



# **Sustainable buildings**

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## **Resource use**

**40%** of our final energy consumption

**35%** of our greenhouse gas emissions

**50%** of all extracted materials

**30%** of our water consumption

**33%** of total generated waste





# **Example of embedded energy**

**An investment of 100.000 Euros...**

- ..in a photovoltaic panel would save 75 tonnes of CO2 over 30 years**
- ..in low carbon concrete would save 663 tonnes of CO2 immediately**

**Which investment will be made?**





# Barriers to green buildings

- **Transparent and comparable data needed to:**
  - **Define green buildings**
  - **Inform consumers as well as the supply chain (addressing both demand and supply)**
  - **Link to future incentives**
- **Fragmentation of the single market**
  - **National reporting requirements vary**
  - **Proliferation of commercial assessment schemes**





# Objectives

## ■ Overall:

- **Reduce environmental impacts by improving overall resource efficiency and, as a consequence, improve the related competitiveness**

## ■ Specific:

- **Raise awareness and demand among private consumers, developers and public purchasers**
- **Improve knowledge and information on resource use**
- **Remove barriers created by different sets of national requirements on environmental performance**





## **Areas to be considered for future work**

- **Establish and promote an assessment framework for the environmental performance of buildings, taking into account the building as a system, building components and construction products**
- **Provide information on the environmental performance of buildings to supply chain and clients**
- **Recommend reporting requirements for buildings and components**





## **Areas to be considered for future work**

- **Establish comprehensive GPP criteria for different categories of buildings**
- **Advice MS in developing/reforming financial incentives for green buildings, including linking to the existing/emerging incentives for improved energy efficiency**





# **Benefit of Initiative on Sustainable Buildings**

- **Broaden the understanding, beyond energy efficiency, among stake holders both on supply and demand side. Provide transparent and comparable information on environmental performance, to be used:**
  - **in decision-making throughout the value chain**
  - **for future policy to better target most important aspects of resource use**







# Public Consultation

- **Open since the 9<sup>th</sup> of July, until the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.**
  - **Relevant concepts for environmental performance**
  - **Main problems and at what levels they should be tackled**
  - **Possible solutions and their impacts**

[http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/consultations/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/consultations/index_en.htm)

