

The ambition of the Renovate Europe Campaign is to reduce the energy demand of the existing building stock in the EU by 80% by 2050 through extensive, ambitious renovation programmes - an ambitious but achievable goal given the available technologies

Editorial

It has been a very busy beginning of 2015 for Renovate Europe, with outreach to President Juncker and Commissioner Sefcovic on the **Energy Union**, a new Report by Copenhagen Economics concluding that ambitious building renovation projects are first-in-class for the **EU Fund for Strategic Investments** and cooperation with Renovate Europe signatory MEPs on the **EP Report on Energy Security**.

Renovate Europe has also had the pleasure of welcoming **two new partners this year: Armacell and the association Glass for Europe**, bringing the current number of partners to **37, of which 11 national partners** working to translate Renovate Europe's EU objectives down to the national level.

The date has also been set for the fifth edition of Renovate Europe Day. **REDay2015 will take place on 15th October in Brussels**, with several national events organised in the Member States, on the theme '**It's More than Renovation!**'

I wish you a pleasant read of this Newsletter and look forward to providing you with further updates over the coming months.



Adrian Joyce,
RENOVATE EUROPE Campaign Director

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Save the Date  **REDay2015**
High level Policy Conference

It's more than
Renovation!

Thursday 15th October 2015

9:30-14:00

Sofitel Brussels, Place Jourdan 1

Registration
will open soon!



Building Renovation and EFSI

Highest leverage, quickest roll-out and widest societal benefits: Ambitious building renovation projects are best-in-class for Strategic Investment

A new report published today by Copenhagen published on the 9th of March by **Copenhagen Economics** concludes that deep **building renovation projects respond more effectively and cost-efficiently** to the key operational objectives of the **European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)**, and recommends a project selection process providing priority to “shovel ready” investments with a **quick roll-out and high rate of return on societal benefits**. The building sector industry associations **Eurima, Glass for Europe, EuroACE, PU Europe** and the **Renovate Europe Campaign** welcome this report as a clear sign that building refurbishment is one of the smartest, most cost-effective ways of mobilising investments for growth.



PRESS RELEASE
Brussels 10 March 2015

Highest leverage, quickest roll-out and widest societal benefits: Ambitious building renovation projects are best-in-class for Strategic Investment

“European Fund for Strategic Investments must earmark funds for deep renovation projects” says building sector industry

A new report published today by Copenhagen Economics concludes that **deep building renovation projects respond more effectively and cost-efficiently to the key operational objectives of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)**, and recommends a project selection process providing priority to “shovel ready” investments with a quick roll-out and high rate of return on societal benefits.

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“The European Strategic Investment Fund aims to give priority to projects that **boost short and medium-term activity while providing high returns to society**” said Adrian Joyce, Secretary General of EuroACE and Renovate Europe Campaign Director “and this report shows that building renovation can respond very effectively to all these requirements”

“Energy infrastructure-related projects are often put on the table when thinking of EFSI projects” added Bertrand Cazès, Secretary General of Glass for Europe “but building renovation projects should be given high priority if we take **our building stock as an essential part of our energy infrastructure**”.

“These substantial benefits should be recognised in the section criteria proposed in the EFSI operation” added Oliver Loebel, Secretary General of PU Europe “**Relatively ‘shovel ready’ investments which can be quickly deployed** and provide substantial societal returns must be given priority”.

“Both research and real experiences” added Jan te Bos, Eurima Director-General “have demonstrated that deep renovation of buildings are fully adapted to the main EU priorities: they reduce GHG emissions and import dependence, and provide great returns in terms of growth and jobs, as recognised in the recently adopted Energy Union Strategy. The EU Institutions must follow suit by **ring-fencing a sub-fund in the EFSI which would be devoted to investments on large, deep renovation programmes**”.

Download the Report from the websites of Eurima, Glass for Europe, EuroACE, PU Europe and the Renovate Europe Campaign.

Hard facts. Clear stories. Copenhagen Economics **CE**

The role of building renovation in the EU investment strategy

Helge Sigurd Nass-Schmidt, Partner
9 March 2015

1 The key approach: mobilising private investment for growth

The EU Commission has proposed an ambitious investment plan¹ motivated by the co-existence of two major economic problems in the EU: the severity of the economic crisis, most notably expressed as low investments, and the huge stock of viable investments being held back by a number of factors. Hence, the EU Commission has proposed an investment plan based on three key principles: (1) mobilising (new sources of) finance for investments, (2) making sure this finance reaches the real economy in order to support growth and jobs, and (3) improving the investment environment.

To unlock private and public investment, the EU Commission and the European Investment Bank have more specifically launched a partnership to increase investment by € 315 billion over the period 2015-2017. Designated target areas are infrastructure (notably broadband and energy networks), transport infrastructure in industrial centres, education, research and innovation, and, last but not least, renewable energy and energy efficiency.

