



## iBRoad Stakeholders' Forum

Key Notes and Findings

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## **Background**

iBRoad is a stakeholder-centric project, thus engagement with various stakeholders was addressed through various means among which the national consultation meetings, the auditors training sessions, the participation in various relevant events and the iBRoad Forum.

The iBRoad Forum was developed and operated within the project's website and served as an e-venue for facilitating participation, interaction, and matchmaking between relevant stakeholders. Stakeholders were invited to provide feedback, comments, as well as to share their practical knowledge and ideas with the main aim to enrich the project's procedures.

### iBRoad Forum

The iBRoad Forum consists of 106 members in total and is based on six elements:

The first element concerns the **iBRoad concept and updates**. The iBRoad project emphasises on individual building renovation roadmaps representing the evolution of the Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs).

The second element concerns the **iBRoad members networking**. The aim of this element is to find out more about the members including full members profiles.

The third element concerns the **iBRoad knowledge base**. The material included in the knowledge base, is based on the iBRoad project deliverables, reports, opinions related to the project concept.

The next element concerns **iBRoad events announcements**, and the aim is to inform the members on upcoming events.

The last two elements concern **other announcements** (announcements concerning other events) and **iBRoad Guests Announcements** (events and announcements from the Forum members).

Moreover, a section named **iBRoad discussions** was foreseen in which members of the Forum provided their feedback on specific topics. The discussion section is analytically presented below.

#### **iBRoad Forum Discussions**

The iBRoad Forum Discussions section includes 9 topics, placed by the project partners.

#### **TOPIC 1**

The 1<sup>st</sup> topic is about the renovation roadmap in Flanders. In Flanders, the government is providing a renovation roadmap (renewed EPC), whereas for a more tailored renovation roadmap, advise by architects should be sought. The iBRoad project has foreseen a more detailed and customised renovation roadmap, proposing different scenarios which are the outcome of a profound on-site visit.

There was no contribution to the discussion, even though there were 23 views of the topic.

#### **TOPIC 2**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> topic focusses on the question whether the renovation roadmap should contain a customised renovation roadmap for the specific house, covering more than the existing situation.

For the **2<sup>nd</sup> topic** there was also no contribution, although 23 members had viewed the topic.

#### **TOPIC 3**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> topic concerns financial incentives and what is needed in terms of financial incentives to digest the price for a large-scale roll out of the renovation roadmap.

This topic had 16 views and 1 member contributed with an answer. The answer was that "In Greece, the renovation roadmap could be the extension of the current EPC which is obligatory for any property that is rented or sold. It could maintain this obligatory nature in the housing sector for a large-scale roll-out. Public financing of the experts' consulting sessions could help keep the additional cost in comparison with the current EPC issuing cost relatively low. Raising awareness of the public on the financial benefits that would arise by avoiding lock-in effects would also help. Some tax incentives for energy efficiency measures are already in place and these could be associated with the roadmap. So, if a homeowner wants to take advantage of the tax incentives that are currently in place, the homeowner has to ensure that the measures that are taken are according to the roadmap and systems/professionals are certified. Finally, if a list of certified professionals is included in the logbook interface, lower costs and increased reliability if these professionals could create an additional incentive for homeowners."

#### **TOPIC 4**

The 4<sup>th</sup> topic is about the Logbook and the question if this should be launched by the government, by private market or both, and what would be the roles of each in the case where collaboration is preferred.

The topic regarding the logbook launch had 16 views and 2 Forum members contributed with an answer.

The first answer was that "A logbook should be primarily launched by the government. A uniform way on its application should be adopted, in order to ensure comparability, and a source of data for relevant public authorities. Preferably, the coordination should be realised at the EU level, properly adjusted at the national level. Nevertheless, collaboration with the private market is envisaged, so that it offers benefits to the homeowners and users and it is not only a legislative measure with limited added value to them."

The second answer contributed by a Forum member was that "The logbook should be definitely launched by the government, since it would contain information on the buildings, as those are given to public authorities. For example, in Greece, interoperability with public platforms such as those of the legalised buildings, the national land registry, and the tax platforms, would be a plus. The government could ensure its use by integrating it in the current EPC legislation framework and making it a prerequisite (along with a roadmap) for renovation activities and taking advantage of tax incentives. The private market could benefit from the gathered information and compliment this by offering services and certified professionals in lower prices. Moreover, successful projects could be uploaded by professionals (installers/technicians) in the logbook to both support a professional "profile" in the list and be available as case studies for homeowners to consider."



#### **TOPIC 5**

The 5<sup>th</sup> topic also concerns the Logbook. This time the question is if the Logbook should include a marketplace, where the users can launch offers to and get offer from contractors or installers for the execution of renovation works.

The topic concerning the inclusion of a marketplace in the Logbook had 20 views and two replies.

The first reply was that "Marketplaces can be a good solution if proper care is taken to maintain its independence from small interests. User's evaluation would require properly defining the starting point and results, what would imply measurement and verification. So, in short if it is to be done, then please do it properly."

