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INTERACT WITH BUILD UP

Dear reader

The extremely cold weather that has firmly taken hold of Europe these days has also increased people's awareness regarding the energy consumption in buildings, and that not only in the Northern countries. So this is a good opportunity to study all the new information on the different facets of the EPBD implementation process and beyond, which has been published at the BUILD UP portal during the last weeks. For this newsletter, we selected several new activities and publications on EU and Member States level as well as upcoming events. Moreover, the highlighted case studies and tools may also give you some inspiration for your everyday business dealing with energy efficiency in buildings.

Your BUILD UP team

Discover the latest and most interesting items posted by the BUILD UP users this month:

News from the EU



EU Energy policy could create 500,000 jobs

The European Union may pass an environment policy in the first half of this year that would bring a rapid jobs boost, cut energy bills and improve the environment by one simple measure: keeping Europe's buildings in good repair. [More](#)

EUSEW 2012: Awards competition still open! Deadline coming to a close!

Final Deadline: 29 February 2012. Do you manage a best practice energy project in the buildings sector? Would you like to share it and get both media attention and recognition from the European Union? [More](#)

Moving beyond 20% greenhouse gas reductions in the EU: costs and benefits for Member States

On 30th January 2012 the European Commission published a Staff Working Document, which analyses the costs and the benefits at the level of Member States of moving beyond its 20% greenhouse gas emission reduction target. [More](#)

A set of 4 EPBD CA technical reports has been released

During the EPBD Concerted Action, national delegates debate in detail on specific issues of the implementation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. Results from the discussion of key issues like certificates, inspection and nearly zero-energy buildings have now been published. [More](#)

Survey to shape future smart cities platform

In the first trimester of 2012, the European Commission is to launch a Stakeholder Platform that will seek to put forward concrete recommendations for the Smart Cities and Communities initiative. [More](#)

The EPBD Concerted Action launched a new website!

The new EPBD Concerted Action website, available under the same familiar address, with an improved structure and presentation, with fresh news and 4 recently released technical reports, is now also featuring a specific Country Information section. [More](#)

News from the countries



UK government unveils new proposals to cut carbon emissions from new and existing buildings

Developed with the construction industry, the new proposals will pave the way for the introduction of zero-carbon homes from 2016 while reducing the regulatory cost for businesses. [More](#)

10th KfW award for construction and housing in Germany: Start of application procedure for anniversary award

The application phase for the 10th KfW award for construction and housing has started. Eligible applicants include private builders who in the past five years have modernised their residential buildings with a view to energy efficiency and accessibility. In addition, a special award for "Monument modernisation" (Modernisation of Historical Patrimony) will be given in the anniversary year. This is directed... [more](#)

GBP 50m European boost for the University of Edinburgh refurbishment

The European Investment Bank (EIB) agreed to provide GBP 50 million for ambitious refurbishment that will improve teaching and research facilities at the University of Edinburgh. Creation of the new Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation, refurbishment of the main library and other key departments will also involve installation of a new energy efficiency network. [More](#)

Italy: Award launched for best Sustainable Energy Action Plans

Over 1600 Italian cities and towns have joined the Covenant of Mayors to date. As part of their commitment, they have pledged to adopt a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) outlining a set of key actions intended to bring a more sustainable future to their citizens. To encourage and stimulate local administrations to elaborate and adopt ambitious and high quality plans, Climate Alliance Italy and... [more](#)

Energy Efficiency being promoted in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has announced it will finance the implementation of energy saving measures in Bingo stores in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The EBRD loan, part of the Bank's Western Balkans Sustainable Energy Direct Financing Facility (WeBSEDF), has been extended to Bingo's subsidiary, Hekom, which manages the company's energy efficiency programmes. [More](#)

Successful small-scale cogeneration examples in Brussels Capital-Region

Together with Associated Partner COGEN Europe, a set of cogeneration projects has been implemented in the Brussels Capital-Region of which the results were shown to a group of interested MEPs this past December. Yves Lebbe, cogeneration facilitator at Brussels Capital-Region states: "In 2005 we had 15 cogeneration units, now we have more than 70 cogeneration installations in our region. These projects... [more](#)

More up-to-date news items can be found on the portal: [Click here](#)

Financing Schemes

Intelligent Energy – Europe programme (IEE)

Intelligent Energy-Europe is a programme launched by the European Commission in 2003 as a means of supporting the energy efficiency and renewable energy policies which bring the EU closer to its 2020 targets. It is composed of three different financing streams: (1) Funding projects across the EU that support and promote energy efficiency and renewable energy. Funds can be used to cover up to 75 % of... [more](#)

WBIF, Review of Financial Support Facilities Available for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in the Western Balkans

