

# Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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## Parliament takes clear position on strategic funding for Energy Efficiency

Today, the Industry Committee of the European Parliament underlined the strategic importance of Energy Efficiency First, by asking for an amount of at least EUR 5 billion of the European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI) to be dedicated to Energy Efficiency. Energy Efficiency First is the key catalyst for European Jobs & Sustainable Growth and Energy Security!

*“Securing a part of EFSI for Energy Efficiency is recognizing the strategic importance of the Juncker Package as Energy Efficiency ticks-every-box for the EU, from industrial competitiveness, to jobs, growth, energy security and reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions”* stated Jan te Bos, Eurima’s Director General. *“It will enable EU Member States to further implement and initiate the necessary ambitious building renovation programmes as integrated part of their recovery programmes and strategic energy roadmaps”*. Deep renovation of our schools, hospitals, universities and homes has wide and recognised societal benefits in many areas.

Following the call from both Germany and France for a dedicated Energy Efficiency Fund under the Juncker Package last week and the adoption of Energy Efficiency First by the European Commission, Members of Parliament have shown consistency and vision in taking a stance that will be of major importance in securing the treatment of energy efficiency as an energy source in its own right. This should encourage Member States to be more ambitious in their Renovation Strategies.

*“Increased and secure access to finance and leverage capital will prove that Energy Efficiency, especially in the building sector, is our best and most secure investment option for today and in the future”* said te Bos, *“This was recently confirmed by the Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group (EEFIG) set-up by the Commission itself”*. *“It is clear that political support is growing. We now have to make sure that we get the details right in the necessary Energy Efficiency modeling and implementation models”*.

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## Background Information

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### Eurima

Eurima is the European Insulation Manufacturers Association, representing the interests of all major mineral wool insulation producers throughout Europe. Eurima members employ over 21,000 people across Europe with the installation of insulation products accounting for an estimated 300,000 man-years.

Eurima members manufacture mineral wool insulation products. These products are used in residential and commercial buildings as well as industrial facilities. Glass and stone wool insulation secure a high level of comfort, low energy costs and minimised CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Mineral wool insulation prevents heat loss through roofs, walls, floors, pipes and boilers, reduces noise pollution and protects homes and industrial facilities from the risk of fire.

### Buildings in the EU

Buildings are responsible for the largest share of European final energy consumption (40%) and they represent the greatest potential to save energy - as 75% of buildings standing in the EU were built during periods with no, or minimal, energy-related building codes and the energy intensity of heating per floor area is two times higher than any other region of the world (except Russia).

Buildings are long-term assets expected to remain useful for 50 or more years and 75-90% of those standing today are expected to remain in use in 2050.

### Key Facts for consideration

1. EIB lends Euro 2-3 billion (3.3-5%) per annum to energy efficiency from a total annual lending capacity of Euro 60 billion, often because supply-side and larger projects are easier to structure and close;
2. 2,000 projects were presented by Member States to form the Euro 1.3 trillion EFSI pipeline, yet just Euro 22bn (1.7%) of these projects were "energy efficiency" related;
3. Europe estimates that it needs to invest between EUR 1.5 - 2 trillion in infrastructure to meet its policy goals of the Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth (equivalent to Euro 250-330 billion per annum);
4. EU Buildings require Euro 60-100bn energy efficiency investment per annum, which as is equal to 24-30% of the overall EU infrastructure investment need.

**Growth & jobs first: Why energy efficiency in buildings needs earmarking within EFSI:** read the full document on this link: <http://bit.ly/1aWY6dM>

For further information on energy efficiency in buildings, please visit [www.eurima.org](http://www.eurima.org) or contact:

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