

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Belgium

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

All of it should be continued as there is no reason to stop measures of an EU action plan that led to the definition of national action plans published in some cases as late as 2008. Moreover, why stop anything as long as a real impact assessment has been done by each Member State ?

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

No

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

A much stronger support for electric cars to guarantee that a real market for these is developed as rapidly as possible.

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

No opinion

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

No

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

encourage more fiscal incentives in all Member States (it is not a measure in itself but more a political push)

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

Besides any professional training, a more general and global training already for all young students at school should be planned to maximize impact at household level.

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

On domestic consumers: encourage them to play an active role in saving energy and make available a top quality web site on best practices easily applicable at home. This site should remain as a long term reference and be improved and updated regularly. Have a communication campaign to advertise it.

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

If efforts must be asked at SME level, it must be kept in mind that they usually are already under strong day to day pressure to function. Any measure aimed toward SMEs should therefore be thoroughly evaluated so as to be not just a theoretical and good looking advice too heavy to implement, but well a measure at the time efficient and beneficial to the activity.

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

As a starter, assess implementation of the various national action plans to check and then put the pressure on all Member States that are too slow in fulfilling their engagements.

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

Yes

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

No opinion

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the

greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

it can only be discussed through interinstitutional approach between Commission, European Parliament and Council.

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

there was a public consultation specific to this issue. Suggestions have been given there. Total support to Commission's work on it.

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Every time an international financing programme of the EU is being reviewed, make sure that this theme is given a larger share of it, or at least marked as an option for spending according to local demand.

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

If all adopted texts touching energy efficiency were implemented thoroughly in all Member States, it would already be a gigantic step. The Commission has a big work to do in parallel with new coming texts: monitoring very closely this implementation of the existing ones. Communication and training are essential to improve individual behavior and contribute to the definition of new economical models at enterprise level not only led by regulation, even if this one is necessary.

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Netherlands

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

Zero energy consumption, or even energy production in buildings should be mandatory implemented, in 2011

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

Measures are not necessary, because market needs will drive them to education

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Progressive banning of fossile fuel driven vehicles in city centers, or obligation to drive in zero emissionvehecles in citycentres will drive innovation

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

Yes

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

obligatory information on total cost of ownership (energywise and materialwise) of appliances will help consumer make a more durable choice
Yes

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

Taxation of carbon use
Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

harmonisation of tax rules in EU member states: it is f.i. much cheaper to by a solarpanal in Germany than in NL

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

Forget voluntary: make it mandatory

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No opinion

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

No opinion

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

More rigorous ambitions, of mandatory nature, will drive the need for innovation and change. Moving toward a green Europe can be big business, especially if the Eu is mundially leading.

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Italy

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

The 2006 EEAP identified a number of really useful measures and the priority areas should be maintained as they are. In particular, a strong focus should remain on appliance and equipment labelling and minimum energy performance standards; building performance requirements and very low energy buildings - "passive houses"; efficient power generation and distribution (3) and appropriate financing of energy efficiency investments for small and medium enterprises and Energy Service Companies in order to achieve the 20% energy saving target, which should also become mandatory. For the buildings sector, there has been no real follow up of some good ideas about the revision of the EPBD that were included in the Energy Efficiency Action Plan, such as developing by 2008 a strategy for setting very low energy or passive houses as the construction standard for all new buildings by 2015, introducing EU minimum energy performance requirements (kWh/m²) for new and renovated buildings and some components as well as measures for Member States to provide financing for highly cost-effective investments.

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

Climate scientists are urging policy makers to put in place much quicker and deeper action than we were even planning for just three years ago. In addition, there is now much more data about the deep potential for reductions in energy use. Also, the EU climate and energy package reduction targets are based on the assumption that Europe will meet its 20% energy savings goal - this assumption is even built into the impact assessment modelling. However, as there is no guarantee these goals will be met, and early indications e.g. in the implementation of the energy using products directive show we are not being as ambitious as we could and should, this puts the entire emissions reduction plan of the EU in jeopardy. The recent introduction of the new renewable energy and energy savings targets for 2020 have also opened the discussion about the development of smart grids in Europe, an issue that should also be covered under the new EEAP.

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

Set a clear minimum standard for all new buildings. The time has come for laws that say these should be zero net energy by 2015. We can't continue wasting time over this. The technology is there, and this will bring innumerable advantages to EU citizens. As for existing buildings, we need to improve their energy performance towards very low energy standards (passive house), and increase their renovation rates. Possible measures could introduce an obligation to upgrade the energy performance of a building whenever it is sold or rented up to a certain standard (for example obligation to reach a higher energy class of the energy performance certificate or to renovate according to low energy standards), and an obligation on countries to at least double their renovation rates of existing buildings. To make this approach more flexible, it different targets should be set for different type of buildings (public buildings, commercial buildings, and residential buildings) or for buildings of different ages, for example by initially focusing only on buildings built after 1945. As well as a legislative "stick", there should be "carrots" built into the system (prizes, publicity for companies carrying out green renovations, etc)

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

Training on climate change science (basic) and the role of their profession in creating solutions, and on the new EU requirements that will emerge from the EEAP as we hope, should over time become compulsory for all those practicing these professions. Of course, as well as a stick, there should be a carrot - i.e. the training should be subsidised and early take up of the training courses and having achieved results could be rewarded in some way (prizes, publicity, etc).

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

Adequate financing is crucial to ensure the success of any policy intending to improve the energy performance of existing buildings. Financing should not only come from national sources through fiscal and/or financial incentives but the use of available funds from other sources should be optimized (EU structural and cohesion funds, use of auctioning revenues under the EU ETS). In addition, an energy performance contracting model needs to be promoted in order to increase refurbishment rates in existing buildings

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Restrictions on advertising for cars - in a similar way to measures that have been carried out for tobacco or baby formula milk, although perhaps in a slightly more gradual way. Ahead of a future complete ban on advertising, initially, only cars that meet the highest level of energy efficiency label (which should also become a clear A-G label) should be allowed to advertise on any printed, TV or internet medium.

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

Yes

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

The impact of Eco-design directive could certainly be increased by setting stricter requirements and a faster implementation in order to take into account the real urgency of climate change and the cost-effectiveness of this policy - whose potential is not necessarily being exploited to the maximum level. A more coordinated EU level policy is needed on enforcement of the minimum requirements. A bold approach on heating related emissions could help save more than 200 million tons of CO2 in the EU-27 by 2020, one of the largest savings achievable. Currently, the heating sector is covered under more than one piece of legislation - the Eco Design Directive for boiler standards, and the Buildings Directive for the building envelope. There needs to be much more coordination between these two policies. A new heating directive could be one way to achieve that coordination, although this could also be achieved by working to boost synergies between existing policies. Overlaps in legislation are too often used as an excuse for inaction.

Yes

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

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In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

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Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

EU citizens do not understand the EU - that is a well known fact. In the case of legislation affecting products they buy, a lack of information about why this is happening - such as in the case of the ban of incandescent lightbulbs, can easily backfire. European information campaigns should be less vague and less focused on mere behaviour change (which is very difficult to achieve without legislation), and much more focused to support implementation and information about specific pieces of legislation when they happen. Therefore there should be more efforts to communicate to citizens why legislative decisions such as those under the eco design directive are being taken, and what are the costs and benefits. Un-specific communications with vague messages about energy savings are not effective. The EU could help produce such materials, but it may be more realistic for Member States to take the lead in communicating to citizens directly by using these common tools designed at EU level. A good example of communication on the eco-design directive can be found at <http://www.coolproducts.eu>. However this is just one small example, and much more needs to be done. The EU Parliament's recent work on the EU elections, and its presence on social networking sites such as facebook are other good examples of how to move in the right direction. As a side effect, more communication on these issues will improve the transparency, and therefore the democratic accountability of the EU. And this in turn will help to implement legislation and to discuss new legislation without the constant fear that the EU may be going too far.

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

The priorities should be low rate loans for investments, incentives for energy audits and tailored funds for employees training and re-skill programmes for unemployed people.

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

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Yes

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

Yes

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Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

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Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Climate science is clear. A large and growing portion of the public knows we need to act. The EU, with its EEAP, has the keys to a huge portion of the solutions. Therefore the EU needs to be bolder, more ambitious, while becoming better and more confident in communicating why it is doing what it is doing. Strong energy efficiency policy is a key solution to climate change and economic stangation and, as a side effect, and provided the EU learns to communicate its work on this more effectively, a key to making EU institutions more transparent and accountable to EU citizens.

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Romania

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

Europe's buildings account for 40% of EU final energy use. An ambitious EU strategy on energy efficiency in buildings is a highly cost-efficient way to reach climate targets and at the same time contribute to massive economic savings and job creation. Therefore, the building sector must be the priority of the revised EEAP. Priority Action 2: Building performance requirements and very low energy buildings All the proposals under this point need to be completed and should be prioritised immediately as they will contribute significantly to reduce the energy use of the building stock. More specifically, it should be asked for:

- Mandatory and ambitious targets for new and existing buildings in order to achieve very low or zero carbon dioxide emissions and energy consumption:
 - o Very low energy standard by end 2014 for all new built.
 - o Zero energy standard by end 2018 for all new built
 - o Through national plans with targets for existing buildings, plans to be delivered with the NEEAPs of 2014 and 2017
- Increasing attention given to the building envelope in order to ensure that the energy demand for heating and cooling is minimized before addressing energy supply.
- Minimum energy performance requirements at building and at envelope component levels, based at least on cost-optimal levels, in order to achieve optimal energy efficiency performance. Factors are essential for success:
 - Financing schemes and fiscal measures both on EU and national levels.
 - Training and education of all stakeholders in the value chain (architects, contractors, workers, auditors, specialists, regional and local authorities, and general public).
 - Removal of administrative barriers.

