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Nearly Zero Energy Hotels – from European policy to real life examples

Professor Theocharis Tsoutsos, neZEH project coordinator

11/09/2015, neZEH workshop in CLIMAMED 2015, Paris, France



Fossil fuels-climate changes



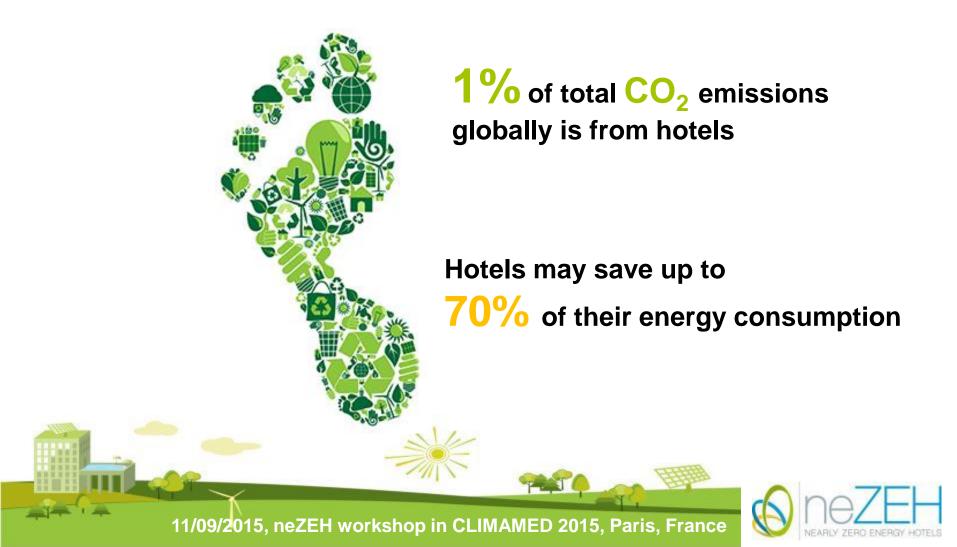
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Hoteliers business challenges

- > Reduction of operational and maintenance cost
- > Energy security
- > Market and guests expectations-Competitiveness
- > Regulatory-legislative changes
- > Funding opportunities for renovation
- > Climate change environmental footprint
- > Sustainability

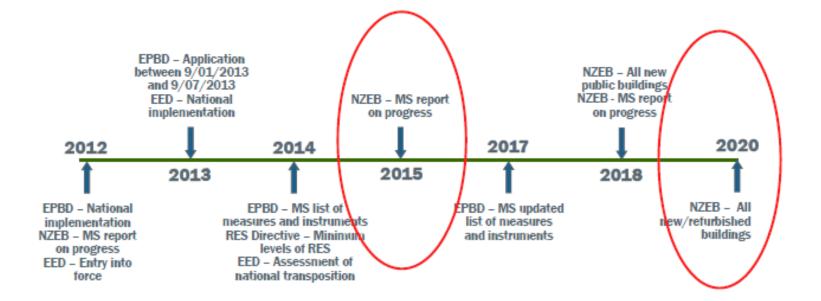
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Energy policies in buildings calls for nZEB



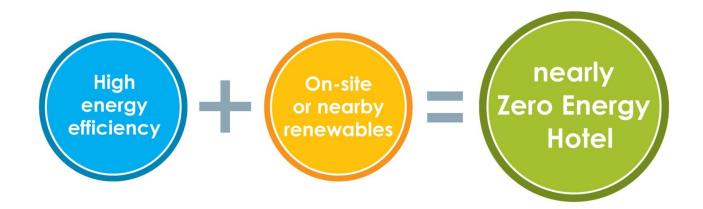




What is a neZEH hotel



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A nearly Zero-Energy Hotel (neZEH) is a hotel that has a very high energy performance. The nearly zero or very low amount of energy required should be covered to a very significant extent from renewable sources, including energy from renewable sources produced on-site or nearby.

Following the EPBD recast





• Lack of national nZEB criteria for hotels and refurbished buildings. Most hotels are not considered as a separate building type. Some criteria usually focus on new buildings and not refurbished.

 National refurbishment roadmaps and action plans on increasing the number of NZEB are delayed or lack concrete policy ambitious measures, in all neZEH partner countries except for France.

 It is needed improved coordination of the programmes at local/regional/national level. The policies supporting infrastructural investments need to harmonized with the new and upcoming national policies related to nZEB and the refurbishment of the existing building stock.







