

# PRESS RELEASE

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**OBSERVE project launches to support EU Member States in developing national building stock observatories**

## What is OBSERVE?

**OBSERVE (Support for Setting up National Building Stock Observatories)** is a new European project funded by the **LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme**, aiming to strengthen the capacity of EU Member States to monitor and improve the energy performance of their building stock.

The project focuses on empowering national authorities with the tools, methodologies, and strategic guidance needed to implement robust national **Building Stock Observatories (BSOs)** in line with the revised **Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)**.

## Why now?

Buildings account for **40% of energy consumption** and **36% of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions** in the EU. However, efforts to improve energy efficiency are hampered by fragmented, outdated, or inaccessible data.

Recognising this gap, the **recast EPBD**, adopted in **May 2024**, requires all EU Member States to develop national databases for the energy performance of buildings and to ensure regular data exchange with the **EU Building Stock Observatory (EU BSO)**.

Reliable, high-quality **data is now essential for tracking progress, evaluating policies, and supporting** the green transition in the built environment.

## How does OBSERVE help?

OBSERVE provides structured, expert support to six pilot Member States (**Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, and Spain**) to:

- Develop and standardise protocols for building-related data collection and aggregation
- Identify best practices and gaps in existing national and EU-level databases
- Guide national authorities in designing tailored database architectures
- Facilitate alignment with the EU Building Stock Observatory
- Share effective governance models and methodologies for broader uptake across Europe

OBSERVE does **not build the databases directly**, but offers a toolbox of strategic recommendations, stakeholder co-creation, and technical guidance to empower Member States to do so.

## Built on stakeholder co-creation

OBSERVE uses a **participatory, evidence-based approach**. Through interviews, surveys, and technical workshops, national and EU-level stakeholders (including policymakers, energy agencies, and technical experts) contribute to shaping data solutions that meet real-world needs.

This co-creation model ensures that the observatories reflect **national realities**, while promoting **harmonisation and interoperability** at the European level.

## Building synergies across Europe

By aligning national BSOs with the EU Building Stock Observatory, OBSERVE creates a **cohesive framework** for improving building energy performance across the continent. The project supports the EU's broader energy and climate objectives under the **European Green Deal, Fit-for-55**, and **REPowerEU** initiatives.

“OBSERVE helps Member States transform fragmented building data into actionable knowledge. This is a foundational step toward achieving a sustainable and energy-efficient built environment.”

— Dimitris Athanasiou, Project Coordinator, IEECP

## Meet the Consortium

OBSERVE brings together a multidisciplinary consortium of leading European institutions with deep expertise in energy policy, data management, and innovation. The Kick-Off Meeting took place in **November 2024**.



Figure 1. OBSERVE's consortium at the Kick-Off Meeting, November 2024.

Thanks to our consortium, we will support the construction of national building stock observatories in EU Member States:





## Contacts & further information

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# OBSERVE

NATIONAL BUILDING  
STOCK OBSERVATORIES



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