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Environment

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# EUROPEAN RE-BUILDING FORUM

Exploratory Meeting  
19 January 2010, Brussels

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## DRAFT AGENDA

**Date:** 19 January 2010  
**Time:** 09:00 – 17:00  
**Venue:** EUREC Agency, Renewable Energy House, Rue d'Arlon 63-65, B-1040 Brussels  
**Language:** English

This exploratory meeting will focus on three current priorities:

1. Implementation of EU buildings legislation at national level;
2. Ways and tools to finance retrofitting of buildings;
3. The role of environmental technologies for energy saving and energy generation in buildings.

The event is open to researchers, public authorities, NGOs, companies, SMEs, national authorities that design, implement and evaluate environmental policies related to energy efficiency in buildings, the European Commission and member States representatives, associations of consumers, industrial associations, cleantech providers, as well as organizations aimed to achieve environmental benefits for the society at large. Participants should be involved in relevant projects or have good knowledge and links to energy efficiency and renewable energy issues related to the building sector so they can add value to the workshop discussions.

To register, please send your details to: [marco.torregrossa@epe.be](mailto:marco.torregrossa@epe.be)  
The Chatham House Rule (no public quoting outside the room) will apply to all discussions.

### 09:00 Participants Registration

#### 09:30 The Need for a European Re-Building Forum

Mr Raymond van Ermen, Executive Director - European Partners for the Environment

#### The Build Up Interactive Portal Initiative and its Complementarity with the European Re-Building Forum

Mr Gilles Vaille, Build Up Public Relations Desk

#### The Sustainable Construction and Innovation Network and its Complementarity with the European Re-Building Forum

Mr Simon Clement, Project Co-ordinator - ICLEI

### SESSION I: The Potential Value of a European Re-Building Forum, an Institutional Perspective

#### Chair: Ms Marie-Christine Roger, Chef du bureau de la qualité et de la réglementation technique de la construction - French Ministry of Ecology

The European Commission will propose legally binding energy efficiency targets for EU member states "in line with" the bloc's goal of a 20% cut in energy consumption by 2020, according to a draft revision of the EU energy efficiency action plan. Speakers and the audience will discuss whether an even more ambitious target should be set for the building sector and how the European Re-Building Forum could contribute to this goal.

**10:00 Progress in implementing EU targets in relation to retrofitting the existing building stock**  
Ms Pirjo-Liisa Koskimaki (TBC), Head of Unit, Energy Efficiency – EU Commission DG TREN

**10:15 Lessons from the French experience and the Conservative Action WG in implementing the 28% cost-effective savings potential from buildings by 2020**  
Ms Marie-Christine Roger, Chef du bureau de la qualité et de la réglementation technique de la construction - French Ministry of Ecology

**10:30 ERDF Support for Retrofitting the Existing Building Stock**  
Mr Enrique Buatas Costa, Policy Officer - EU Commission DG REGIO

**10:45 National programs in The Netherlands on upgrading energy efficiency of existing buildings**  
Mr Frans Versteeg, Program Manager - PeGO Energy Transition Platform Built Environment

**11:00 Coffee Break**

**11:30 Local perspectives in relation with the implementation of the EU target of 28% cost-effective savings potential by 2020 in the City Action Plans of the Covenant of Mayors Signatories**  
Mr Ismaël Daoud, Conseiller Questions Techniques Construction Durable – Cabinet de Evelyne Huytebroeck, Ministre bruxelloise de l'Environnement et de l'Energie

**11:45 Mobilization of funds for investments in sustainable buildings at local level. The ELENA technical assistance facility**  
Mr Edward Calthrop, Sector Economist - European Investment Bank

**12:00 Discussion with the Audience**  
Barriers and gaps to correct implementation of EU legislation concerning the building sector at National and local level

**12:30 Lunch**

**SESSION II (PANEL):**  
**The potential value of a European Re-Building Forum from a business perspective**

**Chair: Mr Michael Bennett, Executive Director - Eurofuel**

It is often said Business response is fragmented and does not support implementation of buildings targets with one single voice. Business initiatives need convergence towards the implementation of the EU 2020 objectives. The aim of this session is to present to the audience successful “bottom up” initiatives and good practices to create a scale effect in upgrading the existing EU building stock to best energy performance standards.

