

# Transforming Experience into Policy

**D5.8 - Policy Recommendations for Decision Makers**



**RE MODULES**  
flexible building renovation shared solutions

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## HISTORY OF CHANGES

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0.2	FEB 2024	UIPI	Second draft submitted to partners for validation.
0.3	APR 2024	UIPI	Final draft submitted to partners for validation.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The aim of this document was to provide actionable policy recommendations to overcome regulatory, legislative, and practical barriers encountered during the re-MODULEES project. To reach this objective, a thorough examination of obstacles, limitations, and potential solutions related to the implementation of re-MODULEES solutions was conducted across seven pilot markets in Europe: France, Italy, Slovenia, Greece, Bulgaria, the Netherlands, and Spain. The ultimate goal is to ensure the widespread adoption of re-MODULEES by multiple Member States, product suppliers, and stakeholders, thereby facilitating the scaling-up of the concept and strategic decision-making.

This report thus provides a set of comprehensive policy recommendations aimed at guiding EU policies to overcome barriers and address shortcomings experienced at the national level. Recommendations also target national and local policy makers to support the successful implementation of retrofitting projects within the EU Green Deal's objectives in the building sector.

Unlocking the full potential of energy-efficient renovations requires targeted policy interventions at all levels of governance. At the European level, legislative harmonisation, implementation support, and funding for innovation are crucial. Nationally, efforts should focus on standardising regulations, providing financial support, raising public awareness, and upskilling the workforce. Local authorities play a vital role in streamlining permit processes, offering incentives, and facilitating capacity building. Additionally, the deployment of One-Stop-Shops (OSS) can provide integrated support for renovation projects, from planning to execution, ensuring reliability and efficiency. By addressing these multifaceted challenges, policymakers can pave the way for a resilient and sustainable renovation ecosystem aligned with EU climate goals.

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## Introduction

### What is re-MODULEES?

The re-MODULEES project, funded under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program, is dedicated to addressing the critical need for extensive building renovations in Europe to achieve the 2050 decarbonisation targets. Despite the urgency of this task, numerous barriers on both the supply and demand sides have hindered large-scale building renovations, particularly in the residential sector.

To combat these challenges, re-MODULEES seeks to create a comprehensive EU-wide retrofit market activation framework specifically tailored for residential buildings. This initiative is supported by both digital and physical Renovation Hubs operating at the Member State and EU levels. The project focuses on several key objectives:

1. **Ease of Deep Renovations:** re-MODULEES aims to make deep renovations more accessible, efficient, and appealing to stakeholders by promoting market adoption and providing access to key results from relevant European projects.
2. **Consumer-Centred Approach:** The project seeks to encourage relevant stakeholders to embrace renovations by fostering holistic consumer-centred business models and decision tools grounded in evidence-based performance.
3. **Barrier Mitigation:** re-MODULEES strives to facilitate decision-making regarding deep renovations by addressing social, financial, and legal barriers on both the demand and supply sides.
4. **Demonstration Markets:** The project is dedicated to implementing re-MODULEES actions in seven demonstration pilot markets, showcasing practical applications.
5. **European Rollout:** Finally, re-MODULEES aims to extend its concept to a European level, backed by go-to-market strategies at the Member State level to ensure broad impact and sustainability.

The project's consortium consists of 16 partners across eight countries, bringing together expertise in user-centred business models, renovation platforms, legislative and financial barriers, supply-side management, and extensive European networks for dissemination. Ultimately, re-MODULEES seeks to transform the renovation landscape, enabling more energy-efficient and sustainable residential buildings across Europe to contribute significantly to decarbonisation efforts.

### The objectives of the Report

Throughout the project, an exhaustive examination was conducted of the various obstacles, limitations, and possible solutions identified within the project and during the implementation of re-MODULEES solutions in seven pilot markets: France, Italy, Slovenia, Greece, Bulgaria, the Netherlands, and Spain. The effort led to the **formulation of policy recommendations that address the complexities of retrofitting within the European context.**

The goal is to provide a set of first-hand actionable policy recommendations to overcome the accessed, collected and documented regulatory and legislative barriers as well as practical obstacles that emerged during the project's duration. These barriers were scrutinised with the objective to identify insights that could empower policy work at various levels, encompassing the European Union, national, and local arenas.

