



Short Report from the Slovenian National REDay2020 event

Date: October 29, 2020

Organised by: REC National Slovenian Partner: SGGCCS

About the event: The event will focus on the potential for energy renovation of buildings under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan.

Speakers:

- **Mag. Vladimir Gumilar**, Director, Construction Cluster of Slovenia
- **Adrian M Joyce**, Secretary General of EuroACE and Director of the Renovate Europe Campaign
- **Mag. Erik Potočar**, Ministry of Infrastructure
- **Mag. Nena Dokuzov**, Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, in cooperation with the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy
- **Dr. Marjana Šijanec Zavrl**, Civil Engineering Institute ZRMK
- **Marko Umberger**, President of the Slovenian Solar Energy Association, UM consulting d. o. o.

Link for more information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/reday-2020-slovenija-slovenski-dogodek-v-okviru-kampanje-renovate-europe-tickets-125595652979#>



In outlining the long-term strategy for promoting energy renovation of buildings in Slovenia, Mag. Erik Potočar, Ministry of Infrastructure, confirmed that targets for energy efficiency, decarbonisation and integration renewable energy sources (RES) will become more ambitious over time. Key goals include:

By 2030,

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in buildings by at least 70% compared to 2005.
- Ensure at least 2/3 of energy use in buildings is from RES (measured as the share of renewables in final use, without accounting for electricity and district heat).

By 2050,

- Approach net-zero emissions in buildings by maintaining a high level of energy renovation with low-carbon and renewable materials, and by deploying heating methods based on RES technologies and district heating systems with RES.
- Energy renovations carried out on 74% of single-dwelling and 90% of multi-dwelling buildings, reducing energy demand by 45% and CO2 emissions by 75% (compared to 2005).
- Accelerate energy renovation of public buildings, aiming for an annual rate of 3% of total floorspace. Mag. Potočar noted that the short-term goal (2014-23) to renovate of 127 116 m2 of such buildings will not be achieved.

Slovenia's National Recovery and Resilience Plan, prepared by the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, in cooperation with the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, is under development for submission by the end of 2020. Mag. Nena Dokuzov presented the process, status, next steps, approval processes and overall timelines, including the need to complete the programme in 2022.

Characteristics of the building stock in Slovenia will create opportunities and challenges for deep energy renovation, according to Dr. Marjana Šijanec Zavrl, Civil Engineering Institute ZRMK. The Climate and Energy Commitments of Slovenia (NEPN; 2/2020) set four main goals for 2030. In addition to the RES and GHG targets mentioned above, the plan calls for broad decarbonation in support of climate change mitigation and adaptation; improving energy and material efficiency in all sectors; and increasing investment in human resources and the new skills needed to achieve a climate-neutral society.

The long-term strategy (until 2050) for energy renovation of buildings recognises that most (75%) existing buildings will still be in use. The register of OJS (public) buildings consists of 480 buildings and 32 parts of buildings with a total floor area of 890 899 m². In the residential sector, more than 40% of single-family buildings were built before 1980 and ~100 000 homes are in energy classes F and G. Renovation could reduce their energy demand by 75%.

Considering the scale of the targets, it is critical to identify renovation triggers that can prompt action, such as: maintenance work, the sale of the building to a new owner, changing user needs or living patterns, and planned major renovation and/or wider renovation with technical updates. In turn, incentives need to be put in place, including financial incentives, the opportunity to avoid the consequences of natural disasters (earthquakes, flood, etc.), and supporting companies in an efficient and competitive transition to a climate-neutral and circular economy

Investigating why energy renovation of buildings in Slovenia has been so slow, Marko Umberger, President of the Slovenian Solar Energy Association, UM consulting d. o. o., pointed out the total usable built area is 88mln m², of which 70% is residential. To date, the Long-Term Strategy for Encouraging Energy Renovation of Buildings (adopted in 2015) has not been implemented. Similarly, Slovenia is far behind on its Action Plan for Almost-Zero Energy Buildings (also adopted in 2015). At present, not one multi-apartment building (10 or more apartments) meets this standard. Finally, updated regulation on energy efficiency is lacking; without it, designers cannot design such buildings.

With the above considerations in mind, there is a strong case for Slovenia to engage in the European Strategic Cluster Partnership for Excellence in Nearly Zero Energy Buildings, as was presented by Horia Petran, Director, Cluster PRONZEB, Romania and Project Manager SMART4NZEB for this Cluster. An important aim of the Cluster is to collectively address nZEB & DER challenges through the ClusterXchange programme.

END

About SGGCCS:

The main goal of the Construction Cluster of Slovenia, CCS (Slovenski Gradbeni Grozd) is to improve domestic and international competitiveness of its members through commercial cooperation and networking, R&D and innovation, education, training and policy action. The cluster was established in 2004 by construction companies and institutions in the fields of building design, consulting, engineering, contracting materials and products. It is an Economic Interest grouping (not-for-profit). CSS is an open organization to all interested stakeholders in the construction sector and related technological domains. <http://www.sgg.si/en/>

About the Renovate Europe Campaign:



Renovate Europe is a political communications campaign with the ambition to reduce the energy demand of the EU building stock by 80% by 2050 through legislation and ambitious renovation programmes. Accelerating the rate of renovation is a key tool in the fight against climate change, and will deliver major benefits for people, their quality of life, and the economy. www.renovate-europe.eu

#PrioritisePeople

#AccelerateRenovation