

EPF strategic recommendations on the implementation of the Renovation Wave Strategy

EPF has prepared strategic recommendations on the implementation of the Renovation Wave Strategy - greening our buildings, creating jobs, improving lives. There is indeed a unprecedented opportunity following President von der Leyen's State of the Union address where she underlined that "the construction sector can even be turned from a carbon source into a carbon sink, if organic building materials like wood and smart technologies like AI are applied".

We have also drawn up some argumentation in our EPF, EFBWW, CEI-Bois, FEP & EOS -Joint Position Paper on the Renovation Wave Strategy. In this document we present an exhaustive list of the points that we welcome in the Renovation Wave Strategy document and that we request to be implemented at national level. We believe that wood-based panels (WBP) can be efficiently promoted through this list of 14 references to the content of the Strategy.

The next step is to engage at all levels (national, regional and local) to promote the implementation of the Renovation Wave Strategy and foster the use of WBP as climate positive materials. This can be done at several moments:

- At national level, through the National Recovery & Resilience Plans;
- At national level, through the National Environment & Climate Plans;
- At local level, through the so-called <u>Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans</u>.

Under the Recovery & Resilience Facility (NextGenerationEU) where 37% of the funds is dedicated for green investments, Member States have to prepare their National Recovery & Resilience Plans for which the key steps are the following:



The sector now needs to engage with the competent national authorities especially under the flagship 'Renovate - energy efficiency of buildings' to promote WBP.



Under the National Environment & Climate Plans that require each Member State to outline its 10-year plans for reducing emissions, increasing the take-up of renewables, improving energy efficiency (including in buildings), raising cross-border infrastructure/interconnections, ensuring markets are fit for new technologies, and boosting research and innovation, as well as outlining main priorities to ensure coherence with the 2050 climate neutrality objectives, we also suggest to Members to engage with the competent national authorities. These plans are currently being updated by Member States to meet the requirements of the more ambitious 2030 climate targets.

Under the Sustainable Energy & Climate Action Plans, the sector is encouraged to engage with the relevant regional, local & municipal authorities to kickstart the renovation wave. Those plans are voluntary commitments from cities or territorial entities to tackle climate change mitigation and adaptation in the framework of the Convent of Mayors for climate & energy initiative. In these local voluntary plans, there are mostly two levers available, namely: mobility and renovation for energy efficiency of the built environment.

Clearly, there are unique opportunities at these three levels to promote the implementation of the Renovation Wave Strategy and unlocking the full potential of WBP as climate-friendly nature-based solutions for renovation for energy efficiency of the EU built environment. All relevant information is in the embedded hyperlinks in this document. Please use these or contact EPF for further information.

