

EAE's position on the Commission Communication "Renovation wave" initiative for the building sector (roadmap)

The European Association for External Thermal Insulation Composite Systems (EAE) welcomes the European Commission's proposal for a Renovation Wave. Accelerating the renovation rate is a key tool not only in the fight against climate change, it will in addition deliver major benefits for people, their quality of life, and our economy. Considering the current economic situation across Europe after the Covid-19 crisis the Renovation Wave offers a huge leverage to accelerate the recovery as it addresses European industries and secures local employment.

The full potential of the building stock (around 200 million buildings) can only be addressed by the European Green Deal if it is well-designed and ambitious. Highly energy efficient buildings reduce energy consumption, reduce CO₂ emissions levels, bring benefits in different socio-economic dimensions (e.g. economic growth, job creation, health, well-being, and productivity).

We note the Roadmap's holistic approach in listing the barriers that have been hindering investments in energy renovation of buildings. We believe that beyond their further analysis, a process of 'mix & match' among best practices and successful initiatives at Member State-level, is what is missing. Identifying the "success factors" rather than just "pull factors" should be analysed and replicated. This would support the creation of stronger data which will lessen information barriers by creating awareness within an ever-increasing pool of actors. To achieve this, it seems clear that better communication between Member States and the EU Institutions is required.

The initiative must be more strategic, as the need to mastermind an economic recovery in the months ahead gives us more motivation than ever to ambitiously and enthusiastically address energy waste in our building stock. Putting the energy-efficiency-first principle ahead will ease the way to shift to renewables and plus-energy buildings/areas through reduced energy demand on the way to achieving a carbon neutral society by 2050.

The members of the European Association for External Thermal Insulation Composite Systems (EAE) are ready to support the European institutions and Member States.

Brussels/Baden-Baden, 8th June 2020

Ralf Pasker, Managing Director

Position paper

8th June 2020



About EAE

EAE, the European Association for External Thermal Insulation Composite Systems (ETICS) was founded on in 2008. It is formed by 12 national ETICS associations, 6 important European components' associations and 11 supporting members, which include manufacturers as well as research and test institutes. The EAE represents about 80 per cent of Europe's revenue from ETICS. The European ETICS market includes international operating companies as well as hundreds of SMEs. As a European association of national ETICS associations and European sector associations the EAE represents hundreds of manufacturers, installers, institutes, and national trade associations involved in the ETICS business.

The main objectives of the association are to further promote the benefits of using ETICS and to support the safe and durable use of ETIC systems. EAE represents the ETICS business in CEN and EOTA working groups as well as in public consultations of the European Commission.

The EAE is a member of Construction Products Europe (CPE), the European Council for Construction Research, Development and Innovation (ECCREDI), the Construction Alliance 2050, and supporter of the Renovate Europe Campaign. Furthermore, EAE is in contact with associations and initiatives beyond European borders. The association holds liaisons with the EIFS Council of Canada, the China Association of Building Energy Efficiency (CABEE), the Japanese Association for Housing Thermal Insulation Technology Coop. (NDJK) and the EIFS Industry Members Association (EIMA) in the United States of America.

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