Priority Action 6: Spurring energy efficiency in the new Member States Add an action item for the Commission to develop guidance for Member States on how to use Structural Funds and other EU funds to invest in energy efficiency in multi-family and social housing sectors. Remedies and incentives also need to be given to address the issue of single-family ownership in large residential blocks. Priority Action 7: A coherent use of taxation Add a Commission proposal allowing all Member States to apply the lowest rate of VAT for energy saving products and services in buildings. Currently, over 30% of EU Member States apply a lower VAT rate for energy consumption than for energy conservation. This fiscal system does not support the agreed 2020 goals on carbon emissions, renewable energy and energy efficiency. Priority Action 8: Raising energy efficiency awareness It should be made mandatory for Energy Performance Certificates to be displayed in all buildings frequently visited by the public across the EU. Priority Action 9: Energy-efficiency in built-up areas Further action should be taken to promote

energy efficiency in buildings in built up areas through, for example, the Covenant of Mayors and the Intelligent Energy Europe programme

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

- **Economic crisis:** Since the adoption of the original EEAP, a global crisis has seriously affected European and worldwide economies. The construction industry has been hit very hard. It is crucial for Europe to take actions that would help the construction sector to remain a pillar of our economies, whilst decreasing our energy bills and protecting our energy independency. Activities related to represent 9% of EU GDP and 7-8% of EU employment. The review of the Action Plan should both highlight and promote the job-creation potential of energy efficiency measures in the building sector. The impact assessment to the EPBD recast proposal contains some job creation figures. However, the Commission should undertake a more comprehensive study to quantify the employment impact of a robust and ambitious energy efficiency policy, both for direct and indirect employment. A similar study for the renewable energy targets has just been completed and should be replicated for the energy efficiency market.
- **Energy security:** Europe currently imports 50% of energy consumed; this is set to rise if the status quo is maintained. The recent Ukrainian-Russia conflict on gas again has demonstrated the importance for Europe to guarantee its energy independency. A true energy security policy is one that mitigates dependency and promotes home-grown solutions. Europe needs to get serious about tackling the energy use of its buildings. A true energy security policy starts in our home. The EEAP should ensure that energy efficiency in buildings becomes the corner-stone of Europe's effort to ensure that the energy needs of Europe are met continuously.
- **Climate crisis:** As the clock ticks toward the Copenhagen climate negotiations in December, Europe is expected to lead the world with actions and show that large scale CO2 reductions are possible. The lion's share of EU final energy consumption and CO2 emissions come from buildings. The building sector is indeed critical for Europe in order to achieve the ambitious target of reducing CO2 emissions by 60% to 80% in 2050 compared to the 1990 level. A well acknowledged target for buildings, which represent 40% of energy consumption, is to reduce its emissions by at least 80% compared to those of 1990. Improving energy efficiency in buildings will allow Europe to achieve its goals in the fight against climate change. Approving an ambitious recast of the EPBD the day of opening of the COP 15 conference will also send an incredibly strong message to the rest of the world.
- **Trends towards sustainable construction.**

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

A strong strategy towards very low or zero energy buildings should be implemented. Member States should draw up strategies and roadmaps with clear and ambitious targets for new buildings, ensuring that all new build comply with a "very low energy" standard by 2014 and "zero energy" standard by end 2018, by following the principles of the

Trias Energetica: - First reduce energy consumption as much as possible - Then use renewable energy sources - Last, if still needed, use efficient fossil energy sources.

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

While training activities are a largely national competence, the Commission does have a leadership role to play in spreading best practice and providing finance to stimulate such activities. The EU should ensure mutual recognition of training programmes across Europe as well as harmonised accreditation of inspectors and assessors. European funds could also be used to finance training activities at national level. Concretely, the Commission could place specific obligations on Member States to apply the necessary support mechanisms and training and education programmes for the building chain. Any policy initiative has to include organisational support measures to ensure adequate training of architects, builders and installers. The European Union could promote four measures: - Ask Member States to ensure high quality training to make sure that the implementation of the EPBD is best handled nationally - Spread best practices (e.g. vocational training centres, public private partnerships) - Mobilise EU funds to stimulate training across the European Union - Ensure mutual recognition of training programmes across the European Union as well as harmonised accreditation of inspectors and assessors

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

1. Financing of energy efficiency measures: gaps remain in the access to funding and the different funding mechanisms that are available or could be put to use by Member States. This missing link needs to be tackled in a comprehensive way at EU level. Member States should be required to implement two or more financial instruments for stimulating energy efficiency investment from an agreed list of workable measures. The EU could also suggest a system for financing smaller investments. The German KfW model is highly-developed and extremely effective and could be used to serve as a financing model at EU level. Providing upfront money is fundamental to ensure buy-in and actions of small private building owners. Solving the landlord/tenant dilemma is also critical: the tenant is not keen to invest in a property which he does not own, and the landlord does not see its interest either as the tenant will benefit from the measure, not himself.

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

Yes

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

I believe that it is important to set up minimum energy performance requirements at component level, in order to ensure that the largest energy savings are secured both in new built and in renovation. It favours the set-up of such energy requirements through the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive rather than through the Eco-Design Directive in order to reduce the burden on manufacturers. The EPBD is a better vehicle for looking at building structures than Eco-design and the process for mandating such requirements under the EPBD is likely to be much faster. It would then be up to the Member States to decide what minimum level to set these requirements at.

Yes

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

What is needed is an "EU Marshall Plan" for buildings that would give the necessary impetus for a massive energy refurbishment of private and public buildings. Financial support shall be complemented with fiscal incentives which would allow to achieve the deployment of energy efficient buildings. Local stakeholders like Cities Council (Covenant of Mayors), regional authorities, local banks... should have access to available funds. Suggestions:

- Upfront financing: The EC included in the EEAP a specific call on Member States to develop financing for highly cost-effective energy efficiency improvements. Energy efficiency improvements in buildings are highly cost-effective, therefore corresponding upfront financing should be integrated in National Energy Efficiency Action Plans under the Energy Services Directive (ESD).
- Structural funds: They provide an opportunity for the EU to ensure that adequate upfront financing is available for the housing sector. A review of the funds required to renovate multi-family houses in the new EU Member States revealed that 10% was needed rather than 3%. The Commission should therefore review the allocation during the budget review to provide adequate resources for the next programming period. In addition, the EU should ensure that the current funding opportunities are properly spent by:
 1. Managing authorities of Structural Funds and specific energy programmes to develop and promote demonstration projects aimed at the various stakeholders at national level.
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 - o Most of additional lending should be directed toward energy efficiency measures in buildings.
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investigate the reasons for such barriers and offer suggestions for removing them. • Marguerite Fund: In December 2008, the European Council announced the creation of a new equity fund, the European Fund for Energy, Climate Change and Infrastructure ("Marguerite Fund"). This "Marguerite Fund" should largely focus on the energy refurbishment of buildings as it could be a very effective scheme to facilitate investments in the building sector.

Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

A Commission proposal should be presented allowing all Member States to apply the lowest rate of VAT for energy saving products and services in buildings. In order to be fully effective, this reduction in VAT should be linked to products and services which bring significant improvement in energy efficiency, such as insulation. Currently, approximately 30% of EU Member States apply a lower VAT rate for energy consumption than for certain energy saving products. This fiscal situation does not support the agreed 2020 goals on carbon emissions, renewable energy and energy efficiency. The Commission could also play a role in connecting lower VAT rates to higher-performing buildings and components. This would mirror existing efforts in Member States to promote more fuel-efficient cars by lowering tax levels on certain fuel-efficient models. It would also have the effect of pushing the building market towards EU goals. Lower VAT rates should apply to both new built (very low energy buildings) and to energy efficient renovation. Landlord/tenant dilemma: in several EU countries over 50% of buildings are rented, and neither the tenants (as they do not own the houses) nor the landlords (as they do not pay the energy bills) have incentives to invest in such measures as insulation. Financial incentives should oblige landlords to make the right investments. Such measures could include tax-breaks on the refurbishment of houses or revolving funds for the same purpose. The European Economic Recovery plan suggests urgent tax measures to improve the energy efficiency of the housing stock and public buildings. Taxation ought to be one of the instruments that governments should apply to promote energy efficiency investments: income and corporate tax credits to promote building could be used to support energy performance improvements. Property-tax differentiation based on certification schemes should also be developed. The effectiveness of buildings certification could be reinforced with financial incentives. Homeowners should be encouraged to make energy-efficiency improvements by for e.g. by linking buildings certification to tax deductions on the investment in energy efficiency measures.

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

Strengthening of the energy efficiency educational requirements of diplomas for engineers, architects etc. Concrete steps should be taken to ensure that all relevant technical courses, particularly for the construction industry, include a full understanding of the holistic benefits of improving energy efficiency in all parts of a building. Those acquiring specialist training on a specific

product/system within a building should also be provided with training regarding all energy efficiency aspects of a building - potential fabric improvements, lighting, glazing. All training programmes should include an understanding of the overall energy efficiency context. The Commission should require that all Member States implement technical courses for buildings and that all building design courses should have an energy efficiency element. Promotion of pan-European programmes under initiatives such as the Erasmus Mundus programme or vocational training for the building chain under the general EU framework for education and training. In parallel, the EU should empower EU bodies in charge of vocational training and lifelong learning such as the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training. As the European Social Fund (ESF) is the European Union's main financial instrument for supporting employment in the Member States, the next programming period (post-2013) should mainly focus on energy efficiency in EU jobs (with a part focusing on training the building chain on the issue of energy efficiency in buildings). Improving the education of the general population and develop specific programmes on energy efficiency which would aim to give support to the general population through the deployment of e.g. info centres and helpdesks.

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

Different activities for different players: In association with national, regional and local authorities, the EU needs to develop the right policy packages addressing specific local circumstances and buildings characteristics. For example: 1. Regional and local authorities. Encourage regional and local alliances (e.g. Covenant of Mayors) to prioritize awareness raising, training and communication activities concerning the issue of energy efficiency in buildings. 2. General public. Ensure EU funding programmes (e.g. Intelligent Energy Europe) to develop projects aiming to improve the "energy efficiency" behaviour of EU citizens. E.g. Wide-scale deployment of info centres / helpdesks across the EU to pro-actively assist and support final consumers. 3. Building chain. Adopt a "Building 21" strategy which would bring the building chain together and provide a platform for dissemination, education and sharing of best practices. 4. Economic players (e.g. banks). Develop specific platform for economic stakeholders to encourage information about best financial practices leading to the deployment of green building markers. Communication vs. regulation: It should be recognised that communication strategies can often bring limited achievements. When it comes to energy efficiency in buildings, ambitious mandatory legislation, targets and measures are imperative.

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

The public sector should lead by example and improve the energy efficiency of their buildings in the short term, through binding implementation dates. The public sector should also be mandated to implement all recommendations indicated in the energy performance certificate during the lifetime of that certificate. The public sector in each Member State needs to make an overall and systematic plan to renovate the public sector building stock. If resources are pooled to renovate multiple buildings at the same time, a higher cost-savings can be achieved. Scaling up in this way will not only bring the best economies of scale, but also of knowledge and best practice. The National Energy Efficiency Action Plans could be used as the tool to outline these plans. A change in attitude is needed regarding public procurement practices for energy efficiency. It is about buying energy saving, not products or services. Public authorities need help in changing mindsets to this way of thinking. The green public procurement policy advocated by the EC can help Europe to move towards a more sustainable building stock. The EC needs to make sure that this policy is based on objective, scientific and well accepted criteria. Financing should also be available to the Public sector to allow implementation of these ambitious plans.