2 European Fund for Strategy Investments: key objectives

In order to implement this strategy, a European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) has been proposed. Meanwhile, a joint Task Force (Member States, the Commission and the EIB) has identified projects worth € 1.3 trillion out of which € 500 billion could be carried out during the next three years.

The challenge now is to make sure that the EFSI initiative delivers in a balanced way on the three key objectives stated for the operation of the fund:

- Boost short and medium-term (investment) activity
- Give priority to projects with high returns to society
- Support broader EU policy objectives

¹ An overview of the objectives, targets and instruments is provided in factsheet 1 and 3 from the European Investment Bank (2014a and 3).

Read the Press Release!

Read the Full Report!



COMMISSIONER HEARINGS 2014-2019

What Commitments did they make on Energy Efficiency and Buildings?

COMMISSIONER HEARINGS 2014-2019

**What Commitments did they make on
Energy Efficiency and Buildings?**

 **Maroš Šefčovič**
Commissioner for Energy Union

"Energy efficiency has to be perceived more as a "first energy source". The cleanest megawatt is the one saved. Energy efficiency should be significantly enhanced beyond 2020. Improving energy efficiency will not only increase energy security, but also enhance the competitiveness of European industry. (...) our priority areas should be buildings, transport and products".

"We must improve energy efficiency. President-elect Juncker has been very clear about the importance which he attached to this. We will have to come forward with fresh ideas on energy efficiency, not only to reduce energy consumption as part of our climate policy, but also as part of energy security, as driver for innovation and as important part of the package for jobs, growth and investment. Buildings represent 40% of final EU energy consumption. Modernising the existing and ageing building stock offers huge potential to reduce energy consumption and the energy costs for households."

"Can we afford to spend 46% of our energy bills for heating and cooling of our buildings? Isn't too expensive when we are paying for energy imports 400 billion euro a year? How much we can save? What enormous potential we have in this area if we really increase the efficiency of our buildings. (...) Maybe we should think more about incentives (...). Therefore I think if we could consider the schemes and learn from each other in Europe how to motivate households, how to motivate municipalities and local authorities to actually work better on the energy efficiency of buildings, this may be one of the arguments which could help us to convince Member States to be more serious and positive about these policies".



"Buildings represent 40% of final EU energy consumption. Modernising the existing and ageing building stock offers huge potential to reduce energy consumption and the energy costs for households."

Maroš Šefčovič, Commissioner for Energy Union

"On the energy side we have lots of opportunities for energy efficiency. We must tackle the construction of buildings. And that would create lots of jobs. When we work to improve the efficiency of buildings, that creates lots of green growth."

Miguel Arias Cañete, Commissioner for Climate Action & Energy

"Investment in energy efficiency measures boost local businesses, building insulation – you do not import it from China, it is locally done. It helps to create jobs, help us to reduce CO2 emissions and fight climate change, but also helps to reduce our energy dependency."

Kristalina Georgieva, Commissioner for Budget & Human Resources

Read all the Commitments [Here!](#)



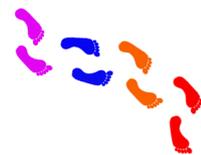
The Netherlands



The **Spaar het Klimaat Coalition** is a **Renovation Platform**, based in the Netherlands. On the **7th of January** the Dutch Platform had a **Press Conference** to celebrate the enlargement of **Spaar het Klimaat membership** from 50 to 90 members. **Renovate Europe** congratulates Spaar het Klimaat on its expansion and **looks forward to further cooperation** in the future.

[Visit their Website](#)

Renovate Italy First Steps



On the 5th of February, the first meeting to build up a **Renovate Italy coalition** took place. **Irene**, **REC National Partner** since 2013, is one of the driving forces behind the creation of this new coalition.

The discussion was very constructive, rich of suggestions and proposals, with commitments from participants to cooperate in **advocacy, capacity building and communication activities**, both at a national and regional level in Lombardia.

The RI coalition will work on information dissemination **and the training of operators and citizen awareness** to evaluate the viability of proposing a **reduction of 80% energy demands in Italy**, where the temperate climate mitigates energy consumption also in very inefficient buildings.

The **need for measures at national level** to improve building renovation was outlined, including **tax relief** for renovations according to the outputs in terms of energy savings, new ways of receiving **incentives for citizens** without a tax credit, a **guarantee fund** to facilitate the financing of Energy Efficiency projects and new incentives to foster integrated renovations.

