

The architect survey

Comprehensive study of building energy renovation activities and the uptake of nearly zero energy buildings in the EU (ENER/C3/2016-547/02)

Overall project objectives

Building renovation and nearly zero-energy buildings are key political priorities in the "Clean Energy for All Europeans" package and thus for the next decade's European policy-making.

Policy-making and the impact of policy measures have to be informed by sufficient data. The European Commission aims to address the existing, relevant gaps in energy data about the European building stock. This is why the European Commission has launched a **Comprehensive study of building energy renovation activities and the uptake of nearly zero-energy buildings in the EU**.

The extensive primary data collection will help close the existing data gaps that were not solved by previous or ongoing studies. The overall aim of the project is to produce a robust statistical and comprehensive analysis of both **building renovation activities and near-zero emission building (NZEB) uptake** in the **EU 28**. For this purpose, the European Commission has contracted GfK¹ to carry out an EU-wide survey and analyse the information collected. GfK leads the project consortium and conducts the research together with Ecofys – a consultancy specialized in energy.

The overall research features multiple tasks, including desk research, the construction of indicators and data collection focused on different target groups (consumers, architects, construction companies and suppliers). The following section describes the set-up of the survey aimed at **architects and architect firms**, for which we would appreciate the involvement of your organisation in reaching out to your member architects and architect firms.

Aim of the architect survey

The goal of the architect survey is to collect information on energy-related issues with regard to renovation and construction in buildings. The focus is on residential buildings (such as houses and apartments) as well as non-residential buildings (e.g. offices, schools, hospitals, etc.). Architects are in an ideal position to provide information on both building types. The survey has been designed by GfK with the input by the European Commission and by our project partner with subject-matter expertise. It includes topics such as the type of work performed, its energy-related properties and the demand for highly energy-efficient solutions.

Architect survey scope and methodology

The architect survey will be conducted using an online survey. For participating in the survey, the architects will receive an **invitation e-mail** briefly explaining the research and containing a link to the **online survey**. When this link is followed, the respondents can self-complete the survey. They will also have the opportunity to stop the survey at any time and continue at a later point in time.

¹ GfK is an international market research company, which conducts studies for private and public organisations. Within GfK, the Social and Strategic Research team works with governmental and nongovernmental organisations to research issues relevant for public policy. <http://www.gfk.com/en-be/industries/social-and-strategic-research>

For the architect survey, we plan to invite architects and architect firms in all EU28 Member States. The aim is to have a balanced distribution of respondents across the different countries. A key element in achieving this goal is the involvement of architect organisations that are members of the Architects' Council of Europe (ACE).

Timing

The survey is planned to launch, EU-wide, on **28 August 2018**. The end date before which the survey is to be completed is **14 September 2018**. This will be indicated on the invitation e-mail.

Involvement of your architect organisation

As an architect organisation, your organisation is kindly invited to distribute and promote the architect survey to your member architects and architect firms.

Invitation

For **inviting** your members, your organisation will receive an **invitation e-mail**, which includes the link to the online survey, as well as a clear explanation on the origin, background and relevance of this study. In addition, the e-mail will contain links to the official support letter from the European Commission, as well as a link to more detailed information related to privacy aspects.

A reminder is also planned on 5 September 2018, kindly reminding your members about this survey. The specific **reminder e-mail** will be delivered to your organisation. We kindly request to keep track of any architects that which not to participate or be contacted again throughout the fieldwork, to avoid sending them the reminder e-mail.

You are kindly invited to send out the e-mails in the official country language(s). Please combine e-mails in different languages or add the English version when you think this is appropriate.

Promotion

In addition to sending out the invitation, the response to this study would greatly benefit if your organisation could **promote** the survey or **highlight** it through the channels your use for communicating with your members – for example, by referring to the survey in your newsletter or other member communication. Such an effort would be much appreciated.

Involvement of your organisation

Our organisation is a key actor representing architects and architect firms in your country or region. The assistance of your organisation and of the ACE is therefore of great value for reaching out to architects throughout Europe. We highly value your participation and look forward to working together for this research.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with ACE or with GfK to receive more information on the present research or to address any comments.

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