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

Energy companies must be encouraged to promote the development of the delivery of energy efficiency. The UK and French models require utilities to help consumers achieve energy savings or risk a huge fine. These models should be rolled out into other Member States. As a matter of policy, energy companies should not be permitted to do anything which hinders the development, or impedes the delivery, of energy efficiency. In particular Article 6 of the Energy End-use and Energy Services Directive needs to be fully enforced, and then strengthened. Also it should be made a requirement for all energy companies, before any new generation plant is built, to demonstrate publicly to the regulator (or government) that a new plant would be a more cost-effective option than helping consumers to save energy. This is standard practice already in many US States.

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

Yes

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Market-based instruments for tackling climate change have proved to deliver energy-efficiency improvements in a quick and cost-effective way. White Certificate scheme have thus the potential to unlock the huge efficiency improvement potential of buildings. Still, such systems will need to be carefully designed and implemented in order to give the right incentives for savings. In particular, it will need to take into consideration the lifetimes of different energy saving measures in order to allow investment according to the best overall value. The administrative framework is another key factor: creating EU-wide or regional trading system may generate too much administrative burden and render the system less effective.

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

1. There is a need for an overall target for energy efficiency to be made mandatory, such as the 20% by 2020 compared to 1990. This should be underpinned by an understood and clear definition of "energy efficiency" and the development of an objective meth

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

The indicative ESD savings target of 9% by 2016 and the 20% 2020 savings goals are not directly comparable since the ESD is an end-use (final energy) target and the 2020 target relates to primary energy use. However the MS should be required to put their

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Climate change must be tackled on a global level. Energy efficiency is a key element of it. A common recognition of training programmes and sharing of best practice on an international level would facilitate this. The EU is often looked to for leadership on the global stage. Providing leadership on energy efficiency in buildings, via a strong recast of the EPBD, would ensure that these ambitious measures are exported across the world. COP 15 in December is a golden opportunity for Europe to come with a strong, ambitious and unified voice on energy efficiency in buildings. Additionally, by taking leadership, Europe will pave the way for energy efficiency

goods, services and expertise. More concretely, • The EU should prioritize the building sector in the COP 15 agenda and give support to develop the strategies, methodologies and mechanisms that will enable the sector to deliver deep cuts in emissions. Approving a very strong recast of the EPBD at the day of opening COP 15 will send an incredibly strong signal to the rest of the world. • The EU should cooperate with financial institutions and international agencies such as the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the World Bank and the International Energy Agency to promote financing programmes that would tackle the building stock in neighbouring countries and at worldwide level. • The EU should always promote buildings standards, codes and practices that could achieve a massive reduction of energy and CO2 emissions at worldwide level.

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Structural Funds are readily available but under-utilised by Member States when it comes to energy efficiency. Furthermore, such funds are not always used in line with the objectives of the EU. It should be made mandatory that new Member States use Structural Funds to upgrade the energy efficiency levels of their existing prefabricated building stock. Social funds could also be used for education and training programmes. DGTREN should also work more closely with DG Regio to align the structural fund programme with EU goals on energy efficiency. In response to question 2.11, to which we answered "No", SMEs will enter the energy efficiency market so long as that market provides clear and profitable commercial opportunities. This would be achieved if all the existing policies, legislation and financial instruments in place at EU (and Member State) level operated fully and effectively. No particular new incentives for SMEs are needed; rather the emphasis should be placed on making all existing (and proposed) instruments work fully and effectively. This should be underpinned by adopting binding targets for energy efficiency, which would send a clear signal to SMEs that energy efficiency is a market area worth investing in.

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Germany

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

Europe's buildings account for 40% of EU final energy use. An ambitious EU strategy on energy efficiency in buildings is a highly cost-efficient way to reach climate targets and at the same time contribute to massive economic savings and job creation. Therefore, the building sector must be the priority of the revised EEAP. Priority Action 2: Building performance requirements and very low energy buildings All the proposals under this point need to be completed and should be prioritised immediately as they will contribute significantly to reduce the energy use of the building stock. More specifically, Saint-Gobain ISOVER asks for:

- Mandatory and ambitious targets for new and existing buildings in order to achieve very low or zero carbon dioxide emissions and energy consumption:
 - o Very low energy standard by end 2014 for all new built.
 - o Zero energy standard by end 2018 for all new built
 - o Through national plans with targets for existing buildings, plans to be delivered with the NEEAPs of 2014 and 2017
- Increasing attention given to the building envelope in order to ensure that the energy demand for heating and cooling is minimized before addressing energy supply.
- Minimum energy performance requirements at building and at envelope component levels, based at least on cost-optimal levels, in order to achieve optimal energy efficiency performance. Factors are essential for success:
 - Financing schemes and fiscal measures both on EU and national levels.
 - Training and education of all stakeholders in the value chain (architects, contractors, workers, auditors, specialists, regional and local authorities, and general public).
- Removal of administrative barriers. Priority Action 6: Spurring energy efficiency in the new Member States Add an action item for the Commission to develop guidance for Member States on how to use Structural Funds and other EU funds to invest in energy efficiency in multi-family and social housing sectors. Remedies and incentives also need to be given to address the issue of single-family ownership in large residential blocks. Priority Action 7: A coherent use of taxation Add a Commission proposal allowing all Member States to apply the lowest rate of VAT for energy saving products and services in buildings. Currently, over 30% of EU Member States apply a lower VAT rate for energy consumption than for energy conservation. This fiscal system does not support the agreed 2020 goals on carbon emissions, renewable energy and energy efficiency. Priority Action 8: Raising energy efficiency awareness It should be made mandatory for Energy Performance Certificates to be displayed in all buildings frequently visited by the public across the EU. Priority Action 9: Energy-efficiency in built-up areas Further action should be taken to promote

energy efficiency in buildings in built up areas through, for example, the Covenant of Mayors and the Intelligent Energy Europe programme

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

- **Economic crisis:** Since the adoption of the original EEAP, a global crisis has seriously affected European and worldwide economies. The construction industry has been hit very hard. It is crucial for Europe to take actions that would help the construction sector to remain a pillar of our economies, whilst decreasing our energy bills and protecting our energy independency. Activities related to represent 9% of EU GDP and 7-8% of EU employment. The review of the Action Plan should both highlight and promote the job-creation potential of energy efficiency measures in the building sector. The impact assessment to the EPBD recast proposal contains some job creation figures. However, the Commission should undertake a more comprehensive study to quantify the employment impact of a robust and ambitious energy efficiency policy, both for direct and indirect employment. A similar study for the renewable energy targets has just been completed and should be replicated for the energy efficiency market.
- **Energy security:** Europe currently imports 50% of energy consumed; this is set to rise if the status quo is maintained. The recent Ukrainian-Russia conflict on gas again has demonstrated the importance for Europe to guarantee its energy independency. A true energy security policy is one that mitigates dependency and promotes home-grown solutions. Europe needs to get serious about tackling the energy use of its buildings. A true energy security policy starts in our home. The EEAP should ensure that energy efficiency in buildings becomes the corner-stone of Europe's effort to ensure that the energy needs of Europe are met continuously.
- **Climate crisis:** As the clock ticks toward the Copenhagen climate negotiations in December, Europe is expected to lead the world with actions and show that large scale CO2 reductions are possible. The lion's share of EU final energy consumption and CO2 emissions come from buildings. The building sector is indeed critical for Europe in order to achieve the ambitious target of reducing CO2 emissions by 60% to 80% in 2050 compared to the 1990 level. A well acknowledged target for buildings, which represent 40% of energy consumption, is to reduce its emissions by at least 80% compared to those of 1990. Improving energy efficiency in buildings will allow Europe to achieve its goals in the fight against climate change. Approving an ambitious recast of the EPBD the day of opening of the COP 15 conference will also send an incredibly strong message to the rest of the world.
- **Trends towards sustainable construction.**

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

Saint-Gobain Isover favours a strong strategy towards very low or zero energy buildings. Member States should draw up strategies and roadmaps with clear and ambitious targets for new buildings, ensuring that all new build comply with a "very low energy" standard by 2014 and "zero energy" standard by end 2018, by following the principles

of the Trias Energetica: - First reduce energy consumption as much as possible - Then use renewable energy sources - Last, if still needed, use efficient fossil energy sources. Current national requirements for residential buildings are far from cost effective levels. The Ecofys VII report, commissioned by Eurima in 2007, showed that out of 100 cities across Europe, almost all of them have current insulation standards which are below the cost-optimum energy and climate standards (www.eurima.org). Unless they are strengthened significantly, these requirements will not allow Europe to achieve its medium and long-term climate goals. Energy efficiency in buildings, and in particular insulation, are highly cost-effective measures, as demonstrated in the recent study by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre: 80% of the green house gas reduction potential in buildings in Southern Europe and 95% of the potential in Central Europe can be reached at negative CO2 abatement costs. EuroACE conducted a survey in autumn 2007 (SBI 2008:07) which showed that seven Member States have introduced a definition of very low energy building to be used as the minimum requirement for new buildings, and a second survey in autumn 2008 (SBI 2009:03) looked at the benefits of a faster trajectory to very low energy buildings by 2012 (www.euroace.org). The technology exists today to build new structures to a very high energy efficiency standard; therefore setting a trajectory now for moving towards this standard is imperative. Several Member States already have in place plans and ambitious targets.

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

While training activities are a largely national competence, the Commission does have a leadership role to play in spreading best practice and providing finance to stimulate such activities. The EU should ensure mutual recognition of training programmes across Europe as well as harmonised accreditation of inspectors and assessors. European funds could also be used to finance training activities at national level. Concretely, the Commission could place specific obligations on Member States to apply the necessary support mechanisms and training and education programmes for the building chain. Any policy initiative has to include organisational support measures to ensure adequate training of architects, builders and installers. The European Union could promote four measures: - Ask Member States to ensure high quality training to make sure that the implementation of the EPBD is best handled nationally - Spread best practices (e.g. vocational training centres, public private partnerships) - Mobilise EU funds to stimulate training across the European Union - Ensure mutual recognition of training programmes across the European Union as well as harmonised accreditation of inspectors and assessors

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landlord/tenant dilemma is also critical: the tenant is not keen to invest in a property which he does not own, and the landlord does not see its interest either as the tenant will benefit from the measure, not himself. 2. Buildings 21 initiative: The Commission also has a role to play in bringing the building chain together and providing a platform for dissemination, education and sharing of best practice. The bigger Member States, such as UK and France are gaining valuable experience in this area which could be transferred to smaller and less-experienced Member States. A mechanism for doing so should be developed at EU level.

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Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

A Commission proposal should be presented allowing all Member States to apply the lowest rate of VAT for energy saving products and services in buildings. In order to be fully effective, this reduction in VAT should be linked to products and services which bring significant improvement in energy efficiency, such as insulation. Currently, approximately 30% of EU Member States apply a lower VAT rate for energy consumption than for certain energy saving products. This fiscal situation does not support the agreed 2020 goals on carbon emissions, renewable energy and energy efficiency. The Commission could also play a role in connecting lower VAT rates to higher-performing buildings and components. This would mirror existing efforts in Member States to promote more fuel-efficient cars by lowering tax levels on certain fuel-efficient models. It would also have the effect of pushing the building market towards EU goals.

