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Financing the EU Renovation wave through financial instruments in combination with grants

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Renovation wave for climate neutrality and recovery

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Renovation Wave Key messages

Focus areas: energy poverty & worst performing buildings, public buildings, heating & cooling.

Building renovation is EU's **biggest job creator** with 12-18 local jobs/million euro invested.



02

01

Around **EUR 275 billion of additional investments** in building renovation is needed per year to achieve the 2030 targets.

Energy efficient homes can, through renovation & new technology **reduce energy bills**, **improve health** and **living conditions** and **help our climate**.

05

Mobilise forces at all levels in order to at least **double** the annual energy renovation rate.

04



RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FACILITY FLAGSHIP AREAS FOR INVESTMENTS AND REFORMS



#EUSolidarity #StrongerTogether

Commission

Renovate

- Objectives: jobs & growth, the green transition and social resilience
- Reforms
 - Supportive legislative package for energy and resource efficiency in buildings
 - National plan for skills development and a certification scheme for professionals
 - One-stop shops facilitating energy renovation projects across their lifetime
 - Transferrable on-bill recovery scheme
- Investments
 - Energy and resource efficiency scheme based on comprehensive energy performance contracts
 - Home renovation support scheme for residential buildings and social housing
 - Reuse and recycling infrastructure investments
- Milestones/targets
 - By QX-20XX, achieve X% of annual renovation rate of public buildings and social infrastructures
 - By QX-20XX, set up X pilot one-stop shops to test their operationalisation



Financial instruments can use Cohesion policy resources alongside the Recovery and resilience facility and Invest EU to leverage additional funding

EU Budget for Direct Investments	To leverage private investments	for Research & Innovation	To address Market Barriers	For Technical Assistance and Advisory
 Recovery and Resilient Facility Cohesion Policy Funds (ERDF, ESF, EU-REACT) Just Transition Mechanism - JTF 	 InvestEU Private Financing 4 Energy Efficiency European Energy Efficiency Fund 	- EGD Calls - Smart Cities - LIFE – Circula	Energy Transition - LIFE – Circular Economy & Quality of	- ELENA Facility - Technical Support

- Financing solutions for low-income households through the use of grants, or of energy savings for repayment
- Cohesion Policy funds targeted for high performance, aligned with NEPS and Long-Term Renovation Strategies



Why is it the right momentum?

NextGeneration EU & new MFF offers an unprecedented volume of resources The building sector consist of more than **90% SMEs**, hit hard by the economic impact of the COVID 19

Early estimates: energy efficiency investments have **dropped** by 12% in 2020

Renovation is a win-win for climate neutrality and recovery



Further details on:

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1835

https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-efficientbuildings/renovation-wave_en

https://ec.europa.eu/info/departments/recovery-and-resilience-task-force_en

https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/component_renovation.pdf







Financing the Renovation wave

Carlos Sanchez Rivero, Team Leader, Energy Efficiency Finance, DG ENER, European Commission







EU funding driving investment for renovations

Recovery and Resilience Facility (EUR 672.5 billion, 37% climate initiatives) and including European Flagships "Renovate" and "Power Up".

Cohesion Policy Funds (proposed budget of EUR 330 billion) better targeted on delivering high energy performance, in line with NECPs and LTRSs objectives.

InvestEU dedicated financial products for energy renovation of buildings and **EIB Initiative for Building Renovation** support for the aggregation into portfolios of building renovation projects.



Facilitate **combined solutions** for project promoters, including clearer and easier **State Aid rules** (Ongoing revision of the General Block Exemption Regulation and Energy and Environmental Aid Guidelines)



Attracting private investments and stimulate green loan financing

- Developing financing solutions with high potential to be scaledup/innovative. Reinforcing the role of main aggregators: financial institutions, utilities, ESCOs.
 - Supporting the activation of private-sector investments at national and European level through EEFIG and SEI Forums.
 - Spur the development of green loan and mortgage financing. standards and labels for sustainable financial products: green mortgages, green loans and green bonds.
 - Supporting de-risking energy efficiency investments. Proposal to incorporate environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks into the Capital Requirements law and the Solvency II Directive
 - Consider the introduction of a 'deep renovation' standard as part of the EPBD revision and in line with the development of the EU Taxonomy.



