

# STAR\*track Webinar

## Innovative Solutions for Affordable Housing

Organised by:



Funded by  
the European Union

Featuring:



# Agenda

- Welcome from STAR\*track
- Affordable Housing Initiative
- Q&A
- DeCO2 project presentation
- SINCERE project presentation
- FORTESIE project presentation
- Q&A
- Closing



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Welcome from STAR\*track

STAR\*track short presentation



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**Built4People**



**Built4People**  
Innovation Cluster



Claudia HUNZIKER KELLER,  
Head of European Affairs



Lise RAYNAUD,  
European Project Manager



Liza RANDRIANARIJAONA,  
Assistant European Project Manager





# What is STAR\*track ?



**STAR\*track** : Support and networks **To Accelerate** the construction and **Renovation** innovation **track** to market

STAR\*track is a three years **Coordination and Support Action** (CSA) project funded by the European Union under Horizon Europe (HE) within the [B4P Partnership](#) running from May 2024 to April.

STAR\*track aims at **expanding the Built4People Innovation Cluster** (B4PIC) network developed in the **HE project NEBULA** and at strengthening and supporting B4PICs & their members to deliver sustainable & people-centric innovation and accelerate their uptake by regional value and supply chains.

**Coordinator:** NOBATEK

**Duration:** 36 months, from May 2024 to April 2027

**Website:** <https://built4people.eu/startrack-project/>

**Follow us on social medias:** #STARtrackB4P



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# STAR\*track Consortium

Led by : **nobatek**



LUXEMBOURG  
INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY

EBETAMIRTEC

ZAVOD ZA  
GRADENIŠTVO  
SLOVENIJE

SLOVENIAN  
NATIONAL BUILDING  
AND CIVIL ENGINE  
INSTITUTE

**LIST**

Innovation experts

**BUILD:INN**  
BASQUE CONSTRUCTION CLUSTER

**icons**  
CLUSTER DE LA INDUSTRIALIZACIÓN  
DE LA CONSTRUCCIÓN DE NAVARRA

**cdéys**

**STAR\*track**  
A Built4People Project

**WE  
BUILD  
DENMARK**

**e-CODOMH**  
Cluster for Efficient and sustainable Construction,  
buildings & infrastructure.

**metabuilding**

**ECTP**  
INNOVATIVE BUILT  
ENVIRONMENT

**WORLD  
GREEN  
BUILDING  
COUNCIL**

**FEDERCOSTRUZIONI**

**GATE  
21**

Construction  
platforms/associations

Emerging B4PICs

CONSULTANTS & SMEs

**Dowel  
innovation**

**eco||wise**

**STAM**  
MASTERING EXCELLENCE

Public entities

**EUROREGION  
EUROESKUALDEA  
EUROREGION**

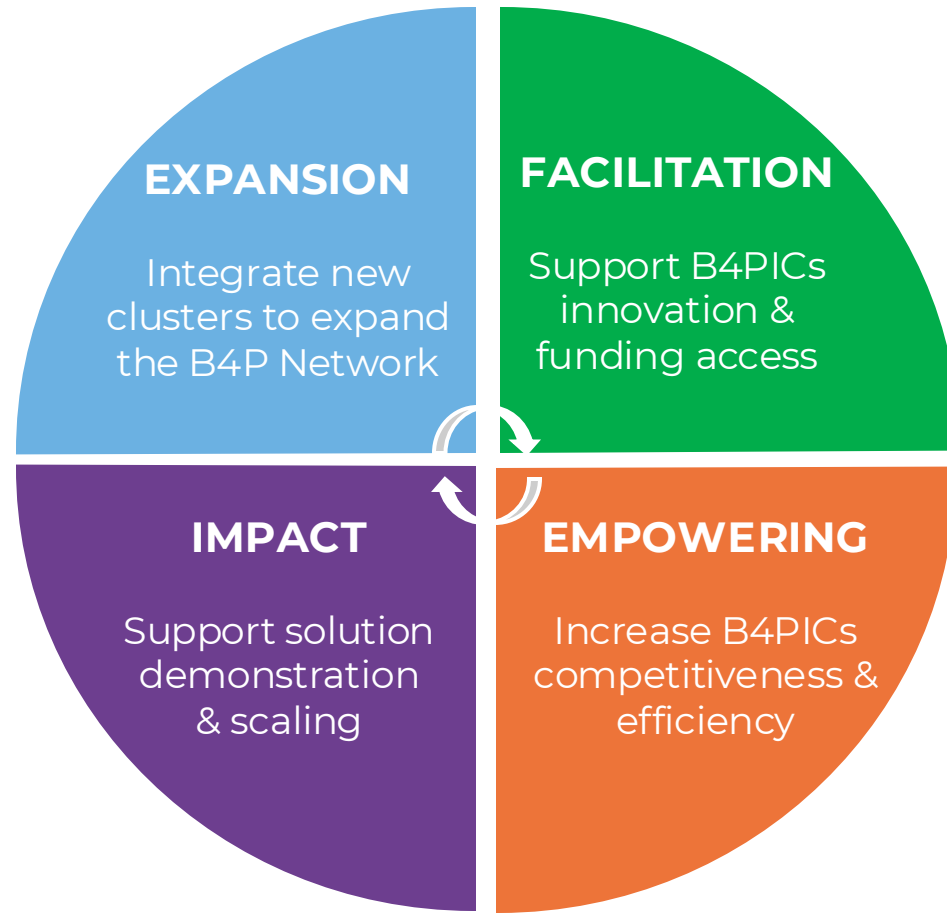
**RÉGION  
Nouvelle-  
Aquitaine**

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# STAR\*track impact & objectives

STAR\*track aims to **accelerate the market uptake of innovation for the Build Environment sector** by following these development lines :



# B4PIC Network : ecosystem of innovation & best practice

**EXPANSION**  
Integrate new  
B4PICs to cover all  
EU member states



Develop regional ecosystems that support innovation and business growth



Foster, exchange & collaboration between B4PICs at regional & national levels



NEB Advisors group providing guidance on application of NEB concepts in the Build Environment



Collaborate with other sectors to build joint roadmaps to tackle climate issues



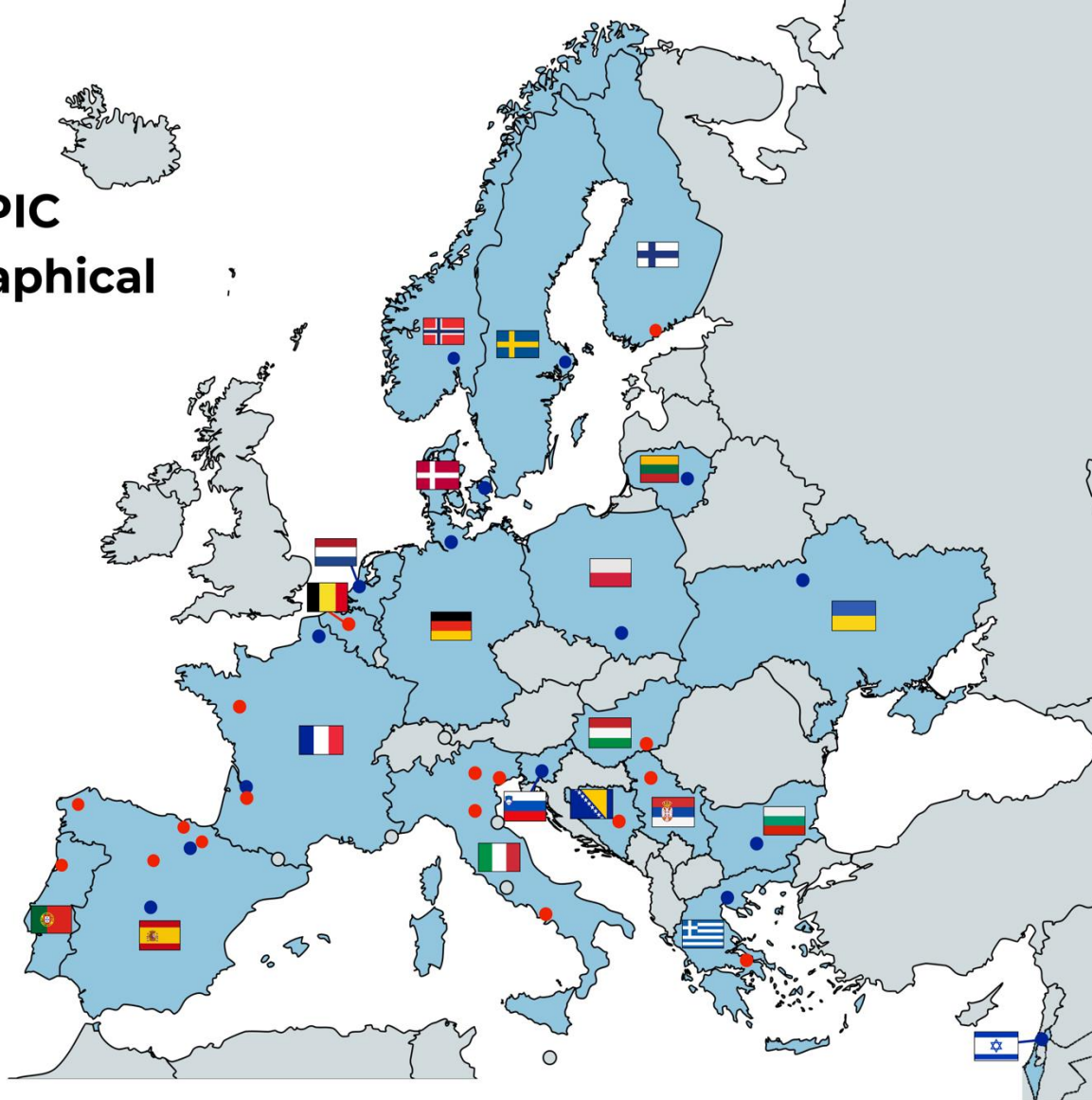
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# B4PIC network: state of play

## The current B4PIC Network geographical coverage

- Prospective B4PICs
- Emerging B4PICs



*B4PIC network is growing*

21 European countries

34 B4PICs

- 18 Emerging B4PICs
- 16 Prospective B4PICs

*as of 1st September 2025*

[Learn about the B4PIC  
Network here !](#)



# Enabling Conditions : Digital platform & innovation training

## FACILITATION

Support B4PICs  
innovation &  
funding access



Connection to EU-wide innovation ecosystem on Metabuilding platform.



Training for B4PIC managers/members on innovation process & available innovation support.



Visibility for R&D results coming from B4P projects to accelerate market adoption.



Provide guidelines and training on sustainable finance opportunities.



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# Technology watch on innovative products & solutions on Metabuilding platform

## INNOVATIONS

[See all](#)



### Physics-Based Digital Twin

The Physics-Based Digital Twin is one of two core sub-components ...

Beatriz Fraga De Cal

Under development



### ChroViewPlus: Building operations insights for professional users

ChroViewPlus is a dashboard mainly designed for building operatio...

Beatriz Fraga De Cal

Under development



### ChroViewREN – Renovation Planner

The Renovation Planner is an application that provides the end-us...

Pragma-IoT

Under development



### ChroViewOcc

ChroViewOcc is a mobile application designed for residential user...

Hypertech Sustainability Research & Technology Center (HSRT)

Under development

Learn more about innovative products & solutions on  
the [metabuilding platform](#)!



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# Support to accelerate product development & market transfer

## EMPOWERING

Increase B4PICs  
competitiveness &  
efficiency



Tool to rapidly assess innovation maturity of products and solutions under development



Direct access to innovation and testing experts assisting with product development via Open Innovation Testbeds



Identification & access to demonstration sites to test innovations in real-life buildings



Knowledge on upcoming EU regulations and national requirements with respect to innovative products and solutions



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# 3 Open Innovation Testbeds (OITBs) engaged in the STAR\*track project

Access to services and experts to test materials & products in building envelopes

Demonstration site locator - [Search buildings for piloting activities](#)



[www.metabuilding.com](http://www.metabuilding.com)



[www.mezeroe-platform.eu](http://www.mezeroe-platform.eu)



[www.iclimabuilt.eu](http://www.iclimabuilt.eu)



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Organisation

ROOM2000

ROOM2030

Spain



Organisation



VIPASA

Spain



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# Sustainable Investment & market development

**IMPACT**  
Support solution  
demonstration  
& scaling



EU Innovation Finance Forum and guidelines to reduce investment risks with respect to innovation



Training on EU Taxonomy & knowledge on private financing to lower barriers for product developers



Find distributors & promote uptake of innovative product & solutions in new EU-markets



Recommendations for policy makers on accelerated uptake of innovation through green public procurement



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# Reduce investment risk and access to private financing


## EU INNOVATION FINANCE FORUM

Unlocking private innovation finance in clean tech and new business models in our buildings to increase EU competitiveness.



 **The forum aims to:**

- Reduce financing risks for innovation in green buildings, materials and services leveraging the Clean Industrial Deal, InnovationFund and InvestEU
- Build capacities amongst European innovators to access funding faster and more effectively

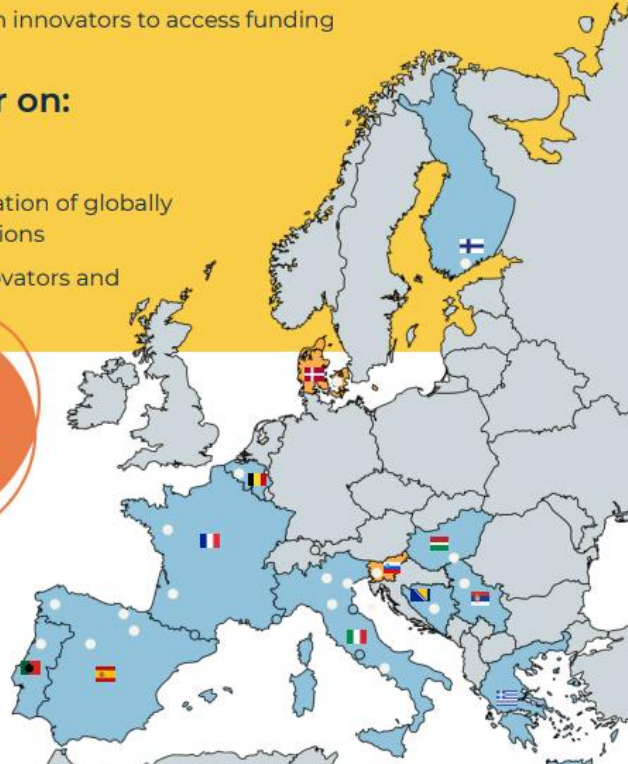
 **The forum will deliver on:**

- Experience-sharing
- Concept-building and implementation of globally applicable yet context-based solutions
- Practice-alignments between innovators and innovation financiers

**20+**  
innovation clusters

**6**  
roundtables

**15+**  
private innovation financiers



## 5 Roundtables planned with different topics :

November  
2025

February  
2026

May  
2026

September  
2026

November  
2026

**Data and digitalisation:** Solutions for smart, network-ready buildings

**Scalable modular green construction:** Prefabrication – modular construction - 3D printing – robotics & co-botics

**The retrofitting challenge:** new business models and solutions to retrofit the existing building stock into future-proofed resilient and decarbonised buildings

**Circular value chains:** Products and services for the re-use of building components and materials

**Green materials:** Financing innovation and the production of green cement, concrete, steel

**Resilient buildings:** Future-proofed buildings, climate risk assessment and reduced water consumption

**Bio-based and nature-based solutions:** Seeking and financing of products



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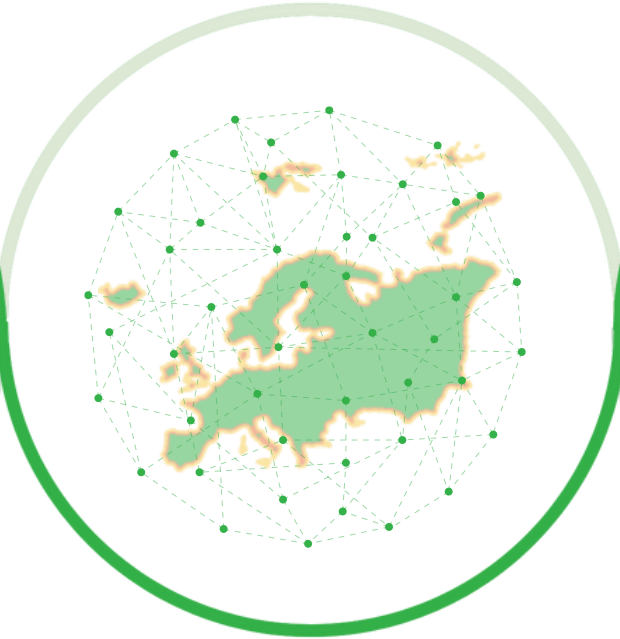
# What does STAR\*track offer to you and your members?