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Strengthening of the energy efficiency educational requirements of diplomas for engineers, architects etc. Concrete steps should be taken to ensure that all relevant technical courses, particularly for the construction industry, include a full understanding of the holistic benefits of improving energy efficiency in all parts of a building. Those acquiring specialist training on a specific product/system within a building should also be provided with training regarding all energy efficiency aspects of a building - potential fabric improvements, lighting, glazing. All training programmes should include an understanding of the overall energy efficiency context. The Commission should require that all Member States implement technical courses for buildings and that all building design courses should have an energy efficiency element. Promotion of pan-European programmes under initiatives such as the Erasmus Mundus programme or vocational training for the building chain under the general EU framework for education and training. In parallel, the EU should empower EU bodies in charge of vocational training and lifelong learning such as the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training. As the European Social Fund (ESF) is the European Union's main financial instrument for supporting employment in the Member States, the next programming period (post-2013) should mainly focus on energy efficiency in EU jobs (with a part focusing on training the building chain on the issue of energy efficiency in buildings). Improving the education of the general population and develop specific programmes on energy efficiency which would aim to give support to the general population through the deployment of e.g. info centres and helpdesks.

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Yes

Energy companies must be encouraged to promote the development of the delivery of energy efficiency. The UK and French models require utilities to help consumers achieve energy savings or risk a huge fine. These models should be rolled out into other Member States. As a matter of policy, energy companies should not be permitted to do anything which hinders the development, or impedes the delivery, of energy efficiency. In particular Article 6 of the Energy End-use and Energy Services Directive needs to be fully enforced, and then strengthened. Also it should be made a requirement for all energy companies, before any new generation plant is built, to demonstrate publicly to the regulator (or government) that a new plant would be a more cost-effective option than helping consumers to save energy. This is standard practice already in many US States.

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

Yes

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Market-based instruments for tackling climate change have proved to deliver energy-efficiency improvements in a quick and cost-effective way. White Certificate scheme have thus the potential to unlock the huge efficiency improvement potential of buildings. Still, such systems will need to be carefully designed and implemented in order to give the right incentives for savings. In particular, it will need to take into consideration the lifetimes of different energy saving measures in order to allow investment according to the best overall value. The administrative framework is another key factor: creating EU-wide or regional trading system may generate too much administrative burden and render the system less effective.

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

1. There is a need for an overall target for energy efficiency to be made mandatory, such as the 20% by 2020 compared to 1990. This should be underpinned by an understood and clear definition of "energy efficiency" and the development of an objective meth

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

The indicative ESD savings target of 9% by 2016 and the 20% 2020 savings goals are not directly comparable since the ESD is an end-use (final energy) target and the 2020 target relates to primary energy use. However the MS should be required to put their

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Climate change must be tackled on a global level. Energy efficiency is a key element of it. A common recognition of training programmes and sharing of best practice on an international level would facilitate this. The EU is often looked to for leadership on the global stage. Providing leadership on energy efficiency in buildings, via a strong recast of the EPBD, would ensure that these ambitious measures are exported across the world. COP 15 in December is a golden opportunity for Europe to come with a strong, ambitious and unified voice on energy efficiency in buildings. Additionally, by taking leadership, Europe will pave the way for energy efficiency goods, services and expertise. More concretely, • The EU should prioritize the building sector in the COP 15 agenda and give support to develop the strategies, methodologies and mechanisms that will enable the sector to deliver deep cuts in emissions. Approving a very strong recast of the EPBD at the day of opening COP 15 will send an incredibly strong signal to the rest of the world. • The EU should cooperate with financial institutions and international agencies such as the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the World Bank and the International Energy Agency to promote financing programmes that would tackle the building stock in neighbouring countries and at worldwide level. • The EU should always promote buildings standards, codes and practices that could achieve a massive reduction of energy and CO2 emissions at worldwide level.

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Structural Funds are readily available but under-utilised by Member States when it comes to energy efficiency. Furthermore, such funds are not always used in line with the objectives of the EU. It should be made mandatory

that new Member States use Structural Funds to upgrade the energy efficiency levels of their existing prefabricated building stock. Social funds could also be used for education and training programmes. DGTREN should also work more closely with DG Regio to align the structural fund programme with EU goals on energy efficiency. In response to question 2.11, to which we answered "No", SMEs will enter the energy efficiency market so long as that market provides clear and profitable commercial opportunities. This would be achieved if all the existing policies, legislation and financial instruments in place at EU (and Member State) level operated fully and effectively. No particular new incentives for SMEs are needed; rather the emphasis should be placed on making all existing (and proposed) instruments work fully and effectively. This should be underpinned by adopting binding targets for energy efficiency, which would send a clear signal to SMEs that energy efficiency is a market area worth investing in.

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Czech Republic

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

Europe's buildings account for 40% of EU final energy use. An ambitious EU strategy on energy efficiency in buildings is a highly cost-efficient way to reach climate targets and at the same time contribute to massive economic savings and job creation. Therefore, the building sector must be the priority of the revised EEAP. Priority Action 2: Building performance requirements and very low energy buildings All the proposals under this point need to be completed and should be prioritised immediately as they will contribute significantly to reduce the energy use of the building stock. More specifically, Saint-Gobain ISOVER asks for:

- Mandatory and ambitious targets for new and existing buildings in order to achieve very low or zero carbon dioxide emissions and energy consumption:
 - o Very low energy standard by end 2014 for all new built.
 - o Zero energy standard by end 2018 for all new built
 - o Through national plans with targets for existing buildings, plans to be delivered with the NEEAPs of 2014 and 2017
- Increasing attention given to the building envelope in order to ensure that the energy demand for heating and cooling is minimized before addressing energy supply.
- Minimum energy performance requirements at building and at envelope component levels, based at least on cost-optimal levels, in order to achieve optimal energy efficiency performance. Factors are essential for success:
 - Financing schemes and fiscal measures both on EU and national levels.
 - Training and education of all stakeholders in the value chain (architects, contractors, workers, auditors, specialists, regional and local authorities, and general public).
 - Removal of administrative barriers.

Priority Action 6: Spurring energy efficiency in the new Member States Add an action item for the Commission to develop guidance for Member States on how to use Structural Funds and other EU funds to invest in energy efficiency in multi-family and social housing sectors. Remedies and incentives also need to be given to address the issue of single-family ownership in large residential blocks. Priority Action 7: A coherent use of taxation Add a Commission proposal allowing all Member States to apply the lowest rate of VAT for energy saving products and services in buildings. Currently, over 30% of EU Member States apply a lower VAT rate for energy consumption than for energy conservation. This fiscal system does not support the agreed 2020 goals on carbon emissions, renewable energy and energy efficiency. Priority Action 8: Raising energy efficiency awareness It should be made mandatory for Energy Performance Certificates to be displayed in all buildings frequently visited by the public across the EU. Priority Action 9: Energy-efficiency in built-up areas Further action should be taken to promote

energy efficiency in buildings in built up areas through, for example, the Covenant of Mayors and the Intelligent Energy Europe programme

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

- **Economic crisis:** Since the adoption of the original EEAP, a global crisis has seriously affected European and worldwide economies. The construction industry has been hit very hard. It is crucial for Europe to take actions that would help the construction sector to remain a pillar of our economies, whilst decreasing our energy bills and protecting our energy independency. Activities related to represent 9% of EU GDP and 7-8% of EU employment. The review of the Action Plan should both highlight and promote the job-creation potential of energy efficiency measures in the building sector. The impact assessment to the EPBD recast proposal contains some job creation figures. However, the Commission should undertake a more comprehensive study to quantify the employment impact of a robust and ambitious energy efficiency policy, both for direct and indirect employment. A similar study for the renewable energy targets has just been completed and should be replicated for the energy efficiency market.
- **Energy security:** Europe currently imports 50% of energy consumed; this is set to rise if the status quo is maintained. The recent Ukrainian-Russia conflict on gas again has demonstrated the importance for Europe to guarantee its energy independency. A true energy security policy is one that mitigates dependency and promotes home-grown solutions. Europe needs to get serious about tackling the energy use of its buildings. A true energy security policy starts in our home. The EEAP should ensure that energy efficiency in buildings becomes the corner-stone of Europe's effort to ensure that the energy needs of Europe are met continuously.
- **Climate crisis:** As the clock ticks toward the Copenhagen climate negotiations in December, Europe is expected to lead the world with actions and show that large scale CO2 reductions are possible. The lion's share of EU final energy consumption and CO2 emissions come from buildings. The building sector is indeed critical for Europe in order to achieve the ambitious target of reducing CO2 emissions by 60% to 80% in 2050 compared to the 1990 level. A well acknowledged target for buildings, which represent 40% of energy consumption, is to reduce its emissions by at least 80% compared to those of 1990. Improving energy efficiency in buildings will allow Europe to achieve its goals in the fight against climate change. Approving an ambitious recast of the EPBD the day of opening of the COP 15 conference will also send an incredibly strong message to the rest of the world.
- **Trends towards sustainable construction.**

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

Saint-Gobain Isover favours a strong strategy towards very low or zero energy buildings. Member States should draw up strategies and roadmaps with clear and ambitious targets for new buildings, ensuring that all new build comply with a "very low energy" standard by 2014 and "zero energy" standard by end 2018, by following the principles

of the Trias Energetica: - First reduce energy consumption as much as possible - Then use renewable energy sources - Last, if still needed, use efficient fossil energy sources. Current national requirements for residential buildings are far from cost effective levels. The Ecofys VII report, commissioned by Eurima in 2007, showed that out of 100 cities across Europe, almost all of them have current insulation standards which are below the cost-optimum energy and climate standards (www.eurima.org). Unless they are strengthened significantly, these requirements will not allow Europe to achieve its medium and long-term climate goals. Energy efficiency in buildings, and in particular insulation, are highly cost-effective measures, as demonstrated in the recent study by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre: 80% of the green house gas reduction potential in buildings in Southern Europe and 95% of the potential in Central Europe can be reached at negative CO2 abatement costs. EuroACE conducted a survey in autumn 2007 (SBI 2008:07) which showed that seven Member States have introduced a definition of very low energy building to be used as the minimum requirement for new buildings, and a second survey in autumn 2008 (SBI 2009:03) looked at the benefits of a faster trajectory to very low energy buildings by 2012 (www.euroace.org). The technology exists today to build new structures to a very high energy efficiency standard; therefore setting a trajectory now for moving towards this standard is imperative. Several Member States already have in place plans and ambitious targets.