The analysis is based on the re-MODULEES EU Retrofit Markets Map, which provides a comprehensive overview of the markets scrutinised within the project, focusing on common challenges, barriers, and opportunities at both the local and EU levels. It emphasises the importance of understanding market dynamics to formulate tailored policy actions and collaborative strategies. Our work is also rooted in the analysis done in the re-MODULEES User-centred Value Proposition Final report (D5.3). This extensive report articulates contributions from each of the seven pilot markets, based on localised expertise from the retrofit value-chain and interactions with representatives of their respective pilot markets. Rooted in ethnography-inspired research, it highlighted existing challenges as well as opportunities for innovation and transformation.

Furthermore, the analysis benefited from insights gathered through interviews with key stakeholders and decision-makers, as well as the practical experiences and perspectives from the frontlines of retrofitting initiatives.

The result of this work is to summarise those challenges and present a comprehensive and easy set of policy recommendations aimed at guiding EU policies in overcoming barriers and addressing shortcomings experienced at the national level. Secondly, it proposes a set of policy and legislative recommendations intended to assist national and local legislators in ensuring the successful implementation of retrofitting projects within the EU Green Deal's objectives in the building sector.

The goal is to ensure that re-MODULEES is adopted by multiple Member States, product suppliers, and stakeholders, and therefore addresses requirements for upscaling the concept and adoption of strategic decisions. This paper is offered as a resource for policymakers, industry stakeholders, and advocates of sustainable retrofitting, reflecting the re-MODULEES's partners collective commitment to improve our building stock.

## The challenges

The renovation market faces a challenging environment, complicating the initiation, planning, and execution of retrofit projects. These obstacles encountered in the renovation market can be categorised into two distinct types: **normative** and **operational**.

Addressing these challenges is essential for streamlining processes, enhancing access to financing, and ultimately facilitating the uptake of renovation activities in the market.

### Normative Barriers

Renovation is stressful, challenging and complex process with many interconnected aspects and unforeseen works. On top of this, normative barriers include legislative and regulatory hurdles that stem from the legal and policy framework governing the renovation sector. Normative barriers often manifest through bureaucratic red tape, leading to delays, increased costs, and uncertainty among stakeholders.

Among the barriers identified throughout the project, several common regulatory and legislative obstacles have been identified:

- **Often too Complex Building Codes:** Complex and varying building codes across Member States create regulatory obstacles and uncertainties for retrofit projects.
- **Energy Efficiency Standards and Ambition:** The lack of clear objectives and standards can impede the development of a robust renovation market. On the opposite, stringent energy efficiency standards can pose a significant challenge for retrofitting older buildings. Requiring specific support tools and solutions to be in place to facilitate the implementation of those rules.
- **Lack of Harmonisation:** The absence of harmonisation in certification and performance standards complicates cross-border retrofit initiatives.
- **Regulatory Complexities:** Complex and conflicting regulatory landscape in e.g. building, rental, and condominium laws or in zoning, urban or heritage law can lead to delays, increased costs, and legal uncertainties may impact the overall improvement and maintenance of properties. On the opposite, poor housing policies and lack of regulation considering building ownership may result in ownership models that do not motivate or enable property owners to invest in building renovation.
- **Administrative Hurdles:** Significant administrative hurdles, lengthy permit processes, and complex contract specifications deter investments in retrofit projects, increasing both costs and delays.
- **Complex Application Procedures for Financial Support:** Regulations and policies governing the application for financial assistance for retrofit projects are often complex and bureaucratic, hindering access to necessary funds.
- **Lack of Technical Assistance:** The renovation process frequently stalls at the initial stages due to the lack of proper technical assistance and support for building owners, who may lack the resources and expertise to undertake deep renovations

independently. This issue is enhanced by the fact that in most countries, individual private homeownership is the predominant ownership and management model, and despite their best intentions, most owners are not educated to deal with or even fully aware of responsibilities that are associated with the notion of responsible building management.

