



QUEST 2nd Newsletter June 2020



About QUEST



The QUEST project, funded by the H2020 Programme, aims to **foster investments in sustainable and energy efficient buildings** by integrating **quality management** methodology through the building life cycle. The QUEST methodology exploits the potential of quality management to **reduce financial risk** on sustainable and energy efficient buildings investments.

QUEST project in a nutshell

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Hear more about the project concept from QUEST Project Coordinator Stefan Plesser (synavision)



To achieve QUEST's goals, eight European partners are working together for the next three years.

[Learn more about our partners](#)

Hear it from the experts!

[Politecnico di Torino \(POLITO\)](#) represents a leading public university in technical-scientific teaching and research in Italy and Europe. In the tradition of the best European university institutes, the University presents a complete offer of courses in Architecture, Design, Planning and Engineering, with more than 30% of the courses delivered entirely in English. First-year students enrolled are 5,300 per year, for a total of 35,700 students enrolled in I and II level degree courses. Young people from all over Italy (52% Italians living outside Piedmont) and from abroad (16% foreigners) continue to choose POLITO in ever-increasing numbers.

POLITO participates in the project with a group of researchers belonging to the Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning (DIST). DIST was recognized for the period 2018-2022 as a department of excellence according to the standardized departmental performance indicator (ISPD) defined by the ANVUR (National Agency for the Evaluation of the University System and Research) at the request of the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MIUR). QUEST members from DIST also belongs to the Energy Center Lab of Politecnico di Torino.

DIST supports the LINKS foundation as a third part of the project, **making available its knowledge in the field of sustainability assessment, decision-making and technical and economic feasibility analysis for projects.** In detail, DIST members support LINKS in **applying the QUEST methodology to real case studies in Italy and in organizing a national round-table** in the final phase of the project to obtain commitments from market actors and to establish a common understanding.



QUEST Updates

QUEST presented at EUSEW 2020

On 18th of June [BUILD UP EU](#) hosted the [EUSEW 2020](#) policy session "*Energy transition: new business models to de-risk investments and kick start the EU building renovation wave*". QUEST was presented by the Project Coordinator, Stefan Plessner (synavision)

The webinar addressed address a key current challenges, such as **mainstreaming energy efficiency finance through innovative mechanisms**. The deployment of private investments for enhancing energy efficiency and renovation is a pivotal factor being addressed by EU policy makers that, in order to reach the Paris Agreement and 2050 targets, want to make green investments more attractive for private capital (eg. via the [taxonomy initiative](#) setting up criteria for sustainable investments).

Several H2020 funded projects are also tackling this challenge by setting up **innovative business models and tools to de-risk energy efficiency investment and attract private capital**.

The session was chaired by the **REHVA President Frank Hovorka**, who asked for a "boiler room to meeting room" mindset change, aiming to make the quantifiable data about buildings energy efficiency understandable for business makers and investors. The speakers addressed the topic during two

about innovative business models (chaired by Filippus Anagnostopoulos, [IEECP](#)). The project **QUEST**, in partnership with REHVA, had its concept and scope showcased by its **project coordinator, Stefan Plesser (synavision)**, who highlight how, in order to get quality into this kind of renovation projects we need to **apply quality management tools**. There are still doubts from the investors regarding the actual quality of the project at delivery and each retrofit that does not perform is a lost economic opportunity: hence, it is really important, for increasing the investors confidence, to **prove them the value of quality management services**.

The QUEST Project -
Quality Management to De-Risk Real Estate Investments
Dr. Stefan Plesser, synavision GmbH

Finance EE
(EPCs, Bonds, Tax Deduction Swaps, Crowdfunding ...)

Build EE
(Insulation, Smartness, PV, BACS, LED ...)

QUEST
Certified Quality Management Services
Technical Monitoring
Commissioning

THE QUEST MISSION
Linking Finance and Building Industry through certified Quality Management Services

17/06/2020

H2020 846739

Save the date for the QUEST co-organized workshop "De-risking Energy Efficiency Investments" at Sustainable Places

Sustainable Places 2020

October 27-30, 2020
DIGITAL EVENT

Horizon 2020
European Union Funding
for Research & Innovation

Workshop
De-risking Energy Efficiency Investments

EEnvest TRIPLE-A QUEST

Energy efficiency investment is a challenging business: energy efficiency is **not yet considered as an attractive investment** by the financial sector, which limits the possibility to use external private finance on top of equity of project

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as well as on payment default rates, results in financial institutions attributing high risk premiums to energy efficiency investments.

On top of that, there is **increasing evidence that non-energy benefits** can play a key role in the decision to invest in energy efficiency. This includes for instance increased building value, lower tenant turnover or vacancy rates etc.

The H2020 projects [QUEST](#), [EEnvest](#) and [Triple-A](#) are **developing innovative solutions to tackle these challenges**, and they are joining forces on a common workshop at [Sustainable Places 2020](#) (October 27-30, 2020, digital event) to expose their approach and discuss synergies.

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