# **EU Sustainable Finance in external action: an opportunity to promote sustainable buildings?**

Programme for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (PEEB)

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### **Agenda**

- 1. Context
- 2. The role of the EU
- 2. Relevance for the buildings sector outside the EU
- 3. Conclusion

**Have a look at the paper here!** 





# 1- Context

### Buildings – a sleeping giant for climate action



**40% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions** come from the building sector

**Construction is booming**, particularly in emerging economies in hot climate zones

Urgent and growing need for cooling and adaptation





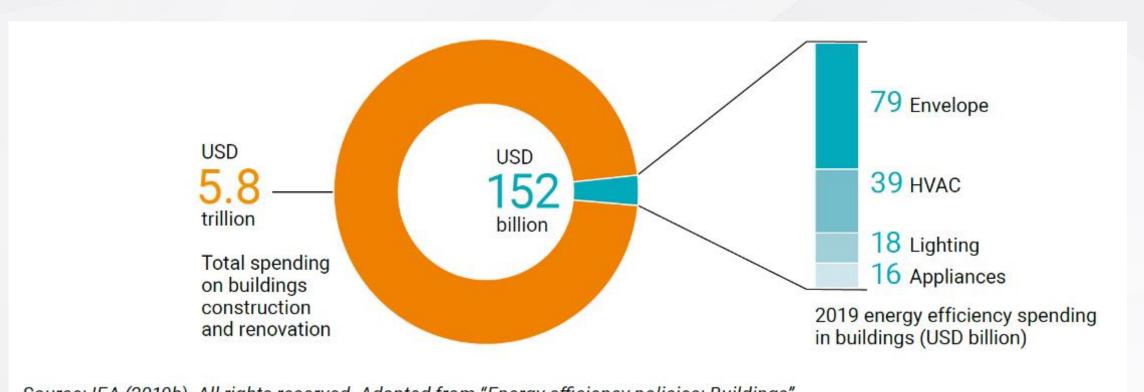




Energy needs for space cooling



### 5.8 trillion USD of investment need to shift rapidly



Source: IEA (2019b). All rights reserved. Adapted from "Energy efficiency policies: Buildings"



# PEEB – an international initiative to transform the

**buildings** sector

PEEB supports the **GlobalABC roadmap**: "Towards low-carbon and resilient buildings" by **mobilising investments in energy efficient buildings.** 

### Funded by









Implemented by











### International agenda-setting

# **ENERGY EFFICIENCY** IN BUILDINGS

### Increase international momentum through Global **Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC)**

- 20+ international meetings since 2018
- Lead GlobalABC Work Area Finance
- Preparations for Buildings Day at COP26







**COVID-19 Stimulus Spending** for Green Construction **Means Building Back Better** 







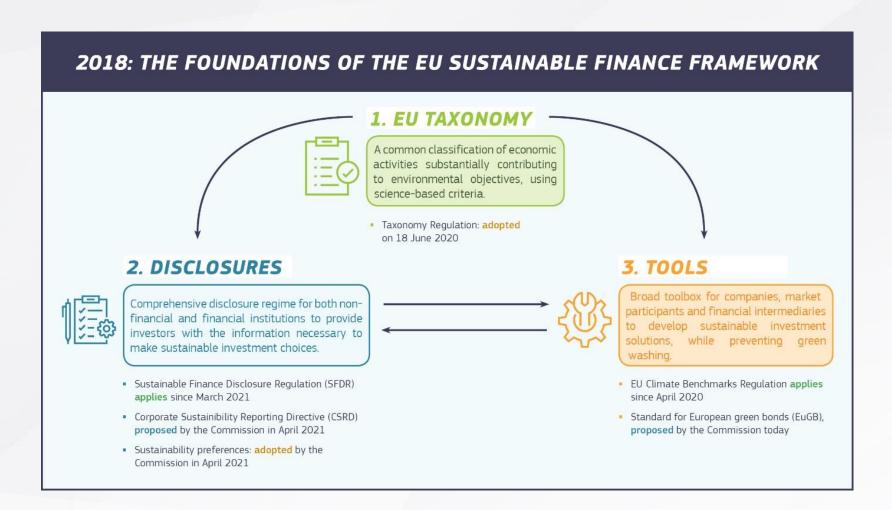




# 2. The role of the EU







### The taxonomy is:

- A list of activities engaging in which will bring us on the path to reach climate neutrality
- A push to move private capital into sustainable economic activities

### The taxonomy is <u>not</u>:

- A "whitelist" for activities for which public funding will be made specifically available
- A prohibition to invest in non-listed activities







## TO SUSTAINABILITY

This strategy provides the tools and policies to enable economic actors across the economy to finance their transition plans and to reach climate and broader environmental goals, whatever their starting point.