## Operational Barriers

Next to the normative barriers, practical challenges pertain to the day-to-day realities of implementing renovation projects. These barriers are deeply rooted in the market structure, stakeholder capabilities, and socio-economic factors influencing the renovation ecosystem.

Practical shortcomings identified in the project include:

- **Fragmented Market:** The retrofit market is fragmented, with numerous small-scale providers, leading to a lack of systemic coordination of diverse stakeholders, insufficient use of comprehensive project management strategies, and advanced planning and monitoring tools. The same is valid for the demand side with a multitude of clients and segments and subsegment of the real estate markets to targets. The fragmentation yields issues in coordination and communication between key stakeholders that make up the market, rooted in the general lack of cross-trades (interdisciplinary) collaboration.
- **Quality Control Challenges:** There are several factors that can negatively impact the quality of building renovation and retrofit projects, such as the variability of retrofit scopes, the gap between existing competences required for efficient building management and use against the ever-developing materials, systems and technologies used in buildings, self-build culture and others. Thus, there is a clear need for standardised protocols to guarantee consistent outcomes, need for strict adherence to best practices, thorough inspections (good quality commissioning), and ongoing professional development.
- **Skilled Labor Shortage:** A shortage of skilled labour in the retrofit sector hinders the timely and efficient execution of projects. To the point above, besides lack of competences and knowledge on the demand side, lack of skill, knowledge and capacity in the construction sector workforce creates a gap between the developing technology and standards on the one hand, and the skills required to perform high quality building renovations on the other.
- **Financing Challenges:** Building renovation is just as much a financial challenge as it can be a technical one. Even for functioning organisations and homeowners with financial incomes well above the poverty line, the difficulty of accessing up-front financing for retrofit projects can constitute a major hurdle when considering such investments. The costs associated with such projects can demotivate them altogether, or prompt them to prioritize low price over high quality. Other factors that make building renovations a financial challenge include lack of long-term vision, absence of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) market, difficulty in assessing bankability criteria for projects, uncertainties associated with the client's solvency, artificial price inflation and/or deflation and others.



- **Low Public Awareness:** Low public awareness and engagement regarding the benefits of building retrofits inhibit market growth and demand for energy-efficient solutions. Responsible ownership is not a notion which people would understand and subscribe to by default, which often results in poor building management practices, partial views (and ambitions) on retrofits, and other aspects that have a negative effect on the overall rate and the general collective awareness regarding the importance of building renovations.
- **Complex Decision-Making Processes:** Particularly in multi-apartment buildings and other complex ownership scenarios implying some form of fragmented and/or diffused decision-making authority, the decision making process can further impede renovation actions as individual and collective decision-making often involve negotiations, consensus-building regarding the project needs, and navigating various stakeholders' preferences and interests. This issue can be made worse in case if the responsible housing associations and managers lack willingness (which can take the form of a lack of motivation) to take the initiative to orchestrate all the relevant stakeholders and drive the process towards its realisation.
- **Lack of Trust in the Building Renovation & Retrofitting Market:** Lack of trust in the market is a result of several factors, including uncertainties and doubts regarding the financial feasibility of the investment, (fear of) poor financial planning, negative public image (distrust) of key stakeholders and institutions, communication issues (e.g. lack of reliable information, poor communication and coordination between key stakeholders), and other.
- **Lack of Motivation on the Demand Side:** In addition to the somewhat objective factors listed above (financial challenges, project management complexities, lack of knowledge etc.), the barriers that fall under social and cultural category deserve a special note. These include symbolic meanings, traditions, identities, social statues and other factors that can have a negative effect on people's motivation and ultimately willingness to pursue or support building renovations. Concrete examples closely associated with this aspect would be the self-build culture (the tendency towards DIY building/renovation practices) and refusal of new building techniques or technologies due to embodied knowledge and nostalgia.