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

While training activities are a largely national competence, the Commission does have a leadership role to play in spreading best practice and providing finance to stimulate such activities. The EU should ensure mutual recognition of training programmes across Europe as well as harmonised accreditation of inspectors and assessors. European funds could also be used to finance training activities at national level. Concretely, the Commission could place specific obligations on Member States to apply the necessary support mechanisms and training and education programmes for the building chain. Any policy initiative has to include organisational support measures to ensure adequate training of architects, builders and installers. The European Union could promote four measures: - Ask Member States to ensure high quality training to make sure that the implementation of the EPBD is best handled nationally - Spread best practices (e.g. vocational training centres, public private partnerships) - Mobilise EU funds to stimulate training across the European Union - Ensure mutual recognition of training programmes across the European Union as well as harmonised accreditation of inspectors and assessors

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

1. Financing of energy efficiency measures: gaps remain in the access to funding and the different funding mechanisms that are available or could be put to use by Member States. This missing link needs to be tackled in a comprehensive way at EU level. Member States should be required to implement two or more financial instruments for stimulating energy efficiency investment from an agreed list of workable measures. The EU could also suggest a system for financing smaller investments. The German KfW model is highly-developed and extremely effective and could be used to serve as a financing model at EU level. Providing upfront money is fundamental to ensure buy-in and actions of small private building owners. Solving the

landlord/tenant dilemma is also critical: the tenant is not keen to invest in a property which he does not own, and the landlord does not see its interest either as the tenant will benefit from the measure, not himself. 2. Buildings 21 initiative: The Commission also has a role to play in bringing the building chain together and providing a platform for dissemination, education and sharing of best practice. The bigger Member States, such as UK and France are gaining valuable experience in this area which could be transferred to smaller and less-experienced Member States. A mechanism for doing so should be developed at EU level.

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

Yes

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

Saint-Gobain Isover believes that it is important to set up minimum energy performance requirements at component level, in order to ensure that the largest energy savings are secured both in new built and in renovation. It favours the set-up of such energy requirements through the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive rather than through the Eco-Design Directive in order to reduce the burden on manufacturers. The EPBD is a better vehicle for looking at building structures than Eco-design and the process for mandating such requirements under the EPBD is likely to be much faster. It would then be up to the Member States to decide what minimum level to set these requirements at. Energy Labelling: A CE mark for insulation is already in operation and work is being done to develop environmental product declarations under CEN/TC 350.

Yes

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

What is needed is an "EU Marshall Plan" for buildings that would give the necessary impetus for a massive energy refurbishment of private and public

buildings. Financial support shall be complemented with fiscal incentives which would allow to achieve the deployment of energy efficient buildings. Local stakeholders like Cities Council (Covenant of Mayors), regional authorities, local banks... should have access to available funds. Suggestions:

- Upfront financing: The EC included in the EEAP a specific call on Member States to develop financing for highly cost-effective energy efficiency improvements. Energy efficiency improvements in buildings are highly cost-effective, therefore corresponding upfront financing should be integrated in National Energy Efficiency Action Plans under the Energy Services Directive (ESD).
- Structural funds: They provide an opportunity for the EU to ensure that adequate upfront financing is available for the housing sector. A review of the funds required to renovate multi-family houses in the new EU Member States revealed that 10% was needed rather than 3%. The Commission should therefore review the allocation during the budget review to provide adequate resources for the next programming period. In addition, the EU should ensure that the current funding opportunities are properly spent by:
 1. Managing authorities of Structural Funds and specific energy programmes to develop and promote demonstration projects aimed at the various stakeholders at national level.
 2. limiting funding to projects that respect high energy standard requirements.
- European Investment Bank:
 - o Most of additional lending should be directed toward energy efficiency measures in buildings.
 - o Solve the mismatch of scale between the level of funding which the EIB traditionally operates and the level needed to help individual owners to upgrade their property. Also, the local banks to which the EIB lend do not share the EIB policy and do not find that lending for local energy efficiency projects is attractive. The Commission should investigate the reasons for such barriers and offer suggestions for removing them.
- Marguerite Fund: In December 2008, the European Council announced the creation of a new equity fund, the European Fund for Energy, Climate Change and Infrastructure ("Marguerite Fund"). This "Marguerite Fund" should largely focus on the energy refurbishment of buildings as it could be a very effective scheme to facilitate investments in the building sector. EuroACE has undertaken a survey of the different financing mechanisms currently in place across the EU-27. This survey provides a comprehensive overview of the list of financing measures which should be promoted by the EU (www.euroace.org). The new BUILD-UP portal should be used as a mechanism to provide information to the necessary actors on the different finance mechanisms for energy efficiency. Energy Performance Contracting enables private and public sector organisations to make major improvements to their building estates and results in large reductions in energy and carbon emissions without the need to provide up-front capital or impact existing budgets. Utilising the expertise of existing qualified ESCOs - both technically and in financing, enables city and Member State to embark on major improvement programmes today.

Yes

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2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

Energy companies must be encouraged to promote the development of the delivery of energy efficiency. The UK and French models require utilities to help consumers achieve energy savings or risk a huge fine. These models should be rolled out into other Member States. As a matter of policy, energy companies should not be permitted to do anything which hinders the development, or impedes the delivery, of energy efficiency. In particular Article 6 of the Energy End-use and Energy Services Directive needs to be fully enforced, and then strengthened. Also it should be made a requirement for all energy companies, before any new generation plant is built, to demonstrate publicly to the regulator (or government) that a new plant would be a more cost-effective option than helping consumers to save energy. This is standard practice already in many US States.

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

Yes

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Market-based instruments for tackling climate change have proved to deliver energy-efficiency improvements in a quick and cost-effective way. White Certificate scheme have thus the potential to unlock the huge efficiency improvement potential of buildings. Still, such systems will need to be carefully designed and implemented in order to give the right incentives for savings. In particular, it will need to take into consideration the lifetimes of different energy saving measures in order to allow investment according to the best overall value. The administrative framework is another key factor: creating EU-wide or regional trading system may generate too much administrative burden and render the system less effective.

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

1. There is a need for an overall target for energy efficiency to be made mandatory, such as the 20% by 2020 compared to 1990. This should be underpinned by an understood and clear definition of "energy efficiency" and the development of an objective meth

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

The indicative ESD savings target of 9% by 2016 and the 20% 2020 savings goals are not directly comparable since the ESD is an end-use (final energy) target and the 2020 target relates to primary energy use. However the MS should be required to put their

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Climate change must be tackled on a global level. Energy efficiency is a key element of it. A common recognition of training programmes and sharing of best practice on an international level would facilitate this. The EU is often looked to for leadership on the global stage. Providing leadership on energy efficiency in buildings, via a strong recast of the EPBD, would ensure that these ambitious measures are exported across the world. COP 15 in December is a golden opportunity for Europe to come with a strong, ambitious and unified voice on energy efficiency in buildings. Additionally, by taking leadership, Europe will pave the way for energy efficiency goods, services and expertise. More concretely, • The EU should prioritize the building sector in the COP 15 agenda and give support to develop the strategies, methodologies and mechanisms that will enable the sector to deliver deep cuts in emissions. Approving a very strong recast of the EPBD at the day of opening COP 15 will send an incredibly strong signal to the rest of the world. • The EU should cooperate with financial institutions and international agencies such as the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the World Bank and the International Energy Agency to promote financing programmes that would tackle the building stock in neighbouring countries and at worldwide level. • The EU should always promote buildings standards, codes and practices that could achieve a massive reduction of energy and CO2 emissions at worldwide level.

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Structural Funds are readily available but under-utilised by Member States when it comes to energy efficiency. Furthermore, such funds are not always used in line with the objectives of the EU. It should be made mandatory

that new Member States use Structural Funds to upgrade the energy efficiency levels of their existing prefabricated building stock. Social funds could also be used for education and training programmes. DGTREN should also work more closely with DG Regio to align the structural fund programme with EU goals on energy efficiency. In response to question 2.11, to which we answered "No", SMEs will enter the energy efficiency market so long as that market provides clear and profitable commercial opportunities. This would be achieved if all the existing policies, legislation and financial instruments in place at EU (and Member State) level operated fully and effectively. No particular new incentives for SMEs are needed; rather the emphasis should be placed on making all existing (and proposed) instruments work fully and effectively. This should be underpinned by adopting binding targets for energy efficiency, which would send a clear signal to SMEs that energy efficiency is a market area worth investing in.

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Spain

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

the building sector must be 1ST priority of the revised EEAP. o Very low energy standard by end 2014 for all new built. o Zero energy standard by end 2018 for all new built Financing schemes and fiscal measures both on EU and national levels. taxation: Allow all Member States to apply the lowest rate of VAT for energy saving products and services in buildings. energy efficiency awareness: should be made mandatory for Energy Performance Certificates to be displayed in all buildings frequently visited by the public across the EU

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

- Economic crisis : With big impact for Construction sector which needs policies to fight against unemployment. Renovation promotion has a big job creation potential . To reduce CO2 emissions by 60-80% in 2050 compared to 1990 level EU needs big efforts in building energy efficiency activities

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

all new build comply with a "very low energy" standard by 2014 and "zero energy" standard by end 2018, by following the principles of the Trias Energetica: - First reduce energy consumption as much as possible - Then use renewable energy sources - Last, if still needed, use efficient fossil energy sources.

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

European funds could also be used to finance training activities at national level. Ensure mutual recognition of training programmes across the European Union

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

Member States should be required to implement two or more financial instruments for stimulating energy efficiency investment .German KfW model could be used to serve as a financing model at EU level.

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

Yes

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

set up minimum energy performance requirements at component level
Yes

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

funds required to renovate multi-family houses in the new EU Member States are bigger than estimated today and this programs need stronger financing from structural funds. European Investment Bank: most of additional lending should be directed toward energy efficiency measures in buildings.
Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

apply the lowest rate of VAT for energy saving products and services in buildings

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

Strengthening of the energy efficiency educational requirements of engineers, architects diplomas . Improving the education of the general population and develop specific programmes on energy efficiency

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

Encourage regional and local alliances (e.g. Covenant of Mayors) to prioritize awareness raising, training and communication activities concerning the issue of energy efficiency in buildings. Communication vs. regulation: It should be recognised that communication strategies can often bring limited achievements. When it comes to energy efficiency in buildings, ambitious mandatory legislation, targets and measures are imperative

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

The public sector should lead by example and improve the energy efficiency of their buildings in the short term.- The public sector in each Member State needs to make an overall and systematic plan to renovate the public sector building stock.

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

Energy companies must be encouraged to promote the development of the delivery of energy efficiency

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

Yes

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

White Certificate scheme have thus the potential to unlock the huge efficiency improvement potential of buildings.

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

overall mandatory target for 2050 should be set for the buildings sector.