STAR\*track → B4PIC managers

Better knowledge on **finance**  
**regulation & available**  
**funding**



Access to a **community of**  
**interest** and best practice



Trainings and tools to  
support **impactful**  
**innovation**



Skills and knowledge to  
**increase members**  
**competitiveness**



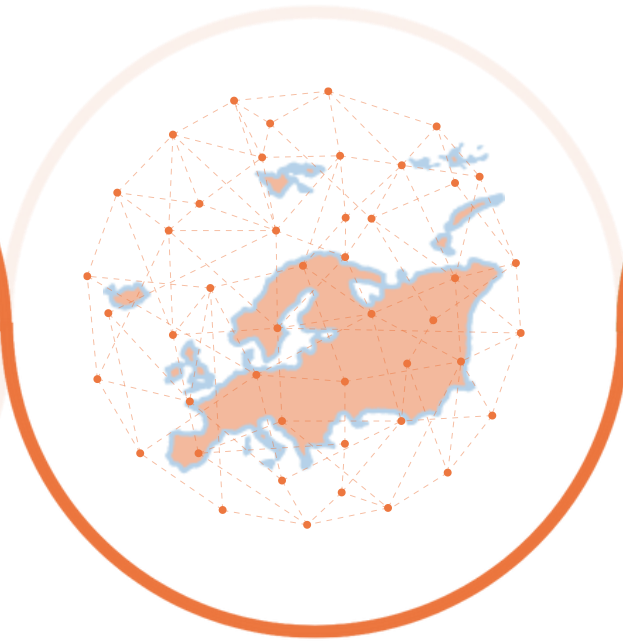
# What does STAR\*track offer to you and your members?

STAR\*track/B4PIC Managers → B4PIC Members

Access to **additional funding**  
for product development &  
demonstration



**International visibility for  
products & services** and  
access to European markets



Knowledge on innovation  
process and **access to tools  
& innovation experts**



**Knowledge on EU policies**  
providing strategic  
advantage & improved  
competitiveness at EU level



Learn more about STAR\*track !



Visit the [STAR\\*track website](#) for more information

#### Contacts

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# STAR\*track

A Built4People Project



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# Affordable Housing Initiative

Nerea Gómez Morán

Project & Policy Officer - ECTP

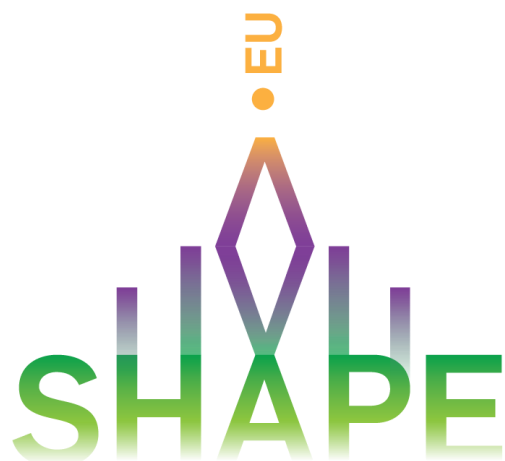


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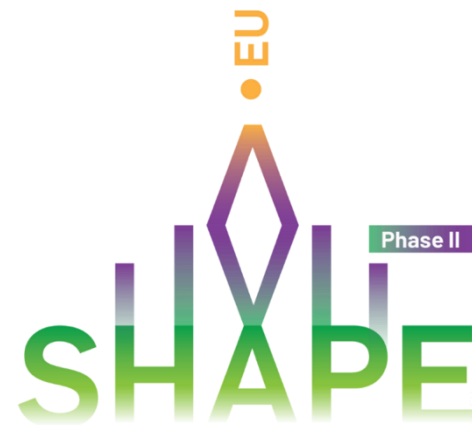
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# Affordable Housing Initiative



European Affordable  
Housing Consortium



Affordable Housing Initiative  
European Partnership



Co-funded by  
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# Affordable Housing Initiative - Context

The renovation wave:

- *supports new investments over a sustained period, starting with public and less efficient buildings;*
- ***spurs digitalisation and creates employment and growth opportunities across the renovation supply chain.***

As part of this strategy, the Affordable Housing Initiative:

- *works to make sure social and affordable housing facilities also benefit from the renovation wave;*
- *guarantee local social and affordable housing projects' access to necessary technical and innovation capacity and project support by:*



**Piloting 100 lighthouse renovation and construction districts** with a smart neighbourhood approach focused on energy efficiency, liveability and innovation, also providing blueprints for replication to support other projects across Europe;



**Mobilising cross-sectoral project partnerships** and linking them to local actors, such as social economy entities, SMEs active in the construction or renewable ecosystems, local authorities and bodies, housing associations, investors and civil society;



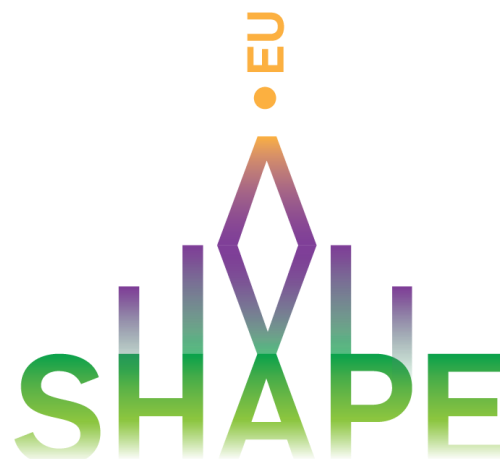
**Promoting efficient access and use of innovative processes** such as circular and modular building, production of renewable energy & engagement models to empower residents and local communities



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# What happened in Phase I?



**European Affordable  
Housing Consortium**



**Co-funded by  
the European Union**

*The European Affordable Housing Consortium, SHAPE-EU  
project has received funding from the European Union's Single  
Market Programme under Grant Agreement no. 101069909*



# European Affordable Housing Consortium (SHAPE-EU)

In 2022, ECTP and 9 committed partners were tasked by the European Commission with the **take-off of the European Affordable Housing Initiative** to:

- create a rich and diverse capacity-building programme providing a set of tools on **how to renovate homes for people and have a strong social impact on communities**;
- Invite peers with solid experience to meet and share in detail their renovation path.

The **European Affordable Housing Consortium** provided support to:

- meet the targets of the renovation wave aimed at affordable housing;
- deliver lighthouse renovation districts that include innovative features.

By providing **useful and reliable information** to:

- Housing providers;
- SMEs;
- Social enterprises;
- Public authorities;
- Suppliers.



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# What happened in SHAPE-EU?



**3 Blueprints** with tried and tested approaches:

- answering questions on how to plan and implement innovative renovations that leave no one behind
- helping public, cooperative, social housing providers, SMEs, and cities to answer their questions on the following topics:
  - *Project implementation and financial feasibility*
  - *Technology and digital applications*
  - *Social inclusiveness and liveability*



**22 Supported districts** from different corners of Europe that received tailored support for their renovation project.

**13 Mentors** helped local actors improve their renovation projects in one-to-one sessions.



**4 Study visits** helped about 40 public, cooperative, social housing providers, cities, and SMEs to understand from peers how projects have come to life.

**A Funding Simulator** that provides a snapshot of existing public and private finance that can be used for renovation projects at the district level.

**450+** engaged housing providers, cities, SMEs through conferences and trainings.

→ More information at <https://shape-affordablehousing.eu/>



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# What will happen in Phase II?



**Co-funded by  
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*The Affordable Housing Initiative European Partnership, SHAPE II  
is receiving funding from the European Union's Single Market  
Programme under Grant Agreement no. 101191186.*



# Affordable Housing Initiative European Partnership (SHAPE II)

Composed of 6 partners from different sectors, and building on their previous experience and resources, the **Affordable Housing Initiative European Partnership will foster the new construction or regeneration of social and affordable neighbourhoods**, by supporting organisations across Europe through a tailored and comprehensive learning programme (**Accelerator Programme**), which encompasses:

- financial and technical advisory,
- mentorship,
- study visits,
- and joint capacity building events (online classes, workshops, seminars, and webinars).

Underpinned in peer-to-peer sharing, the programme is designed to empower organisations with the knowledge, skills, and resources **to develop holistic and sustainable approaches that:**

- address **energy poverty**,
- promote **social inclusion**,
- ensure newly built or renovated housing units remain **affordable, innovative and inclusive**,
- and **reduce residential building-related greenhouse gas emissions**.



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*The Affordable Housing Initiative European Partnership, SHAPE II  
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**SINTEF**



**GNE FINANCE**



**ECTP**  
INNOVATIVE BUILT  
ENVIRONMENT



ENERGYCITIES



**Support Reference Points \***



**vito**  
vision on technology

**tecnal:a**  
MEMBER OF BASQUE RESEARCH  
& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE



Fondazione Housing Sociale



# What will happen in SHAPE II?



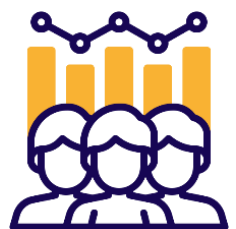
**Support 35 Lighthouse Districts across Europe** to showcase innovative housing renovations, providing tangible examples of success.



**Host practical workshops** to enable direct exchanges of best practices and solutions.

**Offer tailored seminars** for public, cooperative, and social housing providers, SMEs, and local authorities, focusing on integrated housing strategies.

**Organise study visits to EU neighbourhoods**, demonstrating effective technologies and methodologies.



**Deliver online classes and webinars** on renovation techniques, financing, and energy efficiency for EU experts.

**Engage the renovation community** in-person and online to exchange knowledge.

More information at <https://shape-affordablehousing.eu/>



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# Q&A



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DeCO<sub>2</sub>



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Dynamic Decarbonisation Pathways Framework Integrating Technological, Social, and  
Policy Innovations for Sustainable Renovations in the Built Environment

Filippos Anagnostopoulos  
IEECP



# *DeCO2 envisions a circular and sustainable decarbonised future for the European built environment*



**17  
PARTNERS**



**7 EU  
COUNTRIES**



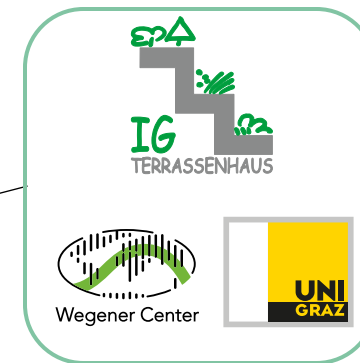
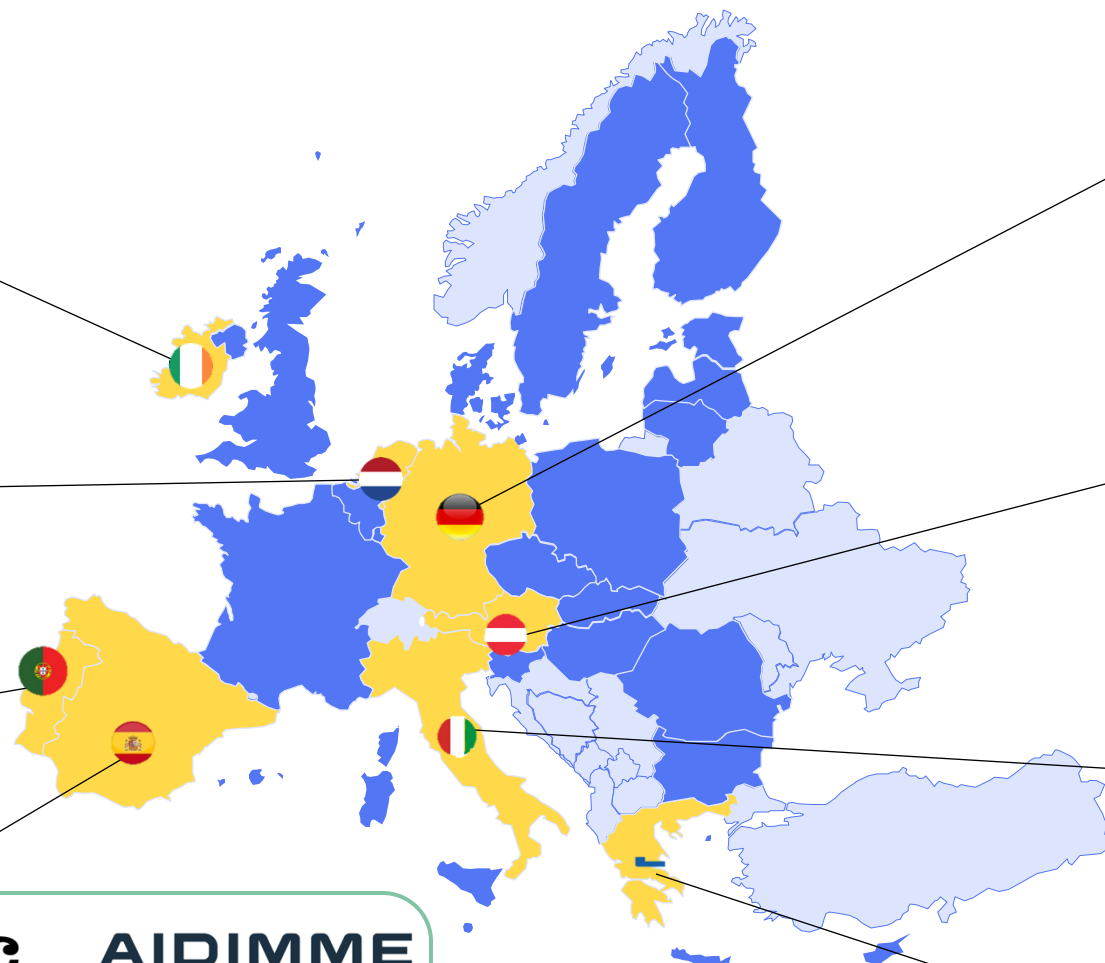
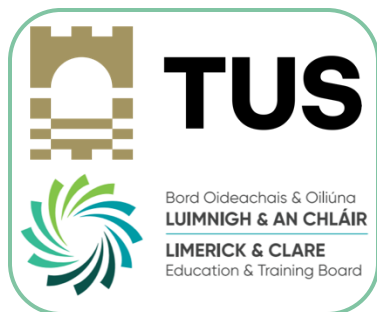
**48  
MONTHS**