### **INCLUSIVENESS**

This strategy caters for the needs of, and provides opportunities to individuals and small and medium companies to have greater access to sustainable finance.



# FINANCIAL SECTOR RESILIENCE AND CONTRIBUTION

This strategy sets out how the financial sectoritself can contribute to meet Green Deal targets, while also becoming more resilient and combatting greenwashing.



### **GLOBAL AMBITION**

This strategy sets out how to promote an international consensus for an ambitious global sustainable finance agenda.





3. Relevance for the buildings sector outside the EU





### FREE Japanese climate experts propose national "transition taxonomy" for finance

The recommendations are another blow to the EU's plans to drive a global classification system



Categories: Hot Topics > Regulation | Hot Topics > SDGs | Institutions > Companies | Institutions > Central banks & regulator Asset classes > Bonds | Environmental > Climate change | Social

Russia's Green Taxonomy could com imminently, says Head of ESG Finan natio

Develop

### Malaysia Publishes Climat Taxonomy For Financial In

Eye on ESG Blog

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Perspectives & Events | Malaysia Publishes Climate Change Taxonomy For Financial Institution

On April 30, 2021, Bank taxonomy for the financia Guiding Principles (GPs) according to the extent t

In this Blog Post, we disc taxonomy could mean fc

#### Scope and Applicabil

The CCPT is intended to banks, insurers and reins Other financial sector sta asset selection decisions

Taxonomy Roadmap for Chile The report course different pathways for the Chilean Government to consider in creating a national green taxonomy and provides an overview of existing taxonomies, analysing its potential benefits and challenges



On March 30, 2021, finance ministers and central bank governors from members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) announced their support for an ASEAN Taxonomy of Sustainable Finance (ASEAN Taxonomy). Like the <u>Taxonomy Regulation</u> in the European Union, the ASEAN Taxonomy will serve as ASEAN's common language for sustainable finance and account for

SEAN's specific needs. The initiative is supported by a

range of ASEAN hodies, including its Canital Markets Forum, Insurance Regulators'





- International diplomacy
- Governments decarbonization paths



- Individual investment decisions
- Fund managers
- Real estate actors

An opportunity to close the the green buildings investment gap?

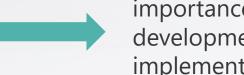
All EU external action/NDICI funding to be taxonomy aligned

Likely shortage of "taxonomy aligned" activities that can be financed by private sector actors wishing to green their portfolio





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importance of pipeline development and implementation!



(Summarized) example from the <u>draft</u> delegated act on environmental objective: mitigation and adaptation

Type of activity	Technical Screening Criteria	Do No Significant Harm Criteria
Construction of new buildings	<ul> <li>Primary Energy Demand of new construction is at least 20% lower than nearly zero energy building requirements in national measures.</li> <li>Energy performance certified by certificate.</li> <li>For buildings &gt; 500m2: life cycle global warming potential calculated, and level of performance is tested post construction, both disclosed to investors and clients</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Adaptation: general criteria</li> <li>Water: Minimum criteria for water use of installations</li> <li>Waste: at least 70% of non hazardous construction and demolition waste prepared for re-use, recycling or other material recovery</li> <li>Pollution: no use of substances of very high concern (i.e. asbestos), low levels of formaldehyde etc.</li> <li>Biodiversity: Environmental Impact Assessment carried out, no construction on arable/crop land, forest land, or greenfield land of high biodiversity</li> </ul>
Renovation of existing buildings	<ul> <li>As applicable in national regulations for major renovations</li> <li>Or reduction of primary energy demand of at least 30%.</li> </ul>	As above, without biodiversity



# 4. Conclusions

## **Key take-away**



EU institutions, member states and citizens are in a strong position for increasing capital available for sustainable development aligned to the Paris Agreement

The taxonomy is meant to boost private finance for green buildings by providing clear guidance on what is sustainable (and what not)

Spillover effects in non-EU countries can be expected





## **PEEB – Programme for Energy Efficiency in Buildings**

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