To conclude, the normative and operational challenges that characterise the renovation market's complex environment stresses the need for (coordinated) policy action at the EU, national, and local levels. These challenges not only hinder the efficient initiation, planning, and execution of retrofit projects, but also impede the broader objectives of energy efficiency, carbon reduction, and sustainable development.



## Key considerations for formulating the Policy Recommendations

Re-MODULEES project is set in a specific regulatory and policy framework surrounding the European Green Deal: the Renovation Wave Strategy and the Fit-for-55 package, including the recently adopted recast of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), as well as their subsequent implementation in Member States' policy contexts that is yet to take place. The recommendations of re-MODULEES are therefore timely. Through its multiple initiatives (R&I actions), that can be either privately or institutionally led, the outcomes of project's deliverables bring various benefits to stakeholders, whether they are directly involved or supporters, in the deep renovation value chain and the overall EU policy ambition.

Re-MODULEES project enabled the formalisation of blocks of knowledge useful for all types of stakeholders in the energy renovation of building, in particular:

- **the re-MODULEES integrated platform**, which is intended to be a portal that reference tools, knowledge and qualified actors for all stakeholders involved in the energy renovation of buildings;
- **a series of re-HUB**, a flexible organisation of renovation parties, sharing experience and knowledge on energy renovation issues or activities.

The integrated platform has been designed to provide effective **tools for One Stop Shops (OSS) for energy efficiency in buildings** using a database of tools and applications that can be adapted to the context of the local renovation market. By OSS, we understand Integrated Home Renovation Services targeted at end-users.

The re-HUB located in various EU regions showcase how a flexible organisation, tunable to local energy renovation contexts could pave the way for setting-up more OSS in Europe by gathering stakeholders, expertise and solutions. After the end of re-MODULEES, the re-HUB will guarantee the continuation of the building renovation process (delivery of the modular service) as an international governed hub (within a special purpose vehicle) with regional nodes (branches regional formalised networks of relevant stakeholders). These regional nodes are the evolution of the re-LABs.

Throughout the project, One Stop Shops (OSS) for renovation also confirmed to be a decisive factor (without being the only one) to accelerate the local market in building renovation. This interlinkage became more and more obvious and relevant and generated an increased focus on the topic and how re-MODULEES solutions can better support the policy objectives of the new recast EPBD regarding OSS for energy efficiency in buildings, i.e. OSS shall be independent public entities, cross-sectorial and interdisciplinary and shall provide their service free of charge for the users. They shall provide tailor made advice to different target groups on energy efficiency in buildings and may accompany integrated district renovation programs. One Stop Shops may cooperate with private actors that provide and promote services relevant for energy renovation, such as financing solutions and the execution of energy renovations, and, where

appropriate, that connect potential projects, in particular smaller-scale projects, with market actors.

Re-MODULEES project does not stand alone in its effort. Its sister EU-funded project *SaveTheHomes (the European Union's H2020 framework programme for research and innovation under grant agreement no 892749)* also produced policy recommendations, that have been crafted to address the multifaceted challenges and barriers hindering the widespread deployment and effectiveness of OSS across Europe. Adequate policy frameworks, coordinated renovation market development, service based on local market needs, ensuring consumer trust, communication and raising awareness, as well as enabling financial ecosystem are key factors to unlock the full potential of OSS to ensure and accelerate the transition towards a more sustainable and resilient built environment.

## The Policy Recommendations

Targeted policy interventions to overcome the barriers identified during the project can help to streamline renovation processes, but also unlock significant potential for energy savings and sustainability. Policy actions at all levels should design and implement measures that address these multifaceted challenges, paving the way for a resilient and future-proof renovation ecosystem. They should help to better harmonise regulatory frameworks, incentivise investments, support skill development, and raise awareness about the benefits of retrofitting. In addition, coordinated approach is needed to facilitate market's transition towards more efficient, sustainable building practices, aligning with broader EU goals for climate neutrality.