**13:30 The business support to implementation of EU legislation concerning buildings at Member States and Local Level**

Mr Stefan Seitz, Head CoC Energy South-West Europe - Siemens  
Mr Martin Reichard, Managing Director - IWO-Austria  
Mr Randall Bowie, Chief Consultant - Rockwool International

Ms Michelle O'Neill, Director Government Relations EMEA - Honeywell

**14:00 Discussion with the Audience**  
Potential for replication of best practices and pilot projects at local level in the EU member States

**15:00 Coffee Break**

**SESSION III (PANEL):**  
**Terms of reference and Governance of the Forum from a Multistakeholder Perspective**

**Chair: Mr Adrian Joyce, Senior Advisor - Architects' Council of Europe**

The main aim of the European Re-Building Forum is to demonstrate the importance of an integrated approach and upgrade the capacity of professionals along the value chain of the building sector. The panel debate of this session will encourage stakeholders to exchange views on the best solutions for retrofitting existing buildings from a civil society, financiers, technology providers and real estates perspective.

**15:30 CIVIL SOCIETY: (Cool products, warm homes - A European manifesto for sustainable heating and cooling of buildings)**  
Ms Arianna Vitali, Policy Officer – WWF on behalf of NGO Coalition for “Coolproducts for a Cool planet” Campaign

**FINANCIERS: (Housing Finance for Retrofitting Existing Buildings: Green and Sound)**  
Mr Andreas Zehnder, Managing Director – European Federation of Building Societies

**TECHNOLOGY: (Perspective from the European Technology Platform on Renewable Heating and Cooling)**  
Mr Simone Landolina, Project Manager - EUREC Agency

**REAL ESTATES: (Reporting Challenges for the Listed Real Estate Sector)**  
Mr Gareth Lewis, European Director of Finance - Public Real Estate Association

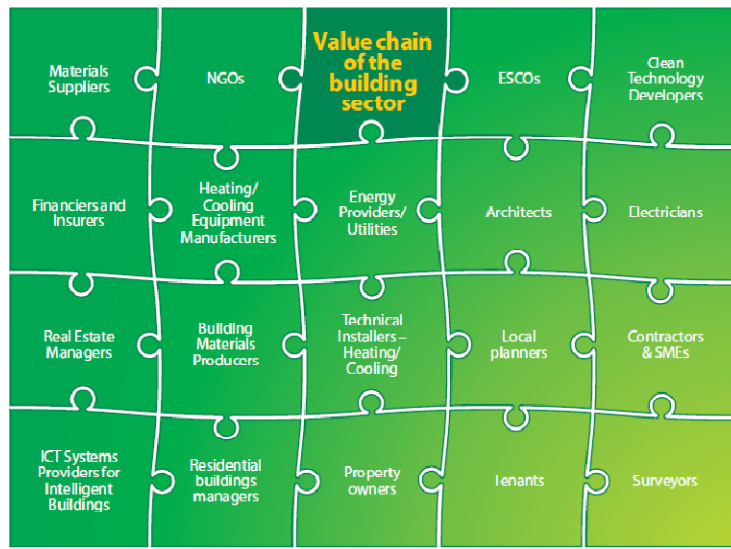
**16:00 Discussion with the Audience**

**17:00 Concluding remarks: roadmap drafting, working groups set up and next steps**

Mr Raymond van Ermen, Executive Director – European Partners for the Environment  
Mr Martin Elsberger (TBC), Policy Officer Energy Efficiency – EU Commission DG TREN

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Retrofitting existing buildings (currently 99% of the total building stock in the EU) in order to improve their energy performance and to integrate RES technologies obviously faces higher constraints than erecting brand-new energy efficient buildings. Such refurbishment initiatives are anyway crucial, especially considering the proportion of existing buildings compared to those planned for the next decades and also taking into account their long life-time. Low-intrusive retrofitting techniques are lacking: some technical solutions do exist but they are not suitable for all kinds of buildings. Hence some specific innovative solutions have to be developed and they have to be economically viable to guarantee a large diffusion so that by 2050, the majority of new buildings will nearly emit no CO2 and generate in-house the main share of their energy demand due to the massive deployment of more efficient technologies especially for insulation, ventilation, cooling and heating.



Every year, over 50% of the total energy consumed in Europe is used for the generation of heat for either domestic or industrial purposes. The vast majority of this energy is produced through the combustion of fossil fuels such as oil, gas and coal – with an impressive environmental impact in terms of greenhouse gas emissions. Today the social, natural and economic costs of climate change highlight the urgency of moving towards a new and more sustainable energy scenario. However, the market for energy efficiency in buildings in the EU suffers from several shortcomings, the most relevant of which are:

- No coherent EU legislative framework that closes gaps in existing directives on the energy performance of buildings, product ecodesign and energy labeling;

- Correct implementation of community legislation with regards to buildings (EPBD Recast, EUP, ESD Directives) at Member States level and Local Level requires to be stimulated and reinforced;
- Business response is fragmented and does not support implementation with one single voice;
- Business support to the implementation at Member States level is not always convincing (competition between technologies, training issues etc);
- Lack of value chain and holistic perspective leads to tax payers' money being wasted and concerns remain over who is paying for the energy improvements of buildings.