**3  
DEMOS**



**€7 M  
FUNDING**



# DeCO2 Project Scope

*The project aims to improve the energy efficiency, circularity and sustainability of the built environment. DeCO2 will apply integrated approaches that demonstrate, in practice, achievable pathways for decarbonisation of the building stock.*

**Aim**

*This means developing and integrating*

- new **design techniques** allowing for deconstruction and reuse;*
- new products and **components** that can be **dismantled and reused**;*
- new **products** and components for construction works that **incorporate reused and recycled elements** and materials.*

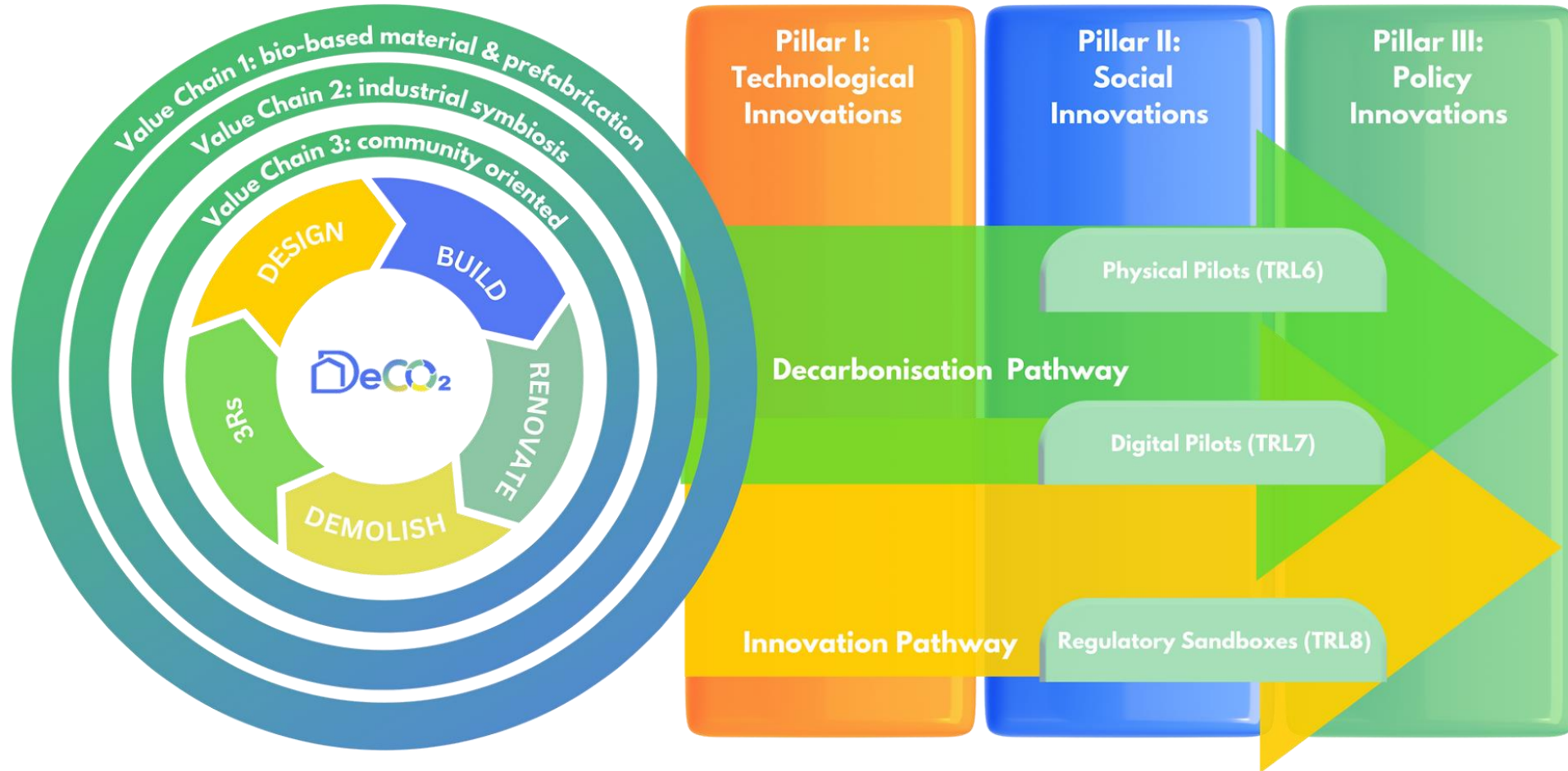
**Innovations**

The demonstration sites deploy and test technologies and enabling conditions through a **value chain approach** in:

planning, design, budgeting, procurement, construction practice, insurance, and related administrative and regulatory processes.

**Demos**

# DeCO2 Structure



# DeCO2 Project objectives

The project aims to improve the energy efficiency, circularity and sustainability of the built environment.

**O1: Implement circular and technological innovations towards the decarbonization of the built environment**, integrating new eco-friendly and recyclable material, cutting-edge digital manufacturing techniques and novel data-driven pathways across the value chain in three large-scale demonstrators.

**O2: Foster social innovation by people-centred and inclusive participatory process activities** for the development, implementation and post-occupancy assessment of sustainable renovation solutions.

**O3: Promote policy innovation by providing practical guidelines to public authorities** and policy makers on how to implement decarbonisation pathways, highlighting the challenges and enabling conditions to overcome them.

**O4: Demonstrate the effectiveness and viability of innovative digital solutions**, low disruptive construction and retrofitting processes on three physical demo cases.

**O5: Access the scalability and replicability of the demonstrated built environment decarbonization pathways for wider adoption**, by deploying innovative solutions across three Living Labs.

# DeCO2 Project innovations

## Technological innovations

- ❖ New design techniques allowing for **deconstruction** and optimization of secondary **material reuse**, **3D printing** with recycled/excavated materials.
- ❖ New products and components for construction works made of **bio-based materials** (e.g., use of plant-based adhesives).
- ❖ **Material passport** and traceability.
- ❖ Construction **database** with LCA indicators construction price bank, evolution of the prices of materials and BIM catalogue of constructive elements.

## Social innovation

- ❖ Living Labs (LLs) as a real-world testbed where fast-tracking sustainable renovation solutions are implemented, evaluated, and showcased, while also informing replication strategies, influencing policies, and fostering community engagement and learning.

## Policy innovation

- ❖ **Reduce time to market** through the adoption of **regulatory sandboxes** and innovation testing and certification, ensuring compliance with industry standards and enabling a faster path to market.



## Demo 1: Limerick City, Ireland (TUS)



- Bio-based fully recyclable composites
- Mycelium and breathable adhesives to sequester carbon
- Green roof testing integrating various waste products and green vegetation
- Circular and cost-effective way for scalability
- Practical retrofitting and circular guidelines for the construction industry and building owners (TUS & Fraunhofer IBP)

## Demo 2: Castelló Municipal Library, Valencia, Spain (IVE)



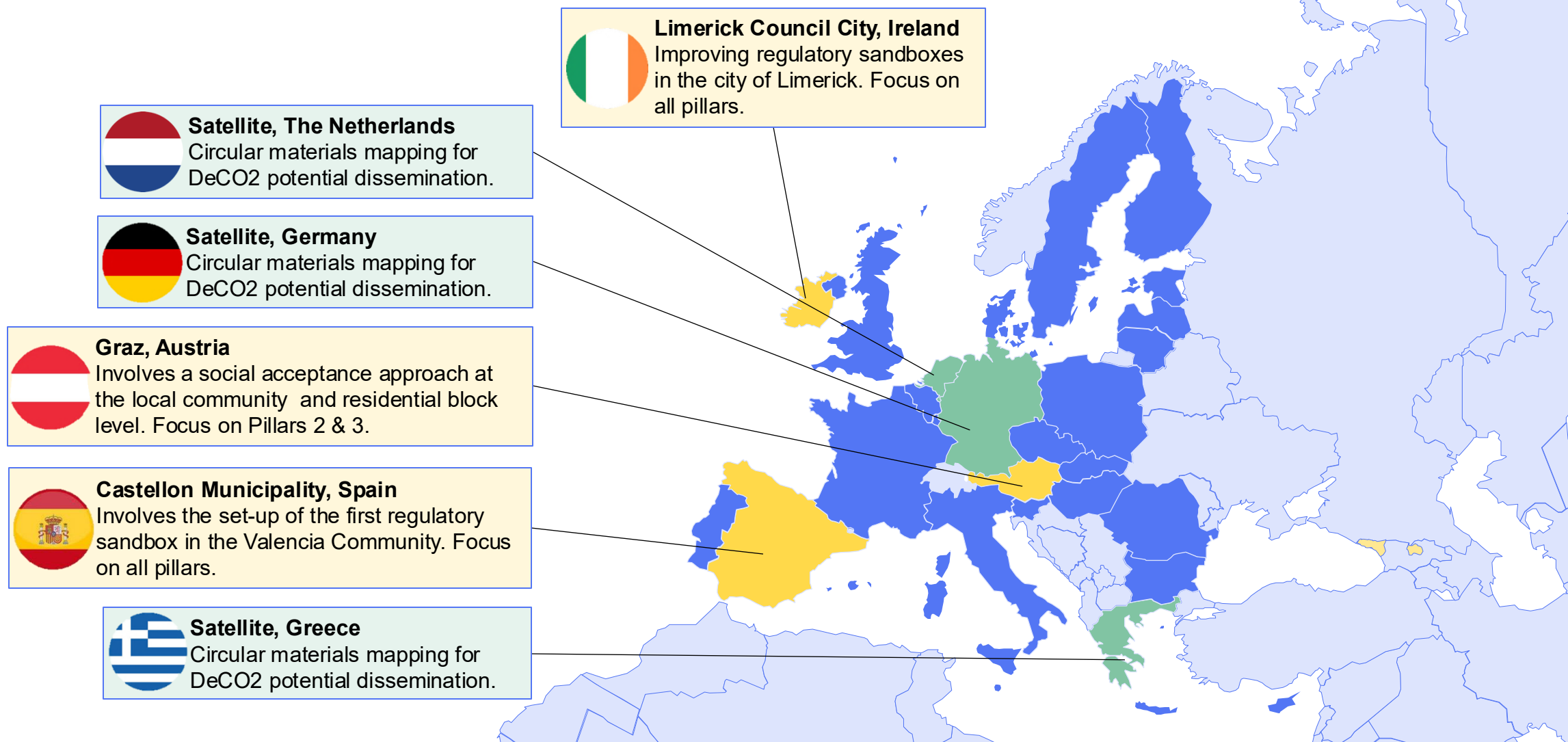
- A circular ecosystem involving two buildings: a historical library in the city of Castellón under renovation as a material supplier, and an experimental building to be constructed on the UPV campus.
- Library for controlled dismantling
- Digital Twin
- Material Passport library
- Innovative recycled construction products
- Mosaic floor and 3D-printed walls made from ceramic
- Regulatory sandbox

## Demo 3: Graz-St. Peter, Austria (UGR)



- Terrassenhaussiedlung (THS) in Graz, Austria represents participatory residential architecture of post-war modernism
- A multifaceted system with roof gardens and terraces provides 530 private owned apartments within four buildings situated around a car-free courtyard
- 4 buildings in exposed concrete construction 8-14 storeys
- 530 apartments of various sizes
- Multiple planted roof gardens and terraces
- Car-free inner courtyard with an underground car park
- Policy, regulatory and community-based piloting scenarios will be carried out

# DeCO2 Regulatory sandboxes & satellites



# DeCO2 selected KPIs

- **10 innovative solutions for the sustainability of the built environment value chain**, using circular materials and techniques will be demonstrated in demo cases: circular & bio-based prefabricated systems, ceramic robotic recycling, 3D printing with recycled materials, bio-based insulation materials and plant-based adhesives, SLA and FDM 3D printing of bio-based prefabricated products.
- **7 innovative services/technologies** developed and demonstrated in demo cases: material passports & traceability solutions, BIM-based building digital twins, toolbox of circular information access technologies, regulatory sandboxes, building scanning/analysis & material database, GOM 3D scanning survey methodology of existing building elements, and a dynamic ecosystem incubator to leverage stakeholders and resources.
- **3 Living Labs** (LLs) established within the built environment to create more sustainable, resilient, and people-centred renovation solutions: Limerick, Graz, and Valencia
- **Over 100 stakeholders** engaged in co-creation process, **over 100 households** engaged towards sustainability and **200 AEC professionals** (architectural, engineering and construction) trained and informed through workshops, webinars, regulatory sandboxes and LLs.

# DeCO2 Project key results

- Increased number of options for built-environment **decarbonization pathways towards zero-emission buildings** considering the whole value chain at local or regional level.
- Increased **engagement and participation of the whole value chain in local and regional innovation clusters.**
- **Reduced time from first demonstration to market** of sustainable renovation solutions.
- **Increased awareness and improved access at a local or regional level** to information on construction products for reuse and circular businesses.
- Creation of **new business opportunities with reduced risk for investment in the circular economy.**

# DeCO2 contribution to the build4 people objectives

## *A. Develop holistic solutions in a systemic approach*

The Dynamic Decarbonization Pathways Framework integrates technology, policy, and social innovations using digital twins and collaborative design methods to address the built environment's full lifecycle.

## *B. Demonstrate overall performance in the life-cycle perspective*

Life Cycle Assessment tools will assess environmental impacts in Living Labs in Limerick, Graz, and Valencia validating lifecycle improvements in energy and material efficiency for real-world application.

## *C. Demonstrate clean energy transition potential*

Digital twins and energy efficiency technologies accelerate the shift to clean energy, supporting scalable renewable integration and optimising real-time building energy use.

## *D. Demonstrate sector decarbonization pathways*

Sector-specific decarbonisation is demonstrated in urban Living Labs through tailored solutions, supported by policy-aligned innovation roadmaps and real-world decarbonisation strategies.

## *E. Demonstrate sustainable, circular business and value chain*

The project promotes circularity (e.g. through Product-as-a-Service models) and engages value chain actors, aiming for reduced resource use and waste across sustainable renovations and products.

## *F. Demonstrate affordability and cost-effectiveness*

Cost-benefit analyses within Living Labs and standardisation efforts ensure affordability, making scalable energy solutions more viable for widespread adoption.

## *G. Demonstrate no trade-offs on economy, comfort, health, functions, cultural heritage*

Heritage-sensitive renovations in Graz maintain cultural integrity, while technology integration improves indoor health, comfort, and efficiency without compromising essential building functions.



