

SmartLivingEPC Press Release



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SmartLivingEPC and the EPBD Recast Policy recommendations from the NextGenEPC cluster

As one of the largest sources of energy consumption, the built environment is a high-priority sector to decarbonise if the EU is to achieve its overarching goal of climate neutrality by 2050. Much of this decarbonisation ambition will depend on the revision of the **Energy Performance of Building Directive (EPBD)**, which entered inter-institutional negotiations in June 2023.

The NextGenEPC cluster, formed by 13 EU-funded projects, works to take **Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs)** to the next level. While they have improved since their introduction, they need to become **more reliable and visible**, turning into catalysts for the much-needed **deep energy renovation of European buildings**.

[Read the cluster's Policy Recommendations here.](#)

EPCs could help overcome persistent information deficits concerning real energy performance, smartness levels, tailored renovation measures, or indoor and outdoor environment conditions. Additionally, they should provide financial advice for renovation and empower policymakers with better data on the building stock, thus enabling an improved impact monitoring of policies and financial support schemes.

The **SmartLivingEPC project** started in July 2022 and is one of the 13 projects that aim to improve the existing scheme. Particularly, the SmartLivingEPC aims to deliver a certificate which will be issued with the use of digitized tools and retrieve the necessary assessment information of the building from the Building Information Model (BIM), including enriched energy and sustainability-related information for the as-designed and the actual performance of the building. The new certification scheme will also expand its scope, covering aspects related to water consumption, as well as noise pollution and acoustics. SmartLivingEPC certificate will be fully compatible with digital logbooks, as well as with building renovation passports to allow the integration of the building energy performance information in digital databases. A special aspect of SmartLivingEPC will be its application in building complexes, with the aim of energy certification at the neighbourhood scale.

After sharing project-specific recommendations at earlier stages of EPBD recast, the cluster remains committed to providing support and backup with evidence of the ongoing EPBD Recast trilogue. With that in mind, the project-specific contributions have been aggregated into a unique selection of policy recommendations covering the main topics and dimensions addressed by the cluster. These include support for a more accurate methodology of energy performance or the need for implementing renovation passports to plan and finance renovations for higher energy efficiency.

The cluster invites all stakeholders involved in the EPBD recast trilogue to make use of the insights and support that the contributing projects are willing to provide to enhance and streamline the advancement of EPCs, including proposed amendments to the legislative text and technical findings to support implementation. These more detailed inputs can be accessed via the specific project links in the Policy Brief.

Advanced Energy Performance Assessment towards Smart Living in Building and District Level



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