The European Commission will propose legally binding energy efficiency targets for EU member states "in line with" the bloc's goal of a 20% cut in energy consumption by 2020, according to a draft revision of the EU energy efficiency action plan. An even more ambitious target should be set for the building sector. An impact assessment is currently being carried out to examine whether overall EU targets should be differentiated between member States.

EU governments and MEPs struck a political deal in November 2009 on plans to revise the 2002 energy performance of buildings directive that will force all new buildings constructed after 2020 to consume "near-zero-energy". However, MEPs were less successful in their attempts to force governments to upgrade the efficiency of existing buildings. Governments agreed to "develop policies and take measures such as targets" to transform existing buildings into near-zero-energy buildings when they are refurbished. MEPs also failed in their bid to secure new cash to fund efficiency improvements in existing buildings and strengthen provisions on the financing of efficiency improvements. Instead governments will simply have to produce a list of measures and instruments to support the law's implementation. By 2011 the European Commission must say whether additional EU funding is needed and if national building legislations should include "some provisions on financing" and governments would also have to establish national energy efficiency funds to finance improvements in residential, commercial and public buildings. The Swedish presidency was keen to reach a deal with MEPs before a meeting of EU energy ministers on 7 December that rubberstamped the EPBD Recast.

## FORUM MAJOR OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

The Forum, inspired by the experience of the European Retail Forum, will be designed together by the Commission (DG TREN), the ITRE and ENVI Committees members in the European Parliament, Member States governments and a multi-stakeholder group of interested parties and be co-chaired by one Commission official, one representative from civil society and one business delegate. The Forum might be embedded in the new Build-up initiative of the Commission to provide information about requirements and suggested actions by a range of interested parties. The Forum will not be a decision-making body.

This will be a physical platform to encourage an exchange of views among stakeholders on retrofitting existing buildings to accelerate the implementation of the 28% cost-effective savings potential in buildings by 2020 and the deployment of renewable energy technologies for heating and cooling. Such Forum would act both as a centre of expertise on all aspects of energy performance in buildings and as repository for European best practices covering all aspects of energy efficiency in buildings from helping structure new policies, practical implementation of best practices, monitoring and evaluating programmes and build capacity

for expertise in buildings in specific EU countries. It would further provide rigorous evidence based information and policy guidance to steer decisions of both policy makers and stakeholders at EU and Member State level.

The main aim of the Forum is to demonstrate the importance of an integrated approach and upgrade the capacity of public authorities and building professionals along the value chain of the building sector. This will enable them to mainstream successful “bottom up” initiatives and good practices to create a scale effect in upgrading the existing EU building stock to best energy performance standards. Further specific objectives will include:

1. Identify opportunities, barriers and key challenges ahead to facilitate the implementation at Member States and local level of community legislation with regards to buildings (i.e. EPBD Recast, ESD, EUP Directives and National Energy Efficiency Action Plans);
2. Share best practices and implement practical solutions in partnering with stakeholders at Member State and local level;
3. Launch mayor retrofitting programs by local authorities (particularly the signatories of the Covenant of Mayors) that would aim to refurbish 15 million buildings by 2020 with financial support from the European Investment Bank (EIB);
4. Regularly update minimum performance requirements for renovation of building components such as windows, insulations, ventilation, lighting, boilers etc;
5. Promote the integration of renewable energy technologies for heating and cooling in the built environment.

The Forum will aim to have duration of two years, produce a roadmap of actions to be taken at Member State and local level and set up 3 targeted working groups per year to address specific issues and stimulate pilot projects led by frontrunners with participation of relevant partner organizations. Participation to the Forum meetings is voluntary and attendance is open to all stakeholders who wish to make a concrete contribution to the discussions. Meetings will normally take place in Brussels.

## CONTACT

EPE is a multi-stakeholder forum bringing together Public Authorities, Companies large and small, Trade Unions, Research Institutes, Environmental Organisations, Consumer and Ethical NGOs and Civil Society Groups. Its mission is to improve cross-sectoral collaboration and joint initiatives to align business, capital, markets and society more closely with the sustainability agenda. EPE builds the ground for consensus on sustainability and serves as a catalyst, in Europe and around the world, to achieve into the future a better balance between the environmental, social and economic elements of life.

