

For immediate release

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INSPIRE DELIVERING EXACTLY WHAT THE JRC CALLS FOR

In its latest far-reaching and ambitious Science and Policy Report, the Joint Research Centre (JRC) places the idea of developing and implementing energy-efficient renovation kits at the heart of its overall message that energy renovation of Europe's buildings is the only feasible way to reach and then surpass the EC's 2020 energy targets.

The report, titled Energy Renovation: The Trump Card for the New Start for Europe, provides a detailed overview of how transforming Europe's building stock will dramatically reduce the energy we consume and the green house gases we produce.

The report goes further in describing the renovation of older buildings as not only instrumental in reaching energy targets, but also in creating economic growth and jobs.

As well as calling for the phasing out of inefficient buildings and a coherent EU renovation plan, the JRC also calls for new and innovative approaches to renovation, including new technology and the development of easy-to-fit, cost-effective and energy efficient kits and packages. Only then, it concludes, will renovation take place on the scale it needs to.

"Energy renovation will stimulate a new wave of technological innovation," the report writes. "To reduce the cost of deep renovation, there is a need to develop energy renovation 'kits' tailored to each construction period, climatic zone and building type, 'plug-and-play' manufactured modular components and systems fully integrated with advanced 3D surveying techniques, and innovative insulation materials.

"If the EU's building stock is to be converted from being an energy waster to being an energy producer, new technologies will be needed to enable building-to-building and building-to-grid energy interaction," it concludes.

There are several European projects tackling the renovation challenge in this way. One of the largest and most promising is the iNSPiRe project, a four-year initiative coordinated by EURAC and involving 24 partners across Europe. The project is developing systemic renovation packages that can be applied to residential and tertiary buildings. The multifunctional renovation kits make use of innovative envelope technologies, energy generation systems (including RES integration) and energy distribution systems.

The packages will reduce the primary energy consumption of a building to lower than 50 kWh/m²/year, while the plug-and-play systems have been designed for a variety of climates to ensure optimum comfort for the building users.

Now, with iNSPiRe's renovation kits about to enter a period of extensive testing and validation, the report is a timely reminder that the project is perfectly placed to deliver the right retrofitting kits to the market at precisely the right time.

For more information about how iNSPiRe is meeting the needs outlined in this important JRC report, visit www.inspirefp7.eu

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To read the full JRC report, [click here](#)

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