[More information coming soon!](#)



Interview with a Partner of the REC: Glass for Europe



Renovate Europe is delighted to welcome back Glass for Europe as a European Contributing Partner! Renovate Europe Team interviewed Bertrand Cazes, representative of Glass for Europe, to learn more about this partner and further steps together.



GLASS FOR EUROPE
Building, Automotive, Solar-Energy Glass

📍 Why did Glass for Europe join the Renovate Europe Campaign?

Glass for Europe has always been a strong advocate of the necessity for Europe to support ambitious building renovation programmes. In its outreach activities at EU level, Glass for Europe has been cooperating with many like-minded organisations, which are all members of the Renovate Europe Campaign. It is therefore very logic for Glass for Europe to team up with peers and other advocates of energy-efficient renovations of buildings to make our case stronger and our voice louder. Back in 2012, Glass for Europe was already a partner to the Renovate Europe Campaign. We are delighted that 3 years later, we are in capacity to support a campaign again, and one that has become stronger, while at the same time, even more necessary.

📍 How does Glass for Europe intend to contribute to the success of the REC?

The success of the campaign depends on many parameters, including the mobilization of initiatives at national level and a solid communication campaign at EU level, backed up with timely and effective advocacy activities towards EU institutions. On these three aspects, the glass industry can contribute. The glass and glazing industry is truly pan-European. Throughout Europe's regions, we can help mobilize actors to try to reach out an ever-wider audience. At EU level, Glass for Europe's team will contribute fully to all activities and bring its expertise in both communication messages and activities. We intend as well, through our regular contacts with EU decision-makers, to relay the Renovate Europe messages as convincingly as possible.

📍 What are your expectations and how would you like to see the REC develop in the future?

I expect nothing else than the realization of our common vision, i.e. that the rate of deep renovation of buildings is tripled as soon as possible in order to put Europe on track to achieve a nearly-zero-energy building stock by 2050. Some may see this as a dream. At Glass for Europe, we see it rather as an ambitious objective, which we must pursue vigorously as long as Europe stays off-track. Glass for Europe, the Renovate Europe Campaign and others have been campaigning and advocating hard at EU level for the realisation of this objective. Despite progress, our goal is not achieved so our task is to continue the work. I think the Renovate Europe Campaign is the right place to gather all people sharing the same objective, to challenge ourselves and to engage in an even more effective campaign.



SPECIAL REPORT: An Efficient Energy Union



Energy Union stutters on efficiency

09/03/2015 <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/energy/energy-union-stutters-efficiency-312717>

Experts are divided on whether the European Commission's proposals to foster an **Energy Union** are strong enough to drive forward **energy efficiency measures**, and in particular the **renovation of existing buildings**.

« *Some campaigners have pushed for “**efficiency first**”. **Renovate Europe** insisted on giving priority to energy demand rather than supply* »



EuroAce: Energy Union should push EU efficiency laws

10/03/2015 <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/efficient-energy-union/euroace-energy-union-should-push-eu-efficiency-laws-312744>

The recognition in the **Energy Union** of the importance of **improving energy efficiency in the EU's building stock** is welcome. But unless existing measures are properly implemented by national governments, the multiple benefits of renovation will not be exploited to the full, Céline Carré told EurActiv.

« *There is now a much better understanding of the **multiple benefits of energy efficiency**, thanks to numerous studies among which those by **Renovate Europe**, the International Energy Agency and others* »



Katainen: Private sector will decide if EU money goes to EE

11/03/2015 <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/efficient-energy-union/katainen-private-sector-will-decide-if-eu-money-goes-energy>

The European Union will not ring-fence funds from the Juncker plan to pay for **renovation projects to boost the energy efficiency of buildings**, the Commission Vice-President in charge of the €315 billion investment package told EurActiv on March, 9.

« ***The Copenhagen Economics report** said that deep renovation projects would deliver **returns for investors, help the EU hit efficiency targets and create jobs and growth**. “Shovel ready” investments with a quick roll-out and high rate of return on societal benefits should be prioritised* »



Brussels toughens up on policing EU energy efficiency laws

12/03/2015 <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/efficient-energy-union/eu-toughens-energy-efficiency-laws-312830>

EU leaders will discuss strengthening the **enforcement of existing energy laws** at their 19 March summit, after the European Commission signalled it would toughen its policing of efficiency rules by launching infringement procedures against recalcitrant EU member states. .

« *40% of the EU's energy demand is in buildings. **Better insulation can be Europe's secret weapon** against dependency on Russian gas supplies* »

Click here to read the Full Report!



Renovate Europe on Twitter...

... and on Facebook



Renovate Europe Launch on Facebook!



About the Campaign

Launched in 2011, the headline ambition of the Renovate Europe Campaign is to reduce the energy demand of the building stock in the EU by 80% by 2050 as compared to 2005 levels.

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