To accelerate the rate of refurbishment of existing hotels into Nearly Zero Energy Buildings (nZEBs):

- \rightarrow providing technical advice to hoteliers for nZEB renovations
- → demonstrating the competitive advantages and sustainability of nZEB projects
- → challenging further large scale renovations through capacity building activities and policy recommendations
- \rightarrow showcasing best practices and promoting front runners.



Being a nearly Zero Energy Hotel implies acting in 3 key areas:

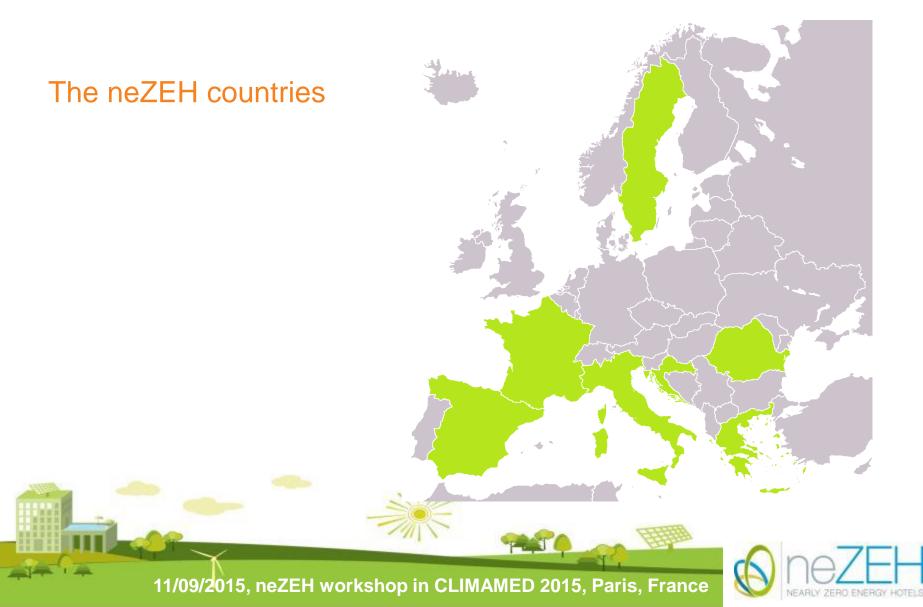






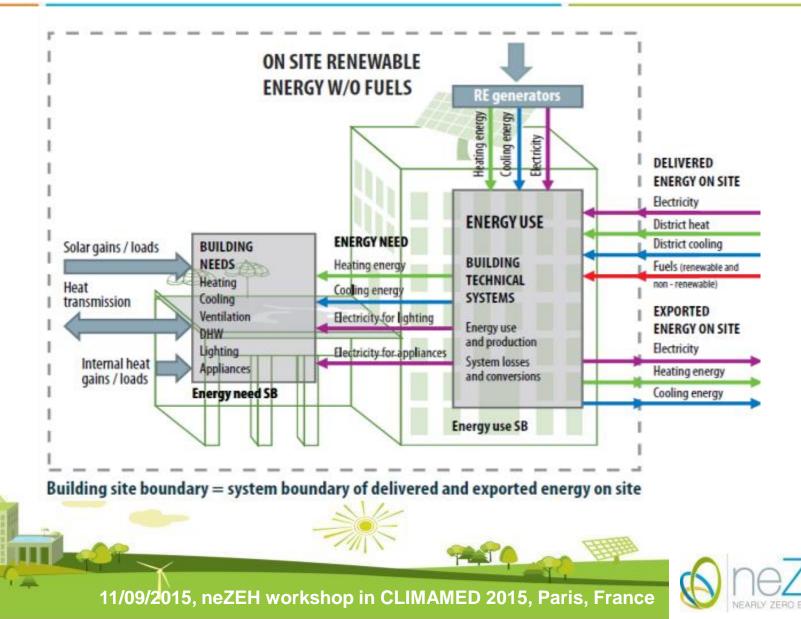






Benchmarking Methodology Energy flows in a hotel building (hosting functions and appliances)







Country	Primary energy indicator for new hotels (kWh/m ² y)*	Primary energy indicator for refurbished hotels (kWh/m ² y)*
Croatia	77	100
France	115	150
Greece	76	122
Italy	71	93
Romania	80	104
Spain	72	94
Sweden	134	175
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*Includes hosting functions + appliances

Comparing with the primary energy indicator for hotels 2008 level an average of 75% energy reduction has to be achieved Correction factors were applied based on nZEB numerical definitions for refurbished buildings in EU Member States



