



Minutes to the mid-term dissemination workshop in Austria

Mo., 23rd September 2013 13.00-17.00

TU-Wien, Karlsplatz 13, Böckl-Saal

D6.8 of WP6 from Entranze Project

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ENTRANZE Project

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Client: EACI
Web: <http://www.entranze.eu>

Project consortium:

	EEG	Energy Economics Group Institute of Power Systems and Energy Economics Vienna University of Technology
	NCRC	National Consumer Research Centre
	Fraunhofer	Fraunhofer Society for the advancement of applied research
	CENER	National Renewable Energy Centre
	eERG	end use Efficiency Research Group, Politecnico di Milano
	Oeko	Öko-Institut
	SOFENA	Sofia Energy Agency
	BPIE	Buildings Performance Institute Europe
	Enerdata	Enerdata
	SEVEn	SEVEn, The Energy Efficiency Center

The ENTRANZE project

The objective of the ENTRANZE project is to actively support policy making by providing the required data, analysis and guidelines to achieve a fast and strong penetration of nZEB and RES-H/C within the existing national building stocks. The project intends to connect building experts from European research and academia to national decision makers and key stakeholders with a view to build ambitious, but reality proof, policies and roadmaps.

The core part of the project is the dialogue with policy makers and experts and will focus on nine countries, covering >60% of the EU-27 building stock. Data, scenarios and recommendations will also be provided for EU-27 (+ Croatia and Serbia).

This document includes the minutes of the mid-term workshop in Austria/Vienna on 23rd September 2013.

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1. Agenda

The original agenda is documented in the Annex. It included the following points;

- Welcome and introduction to the project ENTRANZE
Lukas Kranzl, TU-Wien

- Results from present studies of cost-optimality of building configurations
Thomas Bednar, TU-Wien, Klemens Leutgöb, e-sieben

- National plans to the definitions of nearly zero energy buildings and intermediate targets
Christian Pöhn, MA39, Stadt Wien

- -Policy instruments and targets in the European dimension
Lukas Kranzl, TU-Wien,

- Impact of different measures on the future energy consumption of space heating, domestic hot water and space cooling in Austria
Andreas Müller, TU-Wien

- Panel discussion:
Thomas Bednar, TU-Wien, Wolfgang Jilek, Landesregierung Steiermark, Klemens Leutgöb, e-sieben, Andreas Müller, TU-Wien, Christian Pöhn, MA39, Stadt Wien, Alexander Storch, Umweltbundesamt

Moderation: Peter Biermayr, TU-Wien

2. List of participants

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3. Main discussion points

a) Stepwise versus major renovation and nzeb requirements

It is seen to be unlikely that, even without tight buildings codes, with respect to renovation, building owners (and corresponding decision maker) will perform low quality building renovation, as people (once they decided to refurbish components) tend to renovate as good as possible. However there seems to be a lack of knowledge concern renovation options. Thus the need for improved communication and information sources is seen.

While renovation quality, if improved information and communication measures were in place, hasn't been seen as a major issue, the workshop participants agreed, that for most people renovation is a financial issue. It remained unclear, which policy packages could foster the renovation rate by removing this barrier and reach owners of buildings, worthy to be refurbishment, yet cannot afford to do so. Allowing step-wise (component-by-component) refurbishment has been seen as one instrument to remove/lower the financial barrier, although the interactions of multiple refurbishment steps need to be considered to an additional degree in order to end up (once all major losses have been tackled) with a building of similar quality compared to buildings that have been undergone major renovation. Thus the order of the steps at a stepwise renovation should be very well considered (e.g. it is rational first the envelope...).

With respect to the renovations encouraged by "Wohnbauförderung", for step-by-step renovations, workshop participants discussed the needs for an improved inspection of performed renovation. Furthermore simplified funding requirements and an increased transparency for funding's were seen to be an important step towards decreased barriers.

b) Barriers in apartment buildings

With respect to apartment buildings two major barriers were discussed: For the case of owner occupied apartment buildings, current legislation demands, that the majority (50%) of owners must agree to the refurbishment. Usually, a relevant share doesn't respond, which will be counted as owner that do not agree. In case of Social Housing, current legislation demands that in-apartment renovation work must be finalized within a few days.

c) To which extent is cost-optimality a relevant criteria for policy makers and individual decision makers?

Cost optimality is not really the issue, because the cost curve near to the optimum point is flat. Since thus absolute numbers instead of relative numbers were used, the approach lead to rather step cost curves.

For newly constructed buildings, the main issue with energy performance indicators has been in the uncertainties of the calculation methods rather than the absolute level of energy demand. Furthermore it was discussed, how (and how fast) to improve the know-how with

respect to NZEB's of construction professions, since major knowledge deficits, through the whole construction process chain, were identified.

d) "Wohnbauförderung" Support of residential building construction

It was discussed to whether or not and if, to which extent, the support should be related to the efficiency of the building. While the "Wohnbauförderung" remains to be by far the most important instrument in Austria, it was discussed that its original (and still main) focus is to ensure affordable housing. Shifting the focus too much towards energy efficiency might conflict with its major aim. An increased need for coordination of demands related to fundings and requirements with respect to the building code has been seen. Currently this instrument ("Wohnbauförderung") focuses on new constructions, a shift towards renovation was requested in order to reach 2020 targets. Nonetheless this instrument wasn't seen to be the suitable instrument to encourage renovations beyond 2020. There is a need to look more in the direction of spatial energy planning and RES.

Among the discussants there was a disagreement to how future support should look like:

- Unique support mechanisms have the benefit of more transparency
- Different support mechanisms are practical to adapt the support on domestic situations

e) Innovative policy instruments

Innovative policy instruments (e.g. CO₂-taxes, contracting, tax-deduction...) are not really an issue in Austria, because the existing policy instruments are working very well in comparison to other EU countries. It is more interesting to look towards the spatial energy planning and for now there is more need on well trained consulting experts.

f) Interpretation of cost-optimum zone vs. nZEB zone in the cost-optimality graph.

Among the workshop participants there was a disagreement how to define nZEBs with respect to the cost-optimality calculations. While some participants hold the view, that the definition of nZEBs shouldn't depend on the cost-optimality calculations and it's the duty of member states to move (using appropriate instruments) nZEBs (min primary energy levels) towards the cost-optimality level, others interpret the nZEB Level as the cost-optimal level.

g) Other issues

The support mechanisms should always be recovered by good marketing. Stakeholders, responsible for reaching the 2020 targets with respect to the energy demand of buildings, advocated that while distributing the targets among the different sectors, the temperature increase due to climate change should not be taken into account.

Here is the title of the Report

It was discussed to which extent the energy demand decrease should or could also be done by society norms (e.g. the schools do not need mechanical ventilation if the teachers take responsibility to ventilate regularly by opening the windows)

For more informations: <http://www.entranze.eu/workshops/austria-mid-term-workshop>

