RENOVATE EUROPE

RENOVATE ALL EDUCATIONAL BUILDINGS BY 2035

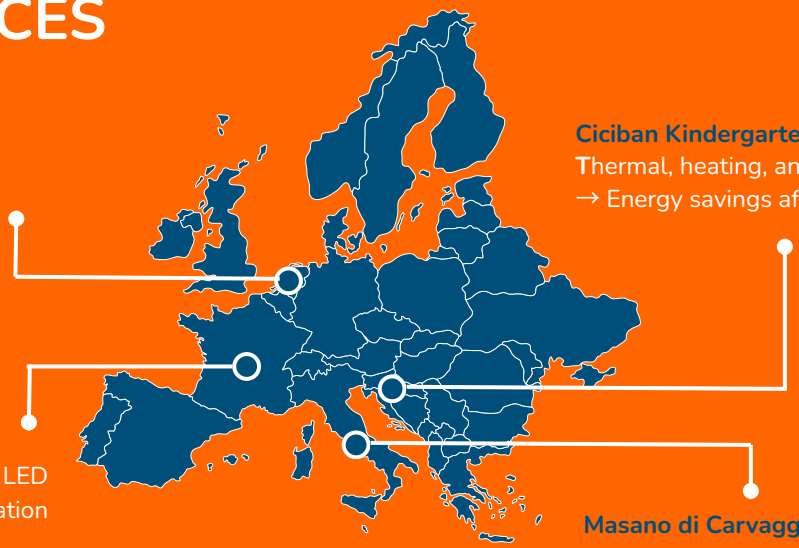
Many schools and universities across Europe are in poor condition - overheating in summer, too cold in winter, and often providing unhealthy and unsafe learning environments for students and teachers. Educational buildings account for 17% of the EU's non-residential stock, most built between the 1950s and 1980s. Every day, 93.3 million students learn in them. We call on **all EU member states to make these buildings the front-runners in achieving a zero-emission building stock by 2050 and to commit to their deep renovation by 2035.**

BENEFITS

Deep renovation of EU educational buildings is crucial, as good thermal, acoustic, and visual comfort, together with healthy indoor environmental quality, enhances students' attention, well-being, and development. Find below some key data:

- **Healthy, more efficient schools for 93.3 million European students** → Every 100 ppm reduction in indoor CO_2 is linked to a 0.1–1% drop in illness-related absences.
- **Better spaces, better learning, better teaching** → Improved indoor climate helps students achieve the same results up to two weeks faster each year (3–8% performance gain). Better acoustics can improve student accuracy by over 35%.
- **Boosting EU business and jobs** → Building renovation investments can create up to 30 jobs per €1 million invested.
- **Lowering energy bills** → Renovations have the potential to reduce energy use by up to 80% across 2 million buildings.

BEST PRACTICES



Herta Mohr Building Leiden University (Netherlands)
Insulation, solar panels, ventilation, heat pumps and a heat/cold storage system were installed → BREEAM excellent certificate

La Bâtie-Rolland (France)
Insulation, ventilation, heating, LED and adjustable sunshades installation → 78% primary energy savings

Ciciban Kindergarten (Croatia)
Thermal, heating, and lighting renovation → Energy savings after works reached 76%

Masano di Carvaggio Primary School (Italy)
Thermal, visual, indoor-air and acoustic renovation → 80% reduction in energy use

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OUR ASKS

Member States are already required under the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) and Minimum Energy Performance Standards in the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) to renovate public and non-residential buildings. Educational buildings, such as schools and universities, offer a key opportunity to lead by example in energy renovation. **The Renovate Europe Campaign calls on EU member states to commit to deep energy renovation of all educational buildings by 2035 by:**

1. **Including a chapter in their National Building Renovation Plans that is fully dedicated to educational buildings – both public and private.**
2. **Committing to bringing all existing educational buildings, through deep renovation, to the highest energy rating (zero-emission standard as defined in the EPBD) in their country by 2035 at the latest.**
3. **Encouraging innovative technical approaches that take account of the special nature of educational buildings, allowing them to be renovated during holiday periods so as not to disrupt educational outcomes for pupils and students alike.**
4. **Designing financing programmes that make the vision of a zero-emission educational building stock feasible within the timeframe to 2035.**
5. **Sharing experiences with other member states to boost collective technical knowledge, innovative approaches, and impactful actions.**

Learn more →

Renovate Europe is a political communications campaign with the ambition to accelerate the deep energy renovation of buildings in the EU to 3% per year, through legislation and ambitious renovation programmes. Accelerating the rate of renovation is a key tool in delivering major benefits for people, their quality of life, and the economy.

For further information: www.renovate-europe.eu info@renovate-europe.eu Renovate Europe

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A SHARED PRIORITY

“Nearly two out of every three German school administrators say their schools are in urgent need of renovation. According to a survey involving 1300 schools, 64% of the adminstrators said renovations measures were necessary. The survey paints a grim picture of Germany’s school infrastructure and reveals challenges which go beyond crumbling walls.”
The Local, December 25 (based on a survey by VBE)

“Measurements have shown that in more than nine out of ten classrooms in Danish primary schools, there is poor indoor climate during the school day. This has significant consequences for concentration and learning ability.”
Green Transition Together, May 24

”The French school system, often old and energy-inefficient, represents a real opportunity for local energy transition”
Batinfo, December 25

“74.8% of school buildings are still in the lowest three energy classes, of which 39% are in the worst category (G). 78.9% of administrations are interested in developing energy communities in schools.”
Legambiente, January 23

“Energy renovation of secondary schools is more than just a technical upgrade. It is an investment in the quality of education, the health of young people, and a responsible approach to natural resources.”
ASB, September 25

“Romania’s educational infrastructure is still old. These buildings generate a series of challenges related to indoor air quality, lighting, noise level, humidity, or ensuring a comfortable temperature. In-depth renovations of educational facilities can greatly improve these aspects, which will be reflected in increased well-being and learning performance of students.”
Energynomics, March 23

“Hundreds of high and elementary Portuguese schools have not been refurbished and still have problems or anomalies. They need to be rehabilitated in the near future”
Article published by two Portuguese Universities, June 20

“Almost half of the around 9,300 primary and secondary schools in the Netherlands are in desperate need of renovation. The unhealthy schools are at the expense of teachers' and students’ health and it also has a real effect on learning performance. Over 4,600 schools struggle with mold, moisture, drafts, and too little fresh air. They absolutely don’t meet the current ventilation, sustainability, and health requirements.”
NL Times, November 22 (based on Bouwend Nederland figures)

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