EPE hosts laboratories and produces insightful action plans aimed at giving a different perspective to revitalise on-going policy debates on major issues affecting the EU sustainability outlook. The laboratories provide practical guidance on how co-operation among partners produces results that improve the environmental performance of products and processes encouraging their uptake by business and consumers. Through these laboratories, EPE engineers new forms of partnerships among champions to stimulate the demand for eco-innovation and to seek combined environmental and economic benefits.



### European Partners for the Environment (EPE)

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## PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

### French Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development (MESD)



At a government level, the MESD works in close collaboration with many other ministries so that public policy (transport, infrastructure, energy, industry, agriculture, regional development, health, research, sea, urban planning, education, etc.) promotes sustainable development and incorporates more environmental concerns. At a local level, the MESD works with decentralised departments linked to other ministries in French départements, such as local departments for infra-structure (DDE), agricultural and forestry (DDAF) or veterinary services (DDSV), to implement its policies. The officers concerned then work under the authority of the Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development. The MESD also establishes partnerships with not-for-profit organisations, local authorities and socio-professional groups to develop and implement policy. At the European level, the Ministry is in close contact with the European Commission, which is particularly active in environmental matters. Consequently, 80% of French legislation related to the environment is derived from European regulations.

[www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr](http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr)

### Platform EnergieTransitie Gebouwe Omgeving (PeGO)



PeGO is the Dutch Energy Transition Platform for the Built Environment. A Public Private Partnership, PeGO is adviser to the Dutch Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment and has developed several energy efficiency programmes both for existing buildings as well as for new buildings. PeGO's Innovation Workgroup supports a number of very ambitious energy-efficient housing and utilities projects in the Netherlands. The overall aim of PeGO Innovation is to reach energy neutrality (total primary energy-demand) for all new houses by 2020 and halving all primary energy-demand in the existing stock no later than by 2030. A major programme for the existing buildings is "Meer Met Minder" (More with Less) an initiative that PeGO has supported from the start in 2008.

[www.senternovem.nl/energietransitiego](http://www.senternovem.nl/energietransitiego)

### EUREC Agency



The European Renewable Energy Research Centres (EUREC) Agency was established as a European Economic Interest Grouping in 1991 to strengthen and rationalise the European research, demonstration and development efforts in all renewable energy technologies. As an independent member-based association, it incorporates 44 prominent research groups from all over Europe, representing a very large part of ongoing renewable energy research in Europe. EUREC members research fields include wind, photovoltaics, biomass, small hydro, solar thermal power, ocean energy, geothermal, hybrid systems, energy efficiency in buildings and grid infrastructure. EUREC Members globally represent a community of over 1.000 researchers from 15 European Member States.

[www.eurec.be](http://www.eurec.be)

### EUROFUEL



The European Heating Oil Association (Eurofuel) represents the national organisations that promote the use of heating oil for domestic heating in 10 European countries, including over 10 000 companies. Eurofuel is engaged in the promotion of existing and innovative techniques for heating oil and equipment, in the domestic market. In this way, our members are committed to ensuring the competitiveness and efficiency of heating with oil, while also reducing its environmental footprint.

[www.eurofuel.eu](http://www.eurofuel.eu)

### Association of independent European oil traders (UPEI)



UPEI is the association of independent European oil traders from most of the member states through national trade organizations. Independents - mainly small and medium enterprises (SME) - but all independent from major oil companies are active in all states of the European Union. Members of UPEI are active in all fields save crude oil production that is in importing, wholesaling, retailing, distribution, logistics and refinings - and some in gas, electricity, and renewable energies.

[www.upei.org](http://www.upei.org)

### ENDS Europe



ENDS Europe brings together our European news services, ENDS Europe DAILY and ENDS Europe REPORT to deliver an enhanced service. The new service has additional elements to ensure we remain the EU's leading environmental news and information service. The full benefits of our European reporting through one website - [www.endseurope.com](http://www.endseurope.com). ENDS Europe reports the news that matters - accurately and independently. Our readers agree. Written by our editorial team in Brussels and London, the service is offered by the UK's leading professional environmental publisher, Environmental Data Services (ENDS).

[www.endseurope.com](http://www.endseurope.com)

### Build Up



The BUILD UP interactive web portal shares and promotes existing knowledge, guidelines, tools and best practices for energy-saving measures in buildings across Europe. At the same time, it informs and updates the market about the legislative framework in terms of goals, practical implications and future revisions.

[www.buildup.eu](http://www.buildup.eu)

### Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign



The Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is a European Commission initiative in the framework of the Intelligent Energy - Europe programme, which aims to raise public awareness and promote sustainable energy production and use among individuals and organisations, private companies and public authorities, professional and energy agencies, industry associations and NGOs across Europe.

[www.sustenergy.org](http://www.sustenergy.org)