**Six general trends have been identified that guide the policy recommendations as an outcome of the re-MODULEES project:**

1. **Legislative Framework and Implementation:** A consistent regulatory framework across the European Union is needed, and an emphasis needs to be placed on ensuring the timely implementation of existing objectives and recent legislative developments related to energy efficiency and building performance. This involves supporting the implementation of directives such as the Energy Performance of Building Directive (EPBD) at the EU national levels, but subsequently at all levels of authority required nationally.
2. **Investment in Research, Innovation, and Education:** The importance of research and innovation in retrofit technologies and methodologies is raising exponentially. Increased funding for research and educational programs aimed at upskilling the workforce is seen as crucial for promoting best practices and addressing knowledge gaps in the retrofitting market.

3. **Deployment of Circular Value Chains through Construction & Supply-Chain Clusters and Living Labs:** By establishing a cooperative platform, fragmented SMEs and solutions providers in the renovation sector can unite their resources and expertise. Through shared tools, knowledge exchange, and collaborative projects, these professionals can collectively address market needs with efficiency and quality assurance. This cooperative model fosters a supportive ecosystem where SMEs benefit from pooled resources, enhanced market visibility, and access to comprehensive services. By leveraging collective strength, they can compete effectively, innovate, and expand market reach, ultimately driving growth and sustainability in the renovation sector.
4. **Promotion and Support of One Stop Shops (OSS):** The establishment and deployment of OSS need to be highlighted as a key trend across all levels of governance. These OSS are envisioned as central hubs that provide comprehensive support for building renovation projects, including technical, financial, and planning advice, as well as coordination and quality control services.
5. **Local Empowerment and Tailored Interventions:** Specific needs and conditions of communities need to be addressed. Local initiatives should focus on enhancing capacity building, streamlining permit processes, introducing incentives, and deploying OSS to facilitate retrofit projects and overcome operational barriers at the grassroots level, thus favorising the bottom-up approach of governance.
6. **Promoting Awareness and Outreach:** Targeted awareness campaigns and outreach activities to raise awareness about only the benefits of renovations, but also the possibilities and incentives in place to stimulate the uptake of energy renovations.

The following recommendations, also in line with the six general trends mentioned here above, address the **three different levels of decision-making relevant in the building sector: European, national and local levels, and are addressed to individual and institutional policy-makers at these levels of decisions.**

### **At European Level**

The recent legislative developments around the Green Deal and in particular the adoption of the Recast Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, the Construction Products Regulation as well as many other pieces of legislation that will impact the building sector, jointly these should contribute to the transformation of the retrofitting market.

However, in order to surpass the challenges and barriers identified during this project, a special focus is needed on the following policy actions and measures:

- **Legislative Harmonisation:** Work towards further harmonising EU directives, in order to reduce the risk of silos, related to energy efficiency and building performance, as well as to reduce discrepancies between national laws and promote a consistent regulatory framework.
- **Implementation and Compliance:** Ensure the timely implementation of the existing objectives and recent Green Deal related legislative developments related to the building sector, in particular support the implementation of the 2024 Energy Performance of Buildings Directive.
- **EU-wide Certification:** Create a unified certification system for retrofit projects and professionals to ensure quality and facilitate cross-border recognition, instilling confidence in retrofit investments.
- **Innovation and Research Funding:** Increase EU funding for research and innovation in retrofit technologies and methodologies, in research related to adaptive climate strategies and circular retrofit solutions for the existing building stock (moving away from merely energy efficient retrofit approaches), in promoting best practices across Member States such as for instance industrialisation of prefabricates, as well as in supporting the deployment of OSS and construction and supply value chain.

## At National Level

At the national level, the building sector and retrofitting market are often governed by a complex web of regulations, standards, and practices that are uniquely tailored to the specific needs, challenges, and priorities of each country. This localised approach allows for greater sensitivity to regional architectural styles, construction methods, and climatic conditions, which significantly influence retrofitting strategies and outcomes.

