

A new support to energy efficiency in buildings

31 January 2023 — The Implementation Working Group on Energy Efficiency in Buildings (IWG5) provides expert knowledge on decarbonizing the buildings sector to the European Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan. Since September 2022, IWG5 members have had the support of a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) financed by Horizon Europe, to carry out its activities and deliver the implementation of the SET Plan on energy-efficient solutions for buildings.

The IWG5 is composed of government representatives of European and associated countries, industrial stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, and research institutes. It provides expert knowledge on decarbonizing both new and existing buildings, via innovative technologies and supportive policy measures.

Around 40% of the final energy consumption in Europe is due to the building sector

There is a great potential for energy savings, CO2 reduction and climate protection in the building sector. The IWG5 aims to achieve the targets of the developed Implementation Plan on energy-efficient solutions for buildings across Europe. Member States shall be supported to put in place measures favoring both innovation in building design and energy technologies for buildings, and the uptake of these technologies by the building sector. The implementation plan is periodically adapted to new requirements.

The IWG5 addresses several topics such as energy efficiency, integrating renewable energy technologies, renovation and construction of sustainable buildings, to name a few. To work on these and other topics, the IWG5 is divided into two subgroups: new materials and technologies for energy efficient solutions for buildings, and cross-cutting heating and cooling technologies for buildings.

An overview of the European research and development of new materials and technologies for energy efficiency solutions

The IWG5-CSA will carry out several tasks such as: providing scientific support on new technologies and materials, setting out the measures required to achieve the energy efficiency targets in the building sector and sharing policy updates. The project will pay close attention to the revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, National Energy and Climate Plans, and National Building Renovation Plans.

Annett Kьhn, IWG5 Buildings Chair, adds: “I am very pleased that IWG5 could attract such a powerful consortium with many years of experience in the building sector, which will support our important work in the next few years.”

In addition, the IWG5 will also organize study tours on energy-efficient buildings and promote citizen engagement in eco-buildings. Exchanges and discussions will be organized with building owners, citizens, municipalities, and policy makers.

The new website of the IWG5 is now online: www.iwg5-buildings.eu. For more news on the project and on actions to decarbonize the buildings sector, [subscribe to the “Policy Radar” newsletter](#) and follow the project on social media (@IWG5_Buildings).

Contacts:

Annett Kuhn, IWG5 Buildings Chair: a.kuehn@fz-juelich.de
Nicolas de la Vega, IWG5-CSA Coordinator: delavega@eurec.be

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