# Thank you

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Filippos Anagnostopoulos - [filippos@ieecp.org](mailto:filippos@ieecp.org)

IEECP – Institute for European Energy and Climate Policy



# SINCERE



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# The Second Life of Modern Period Architecture

*Resilient and adaptive renovation  
towards net-zero carbon heritage  
buildings*



## *SINCERE's approach and technologies towards sustainable renovation, inclusive, and climate- resilient housing*

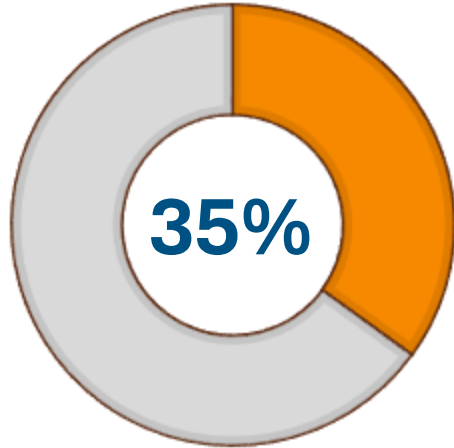
**Ioannis Karatasios, E. Tziviloglou**

Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology  
NCSR Demokritos - (Project Coordinator)

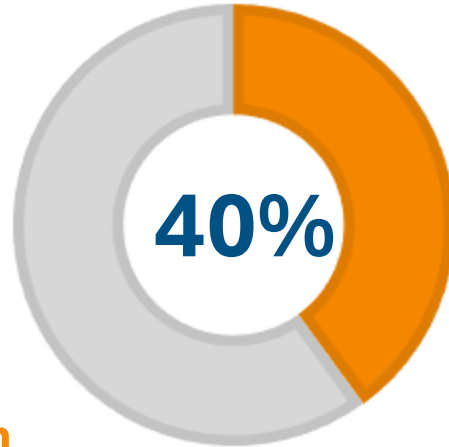
# Facts about EU buildings stock

all existing buildings should be transformed into **zero-emission buildings** by 2050

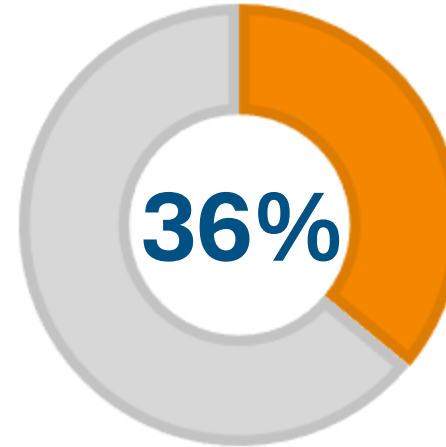
% over 50 years old



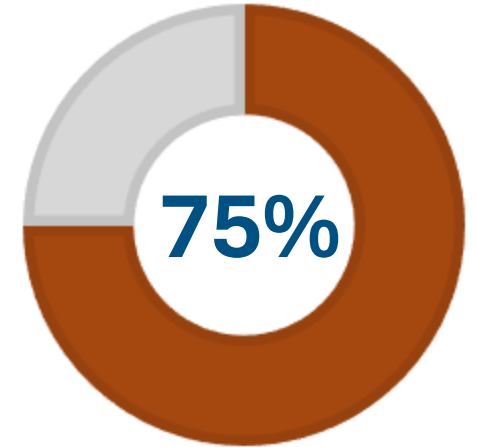
% of EU energy consumption



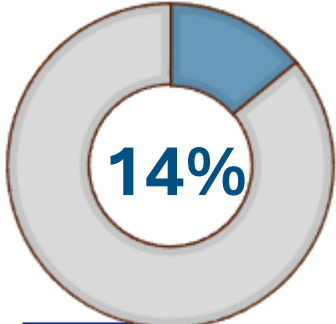
% of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions



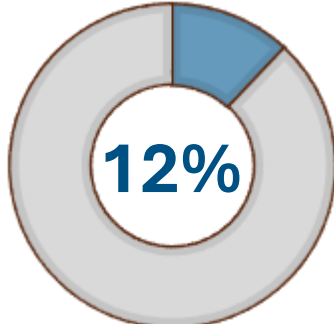
% of energy inefficient buildings



% before 1919

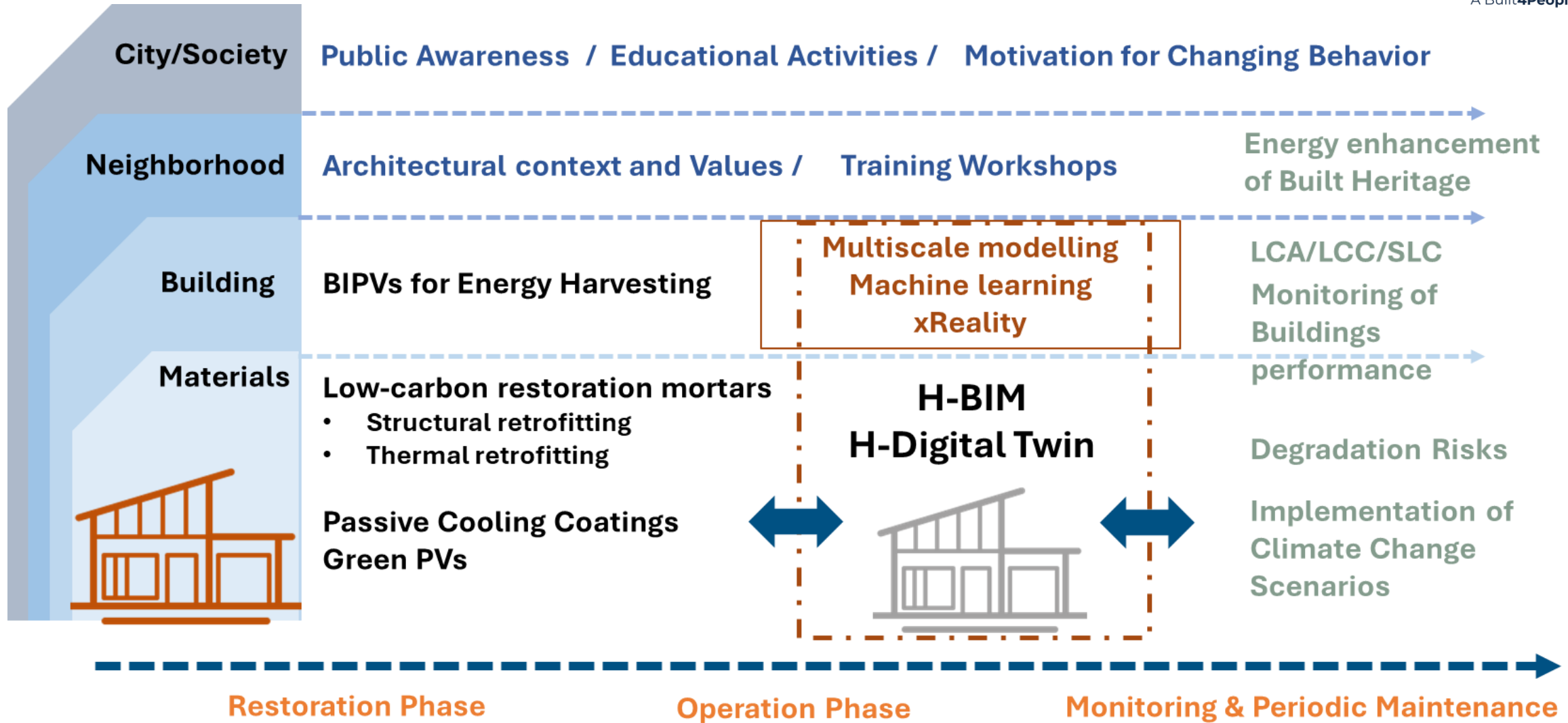


% between 1919-45



**Sources:** Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)  
A. Troi, International Conference Energy Management in Cultural Heritage, 2011  
F. Ascione et al, Energy Procedia, 140 (2017), pp. 194-206

# SINCERE scales & phases



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The STAR\*track project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101147509.

# Different scales of SINCERE project

## Materials' scale

Design, Synthesis  
& Development

Lab-scale  
Testing

Development & optimization of  
**functional**  
**conservation/renovation**  
**mortars** for **thermal** and  
**structural** retrofitting, with low-  
environmental footprint

## Buildings' & neighborhood scale

Field Application,  
Demonstration,  
Evaluation

Citizens  
Engagement,  
Participation &  
Training

Field demonstration,  
testing/evaluation,  
engagement of stakeholders,  
asking for feedback on  
renovation dilemmas,  
creating awareness

## EU/Society scale

### OUTCOMES - IMPACT

Benefits for:  
Built Heritage, EU Society  
Building Owners, Users,  
Industry, Environment,

Developing & offering new  
products, contributing in  
TCs and Standardization  
bodies,  
enabling **transition to nZEB**



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# SINCERE Objectives - Public engagement

## Objective 1

Transform CH buildings to a **key actor and main stage for raising stakeholders' and citizens' awareness** on renovation/reuse concept, as a circular economy element to tackle climate change.

## Objective 7

**Validation of SINCERE technologies** at 4 demonstration sites - Pilots, in Spain, Greece, Israel and Czech Republic, and assessment of societal, economic, and scientific impact.



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# SINCERE Objectives - Digital Tools

## Objective 2

Development of a smart interoperable platform integrating **H-BIM / H-DT and immersive XR technologies** to provide the digital tools for sustainable renovation and retrofitting of CH buildings.

## Objective 6

Understanding the **multi-scale and multi-physics behaviour** of high-performance repair mortars and developing **fast-running numerical design tools** to achieve whole-life carbon savings.



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# SINCERE Objectives - Materials for Sustainable Buildings

## Objective 3

Reduction of **environmental impact during restoration** and maintenance, by developing low-energy and low-carbon restoration mortars, with enhanced compatibility and service life.

## Objective 4

Reduction of **energy demands during operation** of the restored CH buildings due to passive cooling, enhancement of building thermal performance and enhancement of the service life of repair mortars and of heritage building.

## Objective 5

Enabling solar **energy harvesting during building operation**, with green, low-cost, large area fully sustainable building integrated photovoltaics (BIPVs.)

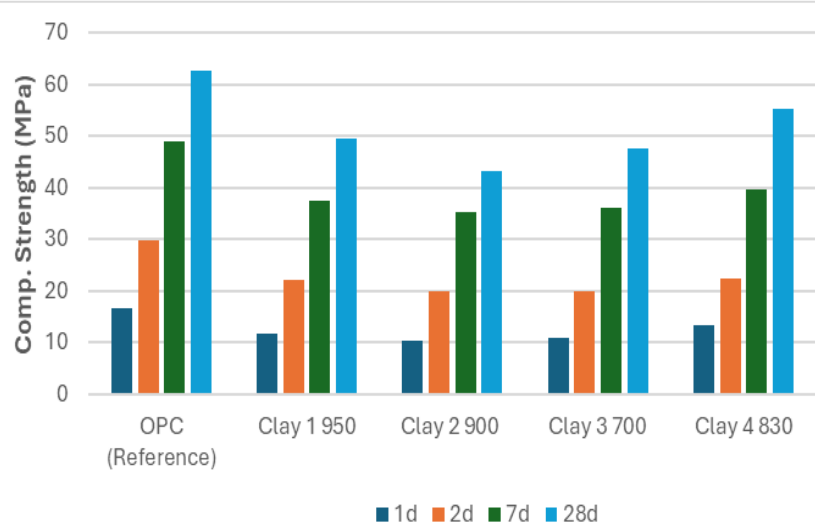


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the European Union

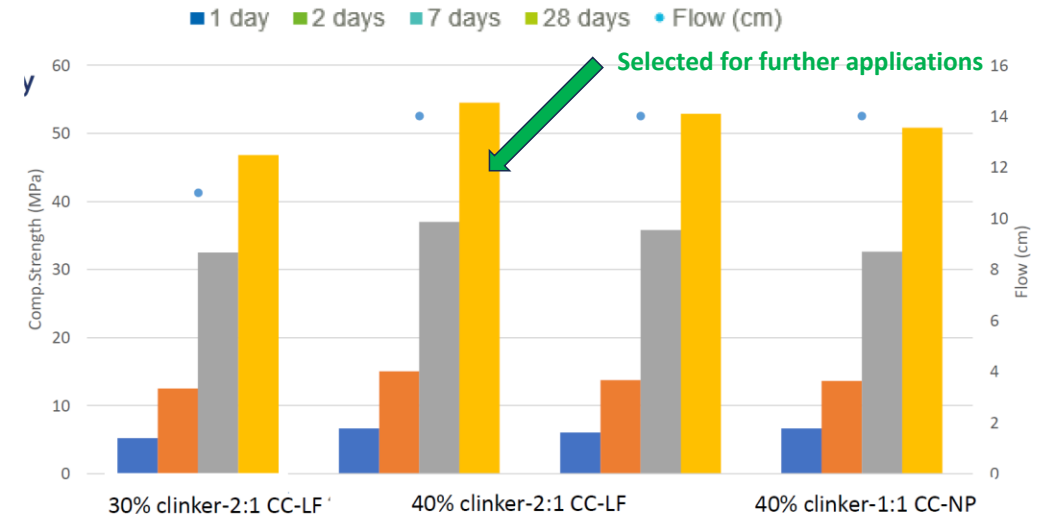
The STAR\*track project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101147509.

# Low-CO2/ environmentally friendly binders

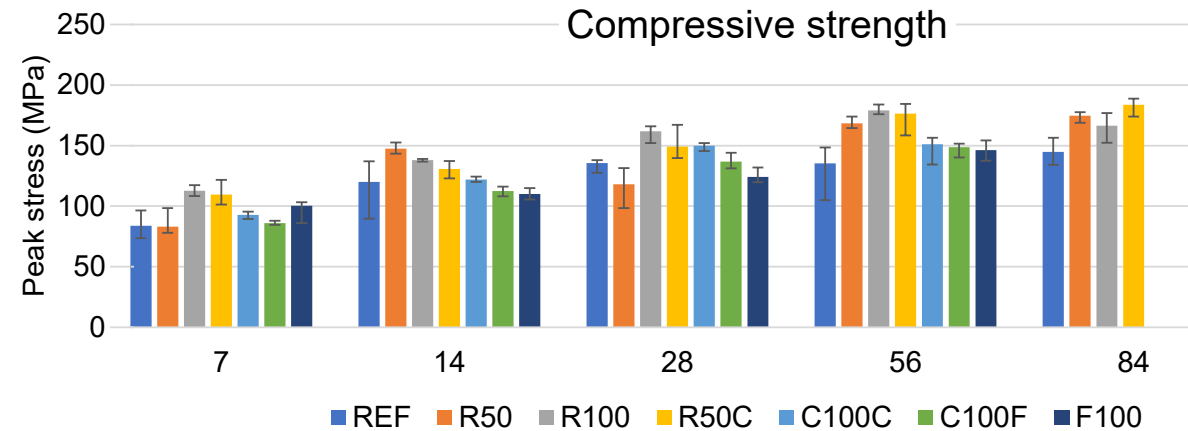
Lime Calcined  
Clay Cements  
(LC3)



High Pozzolan/  
low Clinker  
binders



Recycled  
Concrete  
binders



Funded by  
the European Union

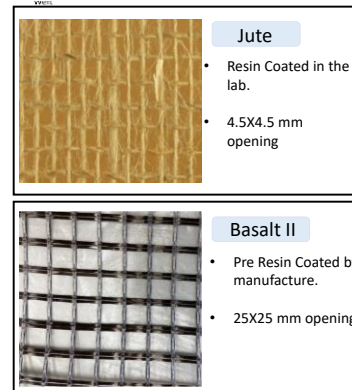
The STAR\*track project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101147509.

