



## CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation  
in Building and Construction

Providing a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction, in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

August 2009

### Around the Task Groups and Working Commissions

#### TG66 - Energy and the Built Environment

### New focus and action plan

#### Introduction

CIB Task Group TG66 on Energy and the Built Environment has defined a new focus for the work of the Task Group and will use modern communications technology and a community website to reach and communicate with a wide international audience and to provide a shared information source.

#### TG66 New Focus: Intercontinental Comparisons

After reviewing and analysing the recent existing literature on energy efficient buildings, the Task Group has decided to focus on

*The Implementation of Energy Efficient Buildings Policies in 5 continents.*

Energy efficiency is considered to be linked to two planetary strategic challenges:

- Climate change: CO<sub>2</sub> emissions,
- Energy supply security.

TG66 argues that Energy Efficiency Buildings Policies have three aims:

- to diminish energy consumption,
- to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions,
- to increase the part of renewable energy.

It is assumed that on continental, state and local levels, policies are a mix of four kinds of instruments:

1. Control and regulatory instruments which can be:
  - Normative: Appliance standards, Building codes, Procurement regulations, Energy efficiency obligations and quota
  - Informative: Mandatory audits, Utility Demand-side management (DSM) programs, Mandatory labelling and certification programs
2. Fiscal instruments and incentives: Taxes, Tax exemptions / reductions, Public benefit charges, Capital subsidies, grants, subsidized loans

3. Economic and market-based instruments: Energy performance contracting, Cooperative procurement, Energy efficiency certificate schemes, Kyoto Protocol flexible mechanisms
4. Support, information and voluntary action: Voluntary certification and labelling, Voluntary and negotiated agreements, Public leadership programs, Initial and continuous training programmes for property and construction professionals, Awareness raising, education, information campaigns, Detailed billing and disclosure programs

The analysis by the Task Group of the implementation of each described country policy in the different regions will deal with:

- the objective(s) of the policy,
- the employed instruments and their implementation: compliance through control,
- the actors: concerned actors, actors backing the policy, opponents to the policy,
- the cost and the impact,
- the lessons: success factors, failure factors.

#### Project Team

To monitor the process and the events, a project team has been built: Jean Carassus, coordinator (mandated by CSTB, France), Roberto Lamberts (Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil), Rodney Milford (CIDB, South Africa), Shuzo Murakami (Building Research Institute, Japan), Dick Schmidt (TNO, Netherlands), Peter Scuderi (CRC for Construction Innovation, Australia), Steve Treado (NIST, USA), Peter Wouters (BBRI, Belgium) and representatives from China and India.

#### Community Website

A community website in a internet portal, (which will be at the beginning the European BUILD UP portal [www.buildup.eu](http://www.buildup.eu)) will provide a permanent:

- high level information on policies (Control and regulatory instruments, Fiscal instruments and

incentives, Economic and market-based instruments, Support, information and voluntary action),

- in developed and developing countries,
- with contacts to get further information.

### Actual and Virtual Meetings

- A Webex system will allow Internet sessions with:
- presentations on each computer participant,
  - oral comments by the speaker,
  - written commentaries and questions by the audience,
  - up to 200 participants.

The seven planned events are:

1. 14 October 2009 **International Seminar: Brussels** (see separate news article [here](#) with the details). One day meeting with specific attention to Europe, linked to the October 12-13 CIB Board meeting
2. December 2009 Internet session: 2 hours **European countries**
3. February 2010 Internet session: 2 hours **Japan-China-India-Asian countries**
4. May 2010 Meeting: **Salford CIB Congress**  
-2 hours meeting with specific attention to developing countries  
-2 hours meeting from researchers abstracts sent to CIB Congress
5. September 2010 Internet session: 2 hours **USA-Canada**
6. December 2010 Internet session: 2 hours **Latin American-African countries**
7. February 2011 Internet session: 2 hours **Australia-New Zealand**

In March 2011 a Conclusion report, with all the presentations and discussion summaries will be published on the Community website and on the CIB website. The Internet sessions will be monitored through the Webex system.

### Additional Information

For more information on TG66, please contact: Jean Carassus, TG66 Coordinator, (CSTB, France), [jean.carassus@immobilierdurable.eu](mailto:jean.carassus@immobilierdurable.eu).



For more information on the series of TG66 Webex sessions please contact Peter Wouters, Belgian Building Research Institute (BBRI, Brussels, Belgium), [peter.wouters@bbri.be](mailto:peter.wouters@bbri.be).



You can find more information on the activities of CIB TG66 at [www.cibworld.nl](http://www.cibworld.nl) - Databases - select "Go to Database" - in the shown search engine: type TG66 in the field "Commission number".