

EuroACE – Energy Efficient Buildings shares its European elections pledge ahead of the next mandate. Our members employ over 280,000 workers in more than 1,100 factories and office locations in the EU. They will contribute to European leadership in energy efficiency solutions and improve Europe’s competitiveness on the global stage.

Our industry’s five commitments are designed to inspire your project for the coming mandate period:

1 Our industry will contribute to the reindustrialisation of the EU

Energy efficiency solutions are well known: insulation, windows, ventilation systems, decarbonised heating and cooling systems, technical building systems, lighting, digital tools, and building automation and control systems. Most of these products are manufactured in the EU and installed locally.

The energy prices crisis temporarily boosted the energy efficiency market, but now is the time to develop a structured industrial policy for the sector that will provide predictability and stability for the years ahead. Our members are committed to maintaining European global leadership and to investing more to meet EU objectives and rising demand for energy efficiency solutions for buildings throughout the decade.

Help us help the EU: Support energy efficiency cleantech

Develop a dedicated industrial policy for efficient buildings: The EU is a leader in the development and deployment of energy efficiency technologies. However, an ambitious and coherent European Industrial policy is now needed to ramp up production of energy efficiency solutions and to stand up to international competition, notably from the USA.

Implement Green Deal files to ensure market visibility: Swift and complete implementation of adopted EU legislation is paramount to provide industry players with much needed medium and long-term market visibility. This will encourage long term investments, innovation, and assistance to companies to optimise training programs.



2 Our industry will make the EU more productive, competitive and resilient

Today, roughly 75% of the EU building stock is energy inefficient. This means that a large part of the energy used goes to waste. Such energy loss can be minimised by improving existing buildings through energy efficiency solutions¹. Efficient buildings improve living conditions and **durably reduce energy poverty, lowering energy bills**:

- At building level, deep energy renovations can lower demand by up to 80%. Efficiency solutions reduce energy consumption and significantly bring down energy bills.
- At system level, efficiency measures avoid costs that would otherwise be passed on to customers such as investments in additional generation capacity and energy networks. It also reduces energy price spikes by lowering peak demand².

Beyond energy savings, energy efficiency solutions generate multiple benefits such as greater comfort, improved health, and increased productivity. These additional benefits have a significant positive impact on the EU economy³.

Help us help the EU: Invest in energy renovations

Increase the level and regularity of funding for energy renovations: Design a multi-annual budget to support energy renovations and significantly increase the EU Social Climate Fund.

Improve EU funding absorption rate: Improve collaboration between the European Commission, EU regions and cities. Grow the successful ELENA facility and encourage capacity building for the development of energy renovation support programmes and projects. Allow competitive and direct EU funding for renovation projects to be awarded to regions and cities.

Unlock private finance: Design a European framework for Mortgage Portfolio Standards. Launch new instruments to facilitate access to private financing. Increase the taxonomy energy savings threshold for energy renovations.

Create socially fair financing programs: Ensure that public funding is primarily targeted to the most vulnerable households, who need energy renovations the most but are the least likely to be able to afford them.

¹ In focus: Energy efficiency in buildings (europa.eu)

² ACEEE, 2023: Energy Efficiency in a High Renewable Energy Future | ACEEE

³ BPIE, Building 4 People: Building the business case for better office, school and hospital buildings in Europe, 2018

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Our industry will employ and (re)train the next generation of skilled workers

Having a qualified workforce is essential to ensure the high levels of quality required for moving towards an efficient buildings sector and to accelerate the rate of energy renovation in the EU. This is why upskilling, reskilling, and increasing the total number of skilled workers and installers is a clear priority for our industry.

Most of our members are already reinforcing their training programs and offering personal development opportunities for their employees.

For every €1 million invested in energy renovation of buildings, an average of 18 jobs are created in the EU⁴. Through the Renovation Wave, an additional **160,000 green jobs could be created by 2030**⁵. These are local, long-term jobs that will stimulate economic activity.

