



**EUROPEAN PANEL FEDERATION**  
WOOD - BASED PANELS

## PRESS RELEASE

# The Renovation Wave Strategy: the opportunity to turn the built environment into a carbon sink

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The European Panel Federation (EPF) warmly welcomes the publication of the European Commission communication on the Renovation Wave Strategy: “A Renovation Wave for Europe - greening our buildings, creating jobs, improving lives”. This Strategy aims at a refurbished and energy efficient building stock in the EU that will help pave the way for the decarbonisation of one of the largest energy consumer sectors in Europe, responsible for more than one third of the EU's emissions.

The Renovation Wave is also a unique opportunity to create up to 160.000 sustainable green jobs and to boost growth within the framework of the post covid-19 recovery while reducing drastically greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and ensuring a better living environment for European citizens. More than merely reducing GHG emissions **this Renovation Wave Strategy is the unique chance for the EU building ecosystem to become a carbon sink** improving the pool of carbon removals **“through the promotion of green infrastructure and the use of organic building materials that can store carbon, such as sustainably-sourced wood”**.

“By minimising the footprints of buildings and optimising carbon storage in natural, renewable building products and solutions, such as wood-based panels, we are taking an important leap towards the achievement of the objectives of the European Green Deal”, said Mr Clive Pinnington, EPF's Managing Director.

Mr Alexis Kuhl, EPF's Climate and Environment Advisor added: “Ensuring that the construction ecosystem is fit to deliver sustainable energy efficient renovation, based on circular, sustainable and climate-friendly solutions is the way forward. EPF strongly supports the EU's aim to have building renovation as a priority for national recovery plans under the **European Flagship ‘Renovate’**”.

### About EPF

*EPF – the European Panel Federation has members in 25 countries and represents the manufacturers of particleboard, MDF, OSB, hardboard, softboard and plywood. The EU wood panel industry has an annual turnover of about 22 billion Euros, creates over 100,000 jobs directly and counts more than 5,000 enterprises in Europe. Contact us at [info@europanels.org](mailto:info@europanels.org).*