National Governments have the capacity to respond to the dynamic nature of the building sector, enacting policies and measures that directly address the unique barriers and opportunities within their jurisdictions. Among the policies and measures identified in the project, the following ones would need to be addressed at national level:

- **Ensure the Timely Implementation of the Energy Performance of Building Directive (EPBD) Requirements:** Support reaching the objectives requiring that average primary energy use of the whole residential building stock decreases by 16% by 2030 and by 20-22% by 2035 and that in 2030 all non-residential buildings are above the 16% worst performing and by 2033 above 26%.
- **Standardisation of Regulations:** Harmonise building codes and retrofit standards across regions to reduce complexity and promote compliance.
- **Financial Support Programs:** Establish national funds or guarantees to facilitate access to financing for retrofit projects, targeting both residential and commercial buildings. In addition, there is a need for policies that support commercial activities in the specific segment of building renovation and retrofitting (as opposed to newbuilds) as an incentive to industries and professionals working in construction. The latter may include

specific tax reductions, subsidised training and education for building professionals or similar actions.

- **Incentives for Holistic Renovation:** While the focus is mainly on energy renovations, there should also be incentives' programmes for other circular and holistic approaches that don't necessarily bring primarily energy savings.
- **Develop Post-Subsidies Monitoring Programmes:** While the performance liability should remain on the side of the suppliers, it would be important that the means to performance monitoring at the national level are ensured through aggregated and anonymised data.
- **Increased emphasis on Green Public Procurement (GPP) in public tenders:** There is a need to strengthen Green Criteria in public tenders, particularly in construction and renovation projects. The objective is drive market demand for sustainable building practices and encourage the development of a skilled workforce in the private renovation sector.
- **Upskilling the Workforce:** Promote the development of new educational courses and professional programmes to bridge the knowledge gap among planners, designers, and installers. This should include activities that encourage workforce capacity building and streamlining (facilitating) collaboration of key stakeholders (cross-craft or interdisciplinary collaboration). Furthermore, housing associations and managers need both skills and structured support in their efforts to orchestrate diffused decision-making scenarios. Similarly, financial experts and building experts would benefit from training on how building renovations and retrofits relate to their specific fields of expertise.
- **Boost the Development of One Stop Shops to Support Building Renovation as required in the recast EPBD:**
  - Ensure a population-based deployment of at least one OSS per 80,000 inhabitants;
  - Guarantee a strategic location reachable within a 90-minute travel distance and focus on regions with an above-average age of building stock and areas implementing integrated district renovation programmes;
  - Put in place a holistic support, not only offering advice on technical and financial possibilities but also catering to vulnerable households, those affected by energy poverty, and individuals in low-income households.
  - On a more general take, OSS should offer spaces, ideally physical, that serve, support, and grow communities that pursue living in healthy, safe, and energy-efficient built environments by improving existing buildings, both with investments towards building renovation as well as through practices of efficient energy use and building maintenance.
- **Boost the Deployment of Construction and Supply Sector Value Chain National Clusters:** Support the creation of a conducive environment for the development and growth of interconnected opportunities within these sectors in order to drive the economic progress, job creation and technological innovation.

- **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Launch national campaigns to raise awareness about the benefits of energy-efficient retrofits, emphasising long-term savings and environmental impact and promoting a positive public attitude towards building renovations and healthy indoor environment. Leading by example should be part of this mission by default, investing resources towards improving public infrastructure and practices associated with energy-efficient building use.

## At Local Level

Local policies and initiatives can have a direct impact on the day-to-day execution of projects. The local level is therefore a key level of governance that should be considered in particular to address the practical challenges encountered in the retrofitting market.

Local authorities, being closer to the citizens and businesses, are uniquely positioned to tailor interventions that directly address the specific needs and conditions of their communities. This proximity allows for more agile and responsive governance, enabling the implementation of targeted measures to overcome operational barriers in the renovation ecosystem.