Help us help the EU: Develop an integrated Energy Efficiency Academy

Launch an Energy Efficiency Academy: Skilled workers are sorely needed to achieve our adopted 2030 objectives – and beyond. An academy would help with upskilling and re-skilling, addressing the performance of buildings in a holistic way: from the manufacturing of energy efficiency products and technologies to their deployment through energy renovations. It is essential for advisors, installers etc. to consider demand reduction and decarbonisation as going hand in hand.

⁴ Renovate Europe, 2020

⁵ Employment and Social Developments in Europe, Annual Review 2019, European Commission.



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Our industry will make homes and workplaces future-proof

Digitalisation

EuroACE members develop and produce software and hardware which play a key role in gathering data, and optimising the design, operations, management, and maintenance of buildings. These technologies enable users to simulate, evaluate and optimise life-cycle carbon emissions, energy performance and overall functioning of a building from the concept phase all the way to construction and renovation phases. This includes technologies such as digital twins, energy-efficiency metering technologies, submeters, and building automation and control systems.

Digital tools also enable citizens and businesses to become direct actors in the energy markets, generating and storing energy onsite, as well as providing flexibility to the grid.

Improve comfort and climate proofing

Europeans spend more than 90% of their time in buildings. Energy efficiency solutions are essential to make them healthy and comfortable places to live, study, and work. These technologies and products are also great climate adaptation solutions. They keep buildings warm in winter and cool during heatwaves.

Help us help the EU: Leverage innovation and data

Encourage the use of digital technologies across the entire life-cycle of buildings – from early project planning to management, maintenance and energy renovations

Implement indoor environmental quality requirements for buildings

Integrate the deployment of energy efficiency solutions in climate adaptation strategies

Roll out the Smart Readiness Indicator for large non-residential buildings



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Our industry will decarbonise the EU

Buildings are responsible for over a third of the EU's GHG emissions. Almost 80% of all household energy is used for space and water heating, with over half of this energy being supplied by burning fossil fuels, notably gas. Energy efficiency technologies provide solutions to fully decarbonise homes and workplaces in a cost-effective way.

To reach the EU's ambitious 2050 climate goals, reducing emissions from the buildings sector is an absolute necessity. According to the IEA Net Zero Emissions 2022 scenario, all buildings should be decarbonised by 2050. To achieve this objective, the EU should start to develop a holistic approach to building decarbonisation, from design to demolition and disposal which addresses the whole life carbon footprint of buildings.

Beyond this, efficient and smart buildings can facilitate the decarbonisation of other sectors. Enhanced efficiency and flexibility will enhance system integration and help manage a larger share of variable renewables on the grid.

Help us help the EU: decarbonise the buildings sector

The measures necessary to decarbonise the sector are already well known:

Increase the energy renovation rate to 3% and incentivise works bringing buildings to the highest performance standard ^{7 8}.

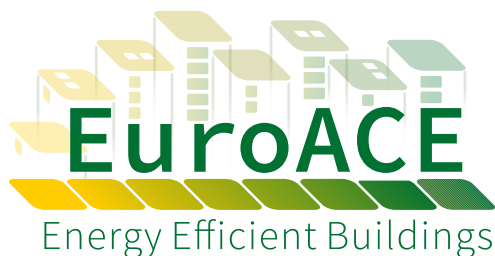
Develop a Whole Life Carbon approach for the building sector at EU level.

Remove barriers to demand side flexibility.

⁷ IEA, World Energy Outlook 2022

⁸ BPIE, Minimum standards maximum impact, 2023





EuroACE represents Europe's leading companies involved with the manufacture, distribution and installation of energy saving products, equipment, and services for buildings. EuroACE members employ more than 280,000 people in these activities in Europe and in over 1,100 production facilities and office locations. The mission of EuroACE is to work together with the EU institutions to help the EU move towards a more efficient use of energy in buildings, thereby contributing to our commitments on climate change, energy security and economic growth.

For further information

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