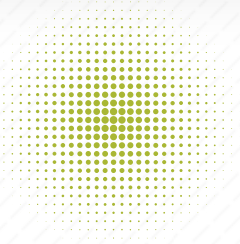


GREECE | MAY 30TH, 2024

short report

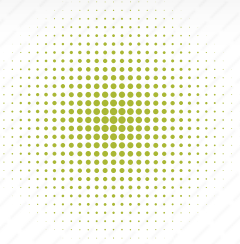
**FEASIBLE RENOVATION PATHWAYS
FOR ACHIEVING A ZERO-EMISSION
BUILDING STOCK IN GREECE BY 2050**

Organised by INZEB



FINANCING ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN PRIVATE & PUBLIC BUILDINGS

- Integrating the "Saving" scheme with rooftop photovoltaic (PV) programmes, tailored to grid availability, was identified as a practical enhancement. Priority should be given to energy-efficiency interventions before deploying PV systems, as regional grid limitations have rendered projects ineligible under existing rules.
- Simplifying administrative processes emerged as a key requirement. The complexity of current procedures under the "Saving" programme discourages participation. There is a clear need for qualified assessors and advisory services to support applicants through the technical and bureaucratic process.
- Extending the duration of the "Saving-Renovating" programme could allow beneficiaries to plan and implement deeper renovation projects. When combined with Renovation Passports, such extensions would also facilitate improved tracking of performance over time and alignment with EPBD objectives.
- Municipalities often lack the capacity to prepare comprehensive funding proposals and manage implementation. Pilot initiatives using Energy Performance Contracting could demonstrate good practice in public lighting upgrades, project design, construction monitoring, and verification of energy savings.
- For listed and heritage buildings, current funding thresholds are seen as restrictive. In particular, the €1.80/m² cap does not reflect the unique renovation needs of these structures. Increasing co-financing rates, especially in municipalities where the 50% grant threshold is a barrier, would enhance participation relative to fully funded programmes.



FINANCING ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN PRIVATE & PUBLIC BUILDINGS

- The ELENA facility provides strategic support for energy efficiency projects, requiring a minimum three-year preparation horizon for design and procurement. It plays a critical role in advancing projects toward bankability and implementation readiness.
- To date, only five ELENA-supported projects have been implemented in Greece, primarily in public lighting, district heating, and building-integrated renewables. There is an opportunity to extend this support to large-scale infrastructure, such as desalination, especially for integrated urban projects with budgets exceeding €30 million.
- Eligibility for European and national funding frameworks, such as the NSRF and Regional Operational Programmes, depends on cost-effectiveness and alignment with strategic energy and climate goals. Justifying energy demand and expected performance improvements is essential for approval.
- Municipalities continue to face institutional and technical constraints, underscoring the need for clearly defined priorities in their operational plans. These documents are essential for funding allocation and must reflect current climate legislation and EPBD provisions.
- It is imperative that project pipelines are developed in parallel with national and EU policy cycles, ensuring full compliance with the evolving legislative landscape and positioning projects to secure available funds.