The second answer contributed by a Forum member was that "Besides the use of certified products and technologies, one of the major issues in building renovations is the use of certified technicians and installers of these technologies. This is an organic discussion at the EU level, as this parameter significantly affects the overall building performance. Therefore, if a marketplace is to be in place, the emphasis should be taken that only certified installers / technicians are included. A synoptic portfolio of their work could be also included in the marketplace."

#### **TOPIC 6**

The 6<sup>th</sup> topic is about feedback. The question is "Considering the information available on the iBRoad Roadmap and Logbook, what would be your feedback, wishes and proposals for further development as an interested stakeholder/potential user of a building renovation roadmap?".

There were 8 views on this topic with no particular contribution.

#### **TOPIC 7**

The  $7^{th}$  topic is about synergies and if there is potential seen for interlinkage between the iBRoad Logbook and other existing or planned tools.

There was no contribution although 10 members had viewed the topic.

#### **TOPIC 8**

The **8**<sup>th</sup> **topic** discussed is the business model for an effective building renovation passport concept.

The business model topic had similarly no contribution, but 8 views.

#### **TOPIC 9**

The last **9**<sup>th</sup> **topic** is about the replicability potential of the iBRoad Roadmap and Logbook in (each) country, barriers and opportunities as well as the potential role of energy inspectors/auditors in the replicability potential.

The replicability topic had 22 views and 1 reply. The reply was that "Greece could be a big opportunity for adopting a concept like iBRoad. The current status with the EPCs and the basic information they include can be considered as the starting point that now needs to move forward and provide something more than just some proposed energy saving measures. In 2020, ten years will have passed since the building regulation introduced the EPCs and it is a good time for a step forward starting with the residential sector. More information for every building and a scheduled overtime renovation using the tools of iBRoad could be an ideal next step and a starting point towards nZEB buildings which have already been in the scenery. The timing is also very good with the national definition and requirements for nZEB buildings being under progress. However, apart

from the known financial issues when we are dealing with energy or other type of retrofitting, there is another significant barrier. In my opinion, owners in Greece are impatient and think of energy renovation as an activity that can take place just once per 20-30 years and not as scheduled renovation concept with multiple actions over a period. This is partly because of the funding programs that are available once per 4-5 years and partly due to lack of awareness, patience, and advice from experts. They want to renovate whatever they can afford and get over with it. Suitable and convincing communication strategies need to be deployed in order to change this attitude towards an approach closer to the Roadmap concept."

#### **iBRoad Forum Members**

106 members have registered at the iBRoad Forum. The members are coming from the eight countries participating to the project, while there are also members from other countries, among which Spain, France and Ireland as well as from non-EU countries. The diagram in Figure 1 presents the Forum registered users per country. The diagram is also available as an interactive diagram, with a *hover* feature where the exact number of registered users per country is provided.

iBRoad Forum Members – Analysis per country interactive diagram: https://my.visme.co/view/01yw74d0-ibroad-forum-1

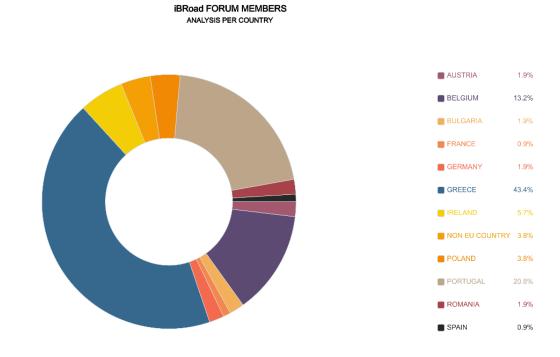


Figure 1: iBRoad Forum Members – Analysis per country

Figure 2 shows the analysis of the iBRoad Forum members per target group. A little more than a quarter of the members (26.4%) are individuals, and almost another quarter (24.5%) come from the energy sector/are individual engineers.



#### iBRoad FORUM MEMBERS ANALYSIS PER TARGET GROUP

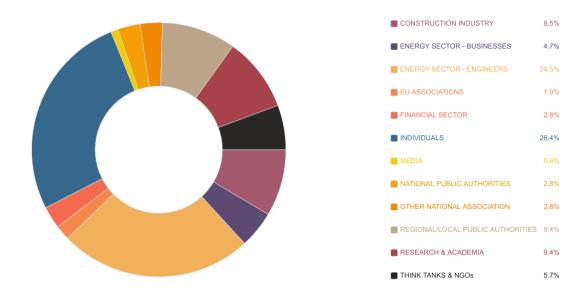


Figure 2: iBRoad Forum Members – Target Groups

Figure 2 is also available as an interactive diagram, with a *hover* feature where the exact number of registered users per country is provided.

iBRoad Forum Members – Target Groups interactive diagram: https://my.visme.co/view/31ywn8qr-ibroad-forum-2

## **Conclusion**

The iBRoad Forum gathered stakeholders and interested parties representing all target groups that have been identified as important from the beginning of the project. Another important fact is that the members do not only represent the countries that are participating in the project but also other EU countries as well as experts coming from non-EU areas. This can be interpreted as a high interest for solutions that can efficiently support the staged deep renovations of the buildings, taking into consideration the needs and wills of the building owners.



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