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

To improve methodology and comparability of energy savings between Member States, EU wide and mandatory templates should be proposed for the next round of National Energy Efficiency Action plans. The templates should be sector specific and highlight how t

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

should prioritize the building sector in the COP 15 agenda EU should always promote buildings standards, codes and practices that could achieve a massive reduction of energy and CO2 emissions at worldwide level.

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

United Kingdom

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

Yes

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

Yes

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

Yes

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

No opinion

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

This questionnaire is practically incomprehensible for any layman EU citizen or otherwise wishing to contribute to the debate on EU climate policy, probably the most important policy challenge the Union has ever faced. Perhaps consider a less technical questionnaire for those wishing to express sentiment as opposed to detailed opinion?

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

United Kingdom

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

We need to ensure: -the 20% energy efficiency target for 2020 becomes mandatory, rather than indicative, for member states -the Buildings Directive (which has brought us the A-G label for buildings) should be strengthened to reflect this sector's huge potential to be part of the climate solution -much more ambitious minimum energy efficiency requirements for energy using products should be set than is currently the case

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Reduction of emissions (compulsory) Significant efforts to reduce gross useage (ie congestion) Focus on public transport Moratorium on biofuel

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

Yes

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

Yes

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

Yes

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

Yes

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Denmark

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

Europe's buildings account for 40% of EU final energy use. An ambitious EU strategy on energy efficiency in buildings is a highly cost-efficient way to reach climate targets and at the same time contribute to massive economic savings and job creation. Therefore, the building sector must be the priority of the revised EEAP. Priority Action 2: Building performance requirements and very low energy buildings All the proposals under this point need to be completed and should be prioritised immediately as they will contribute significantly to reduce the energy use of the building stock. More specifically, Saint-Gobain ISOVER asks for:

- Mandatory and ambitious targets for new and existing buildings in order to achieve very low or zero carbon dioxide emissions and energy consumption:
 - o Very low energy standard by end 2014 for all new built.
 - o Zero energy standard by end 2018 for all new built
 - o Through national plans with targets for existing buildings, plans to be delivered with the NEEAPs of 2014 and 2017
- Increasing attention given to the building envelope in order to ensure that the energy demand for heating and cooling is minimized before addressing energy supply.
- Minimum energy performance requirements at building and at envelope component levels, based at least on cost-optimal levels, in order to achieve optimal energy efficiency performance. Factors are essential for success:
 - Financing schemes and fiscal measures both on EU and national levels.
 - Training and education of all stakeholders in the value chain (architects, contractors, workers, auditors, specialists, regional and local authorities, and general public).
 - Removal of administrative barriers.

Priority Action 6: Spurring energy efficiency in the new Member States Add an action item for the Commission to develop guidance for Member States on how to use Structural Funds and other EU funds to invest in energy efficiency in multi-family and social housing sectors. Remedies and incentives also need to be given to address the issue of single-family ownership in large residential blocks. Priority Action 7: A coherent use of taxation Add a Commission proposal allowing all Member States to apply the lowest rate of VAT for energy saving products and services in buildings. Currently, over 30% of EU Member States apply a lower VAT rate for energy consumption than for energy conservation. This fiscal system does not support the agreed 2020 goals on carbon emissions, renewable energy and energy efficiency. Priority Action 8: Raising energy efficiency awareness It should be made mandatory for Energy Performance Certificates to be displayed in all buildings frequently visited by the public across the EU. Priority Action 9: Energy-efficiency in built-up areas Further action should be taken to promote

energy efficiency in buildings in built up areas through, for example, the Covenant of Mayors and the Intelligent Energy Europe programme

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

- **Economic crisis:** Since the adoption of the original EEAP, a global crisis has seriously affected European and worldwide economies. The construction industry has been hit very hard. It is crucial for Europe to take actions that would help the construction sector to remain a pillar of our economies, whilst decreasing our energy bills and protecting our energy independency. Activities related to represent 9% of EU GDP and 7-8% of EU employment. The review of the Action Plan should both highlight and promote the job-creation potential of energy efficiency measures in the building sector. The impact assessment to the EPBD recast proposal contains some job creation figures. However, the Commission should undertake a more comprehensive study to quantify the employment impact of a robust and ambitious energy efficiency policy, both for direct and indirect employment. A similar study for the renewable energy targets has just been completed and should be replicated for the energy efficiency market.
- **Energy security:** Europe currently imports 50% of energy consumed; this is set to rise if the status quo is maintained. The recent Ukrainian-Russia conflict on gas again has demonstrated the importance for Europe to guarantee its energy independency. A true energy security policy is one that mitigates dependency and promotes home-grown solutions. Europe needs to get serious about tackling the energy use of its buildings. A true energy security policy starts in our home. The EEAP should ensure that energy efficiency in buildings becomes the corner-stone of Europe's effort to ensure that the energy needs of Europe are met continuously.
- **Climate crisis:** As the clock ticks toward the Copenhagen climate negotiations in December, Europe is expected to lead the world with actions and show that large scale CO2 reductions are possible. The lion's share of EU final energy consumption and CO2 emissions come from buildings. The building sector is indeed critical for Europe in order to achieve the ambitious target of reducing CO2 emissions by 60% to 80% in 2050 compared to the 1990 level. A well acknowledged target for buildings, which represent 40% of energy consumption, is to reduce its emissions by at least 80% compared to those of 1990. Improving energy efficiency in buildings will allow Europe to achieve its goals in the fight against climate change. Approving an ambitious recast of the EPBD the day of opening of the COP 15 conference will also send an incredibly strong message to the rest of the world.
- **Trends towards sustainable construction.**

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

I favour a strong strategy towards very low or zero energy buildings. Member States should draw up strategies and roadmaps with clear and ambitious targets for new buildings, ensuring that all new build comply with a "very low energy" standard by 2014 and "zero energy" standard by end 2018, by following the principles of the Trias

Energetica: - First reduce energy consumption as much as possible - Then use renewable energy sources - Last, if still needed, use efficient fossil energy sources. Current national requirements for residential buildings are far from cost effective levels. The Ecofys VII report, commissioned by Eurima in 2007, showed that out of 100 cities across Europe, almost all of them have current insulation standards which are below the cost-optimum energy and climate standards (www.eurima.org). Unless they are strengthened significantly, these requirements will not allow Europe to achieve its medium and long-term climate goals. Energy efficiency in buildings, and in particular insulation, are highly cost-effective measures, as demonstrated in the recent study by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre: 80% of the green house gas reduction potential in buildings in Southern Europe and 95% of the potential in Central Europe can be reached at negative CO2 abatement costs. EuroACE conducted a survey in autumn 2007 (SBI 2008:07) which showed that seven Member States have introduced a definition of very low energy building to be used as the minimum requirement for new buildings, and a second survey in autumn 2008 (SBI 2009:03) looked at the benefits of a faster trajectory to very low energy buildings by 2012 (www.euroace.org). The technology exists today to build new structures to a very high energy efficiency standard; therefore setting a trajectory now for moving towards this standard is imperative. Several Member States already have in place plans and ambitious targets.

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

While training activities are a largely national competence, the Commission does have a leadership role to play in spreading best practice and providing finance to stimulate such activities. The EU should ensure mutual recognition of training programmes across Europe as well as harmonised accreditation of inspectors and assessors. European funds could also be used to finance training activities at national level. Concretely, the Commission could place specific obligations on Member States to apply the necessary support mechanisms and training and education programmes for the building chain. Any policy initiative has to include organisational support measures to ensure adequate training of architects, builders and installers. The European Union could promote four measures: - Ask Member States to ensure high quality training to make sure that the implementation of the EPBD is best handled nationally - Spread best practices (e.g. vocational training centres, public private partnerships) - Mobilise EU funds to stimulate training across the European Union - Ensure mutual recognition of training programmes across the European Union as well as harmonised accreditation of inspectors and assessors

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

1. Financing of energy efficiency measures: gaps remain in the access to funding and the different funding mechanisms that are available or could be put to use by Member States. This missing link needs to be tackled in a comprehensive way at EU level. Member States should be required to implement two or more financial instruments for stimulating energy efficiency investment from an agreed list of workable measures. The EU could also suggest a system for financing smaller investments. The German KfW model is highly-developed and extremely effective and could be used to serve as a financing model at EU level. Providing upfront money is fundamental to ensure buy-in and actions of small private building owners. Solving the

landlord/tenant dilemma is also critical: the tenant is not keen to invest in a property which he does not own, and the landlord does not see its interest either as the tenant will benefit from the measure, not himself. 2. Buildings 21 initiative: The Commission also has a role to play in bringing the building chain together and providing a platform for dissemination, education and sharing of best practice. The bigger Member States, such as UK and France are gaining valuable experience in this area which could be transferred to smaller and less-experienced Member States. A mechanism for doing so should be developed at EU level.

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

Yes

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

I believe that it is important to set up minimum energy performance requirements at component level, in order to ensure that the largest energy savings are secured both in new built and in renovation. It favours the set-up of such energy requirements through the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive rather than through the Eco-Design Directive in order to reduce the burden on manufacturers. The EPBD is a better vehicle for looking at building structures than Eco-design and the process for mandating such requirements under the EPBD is likely to be much faster. It would then be up to the Member States to decide what minimum level to set these requirements at. Energy Labelling: A CE mark for insulation is already in operation and work is being done to develop environmental product declarations under CEN/TC 350.

Yes

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

What is needed is an "EU Marshall Plan" for buildings that would give the necessary impetus for a massive energy refurbishment of private and public

buildings. Financial support shall be complemented with fiscal incentives which would allow to achieve the deployment of energy efficient buildings. Local stakeholders like Cities Council (Covenant of Mayors), regional authorities, local banks... should have access to available funds. Suggestions:

- Upfront financing: The EC included in the EEAP a specific call on Member States to develop financing for highly cost-effective energy efficiency improvements. Energy efficiency improvements in buildings are highly cost-effective, therefore corresponding upfront financing should be integrated in National Energy Efficiency Action Plans under the Energy Services Directive (ESD).
- Structural funds: They provide an opportunity for the EU to ensure that adequate upfront financing is available for the housing sector. A review of the funds required to renovate multi-family houses in the new EU Member States revealed that 10% was needed rather than 3%. The Commission should therefore review the allocation during the budget review to provide adequate resources for the next programming period. In addition, the EU should ensure that the current funding opportunities are properly spent by:
 1. Managing authorities of Structural Funds and specific energy programmes to develop and promote demonstration projects aimed at the various stakeholders at national level.
 2. limiting funding to projects that respect high energy standard requirements.
- European Investment Bank:
 - o Most of additional lending should be directed toward energy efficiency measures in buildings.
 - o Solve the mismatch of scale between the level of funding which the EIB traditionally operates and the level needed to help individual owners to upgrade their property. Also, the local banks to which the EIB lend do not share the EIB policy and do not find that lending for local energy efficiency projects is attractive. The Commission should investigate the reasons for such barriers and offer suggestions for removing them.
- Marguerite Fund: In December 2008, the European Council announced the creation of a new equity fund, the European Fund for Energy, Climate Change and Infrastructure ("Marguerite Fund"). This "Marguerite Fund" should largely focus on the energy refurbishment of buildings as it could be a very effective scheme to facilitate investments in the building sector. EuroACE has undertaken a survey of the different financing mechanisms currently in place across the EU-27. This survey provides a comprehensive overview of the list of financing measures which should be promoted by the EU (www.euroace.org). The new BUILD-UP portal should be used as a mechanism to provide information to the necessary actors on the different finance mechanisms for energy efficiency. Energy Performance Contracting enables private and public sector organisations to make major improvements to their building estates and results in large reductions in energy and carbon emissions without the need to provide up-front capital or impact existing budgets. Utilising the expertise of existing qualified ESCOs - both technically and in financing, enables city and Member State to embark on major improvement programmes today.

Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

A Commission proposal should be presented allowing all Member States to apply the lowest rate of VAT for energy saving products and services in buildings. In order to be fully effective, this reduction in VAT should be linked to products and services which bring significant improvement in energy efficiency, such as insulation. Currently, approximately 30% of EU Member States apply a lower VAT rate for energy consumption than for certain energy saving products. This fiscal situation does not support the agreed 2020 goals on carbon emissions, renewable energy and energy efficiency. The Commission could also play a role in connecting lower VAT rates to higher-performing buildings and components. This would mirror existing efforts in Member States to promote more fuel-efficient cars by lowering tax levels on certain fuel-efficient models. It would also have the effect of pushing the building market towards EU goals.

Lower VAT rates should apply to both new built (very low energy buildings) and to energy efficient renovation. Landlord/tenant dilemma: in several EU countries over 50% of buildings are rented, and neither the tenants (as they do not own the houses) nor the landlords (as they do not pay the energy bills) have incentives to invest in such measures as insulation. Financial incentives should oblige landlords to make the right investments. Such measures could include tax-breaks on the refurbishment of houses or revolving funds for the same purpose. The European Economic Recovery plan suggests urgent tax measures to improve the energy efficiency of the housing stock and public buildings. Taxation ought to be one of the instruments that governments should apply to promote energy efficiency investments: income and corporate tax credits to promote building could be used to support energy performance improvements. Property-tax differentiation based on certification schemes should also be developed. The effectiveness of buildings certification could be reinforced with financial incentives. Homeowners should be encouraged to make energy-efficiency improvements by for e.g. by linking buildings certification to tax deductions on the investment in energy efficiency measures.

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

Strengthening of the energy efficiency educational requirements of diplomas for engineers, architects etc. Concrete steps should be taken to ensure that all relevant technical courses, particularly for the construction industry, include a full understanding of the holistic benefits of improving energy efficiency in all parts of a building. Those acquiring specialist training on a specific product/system within a building should also be provided with training regarding all energy efficiency aspects of a building - potential fabric improvements, lighting, glazing. All training programmes should include an understanding of the overall energy efficiency context. The Commission should require that all Member States implement technical courses for buildings and that all building design courses should have an energy efficiency element. Promotion of pan-European programmes under initiatives such as the Erasmus Mundus programme or vocational training for the building chain under the general EU framework for education and training. In parallel, the EU should empower EU bodies in charge of vocational training and lifelong learning such as the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training. As the European Social Fund (ESF) is the European Union's main financial instrument for supporting employment in the Member States, the next programming period (post-2013) should mainly focus on energy efficiency in EU jobs (with a part focusing on training the building chain on the issue of energy efficiency in buildings). Improving the education of the general population and develop specific programmes on energy efficiency which would aim to give support to the general population through the deployment of e.g. info centres and helpdesks.

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are

already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

Different activities for different players: In association with national, regional and local authorities, the EU needs to develop the right policy packages addressing specific local circumstances and buildings characteristics. For example: 1. Regional and local authorities. Encourage regional and local alliances (e.g. Covenant of Mayors) to prioritize awareness raising, training and communication activities concerning the issue of energy efficiency in buildings. 2. General public. Ensure EU funding programmes (e.g. Intelligent Energy Europe) to develop projects aiming to improve the "energy efficiency" behaviour of EU citizens. E.g. Wide-scale deployment of info centres / helpdesks across the EU to pro-actively assist and support final consumers. 3. Building chain. Adopt a "Building 21" strategy which would bring the building chain together and provide a platform for dissemination, education and sharing of best practices. 4. Economic players (e.g. banks). Develop specific platform for economic stakeholders to encourage information about best financial practices leading to the deployment of green building markers. Communication vs. regulation: It should be recognised that communication strategies can often bring limited achievements. When it comes to energy efficiency in buildings, ambitious mandatory legislation, targets and measures are imperative.

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

The public sector should lead by example and improve the energy efficiency of their buildings in the short term, through binding implementation dates. The public sector should also be mandated to implement all recommendations indicated in the energy performance certificate during the lifetime of that certificate. The public sector in each Member State needs to make an overall and systematic plan to renovate the public sector building stock. If resources are pooled to renovate multiple buildings at the same time, a higher cost-savings can be achieved. Scaling up in this way will not only bring the best economies of scale, but also of knowledge and best

practice. The National Energy Efficiency Action Plans could be used as the tool to outline these plans. A change in attitude is needed regarding public procurement practices for energy efficiency. It is about buying energy saving, not products or services. Public authorities need help in changing mindsets to this way of thinking. The green public procurement policy advocated by the EC can help Europe to move towards a more sustainable building stock. The EC needs to make sure that this policy is based on objective, scientific and well accepted criteria. Financing should also be available to the Public sector to allow implementation of these ambitious plans.

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

Energy companies must be encouraged to promote the development of the delivery of energy efficiency. The UK and French models require utilities to help consumers achieve energy savings or risk a huge fine. These models should be rolled out into other Member States. As a matter of policy, energy companies should not be permitted to do anything which hinders the development, or impedes the delivery, of energy efficiency. In particular Article 6 of the Energy End-use and Energy Services Directive needs to be fully enforced, and then strengthened. Also it should be made a requirement for all energy companies, before any new generation plant is built, to demonstrate publicly to the regulator (or government) that a new plant would be a more cost-effective option than helping consumers to save energy. This is standard practice already in many US States.

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

Yes

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Market-based instruments for tackling climate change have proved to deliver energy-efficiency improvements in a quick and cost-effective way. White Certificate scheme have thus the potential to unlock the huge efficiency improvement potential of buildings. Still, such systems will need to be carefully designed and implemented in order to give the right incentives for savings. In particular, it will need to take into consideration the lifetimes of different energy saving measures in order to allow investment according to the best overall value. The administrative framework is another key factor: creating EU-wide or regional trading system may generate too much administrative burden and render the system less effective.

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

1. There is a need for an overall target for energy efficiency to be made mandatory, such as the 20% by 2020 compared to 1990. This should be underpinned by an understood and clear definition of "energy efficiency" and the development of an objective meth

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

The indicative ESD savings target of 9% by 2016 and the 20% 2020 savings goals are not directly comparable since the ESD is an end-use (final energy) target and the 2020 target relates to primary energy use. However the MS should be required to put their

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Climate change must be tackled on a global level. Energy efficiency is a key element of it. A common recognition of training programmes and sharing of best practice on an international level would facilitate this. The EU is often looked to for leadership on the global stage. Providing leadership on energy efficiency in buildings, via a strong recast of the EPBD, would ensure that these ambitious measures are exported across the world. COP 15 in December is a golden opportunity for Europe to come with a strong, ambitious and unified voice on energy efficiency in buildings. Additionally, by taking leadership, Europe will pave the way for energy efficiency goods, services and expertise. More concretely, • The EU should prioritize the building sector in the COP 15 agenda and give support to develop the strategies, methodologies and mechanisms that will enable the sector to deliver deep cuts in emissions. Approving a very strong recast of the EPBD at the day of opening COP 15 will send an incredibly strong signal to the rest of the world. • The EU should cooperate with financial institutions and international agencies such as the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the World Bank and the International Energy Agency to promote financing programmes that would tackle the building stock in neighbouring countries and at worldwide level. • The EU should always promote buildings standards, codes and practices that could achieve a massive reduction of energy and CO2 emissions at worldwide level.

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Structural Funds are readily available but under-utilised by Member States when it comes to energy efficiency. Furthermore, such funds are not always used in line with the objectives of the EU. It should be made mandatory

that new Member States use Structural Funds to upgrade the energy efficiency levels of their existing prefabricated building stock. Social funds could also be used for education and training programmes. DGTREN should also work more closely with DG Regio to align the structural fund programme with EU goals on energy efficiency. In response to question 2.11, to which we answered "No", SMEs will enter the energy efficiency market so long as that market provides clear and profitable commercial opportunities. This would be achieved if all the existing policies, legislation and financial instruments in place at EU (and Member State) level operated fully and effectively. No particular new incentives for SMEs are needed; rather the emphasis should be placed on making all existing (and proposed) instruments work fully and effectively. This should be underpinned by adopting binding targets for energy efficiency, which would send a clear signal to SMEs that energy efficiency is a market area worth investing in.

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Ireland

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

Double regulation should be avoided - hence the energy transformation sector should be removed from the priority list

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

Investment in efficiency since 2006 has not increased to the extent needed. The financial crisis is a further major impediment to investment. Triggering needed investment is the greatest challenge. The emergence of electric vehicle technology provides the prospect of solution to transport.

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

No

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Electrification of transport should be supported as a priority

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

No opinion

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

No opinion

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

No

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

No

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

No

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

No

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

No

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

This is needed to assess national performance against the NEEAP

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

This is also relevant to developing countries, CDM etc

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

In many instances actions to achieve NEEAP targets can best be decided by national governments under subsidiarity rather than at EU level

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Malta

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

No opinion

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

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Yes

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

Coming from a building services environment i very frequently notice that although as engineers we try to find ways of making a building run as efficiently as possible the users do not always have the same mentality. One case in point is the use of airconditoning units such as split units in both domestic and commercial sectors where the room temperature, for some reason, is frequently set well below or higher than the required temperature in the room, say at 16-17degC or 29-30degC. These temperature settings would result in having the air conditioning running continuously without reaching the required temperature wasting considerable amounts of energy. In my opinion Energy Labelling directives should cover these issues by imposing all suppliers to manufacture units which have the temperature setting range of all between, say 20-27degC, which is after all the comfort temperature zone.