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Increasing capacity and technical assistance



" Preparing a good renovation project, matched with the best financing sources available, is difficult and often very complicated for individuals or small local authorities. Thus, technical assistance is going to play a key role for the expected increased rates and quality of renovation." (RW Communication).



Leveraging private financing with EU Funds

Integrated schemes for building renovation combining grants, technical assistance and loans.

Replication of ELENA model, together with the EIB, at national and regional level.

Support setting up **standardised one-stop shops** at national, regional or local levels.

Investment schemes based on **energy performance contracting** targeting public buildings and social housing

Financial instruments/ Innovative financing solutions through **on-bill and on-tax schemes**





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Olivier Dumoulin, Policy Officer, DG REGIO, European Commission







Policy Objective 2 – Greener, carbon free Europe

- The main policy objective is to make a greener and low-carbon Europe, by **promoting clean and fair energy transition**, green and blue investment, the circular economy, climate adaptation and risk prevention and management.
- Investments under PO 2 should focus on achieving 7 specific objectives:
 - 2.1 Promoting energy efficiency (EE) measures
 - 2.2 Promoting renewable energy
 - 2.3 Developing smart energy systems, grids and storage at local level
 - 2.4 Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and disaster resilience
 - 2.5 Promoting sustainable water management
 - 2.6 Promoting the transition to a circular economy
 - 2.7 Enhancing biodiversity, green infrastructure in the urban environment, and reducing pollution



Energy efficiency – Typical market failures

- EE investments are usually structured in such a way that **financing costs are** (at least partially) **covered by savings** on energy expenses, thus **viable for FI**.
- Still, grants are needed to help overcome the following constraints/barriers:
 - Significant need for technical support: project design, launch, monitoring and commissioning → finance support services
 - Project promoters lack incentives to prioritize / carry out EE investments, in particular deeper renovations
 - EE projects report a long payback time / limited financial return
 - Final recipients may have a limited financial capacity / social issues
 - Unadequate market finance supply (limited tailored products, high perceived risk, EE savings not factored in the financing decision, ...)



Energy efficiency – Financing options

Examples of combinations* depending on market failures and context, e.g.:



* Non exhaustive combination options, subject to CPR and other applicable rules (e.g. State aid)



EE FI under shared management



Greece - ERDF co-funded Energy Savings in Existing Housing FI (2007-13) Two products provided by the Programme to support households' energy saving investments .:

- · a loan with a commercial and a subsidised component
- a grant as non-repayable support (15% to 70%) covering part of the investment costs, the cost of the energy audit and of the project consultant.
- The proportion of these elements varied depended on homeowners' income.

fi compass

11=





Focus on EE retrofit investments by homeowner associations in multi-apartment buildings. Renovation loan co-funded combined with grants funded by State budget resources:

Technical support grants up to 50% for energy audits

Investment grants depending on the energy savings achieved:

- \checkmark 20% to 30%: grant equivalent to 15% of total eligible costs
- \checkmark 30% to 40%, grant of 25% of total eligible costs ;
- \checkmark 50% and above: grant of 35% of total eligible costs.

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EE FI under shared management



Lithuania - ERDF co-funded FI for energy efficiency (2014-20)

Renovation loan FI targeting energy efficiency retrofit investments in residential housing, with a focus on homeowner associations in multi-apartment buildings. The loan FI has been cofunded by ERDF, and is combined with different types of grants as follows:

- ERDF interest rate and technical support subsidies at FI level
- State budget grants to fully compensate for loan capital and interest payments of lower income individuals at project level
- Capital rebates from State budget at project level: Energy savings of 40%: rebate of 25%
 ; Energy savings of 50%: rebate of 35%



Combination in one operation

Art. 52(5) CPR: major evolutions !

'Financial instruments may be combined with programme support in the form of grants in a single financial instrument operation, within a single funding agreement, where both distinct forms of support shall be provided by the body implementing the financial instrument. In such case, the rules applicable to financial instruments shall apply to that single financial instrument operation. The programme support in the form of grants shall be directly linked and necessary for the financial instrument and shall not exceed the value of the investments supported by the financial product.'



Combination in one operation

Grant is directly linked & necessary to the FI

Grant is part of the funding agreement (Annex IX) & is provided by the body implementing the FI (HF/Fint.)



