

Representing the interests of the plastics industry in Europe, PlasticsEurope welcomes the public consultation and EU initiative on

### **Financial Support for Energy Efficiency in Buildings.**

PlasticsEurope is one of the leading European trade associations with centres in Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Milan and Paris. We are networking with European and national plastics associations and have more than 100 member companies, producing over 90% of all polymers across the EU27 member states plus Norway, Switzerland, Croatia and Turkey.

The European plastics industry makes a significant contribution to the welfare in Europe by enabling innovation, creating quality of life to citizens and facilitating resource efficiency and climate protection. More than 1.6 million people are working in about 50.000 companies (mainly small and medium sized companies in the converting sector) to create a turnover in excess of 300 billion € per year.

The plastics industry includes polymer producers - represented by PlasticsEurope, converters - represented by EuPC and machine manufacturers - represented by EUROMAP. For further info see the web links: [www.plasticseurope.org](http://www.plasticseurope.org), [www.plasticsconverters.eu](http://www.plasticsconverters.eu), [www.euromap.org](http://www.euromap.org)

Please see below our views regarding the public consultation **Financial Support for Energy Efficiency in Buildings**:

- It is important the the EU provides a good example by ensuring that the Energy Efficiency Directive includes 3% renovation rate for public buildings. Such an objective would provide all economic actors with a clear perspective giving them confidence to develop the market. Renovating public buildings only is not enough however. All the building stock must be renovated to achieve the 80% CO2 reduction target. Therefore, significant and serious measures have to be taken and member states should prepare their own action plans and submit it to the commission before 2020.
- It is key to learn from energy efficiency investments in countries where it has worked well and use this as case studies to promote in other countries. This should be geared to attract investments and foster public private partnerships.
- Improving knowledge and provide better guidance on how to use structural funds earmarked for energy efficiency will be very important too. Member States should create good policy and regulatory frameworks to generate market confidence.
- Providing continuity and long-term stability in financial support are crucial because the "stop and go" elements are damaging the European industry instead of stimulating it.
- The financial support should be geared at valuing the service life of the energy efficiency measures taken and stimulate deep renovation.
- EU level support from the structural funds should be made available to support less developed EU regions.

Kind regards,

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