# Structural retrofitting mortars (extended service life)

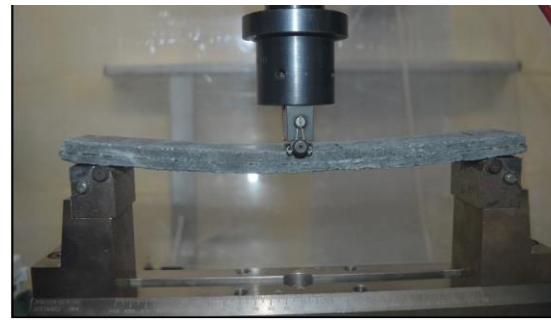
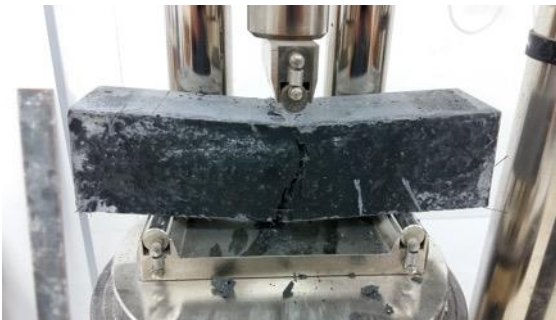
Ultra Hi  
Performance  
Concrete  
(UHPC)



Textile  
Reinforced  
Mortars  
(TRM)



Self-healing  
Admixtures



Flexural test



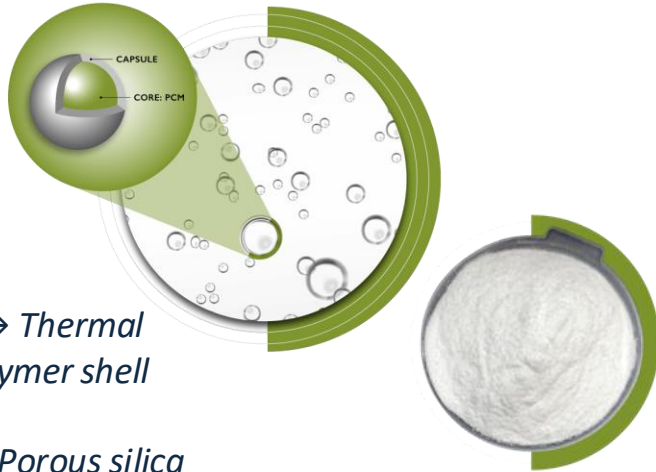
Funded by  
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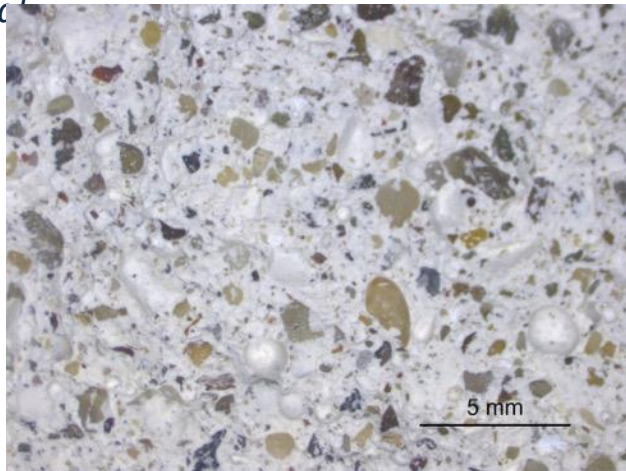
# Thermal retrofitting mortars (energy savings)

## Phase Change Materials (PCMs)

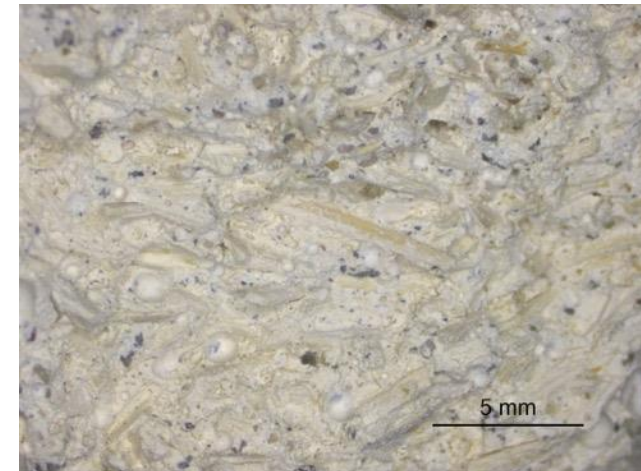


*Top: Microencapsulated PCM → Thermal core (e.g., paraffin) inside a polymer shell*

*Right: Silica-supported PCM → Porous silica matrix holding phase-change material*



## Hemp mortars



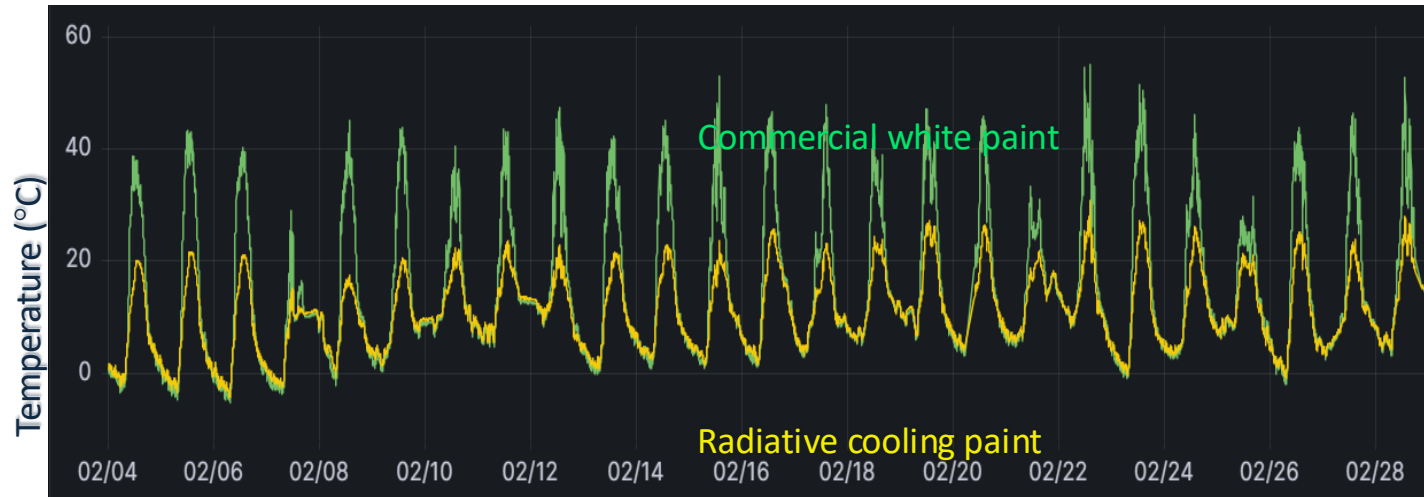
# Passive/ Radiative cooling coatings (energy saving)

High emissivity/  
High reflectivity  
coatings



**PFAS\*-free, highly durable, water-based primer-topcoat system for high solar reflectivity and thermal emissivity.**

\* Per- Polyfluoroalkyl substances



Sample name	Pigment (v%)	Thickness (µm)	Reflectivity (%)	Emissivity (%)
1	55%	200	90.1	94.1
2	55%	400	91.4	95.0
3	55%	600	92.7	96.3



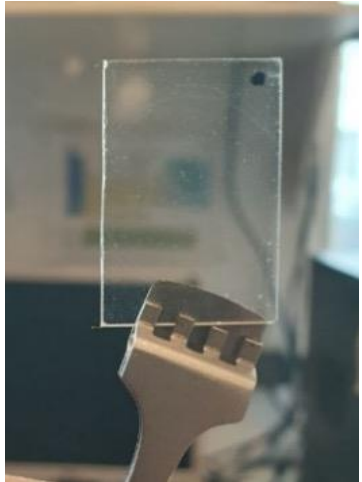
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# Energy Harvesting (reduction of energy demands)

Sustainable &  
Transparent  
BIPVs



Cellulose-based  
electrodes



Funded by  
the European Union



**23.3% power  
conversion efficiency  
achieved in Madrid site**

**PV panels in  
Madrid site**

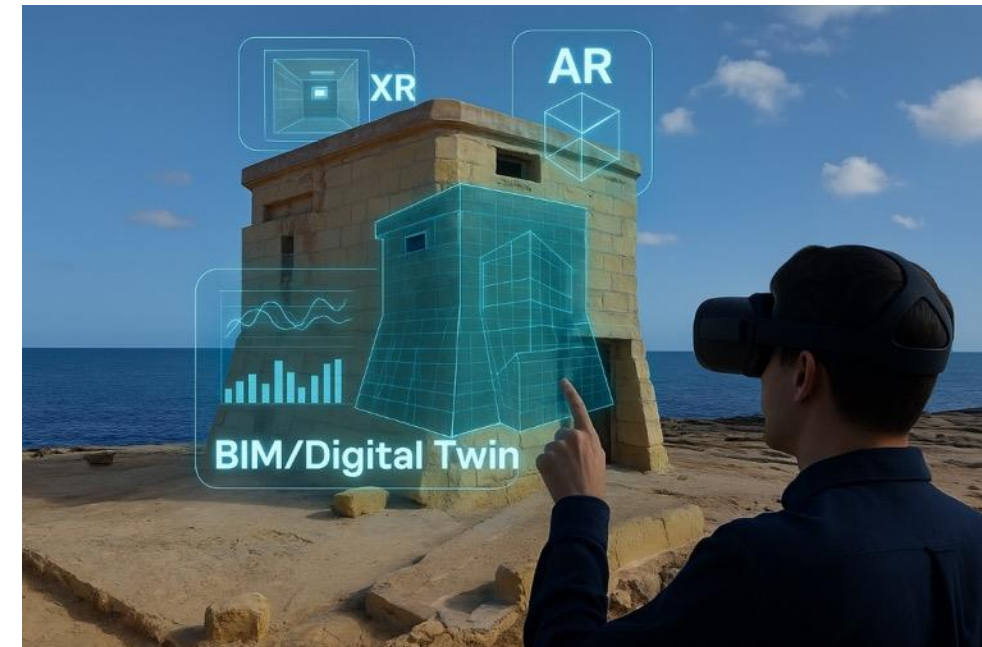


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# Digital Tools for Managing & Planning Renovations

H-BIM / Digital  
Twin

XR tools



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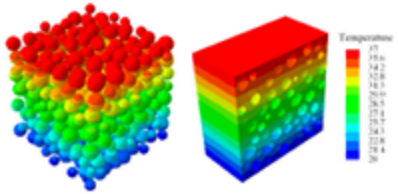
# Digital Tools for Informed Renovation Decisions

Finite Elements  
Models (FEM)

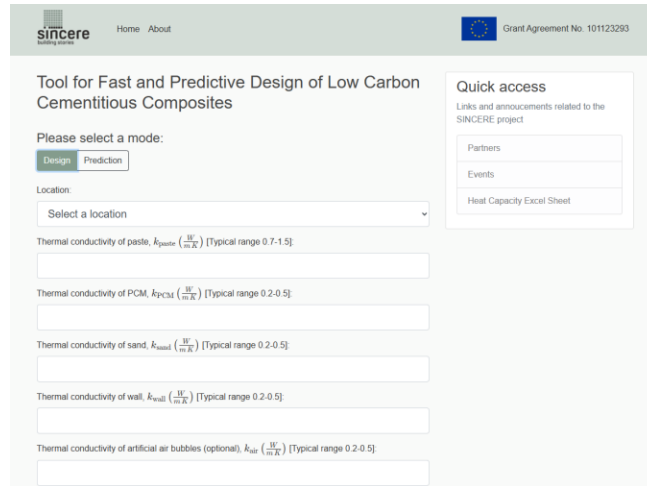
Fast prediction  
tools

High Resolution  
Future Climate  
Models & Risks

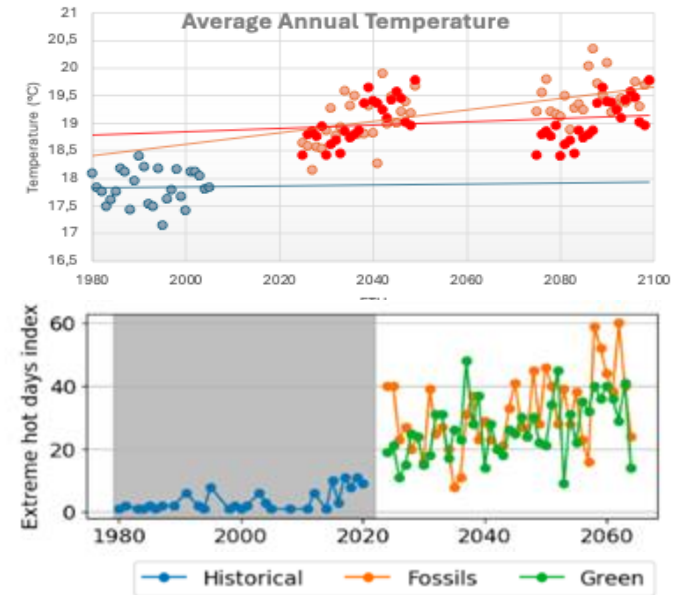
Building Energy  
Models (BEM)



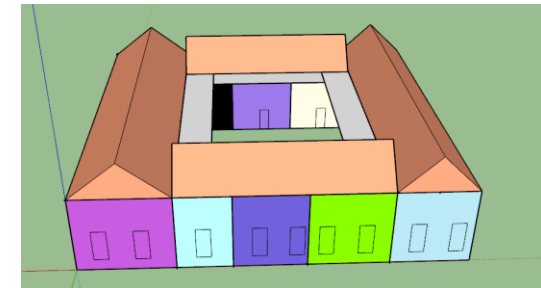
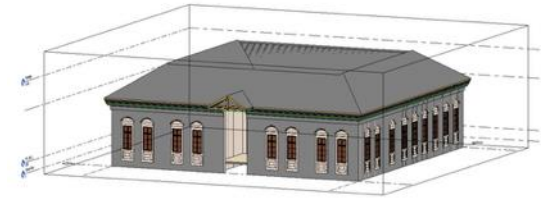
Optimization of  
Materials Properties



