



**R**egarding energy efficiency in buildings, Germany is known for successful financial instruments such as the KfW-program accompanied by according building codes. But in recent years domestic policy makers have lost pace, and the current political debate on energy efficiency is completely overshadowed by the discussion on the reform of the feed-in tariff for renewables.

EU regulation however has become an increasingly important driver for political progress. 2014 is a crucial year to implement the Energy Efficiency Directive and the related National Renovation Roadmap in Germany. This instrument was already announced in the government's energy concept in 2010 but has not been substantiated until today. With the review of the German Energy Saving ordinance (building codes) completed last year,



**the new government now has a unique opportunity to develop a long-term policy strategy including stable funding and improved legal framework conditions. Furthermore Germany needs to elaborate appropriate strategic measures in order to achieve 1.5% new savings required in the EED.**



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