaching the untapped potential**

The construction's value chain is witnessing many changes: understanding and anticipating them is crucial for future jobs and growth in Europe, but it is also fundamental to orienting Europe's future industrial strategy and innovation priorities. In this [report](#), BPIE investigates opportunities to strengthen Europe's industrial leadership in the construction value chain, in order to deliver a fast and deep decarbonisation together with economic and competitive advantages in and for Europe. The [report](#) maps the construction value chain before presenting industrial innovation opportunities throughout the value chain, taking a deep-dive for four specific segments available soon as separate short briefings. The four deep-dives better inform the specific needs for market replication and the barriers to overcome for innovation to occur at speed and scale. A [memo setting the context and trends](#) for the construction value chain is also available.

## **Focus on... coming events**

### **Scaling up initiatives supporting the energy renovation of buildings, 16 February, Brussels**

In light of the recent COP21 agreement, efforts to decrease CO2 emissions will have to increase significantly. Building renovations can be part of the solution as this would substantially lower Europe's CO2 emissions; however, scaling up renovation faces important challenges. Replicable solutions across Europe address the challenge in terms of scale, financing, addressing non-technical barriers, level of ambition or achievement of social objectives. This breakfast event will showcase a variety of successful building renovation approaches that could inspire the future development of renovation policies. [Registration is compulsory. The event will be live-streamed, all details on the event page.](#)

### **Investor days: Making money flow – strategies to increase energy investments in the European building sector, 22-23 February, Brussels**

Are you an investor looking for the top energy efficiency project developers? A project developer looking for investors? A government agency that would like to meet the private investors that could support your renovation strategy? Then you need to be at Investor Days 2016. Project developers, financial institutions, policy makers and other interested stakeholders will gather to discuss how to increase deal flow, necessary next market solutions and pitch funding to interested developers. This 2-day event will give opportunities to discuss partnerships and deals. [Participation to this event is free of charge but seats are limited.](#)

### **World Sustainable Energy Days 2016, February 24-26, Wels**

The [World Sustainable Energy Days \(WSED\) conference](#) in Upper Austria, where the global sustainable energy community meets, includes 6 conferences (Pellets, nearly Zero-Energy Buildings, Energy Efficiency Watch, Energy Efficiency Services, Smart Facade Materials, Young Researchers) and 3 hands-on events (a major Tradeshow, Cooperation Platform and site visits). The event offers up-to-date information on technologies, policies and markets. Meet BPIE at the poster section!

### **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.

### **Smart cities – Via expo, 5-7 April 2016, Sofia**

The [conference](#) aims at stimulating the development of an energy market in South-East Europe through technology transfer and the demonstration of innovative products, such as energy saving blinds and lighting, biogas installations and technologies, 'made in Bulgaria' PV systems which can be applied in dynamic city architecture and more. BPIE will present on the 5th "Smart Finance for Smart Buildings – A comparison of Bulgaria and Poland" and EURAC will present on April 6 the CommONEnergy project, on shopping malls retrofitting.

### **The Central and Eastern European Energy Efficiency (C4E) Forum**

From 22 to 25 June 2016, the [first C4E Forum](#) will take place on the Bulgaria Black Sea coast. Its interactive programme on the energy efficiency of buildings in Central and Eastern Europe will include practical sessions, creative workshops and evening plenaries with high-level speakers (Maroš Šefčovič confirmed) and plenty of informal networking opportunities.

### **February 2, Covenant of Mayors webinar on financial instruments for national housing energy retrofit programs**

The Covenant of Mayors is organising February 2 a webinar on financial instruments for national housing energy retrofit programs, presenting best practices from Slovakia and Lithuania. [More information and registration.](#)

### **In addition to the events announced above, BPIE will participate to the following events in the coming months:**

- 18 March 2016 – [Energy Week: Energy and Buildings seminar](#), Vaasa
- 7-9 June 2016 – [IEPPEC](#), Amsterdam

## **News**



### **[Videos] Collaboration for housing nZEB renovation, a video-summary of the final conference**

[COHERENO](#) has developed new collaborative business models for high-efficiency refurbishment of single-family owner-occupied houses to nearly zero-energy levels. Check out the [video-summary and full video](#) of the conference, giving an overview of what the project has to offer. The short video is also available with subtitles in German, Norwegian, French and Dutch.



### **[Articles] Buildings and their integration in the energy market and financial instruments for buildings energy efficiency**

- As part of their dialogue with financial instrument stakeholders, [fi-compass](#) asked [BPIE](#) what financial instruments could help achieve for efficiency in buildings. Read the full article.  
- Buildings and the energy market: a challenging but rewarding interaction, with an [article in English in the European Energy Innovation magazine](#), page 42, and [one in Portuguese, in Edifícios e energia](#).



### **[News(letters)] Keep in touch with the CommONEnergy project**

The CommONEnergy project wants to transform shopping centers into lighthouses of energy efficient architectures and systems. Six-monthly newsletters are sent out to follow-up on the project results, they are now [available on the project website](#).

An article was also recently published in the [REHVA magazine](#): "because of the customers' need of best possible comfort condition and satisfaction, shopping centers are conditioned by means of basic HVAC systems, often without considering the potential of natural ventilation to reduce energy consumption related to cooling and ventilation. Within CommONEnergy, EURAC researchers are dealing with ventilative cooling strategies as retrofit solutions for shopping centers".

## Top tweet @BPIE\_eu from December

 **BPIE Buildings EU** @BPIE\_eu - 2 Dec 2015

#COP21 The massive potential to reduce GHG emissions through renovation needs replicable schemes, inspiring examples: [bpie.eu/publication/re...](http://bpie.eu/publication/re...)

 **Renovation in Practice | BPIE - Buildings Performance Institute Europe**

This report finds that a variety of already successful building renovation approaches could inspire the future development of renovation policies to deliver ...

[bpie.eu](http://bpie.eu)

17 PRACTICE EXAMPLES OF VOLUNTARY AND MANDATORY INITIATIVES ACROSS EUROPE

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