Optimization of  
Repair Mortars  
Mix Design



Microclimate & Building Environment

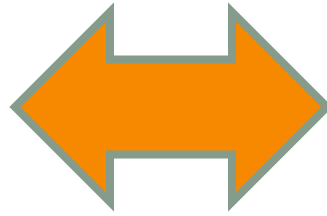


Energy Performance Scenarios

# SINCERE approach on Buildings Renovation

## Repair Plan

- Architectural analysis
- Historic phases of building
- Technological data on building and decorative materials
- Types of building materials & mortars
- Weathering parameters and degradation mechanism
- Environmental setup & microclimate
- Technical requirements
- Performance requirements

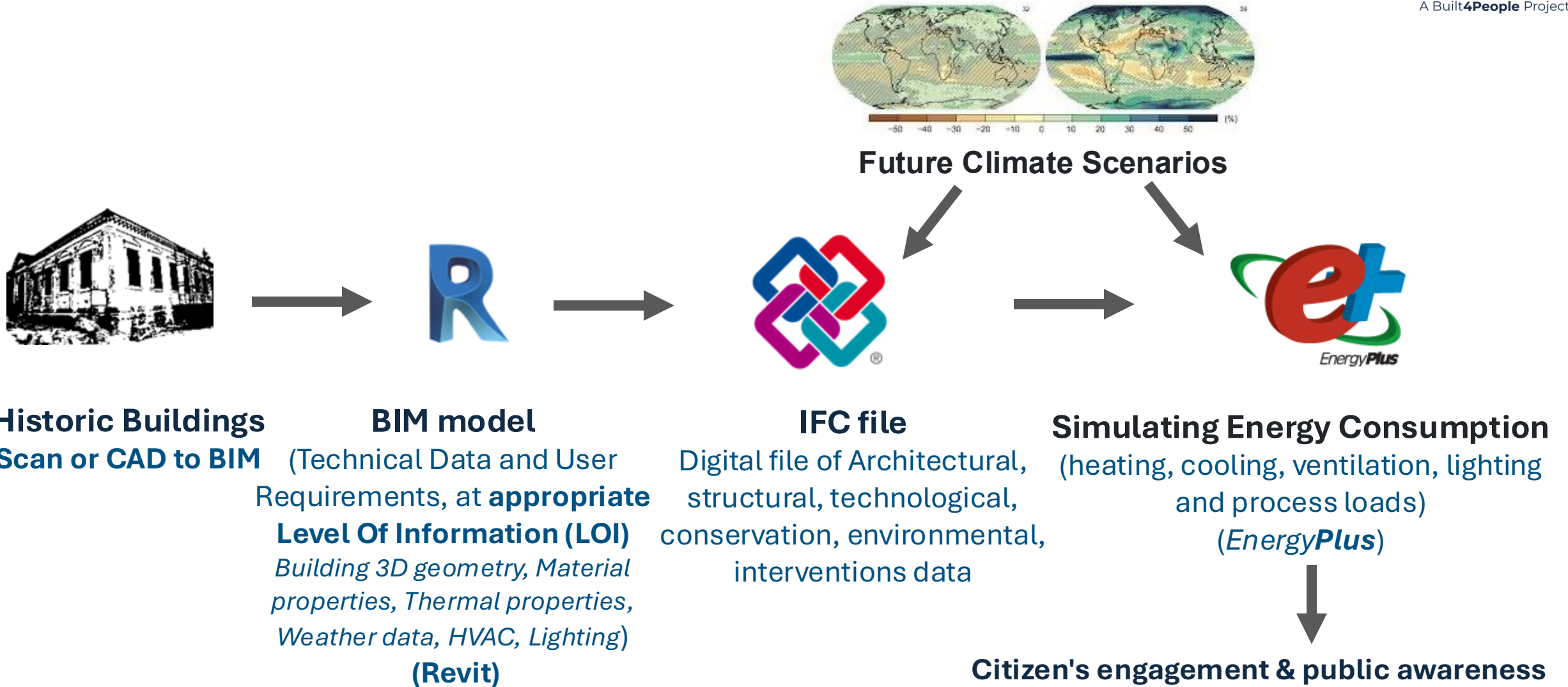


## Environmental footprint of Buildings

- Energy consumption during production of **raw materials**
- Service life of building materials/ **mortars**
- Thermal performance of **mortars/building**
- **Future climate scenarios & local conditions**
- **Energy consumption/ harvesting of buildings**



# SINCERE methodology for informed decisions



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# Example 01 - Energy savings in Rhodes/Greece

Scenario	Description	Annual Energy consumption (kWh)	kWh/m2	Savings
NMR S4	2cm Mortar+PCM in external walls	30069.47	39.78	16.7%
NMR S5	2cm Mortar+PCM in ceiling	30036.11	39.73	16.8%
NMR S6	2cm Mortar+PCM in external walls and ceiling	26586.11	35.17	26.4%

*Rhodes - NMR Building Scenarios Annual Energy Consumption Results*

# Example 02 - Energy savings in Madrid/Spain



## Cooling Paint Effect:

- Estimated cooling load reduction: ~25%
- Total building energy savings:  
 $40\% \times 25\% = \sim 10\%$



## Solar Panel Output:

- $5.5 \text{ kWh/m}^2/\text{day} \times 100 \text{ m}^2 \times 15\%$   
 $= 82.5 \text{ kWh/day} \approx 30,000 \text{ kWh/year}$
- Offsets ~30% of energy use



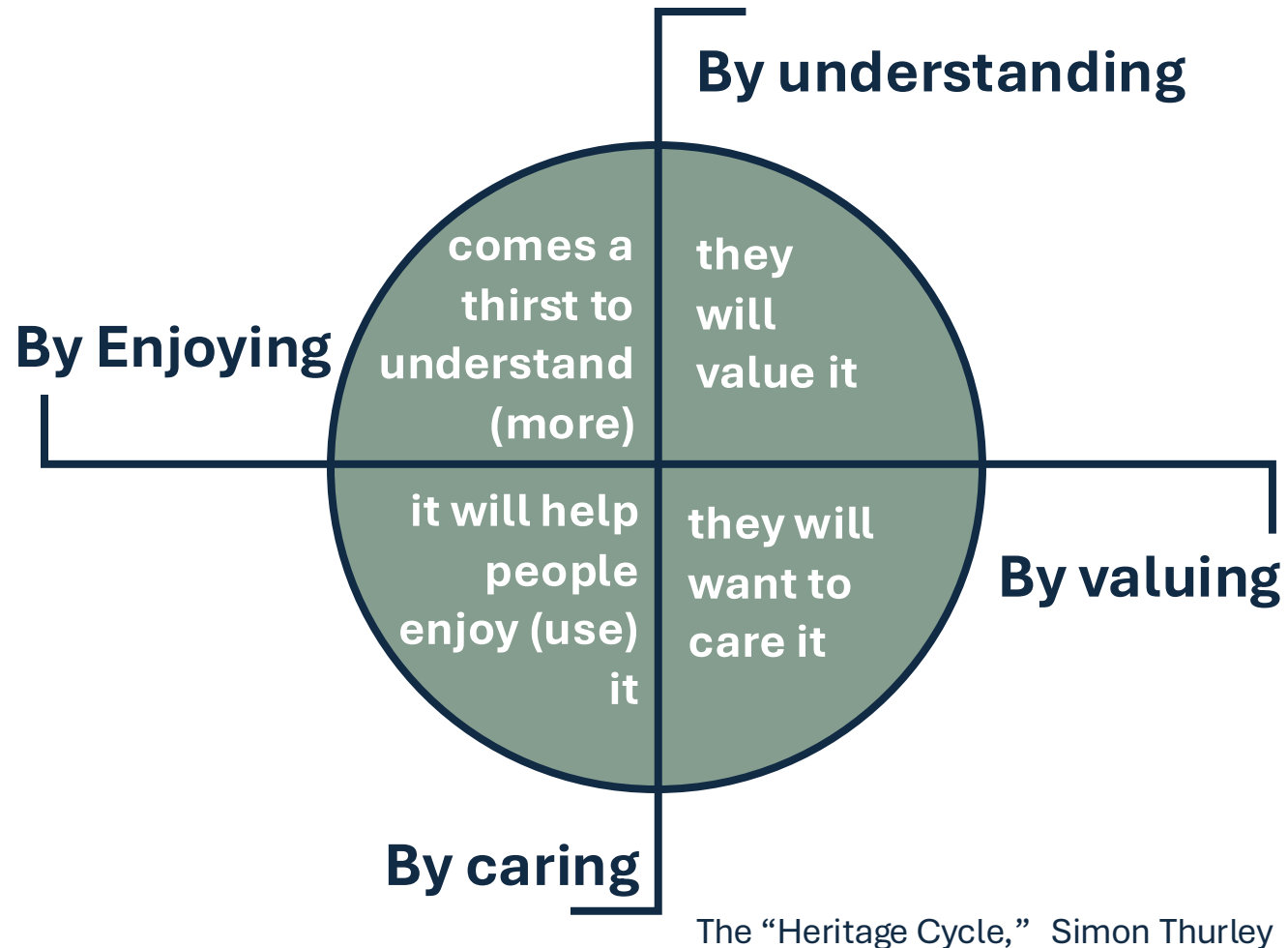
**Total Estimated Reduction: ~ 40%**



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# Citizen's engagement and adaptation of new technologies



The "Heritage Cycle," Simon Thurley

## Informing, training, creating awareness on:

- New types of Building and Restoration Materials
- Climate change scenarios and impact
- Digital tools that can support informed decisions
- Social, environmental and economic impact



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# Inform, demonstrate, train/educate, engage, call for action

Citizen's  
engagement  
activities

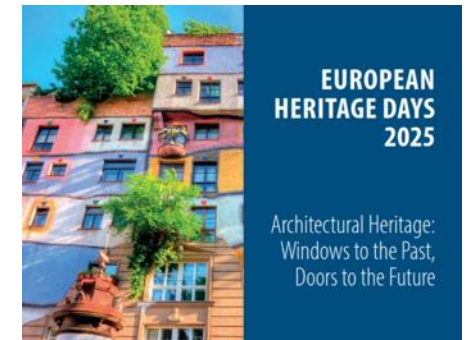
Public  
Awareness  
actions

*Catch up with the SINCERE  
video reports, interviews, and more!*



Technical &  
Educations  
Workshops

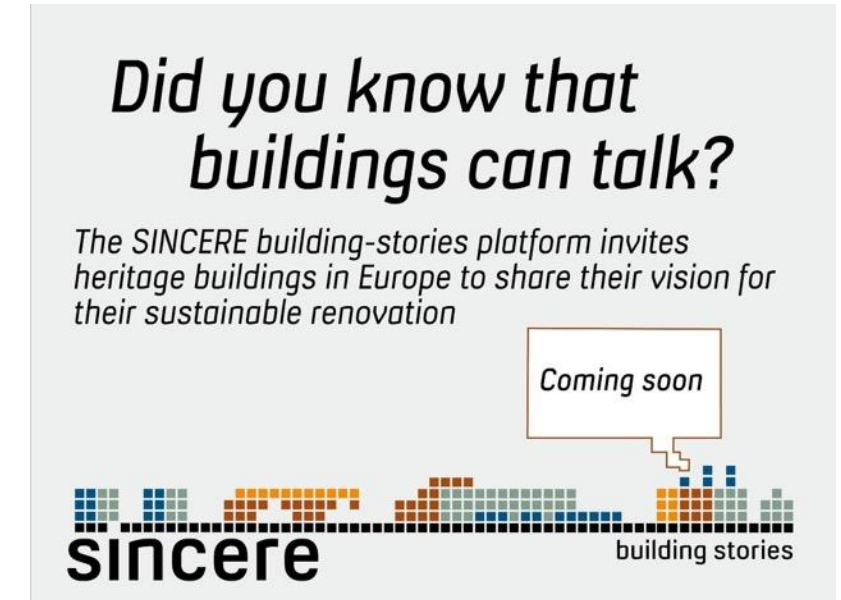
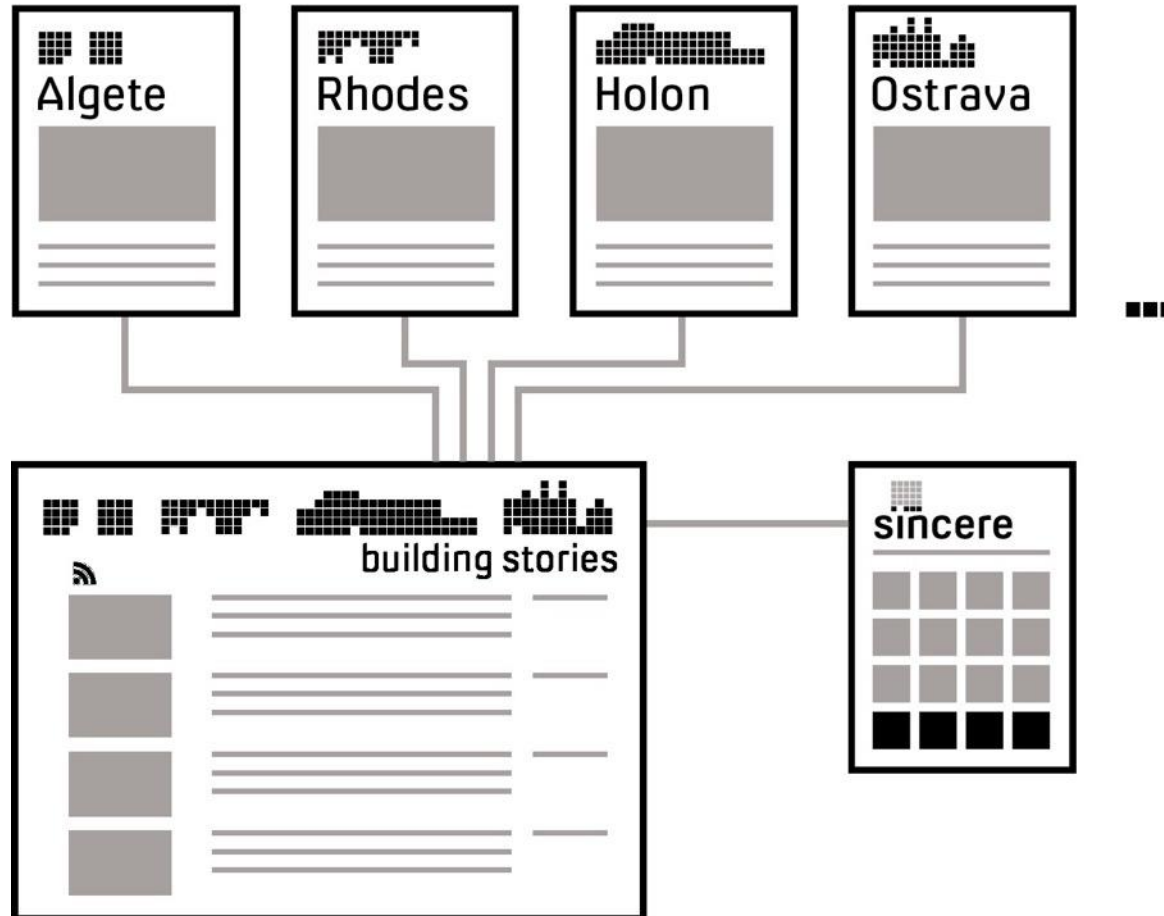
Scientific  
Publications