- **Enhance Capacity Building:** Increase training and certification programs for local contractors and workers to improve retrofit quality and reliability.
- **Streamline Permit Processes:** Simplify and expedite local permit processes to encourage more retrofit projects and reduce administrative burdens.
- **Local Incentives:** Develop local subsidy programs or tax rebates to make retrofit projects more financially viable for homeowners and businesses. This could also include providing incentives for single solutions (such as with moving forward with a recommended step in a Building Renovation Passport or if the solution is undertaken with required materials by a skilled certified technician etc.)
- **Introduce a 'System Integrator':** Create a role for a 'system integrator', technical units with expertise spanning retrofit techniques, financial aspects, and accountability for renovation outcomes. This can streamline the process, provide clear options, and help building owners navigate the complexities. These actors should be part of (or collaborate closely with) the OSS, which for such renovation and retrofitting project facilitators should function as a repository of tools and services.
- **Support the Creation of Local Clusters Bringing Together Constructors and Supply Value Chain** in order to foster at local level knowledge sharing, collaboration and exchange of expertise between the construction professionals.
- **Support the Deployment of One Stop Shops Throughout the Territory:** as required in the EPBD to complement the top-down approach with a bottom-up reinforcement. OSS should support citizens and organisations (private investors) with planning and executing building renovations by streamlining the location-specific jobs implied in the process, such as gathering reliable information required for planning and execution of the specific project, offering unbiased expert advice (technical, financial, planning), crafting financial plans, support with coordination and negotiation with contractors &



suppliers while ensuring a fair market, support with quality control and others. The OSS could potentially also function as a warrant for reliability of service providers implied in the project if customers would choose from a list of certified or otherwise qualified providers suggested by the OSS. As such a service, OSS could function as a gateway to turnkey projects, integrating the currently diffused renovation processes and uncoordinated service providers into a facilitated project management service. For suppliers and individual specialized service providers, OSS should function as a hub for networking with other reliable service providers from related segments of the market.

- **Support the Durability of One Stop Shops:** Local levels of governance need to ensure stable and sufficient funding sources for OSS operations and activities, also by fostering partnerships and collaborations. The OSS staff needs to be updated on recent policy developments and solutions in order to provide with quality services and maintaining the credibility of OSS. Many OSS are mainly energy oriented still, while they need to be future resistant and aim to avoid silos approaches in building renovation.

### **The way forward – post re-MODULEES considerations**

In order to conclude these policy recommendations, it is also important to think outside of the outcomes of the project itself, and to reflect upon what the future holds in terms of lessons learned as EU climate policy moves forward towards the new EU legislative term (2024-2029). The re-MODULEES Consortium therefore calls the CINEA and the future policy makers to:

- **Provide Policy and Financial Framework for Establishment of OSS for OSS:** a single unit gathering knowledge and lessons learned of existing OSS, that could also further assist in other local initiatives.
- **Create a Platform i.e. Open Access Online Hub** (long-term and EU funded) **as a Database of, and for, EU-Funded Projects** that would act as a hub for collecting information and interlinking efforts and experiences. The goal would be to constitute a knowledge hub, a common space for sharing under CINEA.
- **Ensure the Durability of the Solutions and Concepts Created within the EU Projects**, particularly those that ensure synergies with the supply chain able to provide better information on innovative solutions. To link it with the previous point, this could be done through a live repository of information on the renovation process (literature) targeted at professionals e.g. catalogues of innovative solutions developed by EU projects.
- **Validation of the Solutions through Monitored Data/Feedback** from pilot sites should be collected and released. This is currently not the case and the data is not harmonised.



## **Concluding remarks**

The re-MODULEES considerations underscore the necessity for a forward-thinking approach towards shaping the future of EU climate policy. It is relevant to draw upon the lessons learned from past initiatives and embrace innovative strategies to address emerging challenges.

The recommendations put forth by the re-MODULEES Consortium serve as a roadmap for policymakers, urging the establishment of robust frameworks to support open-source solutions, facilitate knowledge sharing, and ensure the durability of project outcomes. The policymakers can maximise the impact of EU-funded projects, urging the establishment of robust frameworks to support open-source solutions, facilitate knowledge sharing, and ensure the durability of project outcomes. Enhancing support mechanisms and promoting transparency through mandatory feedback reporting will enable continuous improvement and accountability within the policy landscape. Embracing these recommendations will not only enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of EU climate policy initiatives but also pave the way for a more resilient and impactful future.