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neZEH Tools available



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- Guidelines for <u>energy</u> audits
- neZEH Energy Survey tool (HES)
- Guidelines for Feasibility studies
- Template for cost scenario estimation
- Guidelines for tendering and contracting
- Training for hoteliers and staff
- Practical tips and guides for hoteliers



Residence L'Orologio, Italy







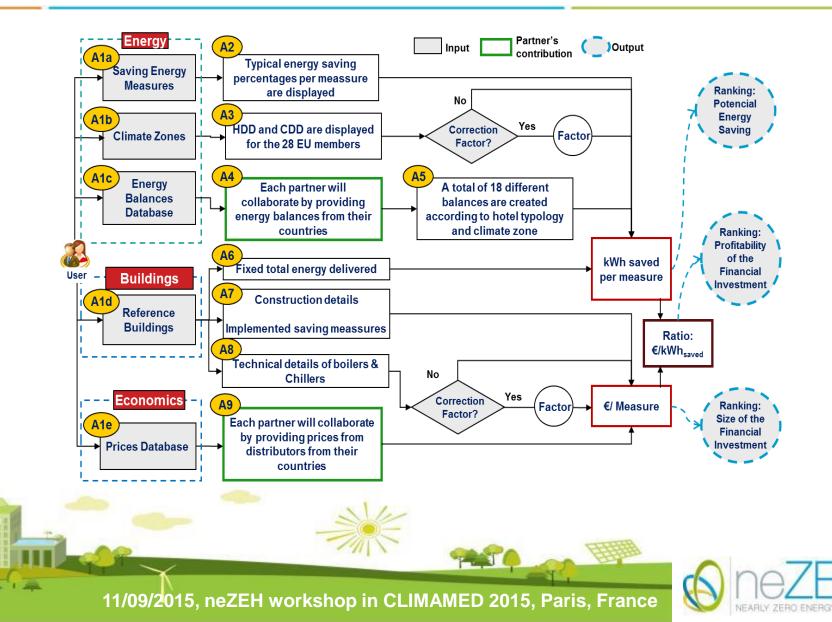
Suitable solutions/techniques, to be implemented in hotels towards nZEB, were grouped in different categories

- energy management
- reduction of heating and cooling demands
- equipment efficiency
- system efficiency
- renewable energy



Technologies Ranking Tool





14-16 hotels towards neZEH



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RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON neZEH NATIONAL DISCUSSION PLATFORMS





- the majority are SMEs (micro and small sized family business) lacking technical know-how about energy efficiency in buildings; no skilled technical personnel in the building maintenance or dealing with energy management
- the existing rating and certification schemes for hotels measure resource efficiency and sustainability and go beyond buildings energy performance. A green certification means is a marketing opportunity
- Hotels cannot be typical non-residential buildings; they include a number of energy intensive operations associated to their customers' comfort and expectations, therefore closely linked with their competiveness and viability.





CREDIBLE & INDEPENDENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

• Hotels need reliable technical assistance and financial incentives to design a refurbishment project and plan it financially (i.e. "one-stop-shop" or help desks)

• Well trained and certified technicians are required, capable to implement Energy Efficiency works and to install high end energy efficiency infrastructure in the hotels to keep standards, eco-friendly and close to the EU Directives,.

• For SME hotels with reduced financial capacity, individual deep renovation roadmaps can be elaborated to achieve the nZEB status in a certain time frame. The roadmaps should specify the individual cost-optimal renovation steps, plan their logical timeline and consider the financial feasibility.





CAPACITY BUILDING

• The staff of the national/regional organizations should be trained to be familiarized with the existing commitments towards neZB.

 Hotel managers and the hotel personnel need to be trained in order to invest in and operate ambitious refurbishment projects on:

- basic technical knowledge related to energy efficiency
- economic and environmental advantages

THE FUTURE IS NOW!



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Training and Capacity Building

- Training courses for hotel owners and staff.
- Technical guides, practical informational material.
- Access to experts' advice.



E - toolkit

- Assess your energy performance.
- Find out solutions to minimize your hotel's energy cost and to reach neZEH status.
- Get an estimate of cost and return on investment.



Marketing tools

- Tailor made marketing guidelines and promotional tools for nearly zero energy hotels.
- Visibility at European and national level.



neZEH community

- Be part of a European network.
- Exchange experiences and know-how with other hotel owners.
- Link hoteliers with building professionals and energy companies.

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Thank you!



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PROJECT COORDINATOR



Network of European Regions for a Sustainable and Competitive Tourism







Istituto Superiore sui Sistemi Territoriali per l'Innovazione



