



Council of the  
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**NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	A Renovation Wave for Europe - Exchange of views on the Presidency questions

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Delegations will find in the annex questions by the Presidency on the Renovation Wave for Europe in view of the Energy Working Party on 19 January and possible submission of written replies by 22 January.

ANNEX

## Energy Working Party – 19<sup>th</sup> January

### Renovation Wave

#### Issues paper in view of the preparation of Council Conclusions

Europe seeks to overcome the COVID-19 crisis, building renovation offers a unique opportunity to modernise Europe's building stock, to make it fit for a green, fair and digital society and sustain economic recovery. Most existing buildings are not energy-efficient, with more than two thirds relying on fossil fuels for heating and cooling and using old technologies and inefficient appliances. The EU's Recovery and Resilience Facility, alongside the EU's Multiannual Financial Framework, will make available an unprecedented volume of resources that can be used to kick-start renovation for recovery, resilience and greater social inclusion, based on projects included in national Recovery and Resilience Plans.

Renovation can be held back by barriers at different points in the renovation value chain – from the initial decision to engage in renovation, to financing and completion of the project. In view of the opportunities outlined, but also of the barriers and challenges involved, boosting building renovation at the scale that is needed, triggering an increase of energy and resource efficiency, and of renewables in buildings and districts will only happen if action is engaged across Member States and institutions, involving all governance levels. Unfortunately, public resources alone will not be sufficient to close the investment gap to achieve 2030 new energy efficiency targets. For these reasons, the European Commission advise Member States to develop support schemes and financial instruments for energy efficiency able to trigger additional private investments. Under this perspective, technical assistance facilities providing demand-driven grant support, including for the development of one stop shops and technical assistance, have proven effective to leverage and front-load investments and prepare a strong and aggregated pipeline of investment projects.

There is also a need to push forward measures, decisions and projects among European citizens, to achieve greater and broader awareness of the portfolio of activities that arise from the Renovation Wave.

Following the fruitful previous discussion on the role of building renovation, we kindly ask you to offer your input and answer the questions below grouped under the following two themes:

**1. Building renovation in the recovery context.** Renovation of buildings is a win-win for green growth and for economic recovery. It will play a central role in the Recovery and Resilience plans in line with the Renovation Wave. The NECPs and Long-Term Renovation Strategies should already identify the objectives, measures and investment needs for building renovation in the 2030 and 2050 perspectives. In this context:

- What support would your Member State need for defining buildings renovation investments and reforms as part of your draft Plan, in order to accelerate and scale up the building renovation efforts?

**2. Stronger governance for building renovation, and sharing best practices**

- What role do you see for the Council in steering and monitoring the implementation of the Renovation Wave? How do you see the role of the other institutions?
- What role can green public procurement play in the operationalization of the Renovation Wave in Europe to make buildings greener, create jobs and improve living conditions?

We will **discuss these questions in the Energy Working Party on 19<sup>th</sup> January** (dates tbc). Please send any written answers you wish to submit by 22<sup>nd</sup> January (cob).

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