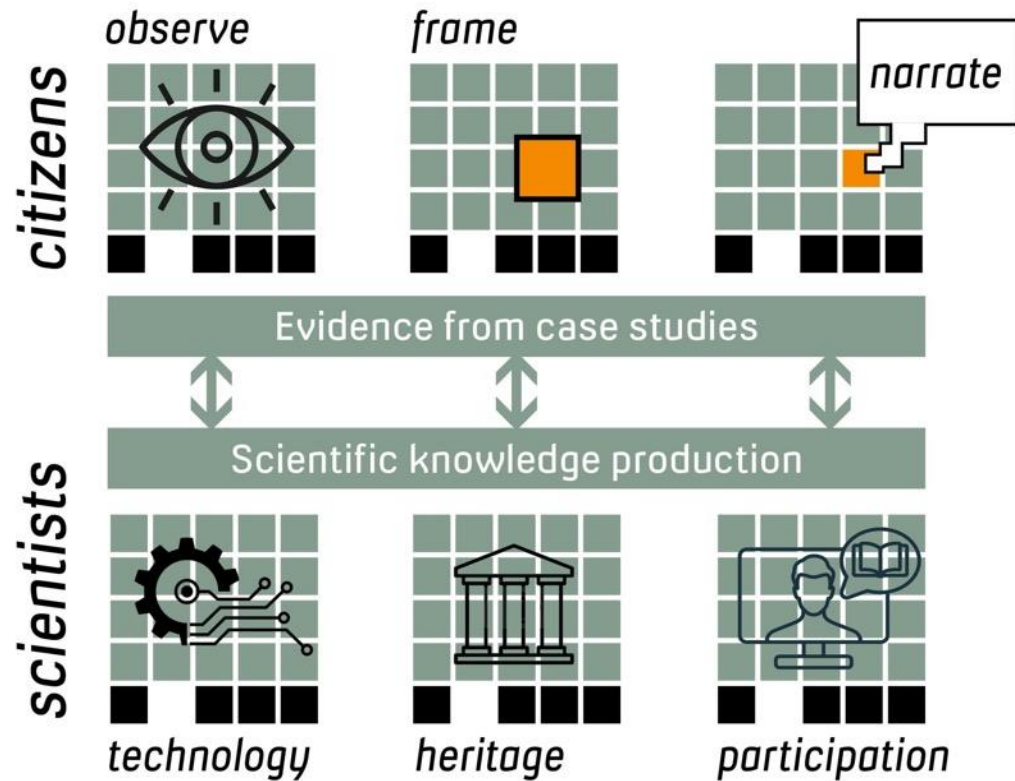
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# Public engagement Activities - Building stories



# Public engagement Activities - Building stories



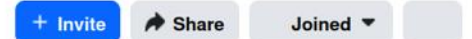
## Συνομιλώντας με τα Ιστορικά Κτίρια της Ρόδου



## Συνομιλώντας Με τα Ιστορικά Κτίρια της Ρόδου

~~

Public group - 223 members





# Participation/ organization of Conference sessions

## #SINCERE

## Sessions

*Join the SINCERE partners in a variety of events and workshops*



**05.05.2025**  
**Athens, Greece**



**05.11.2025**  
**Vienna, Austria**



**03.09.2025**  
**Padova, Italy**

+ Cluster event

+ Exhibition



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# International design workshops (Xanthi)

## **Spirit of Material - Building Sustainability: From Sustainable Design to Circular Economy & Talking Buildings**

**International Student Workshop**

29 March - 03 April 2025  
Xanthi, Greece

Hosted by DUTh,  
Department of Architecture



# Advanced Materials workshop (Athens)

16-18.07.2025 @ Athens, Greece



## SINCERE conference & advanced workshop 2025

A 3-day international conference and advanced workshop for conservation, architecture and engineering professionals titled "Innovative & Sustainable Mortars for Structural and Thermal Retrofitting of 20th Century Buildings".



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# Innovation booklet (professional guide)

- For each SINCERE innovation:
  - Short description
  - **Performance evaluation metrics**
  - Innovation
  - Experimentation
  - Tangible outcomes
    - ◆ Who should care, and why?

## Hempcrete Innovation card

Lime-Hemp Concrete (LHC), also known as Hempcrete, is an innovative sustainable building insulation material based on bio-aggregates made of hemp shives, mixed with lime binder.



The card features a central image of hempcrete blocks and a textured surface. Surrounding this are several icons and labels: 'XR App', 'H-DT', 'Citizen Science', 'Heritage Impact', 'Design Models', 'Hempcrete', 'Hempcrete@SINCERE', 'Preservation', 'Modern Use', 'Cost', 'Low CO2 Emissions', and 'Technological innovations Requirements Modelling Dissemination'.

**Opportunities and challenges**

Typically, Hempcrete has good thermal and acoustic insulation capabilities, but low mechanical performance, specifically compressive strength. Hempcrete's mechanical properties, when used in prefabricated blocks specifically, act as a carbon sink throughout its lifetime.

**Performance evaluation: It depends!**

**PRESERVATION**  
Authenticity, repair, maintenance

**MODERN USAGE:**  
Comfort, safety, inclusivity

**SUSTAINABILITY**  
CO2 emissions, energy consumption

**COST**  
Monetary cost, resource availability, sustainability

**Innovation**


In SINCERE, we develop new hempcrete solutions but also a methodology for evaluating their suitability in specific contexts, and the training of local professionals for its application.

**Experimentation**

PILOTS: Algete, Rhodes, and Ostrava.  
TEST PARAMETERS: humidity, temperature

**Tangible outcome**

Tangible outcome A comprehensive list of parameters that need to be taken into account for the choice of the right hempcrete solutions and applications processes depending on the needs and requirements of the specific site.

 **sincere**  
building stories



# Participation in Exhibitions/Fairs

## RILEM 2026 Spring Convention

13-17 April 2026, Ghent, Belgium

Innovative Construction Materials and Processes for Sustainable Buildings and Infrastructure



**Prof. Liberato Ferrara**  
*Politecnico di Milano, Italy*

**A holistic approach to material concept and structural design with advanced cement based materials: a pathway to the decarbonisation of the built environment**



EN English

Search

## Newsroom

[New European Bauhaus](#) | [Topics](#) | [Archives](#)

[OVERVIEW](#) > [COMMUNITY UPDATE](#)

## The Festival of the New European Bauhaus is returning

/

Organized by IEG

04-07 November 2025 Rimini Expo Centre, Italy

IT EN

**ECOMONDO**  
The green technology expo.

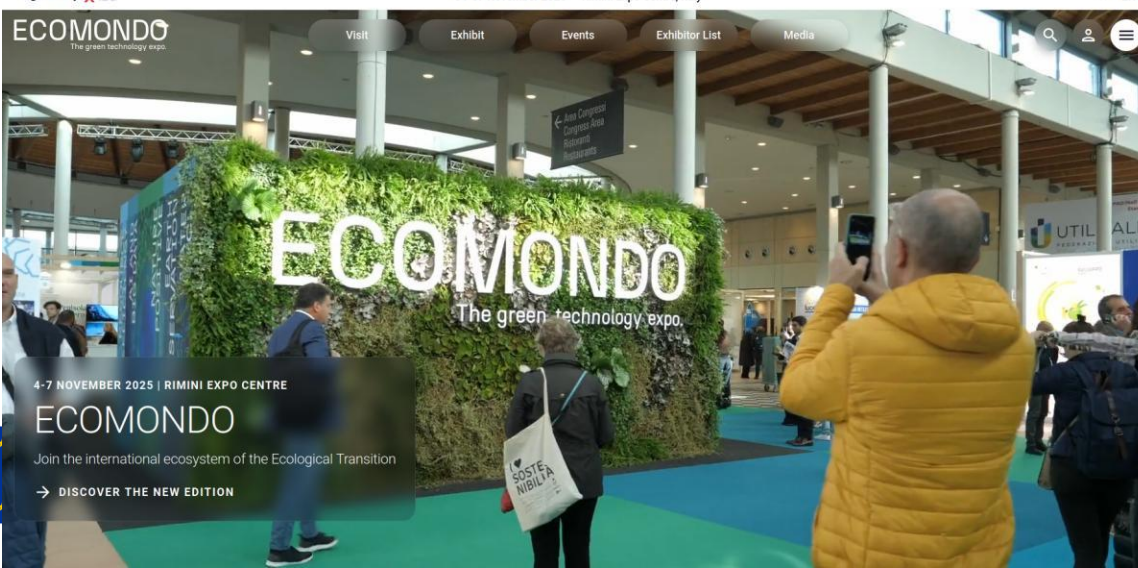
Visit

Exhibit

Events

Exhibitor List

Media



4-7 NOVEMBER 2025 | RIMINI EXPO CENTRE

**ECOMONDO**

Join the international ecosystem of the Ecological Transition

→ [DISCOVER THE NEW EDITION](#)

## SUSTAINABLE PLACES 2025



8-10 October 2025  
Monte Rosa 91 – Milano

**RPM**  
RESEARCH TO MARKET  
SOLUTION

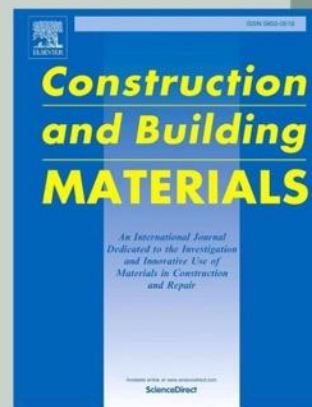


# Scientific papers

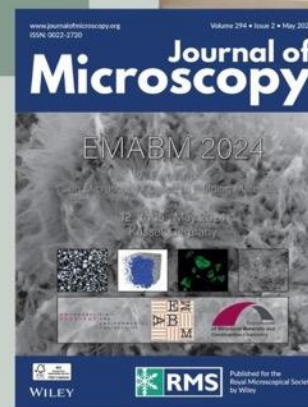
## #SINCERE *publications*



Effect of shell composition on watertightness and mechanical performance of cement-based capsules used as **self-healing additives of cement**.



Air lime renders with **micro-encapsulated phase change materials**: assessment of microstructural and thermal properties.



Cements and concretes **materials characterisation** using machine-learning-based reconstruction and 3D quantitative mineralogy via X-ray microscopy.



**sincere**

*more publications at*  
[sincere-project.eu/publications/](https://sincere-project.eu/publications/)



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# Thank you!



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# FORTESIE



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# FORTESIE

**Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)  
powered Smart PerFORmance contracTs for  
Efficiency, Sustainable, Inclusive, Energy use**

Christina Sianidou  
INCLUSINN

# FORTESIE in a nutshell

M37



## Overall Goal



- ✓ Accelerate the **Renovation Wave**
- ✓ Make renovations **easier, less complex & impactful**

## What We Do



**Pre-designed renovation packages** → tested & validated

### Digital Tools:

- Homogenised data platform
- Data analytics & behavioural recommendation tool
- Measurement & Verification (M&V) module
- Smart contracts for EPC models
- Gamified Mobile app for users
- Marketplace / OSS hub (building owners ↔ providers)

## Pilots & Impact



### 7 pilots / 6 countries:

🏠 Houses | 🏢 Apartments |  
🏛️ Museum | 🎓 School | 🏊 Pool | 🏢 Public buildings

### Impact:

- Energy use reduction
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions cut
- Better comfort & indoor air quality
- Easier renovation pathways



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# Key Innovations



## Comfort Price – Mobile App

- ✓ Raise awareness of the cost of comfort
- ✓ Users engagement and decision making



## Demonstrations- Measured impact of renovation on building performance



## M&V and EPC in smart contracts (ESCOs)



## Renovation packages for replication



## Financing opportunities

- ✓ Alternative financing-green loans-green Euro
- ✓ Crowdfunding



## One Stop Shop- European Renovation marketplace



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# Gamified App for Building Performance Improvements



**Online Visualization of the consumption and reporting for energy savings**



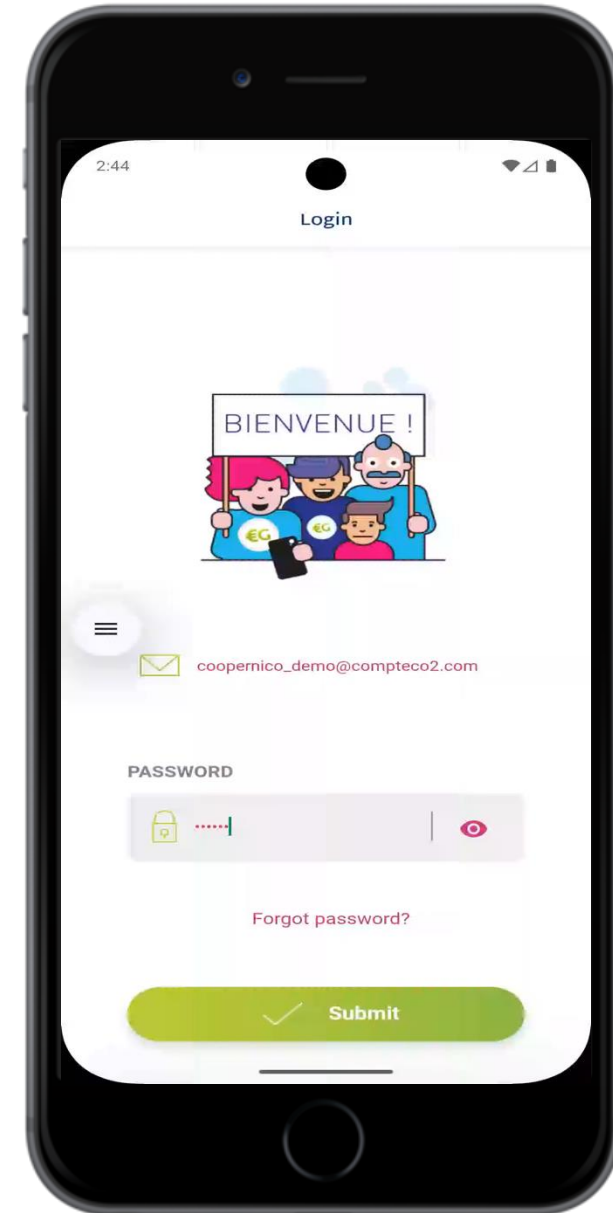
**Challenges, Recommendations and Notifications Visualization**



