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## **Eurovent feedback on the roadmap for energy efficiency in buildings**

### **In a nutshell**

**Eurovent would like to provide feedback to the European Commission on the roadmap for energy efficiency in buildings. HVACR technologies play a key role in the energy performance of buildings and should be in the focus of the building renovation initiative.**

Buildings are the largest consumer of energy in the EU (41% TFEC) and have the most potential for emissions reductions. The technologies necessary to reach building efficiency targets are already available today. The challenge in decarbonising the building stock lies in the widespread deployment of these energy efficiency technologies in existing buildings.

Funding for renovation coupled with strategies to overcome barriers to investment are needed. Building renovation is effective not just in terms of decarbonisation, but also generating growth and creating jobs. It lies at the nexus of the European Green Deal and COVID-19 recovery.

The renovation of buildings in the residential sector has the most potential for energy savings. Residential buildings represent the largest share of the total building floor area in the EU (76%) and suffer from typical investment barriers. The uptake of energy efficiency technologies in the residential sector needs to be significantly scaled up.

Space heating accounts for most energy use in EU households (68%). Investing in renewable sources of thermal energy for space heating can provide major emissions abatement over legacy heating solutions. Cooling remains a small share of total final energy use in the EU (2%), but demand has been steadily increasing. A focus on efficient cooling today will pay off in the future.

Indoor air quality technologies and energy efficiency in buildings go hand in hand. Mechanical ventilation supplies fresh air indoors efficiently, recovering energy from the exhaust air. Air curtains prevent heat losses across open doors and other openings in the building envelope.

Digitalisation is a key enabler for energy efficiency. Smart appliances integrated into a building management system can provide major reductions in energy consumption.

EU funds earmarked for building renovation should be targeted at projects most likely to realise energy savings. Grants should be reserved for deep renovation projects rather than minor upgrades. The amount of energy saved per euro invested should be tracked.

## Eurovent and transparency

### When assessing position papers, are you aware whom you are dealing with?

Eurovent's structure rests upon democratic decision-making procedures between its members and their representatives. The more than 1.000 organisations within the Eurovent network count on us to represent their needs in a fair and transparent manner. Accordingly, we can answer policy makers' questions regarding our representativeness and decisions-making processes as follows:

#### 1. Who receives which number of votes?

At Eurovent, the number of votes is never determined by organisation sizes, country sizes, or membership fee levels. SMEs and large multinationals receive the same number of votes within our technical working groups: 2 votes if belonging to a national Member Association, 1 vote if not. In our General Assembly and Eurovent Commission ('steering committee'), our national Member Associations receive two votes per country.

#### 2. Who has the final decision-making power?

The Eurovent Commission acts as the association's 'steering committee'. It defines the overall association roadmap, makes decisions on horizontal topics, and mediates in case manufacturers cannot agree within technical working groups. The Commission consists of national Member Associations, receiving two votes per country independent from its size or economic weight.

#### 3. How European is the association?

More than 90 per cent of manufacturers within Eurovent manufacture in and come from Europe. They employ around 150.000 people in Europe largely within the secondary sector. Our structure as an umbrella enables us to consolidate manufacturers' positions across the industry, ensuring a broad and credible representation.

#### 4. How representative is the organisation?

Eurovent represents more than 1.000 companies of all sizes spread widely across 20+ European countries, which are treated equally. As each country receives the same number of votes, there is no 'leading' country. Our national Member Associations ensure a wide-ranging national outreach also to remote locations.

Check on us in the [European Union Transparency Register](#) under identification no. 89424237848-89.

### We are Europe's Industry Association for Indoor Climate (HVAC), Process Cooling, and Food Cold Chain Technologies – thinking 'Beyond HVACR'

Eurovent is Europe's Industry Association for Indoor Climate (HVAC), Process Cooling, and Food Cold Chain Technologies. Its members from throughout Europe represent more than 1.000 companies, the majority small and medium-sized manufacturers. Based on objective and verifiable data, these account for a combined annual turnover of more than 30bn EUR, employing around 150.000 people within the association's geographic area. This makes Eurovent one of the largest cross-regional industry committees of its kind. The organisation's activities are based on highly valued democratic decision-making principles, ensuring a level playing field for the entire industry independent from organisation sizes or membership fees.

Eurovent's roots date back to 1958. Over the years, the Brussels-based organisation has become a well-respected and known stakeholder that builds bridges between the manufacturers it represents, associations, legislators and standardisation bodies on a national, regional and international level. While Eurovent strongly supports energy efficient and sustainable technologies, it advocates a holistic approach that also integrates health, life and work quality as well as safety aspects. Eurovent holds in-depth relations with partner associations around the globe. It is a founding member of the ICARHMA network, supporter of REHVA, and contributor to various EU and UN initiatives.