The overall objective of this report is to provide information and analyses on the various financial support mechanisms funded by the European Commission (EC), International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and bilateral donors, to promote energy efficiency in the Western Balkans. It is designed primarily for members of the Task Force on Energy Efficiency of the Energy Community Treaty but it should also... [more](#)

Read about other financing schemes: [Click here](#)

Events

Energy Training Week 2012

Following the success of our first Energy Training Week in 2011, and in response to numerous requests for IEA training, the IEA is pleased to announce the next international training activity that offers free energy courses specifically aimed at professionals in non IEA member countries, developing countries and emerging economies. [More](#)

Airtightness workshop - Achieving relevant and durable airtightness levels: status, options and progress needed

This event will bring key experts together to present and discuss issues related to airtightness requirements, durability, and potential for quality management approaches. Registration information at:

[http://www.aivc.org/medias/pdf/News/Registration Form.pdf](http://www.aivc.org/medias/pdf/News/Registration_Form.pdf). [More](#)

Other events: [Click here](#)

Publications

Inspection of Heating and Air-conditioning systems - Strategies for cost-effective implementation

Cost effectiveness is a key issue for inspections, in view of the additional requirements introduced by the EPBD Recast. It is essential to carefully consider the role and behaviour of the relevant market actors (building owners and maintenance staff) to reach the objective of ensuring good maintenance while maximising energy savings and minimising investments, to improve energy efficiency in heating... [more](#)

EHPA Quality Label for Heat Pumps (EHPA-Q)

The EHPA Quality label for heat pumps aims at implementing a quality assurance system for heat pump units across Europe. The key element of the label is a third party testing process based on the guidelines of the European Heat Pump Association (EHPA) and executed according to the test requirements specified in European standards EN 14511 parts 1 to 4 (unit performance for heating), EN 16147 (domestic... [more](#)

Financing and Contracting Sustainable Construction - Innovative Approaches

This report examines a number of innovative approaches to the financing and contracting of public sector construction projects. The areas of focus have been chosen based on the interests expressed by participants in the SCI-Network Working Group, representing a range of local and regional authorities from different parts of Europe. [More](#)

Energy Savings Potential in the Building Stock of nine Member States of European Union

The success of energy certification in European Union (imposed by the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive) depends to a large extent on the conditions in Member States. Energy consumption in residential buildings varies greatly depending on the type of building, construction year and many country-specific factors, such as climate. The countries have very different energy savings potentials depending... [more](#)

More publications can be viewed here: [Click here](#)

Cases



Highlighted Case February 2012: Great Glen House - Scottish National Heritage Headquarters (SNH)

The Great Glen House, situated in the Westercraigs area of Inverness on the site of a former nursing home, is the new headquarters for Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and the Deer Commission for Scotland (DCS). This building has created a benchmark for best practice in sustainable commercial building. The building was purpose-built for the relocation of SNH to Inverness and achieved the highest ever... [more](#)

Children's day care centre 'Plappersnut' in Wismar

This project demonstrates the metamorphosis of a dreary precast concrete building into a stimulating environment for children. The day care centre in Wismar was in urgent need of refurbishment. In this project, solutions were developed that offer significant architectural and usage-related improvements as well as energy efficiency improvements. To achieve the architectural and usage-related improvements... [more](#)

Discover other cases and rate them: [Click here](#)

Tools



LAKS GHG calculator tool

The LAKS project (Local Accountability for Kyoto Goals) was conceived in order to embed in municipality's decision making and accountability processes all those policies implemented to tackle climate change. [More](#)

BHKW-Check

Find out whether or not a building is made for a cogeneration unit. A link available on the website of the Berlin Energy Agency can help you find out. By accessing the link provided, interested parties can see their building's potential for CHP. A push in the right direction for "cellar power plants," by the Berlin Energy Agency (BEA) from the newly launched incentive program for mini-CHP systems up... [more](#)

Read about other interesting tools: [Click here](#)

Communities



Community on requirements for experts and inspectors

Find out about new developments and discuss them with decision makers, authorities, standardization institutions and professionals involved. Make proposals to harmonise the requirements throughout Europe in order to facilitate the equivalence of competences. [More](#)

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INTERACT WITH BUILD UP



You can also provide news for the BUILD UP Newsletter

Have you found some interesting news in the newsletter? Much more news is available in the [news section of BUILD UP](#). Also you can provide news for this portal. All you have to do is use the news upload template ([click here](#)) and your information will be spread Europe-wide to interested readers.

Submit your items to extend the content and knowledge on BUILD UP

If you are aware of other publications, events, tools or best practice cases in the field of energy efficiency in buildings, join the portal and submit the information. Other users will benefit from the extended available knowledge.

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