**Badges and Green Euro Rewards**

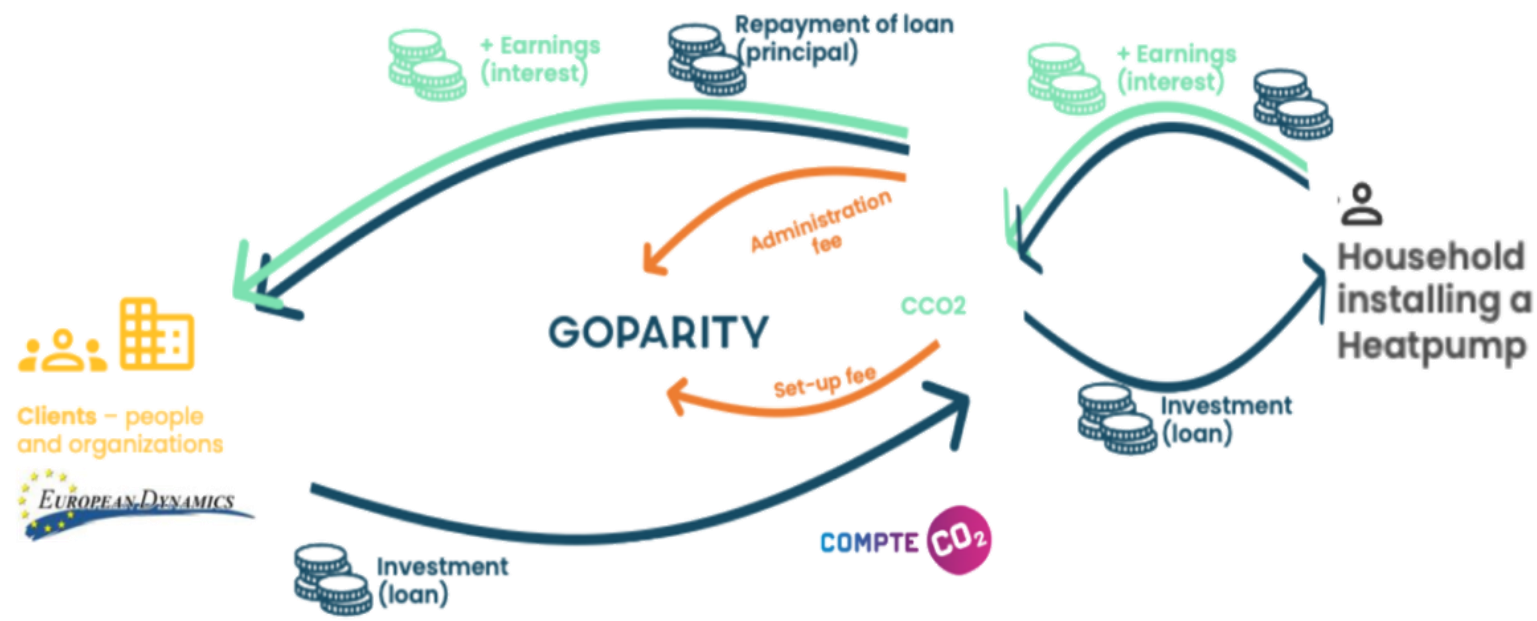


**Comfort price concept to engage the users**



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# Alternative Financing



Amount of Loan in €	10 000 €
Duration	60
Monthly rate	0.45%
APR	5.50%
Installment	190.37 €
Total amount paid	11 422.41 €
<b>Cost of loan</b>	<b>1 422.41 €</b>

Amount of Loan in Green-Eur	10 000 €	10 000 €
Duration	60	60
Monthly rate	0.45%	0.45%
APR	5.50%	5.50%
Installment	190.37 €	190.37 €
Total amount paid	11 422.41 €	11 422.41 €
<b>Green earnings</b>	<b>1 422.41 €</b>	<b>1 422.41 €</b>
<b>Cost of loan</b>	<b>1 422.41 €</b>	<b>0.00 €</b>



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# Renovation packages & Tailored business models

Customised Renovation Package						
	Building Type	Single-family home	Country	Portugal	Pilot 4	
	Square meters	226	Budget Range	12126,12		
	Current Energy Efficiency Rating	D	Energy Rating Goal			
Selected Renovation Technologies	Renovation Technology	Description	Benefits	Cost (€)	Impact Summary	Sustainability Conditions (e.g., climate, building type)
	Ventilation system	Systems that enhance air exchange, providing fresh air while reducing energy losses and improving indoor air quality.	Prevents fresh air while reducing energy losses.	600,00	Enhances indoor air quality and efficiency.	Applicable to all climates, especially in airtight or densely populated buildings (such as offices, schools, and hospitals).
	Roof insulation	Enhances thermal resistance of the roof to minimize heat loss in winter and heat gain in summer.	Prevents heat loss through the roof.	2000	Key for energy savings in winter months.	Suitable for all climates, especially cold and temperate zones for houses and buildings with large roof surfaces.
	Windows/doors' retrofit	Replacing windows and doors to improve insulation, reduce drafts, and enhance energy efficiency.	Improves insulation and reduces drafts.	9000	Enhances thermal comfort and energy efficiency.	Good for older buildings. In all climates, particularly those with outdated or inefficient windows and doors.
	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO
	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO
	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO	NA/TO
Selected Digital Technologies	Digital Technology	Description	Benefits	Sensors/Requirements	Integration Requirements	
	FCBTSF Mobile Application	The main user interface of the FCBTSF platform, allowing users to report energy consumption data, receive recommendations, access energy data, and manage green energy credits. It integrates with the mobile app for data retrieval and validation.	Cost-effective, accessible, and easy to use. Enables data collection and analysis. Real-time monitoring of energy and environmental parameters.	Energy meters for consumption tracking. IoT sensors for temperature, humidity, air quality.	APIs for data exchange. Integration with smart contracts and the green energy market. Data retrieval from analytics and recommendation engines.	
	Sensing Components (IoT Devices)	IoT sensors installed in buildings to measure energy consumption and environmental conditions (temperature, humidity, air quality).	Real-time monitoring of energy and environmental parameters. Data-driven decision-making for efficiency improvements. Supports energy performance evaluation.	Smart meters for energy consumption. Temperature, humidity, air quality sensors.	Connectivity to FCBTSF gateway. Data from sensors via standard protocols (BACNET, MQTT, etc.).	
	Data Processing Module	A cloud-based multi-tenant platform that handles data collection, storage, and management for building gateways and sensors.	Prevents data security and privacy. Facilitates interoperability via standard protocols. Scalable for multi-building integration.	Secure data from IoT devices and external systems.	Integration with FCBTSF for standards and data exchange. Secure APIs connectivity with gateways and analytics tools.	
Total Cost		€				
Selected Financial Initiative	Description	Coverage	Remaining Cost (€)	Payback Period (months)	Annual Savings (€)	CO <sub>2</sub> Reduction (kg/year)
KPIs		Before Renovations		After Renovations		
Overall air quality improvement		no results from renovation		10% results		
Humidity		no results from renovation		10% results		
Energy consumption (kWh)		no results from renovation		10% results		
Estimate PV power production (kWh)		no results from renovation		10% results		
Improvement of comfort		no results from renovation		10% results		
CO2 Emissions from energy consumption		no results from renovation		10% results		
Time for deployment		1 month		2 months		
Energy Efficiency Rating		no results from renovation		10% results		

- ✓ **Portfolio of innovative renovation technologies** delivering measurable energy savings, CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, and improved comfort.
- ✓ **Integrated solutions** combining prefabricated façades, BIPV, heat pumps, smart windows, insulation, etc.
- ✓ **Digital enablers** for performance guarantees: data analytics, M&V module, smart contracts.
- ✓ **Business & financing models** that make energy efficiency investments more attractive and less complex.

# Pilot 1 – Success Story



Building type: Museum dedicated to Philhellenism



Location: Athens, **Greece**



Renovation  
Package  
Applied



Before & After



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**Before & After**



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# Pilot 1 – Success Story



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## Renovation Package Applied

### Renovations

- External thermal insulation (north façade completed initially, full façade implementation ongoing);
- PV-integrated smart windows, installed on upper floors with optimal solar exposure (approx. 42 m<sup>2</sup>);
- An advanced mechanical ventilation system with integrated heat recovery;
- A green roof incorporating shading pergolas and a rooftop café terrace;
- Conventional rooftop photovoltaic (PV) panels, scheduled for grid connection



Before & After



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# Pilot 1 – Success Story



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**Renovation  
Package  
Applied**




**Before & After**



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# Pilot 1 – Success Story

 Building type: Museum dedicated to Philhellenism

 Location: Athens, **Greece**



Renovation  
Package  
Applied



# Pilot 4 – Success Story



Building type: 10 single-family homes



Location: Canas de Senhorim, Silveira, Sobreira, Maia, Cacia, Canha, Lavegadas, Póvoa do Varzim, Mira, and Escalos de Baixo, **Portugal**



Renovation  
Package  
Applied



User Feedback



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# Pilot 4 – Success Story



Building type: 10 single-family homes



Location: Canas de Senhorim, Silveira, Sobreira, Maia, Cacia, Canha, Lavegadas, Póvoa do Varzim, Mira, and Escalos de Baixo, **Portugal**



**Renovation  
Package  
Applied**



**User  
Feedback**



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# Pilot 4 – Success Story



Building type: 10 single-family homes



Location: Canas de Senhorim, Silveira, Sobreira, Maia, Cacia, Canha, Lavegadas, Póvoa do Varzim, Mira, and Escalos de Baixo, **Portugal**



**Renovation  
Package  
Applied**



**User  
Feedback**



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# Pilot 4 – Success Story



Building type: 10 single-family homes



Location: Canas de Senhorim, Silveira, Sobreira, Maia, Cacia, Canha, Lavegadas, Póvoa do Varzim, Mira, and Escalos de Baixo, **Portugal**



## Renovation Package Applied

### Renovations

- Efficient windows;
- Self-regulating or manual trickle vents in window frames;
- Self-regulating air vent with sound attenuator for external walls;
- Bathrooms extractors fans (active measure);
- Thermal insulation in the attic/roof;
- Thermal insulation in shutter boxes;
- External Thermal Insulation Composite System (ETICS);
- External Thermal Insulation under floor;
- Double-flow mechanical ventilation system (active measure).



User  
Feedback



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# Pilot 4 – Success Story



Building type: 10 single-family homes



Location: Canas de Senhorim, Silveira, Sobreira, Maia, Cacia, Canha, Lavegadas, Póvoa do Varzim, Mira, and Escalos de Baixo, **Portugal**



**Renovation  
Package  
Applied**



**User  
Feedback**



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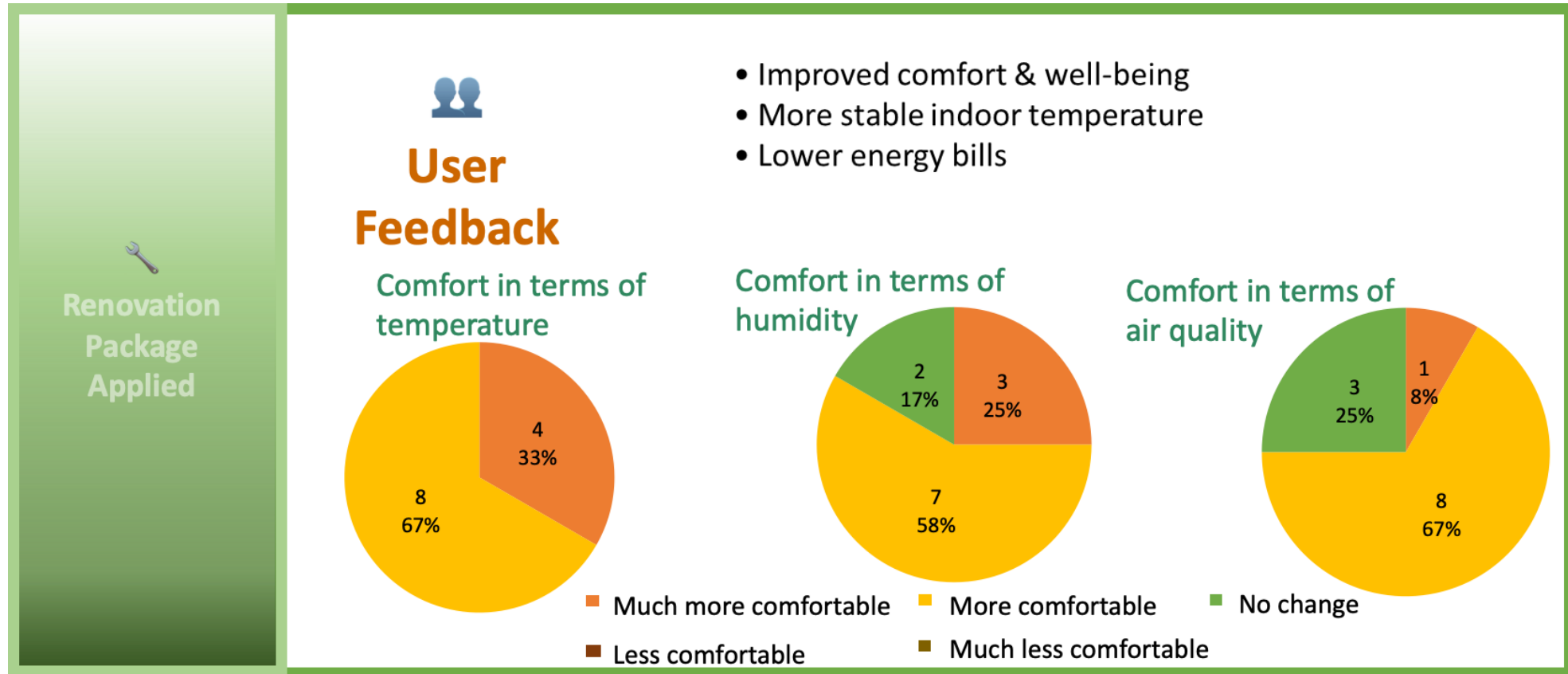
# Pilot 4 – Success Story



Building type: 10 single-family homes



Location: Canas de Senhorim, Silveira, Sobreira, Maia, Cacia, Canha, Lavegadas, Póvoa do Varzim, Mira, and Escalos de Baixo, **Portugal**



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# One-Stop-Shop Marketplace

## The Challenge

- Buildings = 40% of EU energy use & 36% of GHG emissions
- Renovations are fragmented, complex, costly → low uptake by building owners



## FORTESIE Marketplace

A digital One-Stop-Shop accelerating energy renovations through collaboration, transparency & data-driven guidance.



**FORTESIE**  
**MARKETPLACE**

## The Benefits

- **Collaboration hub** that connects building owners, contractors, financiers, policymakers, and designers
- **Knowledge hub** offering best practices, case studies, technologies, and guides
- **Actors inventory** with renovation providers, experts, and services across regions
- **Transparency** that enables comparison of renovation packages and providers
- **Financing access** through integrated green and innovative schemes
- **Scalable and evolving** platform that adapts to new services, policies, and user needs



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View as a Service Provider

## Your Building, Re

Turn your house into the energy-efficient, cozy hav  
FORTESIE Marketplace matches you effortlessly wit  
renovation solutions—so you can relax while your

LOG IN / REGISTER

### Your Renovation Journey Begins!

Select the profile that best describes you.



Provider



Building Owner

32°C  
Ελλάδα



Search

1:59 PM  
9/11/2025

## Marketplace Functions

- Owners publish renovation requests → providers respond with offers
- Renovation actors publish collaboration/team-up requests
- Knowledge hub + actors inventory integrated in the platform
- Access to alternative financing

## Impact

- ✓ Boosts renovation demand & awareness
- ✓ Reduces project costs & complexity
- ✓ Enhances quality, scalability, and trust in renovations
- ✓ Supports EU's Renovation Wave & Green Deal targets



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# Register and grow your business!

**FORTESIE Marketplace**



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# Stay Connected!





# Q&A



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# Closing



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# STAR\*track

A Built**4People** Project

Thank you!



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