No opinion

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

No opinion

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

No opinion

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

No opinion

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

No opinion

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No opinion

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

No opinion

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

No opinion

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Spain

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

Yes

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

Yes

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

No

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

No

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

No opinion

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

EU as a whole (for organisations only)

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

No

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

No

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

No

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

No

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

No

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

No

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

No

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

No

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

No

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

No

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

No

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

No

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

No

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

No

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Germany

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

Please continue- - labelling of products in terms of their energy efficiency (helps customers to make more responsible choices) - intensify your efforts on passive houses (promotion, education, facilitating investment etc) - intensify the public conscience for energy efficiency

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

Due to several gas crises (ukraine, war in Georgia etc) and oil stocks reaching peak prices: diversification of energy supply using more renewables!

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

Since urbanisation is continuing and soon more than 80 percent of the world wide population will live in urban areas thus areas with concentrated housing creating a need to build energy efficient buildings on less space (unless city pollution is to continue) . Thus there is an urgend need.

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

Very high, especially since training should have a comparable EU-wide level and scope. We don't want Spanish architexcts to know less about energy efficient houses then German ones!

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

Public education, project funding.

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

No

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

No

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

No opinion

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

advantegous VAT rates on energy efficient light bulbs, energy efficient products in general so as to definetely rule out energy wasting products!

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

Energy efficiency training in offices is desperately needed and in primary and secondary schools adressing pupils, office users who are usually not aware of their daily energy consumption at work.

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

No

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Raising awareness to the problem of energy saving and to the possibilities that are already available. Competitions to find out best-practises. Investment facilities as an incentive for choosing energy saving products.

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

No

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

No

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

No opinion

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy

consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

The targets should be set up in form of a regularly revised enactment which is legally binding for all member states.

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

No

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

world-wide agreement on what energy efficiency covers and what standards should be set.

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Sweden

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

The plan should focus on end-use efficiency and omit energy transformation. It should further try to elaborate the "soft" aspects on what drives energy consumption and even contemplate the issue of energy sufficiency (not only efficiency)

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

The speed of the necessary change and how the adaptation towards a radically lower consumption (not necessarily a lower service) can be reconciled. The fact that the governments do not implement the directives as decided upon.

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

Necessasry and might need tougher attitude from the commission

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

Good idea. Compare with the WBCSD report on buildings that show that the industry is not fit to do the job!

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

The Buildiongs directive should demand that inspections (and labels) should be issued accompanied with advice on how buildings should reduce their energy use by 50%. These advice should then be qualified with advice under which condistions (maintenance, refurbishment etc.)

such measures should be taken. The present system by just talking about cost-efficient measures is meaning-less. The Buildings label should be uniform across Europe (and not national as the Swedish).

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Scrapping premiums for old cars to be paid by the producers. Maybe also a bonus-malus system

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

No opinion

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

Yes

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

A system should be developed that certifies certain types of measures and give priority financing for those. C.f. the Clear-Support Project.

Yes

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

See 2.4. that could be developed also with VAT-reductions.

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

One of the keys could be "empowerment" of customers/users to undertake measures. Advice and awareness alone is often insufficient and pure financial motives are not enough.

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Most of the measures are undertaken by SME:s who identify themselves according to the technology they deliver (i.e. electrical installations, insulation, AC etc.). They should be given the chance to identify themselves as suppliers of the quality "Energy Efficiency" and co-operate across technologies instead. In Sweden there is a new organisation of companies that attempts to do this (www.eef.se)

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

The Public Sector should be given a benchmark and a target as in the US FEMP, i.e. to buy only from the best quartile. And this should be mandatory across Europe. Based on such a mandate there could be Technology Procurements to further drive the market learning process

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

Check with the IEA DSM-Programme which shows several options (www.ieadsm.org)

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No opinion

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

No opinion

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

Taking the market learning curve into account a rule of thumb should be 50% within 15 years.

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

No opinion

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

Profile of the respondent

Citizen

Region

European Union

Which European Union country?

Netherlands

Briefly describe the nature of your involvement in energy efficiency

1. General questions

1.1. The Action Plan for Energy Efficiency of 2006 identified 6 key areas and proposed 10 priority actions (out of a total of 85 actions and measures). Which of the actions and measures of the 2006 EEAP should be continued / redefined / discontinued, and why? (Max. 4000 characters)

- Make buildings and products more energie efficient - Use smart metering to inform the people about their consumption I have not heard from the energy efficiency action plan before. Use strong examples to reach the european public by means of the news.

1.2. Which new challenges have emerged since 2006 and should be addressed in the new Action Plan for Energy Efficiency? (Max. 4000 characters)

- Use wind and solar energy to power up electric cars

2. Specific questions

2.1. The existing Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) and its recast, as well as other relevant legal acts, go a long way for introducing ambitious but realizable energy performance requirements for buildings and increase consumers' awareness. However, much more can be done.

Yes

How do you assess the need for moving towards a requirement that all new buildings have low or zero energy consumption and carbon emissions after certain date? (Max. 4000 characters)

This should be high priority. Most buildings last for 60 years, so almost any energy efficient investment will pay out in time.

How do you assess the need for introducing an EU level measures concerning training of architects, builders and installers? (Max. 4000 characters)

Just set the boundaries/laws and people will find their way to build it. No EU training necessary.

What other measures at EU level need to be undertaken? (Max. 4000 characters)

EU should set the boundaries and laws and do central research onf energy efficiency for all EU countries. Implementation at the national level.

2.2. Sustainable transport and energy consumption of cars is currently addressed in the Greening transport package (COM(2008)433), the Regulation on Emission performance standards for new passenger cars (COM(2007)0856), the proposed Directive on labelling of tyres (COM(2008)0779), the proposal on greening car taxation (COM(2005) 261) and the 'Green Cars' initiative. The Commission is also working on a proposal on light commercial vehicles and a revision of CO2/cars labelling. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Make other ways of transportation possible besides fuel cars. Invest in the needed infrastructure for ethanol, electric cars and especially electric scooters in the cities (perfect project, good example for in the news, less sound/air pollution in the cities, small step for introduction in all the major cities in Europe)

2.3. The Eco-Design (2005/32/EC) and Energy Labelling (92/75/EEC) framework Directives are significant steps as regard to product policy. A number of implementing measures have been already or are soon to be adopted and the ongoing amendments of the two Directives provide for their more ambitious and wider application. Do you consider that additional measures can be taken forward in order to increase the impact of these instruments?

No opinion

2.4. Lack of access to appropriate financing is an important bottleneck for making a real step forward in our ambitions on energy saving. Innovative financing instruments are now being developed by institutions such as EIB, EBRD, national promotional banks and private banks in particular in association with the Covenant of Majors initiative. Demonstration projects of the application of energy efficient technologies in a competitive manner, e.g. 'smart cities', could also be considered. Do you think other financing measures at EU level are needed?

No opinion

2.5. Well targeted fiscal incentives could be a driver for energy efficiency investments and innovation. The EU has already taken measures to make it easy for Member States to allow for more advantageous VAT rates for some labour-intensive services, such as renovation and repairing of private dwellings. Do you consider that additional measures at EU level need to be undertaken to shape consumer choices?

No

In your view what these measures should be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.6. Education and training on energy efficiency are vital ingredient of a successful energy efficiency policy. These were already mentioned above regarding buildings but the challenge is much broader. Do you consider that measures/actions at EU level to catalyze training at school and university level should be undertaken?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be as regards different target groups? (Max. 4000 characters)

In every country there should be a technical education possible for realizing energy efficiency technology. E.g. installing heat pump. Right now there are too many people doing administrative work and too less people building things in the Netherlands.

2.7. Awareness of final consumers on energy savings possibilities and their benefits is still low. This in particular concerns domestic consumers and SMEs. Some actions to target different groups are already undertaken at national and EU level. For example, the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is focusing on grouping social stakeholders and market actors to undertake joint action. Do you think that further communication action at EU level is needed?

Yes

Which would be the content of such a communication strategy as regards each of the target groups concerned? (Max. 4000 characters)

Never heard of this campaign and I am energy interested. Better news approach is necessary.

2.8. Furthermore, small and medium size companies (SMEs) are the backbone of EU's economy as they make up more than 99% of all firms and employ 67% of the EU's workforce but may need more support for implementing energy saving measures. Do you consider that specific measures to target SMEs are necessary?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

In every country there should be a technical education possible for realizing energy efficiency technology. E.g. installing heat pump. Right now there are too many people doing administrative work and too less people building things in the Netherlands.

2.9. Public sector should lead by providing best practice examples. Positive progresses have been made under the voluntary Green public procurement policy and the proposals for mandatory procurement of energy efficient products in the framework of the recast of the Energy Labelling Directive. The leading role of public authorities has also been emphasized under the recast of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive proposal. Do you consider that further actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

What further actions would you suggest at EU level? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.10. The role of energy utilities can be substantial but at present they have insufficiently developed a market for energy efficiency services. Ways to create adequate framework conditions for this market to take-up in liberalized electricity and natural gas markets should be sought, possibly in cooperation with the Regulators. Do you consider that actions at EU level should be undertaken?

Yes

The energy utilities lose money if there is too many renewable energy and energy efficiency at once. So they lower the speed of developments. There are much examples that utilities don't want to be a backup for renewable energy and thereby killing the initiative. Give other companies the power to implement renewable energy.

2.11. Energy efficiency offers significant market opportunities. Do you consider that specific measures at EU level should be adopted to provide incentives for companies to enter these markets, in particularly as regards SMEs?

No

2.12. In relation to the above question do you consider that there is a need for the introduction of a EU-wide White Certificate scheme?

No

2.13. The Directive on energy end-use efficiency and energy services (2006/32/EC) already provides for national indicative energy savings target which differs from the ones for renewables and for the greenhouse gas emissions. Giving the increasing priority for ensuring that investment in energy consumption reduction are made in all Member States do you consider that a move towards binding targets is needed?

Yes

How should these binding targets be set up and at what level? (Max. 4000 characters)

First realise in every country 20% renewable energy and 20% energy efficiency and no averaging between EU countries. A lot of people are sceptical that this first step can be taken.

2.14. Measurement and verification of energy savings is essential aspect for monitoring the results of any measures introduced at national and EU level. Although some targeted measures are being implemented, do you consider that more systematic and harmonized approach at EU level is needed?

No

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

2.15. Energy efficiency should become a vector of international co-operation and a subject of international financing programmes, in particular regarding EU neighbouring countries. Do you agree with statement?

Yes

In your view what should these measures be? (Max. 4000 characters)

Sharing development costs. For decentral energy production no international agreements are further necessary.

3. Other remarks

3.1. Please add your additional remarks in the section below. (Max. 5000 characters)

No systematic or harmonizing EU approach is necessary. That is a administrative approach that the EU people dislike so much. The people will judge the governments on the numbers that are presented and therefore no harmonizing is needed.