

REZBUILD project: an innovative refurbishment ecosystem for Near Zero Energy Building in Europe

- This new initiative will develop a refurbishment methodology managed by a common decision making platform that will interconnect key steps and stakeholders of the retrofitting plan

REZBUILD project (*Refurbishment decision making platform through advanced technologies for near Zero Energy Building Renovation*) is a new European initiative funded by the [Horizon2020 Programme](#) of the European Commission that grows with the main aim of defining an **innovative and collaborative refurbishment ecosystem** for transforming RE assets into Near Zero Energy Building (NZEB).

The construction market has entered a phase of recovery after the global financial crisis and it is time to face new challenges: encouraging a high-technologized sector, which **turns Energy Efficiency into a sustainable business**. This is one of the strategies that the European Union follows to improve their energy efficiency, boosting their competitiveness and facing social challenges.

The construction sector is **the highest energy consumer** (about 40 %) and **main contributor to GHG emissions** (about 36 %) in Europe. At this stage, tackling refurbishment of existing residential buildings (historic buildings included) is a top priority and decarbonisation is the main goal aligned with the European energy and climate change policies.

In this context a number of challenges have been set for NZEB renovation taking into account all stakeholders involved through five pillars: technical, economical, social, environmental and legal. Nowadays, NZEB renovation methodologies are required as one of **the key enablers** supported by Horizon 2020 Framework Programme in order to promote business research and innovation through energy-efficient buildings.

REZBUILD will address these challenges by opening the construction sector **with the integration of innovation technologies** to pave the way towards an annual renovation rate of 2,5% instead of current rates lower than 1%.

In order to achieve these goals REZBUILD will base its refurbishment ecosystem with the integration of **cost-effective technologies, business models and life cycle interaction** to diverse residential renovation typologies and **interconnecting both, building renovation stages and stakeholders**.

This innovation will establish a multi-collaborative framework within a refurbishment methodology managed by **an Agile Project Management tool based on cloud service**, capable to interconnect in real-time the key steps of a **tailored retrofitting plan** among all stakeholders



involved within the building renovation value chain.

Moreover, decision making tools will be performed in order to validate the best optimized cost-effective refurbishment technology package in **3 different European scenarios** (Spain, Norway and Italy), each one with a different representative climate and tipology of building.

This all-in-one decision making platform will **communicate all stakeholders involved in the housing renovation process** from designers, refurbishment to private consumer and public / private owners. Key stakeholders groups and local communities will be involved in the project through **social innovation actions**.

REZBUILD consortium brings together **13 partners from 5 different countries**. The consortium is formed by the equilibrated collaboration of international level entities represented by big industries, SMEs, consultancy firms, RTD centres, public bodies, users associations and academic institutions: [Officinae Verdi Group](#) (Italy), [Vias y Construcciones](#) (Spain), [CARTIF](#) (Spain), [ESTIA](#) (France), [Comunidad de Madrid](#) (Spain), [Saint-Gobain Placo Iberica](#) (Spain), [ONYX Solar](#) (Spain), [SINTEF](#) (Norway), [OBOS](#) (Norway), [University of Nottingham](#) (United Kingdom), [Exploded View](#) (Spain), [Rimond](#) (Italy), and [ZABALA Innovation Consulting](#) (Spain).

This project is awarded by the European Commission with a Horizon2020 programme grant of 6,996,128.25 € and **a total budget of 9,038,208.75 €**. REZBUILD's kick off meeting took place recently in Rome and the project will run for **4 years**.

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