



Press release

Moving towards climate-neutral buildings in Europe – a new guide for an effective implementation of the Buildings Directive

For immediate release

Brussels, 16 May 2019 – The Buildings Performance Institute Europe (BPIE) today releases its guide on the implementation of the amended Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) (2018/844), in which Member States agreed an objective to minimise CO₂ emissions from buildings by 2050. National governments now have to implement regulation and support schemes to achieve their commitment. The BPIE guide supports policy makers to develop and agree effective instruments which will lead to healthy and climate-friendly buildings for all citizens. The guide includes good practice examples from around Europe and covers long-term renovation strategies, financing renovation and calculating energy performance as well as energy performance certificates and the smart readiness indicator.

The amended text of the EPBD was published in the Journal of the European Union on 19 June 2018 and entered into force on 9 July 2018. By 10 March 2020, every Member State must transpose it into national law by 10 March 2020. The BPIE report, “Future-proof buildings for all Europeans – A guide to implement the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive”, addresses various aspects of the Directive, offering Member States a comprehensive toolkit to meet the decarbonisation challenge.

Buildings are responsible for approximately 40% of energy consumption and 36% of CO₂ emissions in the EU. On average we spend 90% of our time indoors and the quality of the indoor environment affects our health and wellbeing. Two-thirds (65%) of the European building stock was built before 1980: about 97% of the EU’s buildings must be upgraded to achieve the 2050 decarbonisation goal, but only 0.4-1.2% are renovated each year.

A highly efficient, technically-equipped and smart building stock will be the cornerstone of a decarbonised energy system. Highly efficient buildings have an important role to play in achieving a climate-neutral European economy, through renewable energy production, control, storage and demand response, as well as green charging stations for electric vehicles. Upgrading our building stock to high efficiency levels is a precondition to achieve Europe’s climate promise made with the Paris Agreement.

Find the guide at the following link: <http://bpie.eu/publication/a-guide-to-implementing-the-energy-performance-of-buildings-directive/>



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Notes to the editor

The Clean Energy for all Europeans policy package led to the revision of several key pieces of legislation related to the renovation of buildings. Most notable was the revision of the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) that now sets a clear direction for the full decarbonisation of the European building stock by 2050. The amended text was published in the Journal of the European Union on 19 June 2018 and entered into force on 9 July 2018. Every Member State must transpose it into national law by 10 March 2020. The amendment process introduced changes and updates to several key topics, including long-term renovation strategies (Article 2a), mobilising investment in renovation (Article 2a, 10), energy performance certificates and building renovation passports (Articles 10, 19, 19a, 20), smart readiness indicator (Article 8, Annex ia), and calculating energy performance (Annex i).

About BPIE

The Buildings Performance Institute Europe (BPIE) is a European not-for-profit think-tank with a focus on independent analysis and knowledge dissemination, supporting evidence-based policy making in the field of energy performance in buildings. It delivers policy analysis, policy advice and implementation support. www.bpie.eu