The programme support in the form of grants does not exceed the investments supported by the FI product

FI rules apply to grants when combined in one FI operation



Combination in one operation: guarantee FI



FI and Interest Rate / Guarantee Fee / Technical Support subsidies



Support grant is calculated at FI level and not at final recipient ('FR') level.

Managing Authority



MA selects a FInt.; a single funding agreement is signed covering grants & FI

Financial intermediary for combined Financial Instrument

Loan / guarantee

Interest rate / guarantee fee / TS subsidy

Revenue generating/cost saving investment



FI and Investment grants



reduce financial burden on FR.

Managing Authority



MA selects a FInt.; a single funding agreement is signed covering grants & FI



FI and performance-based grants



Various **performance-based grants** may be combined with FI in one operation, such as:

- **forgivable loan** (e.g. capital rebate)
- recoverable grant
- convertible grant...

Managing Authority



MA selects a FInt.; a single funding agreement is signed covering grants & FI

Financial intermediary for combined Financial Instrument





• Will bodies implementing the FI be selected through separate procedures for the grant and for the financial instrument parts in case of combinations in one operation?

> No, a single selection procedure will be applied for selecting bodies implementing combined FI.

• Do final recipients have to participate in a grant call for combinations in one operation?

➢ No, final recipients will submit a single financing application for the FI and grant to the financial intermediary in line with FI rules and the market practice of the financial intermediary.

• How will FInt. be remunerated to manage combinations of FI and grants in one operation?

Management costs and fees will be calculated on the combined amount of grants and FI, compensating the FInt. for the additional management costs incurred for grants.

How will payments be made to final recipients in case of combinations in one operation?

- Grants and FI are provided by the body(ies) implementing the FI, i.e. Holding fund and/or FInt.
- > Payment schedule in line with project needs





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Renovation challenge: Lithuania



About **30,000** multi-apartment buildings in need of energy efficiency improvements

Challenges:

- Limited national funds allowing for max. 40% grant rate
- Unsecured lending too risky for banks
- Limited EU funds to structure financial instrument

Objective:

 Leverage EU Structural Funds to attract financing from private sector at an attractive price

Funding Sources:

EUR 1bn - EUR 250m ERDF 2014-2020 and EUR 705m financing from commercial lenders (incl. IFIs)









Governance structure









Timeline of implementation and types of instruments



Time period	Actions taken	
November 2014	Approval of ex-ante assessment	
May 2015	Funding Agreement	
August 2015	Signature of the pre-financing agreement with financial intermediary	
September 2016	Updated ex ante assessment – first revision	
December 2018	Signature of guarantee agreement with the financial intermediary	
September 2019	Updated ex ante assessment – second revision	
December 2019	Commencement of procurement of financial intermediary under the investment platform	





Different types of grant support



- Technical support for:
 - investment plans
 - energy audits
 - technical project preparation
 - the administration of the implementation of the renovation
- Interest rate subsidies to help reduce the cost of borrowing for the final recipients
- Capital rebates of 30% of the project cost where minimum energy performance standards are achieved
- Additional 10% capital rebate of the project cost where additional energy efficiency measures are achieved.





Financial instruments in combination with grants





Renovation Project of the Year 2019

Kosmonautų St. 2, Marijampolė

Year of construction	1993	
Number of apartments	54	
Heating, kWh/m2 (before and after)	140.19 and 27.71	
Decrease in CO2 emissions	0, 09467 t/year	
Energy efficiency class, (before and after)	'E' and 'B'	
Investment cost per m2 before subsidy	EUR 262	











Outputs of 2014-2020 at end of September 2020

million

signed



total apartment block area renovated 50,000 number of households affected

2014-2020

2,4M

~410 GWh

amount of thermal energy saved, per annum

~95 tCO2

reduction per annum





90%

disbursed



Outlook: Renovation Wave



- **Investment platform** for energy efficiency in apartment blocks as a part of COVID-19 crisis response, which allows public funds to cover the first loss and lenders to rank according to their risk appetite.
- **Increase in renovation:** from current **500** multi-apartment buildings p.a. to **1 400** p.a. during the period of 2041 2050. This will lead to savings of **60%** of current energy consumption and decrease CO2 emissions by **80%**.
- Sustainable district renovation to increase quality of life and integrated city approach.

















