

## The Objectives

Eracobuild provides a platform for national and regional RDI programmes on construction and sustainably built environments to cooperate in joint calls and exchange knowledge. Eracobuild has so far defined two thematic frameworks for transnational cooperation:

1. Sustainable renovation, aiming at improving the building quality and energy efficiency of the existing European building stock.
2. Value driven processes, aiming at improving supply chain and client integration and adding value to the processes and outcomes of the sector.

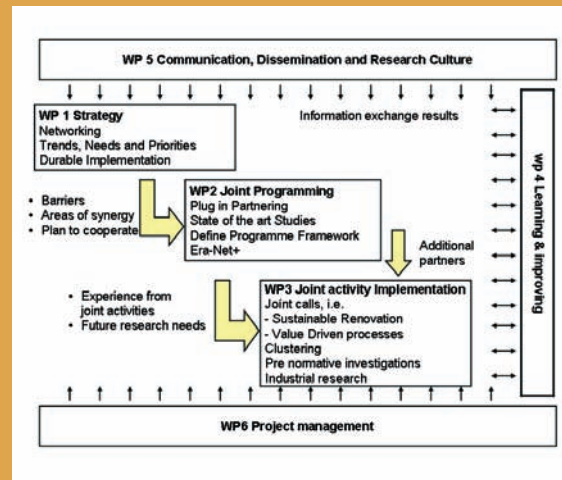
New topics for joint activities like prefabrication, industrial research and others are under preparation.



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## Project Overview

Eracobuild is organised around 6 Work Packages in the following way:



## Contact

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Strategic Networking of RDI  
Programmes in the  
Construction and Operation  
of Buildings



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## The Construction sector is changing - Policies for the construction sector are changing

The construction sector plays undoubtedly an important role in every national economy in Europe. In the European Union (27) the construction industry generates a total annual turnover of 1200 billion € and employs 15.2 million persons. The building infrastructure has a direct impact on social infrastructures with regard to health, living conditions and employment.

But the existing building stock is not only of great economic and cultural value for Europe, it also represents an enormous potential for saving energy and resources. The sector consumes large quantities of resources and produces equal amounts of (toxic) waste. Buildings use 40% of the total energy in the EU. Climate change and sustainability aspects play an ever increasing role in everyday political discussions and decisions.

## The Challenge

On the road to a sustainably built environment, the construction sector and national governments face some major challenges to transform the sector, in particular through research, development and innovation (RDI).

Challenges include:

- improving the quality and efficiency of processes in the construction and operation of buildings
- reducing the use of non-renewable resources, increasing the recycling of waste products, and making the built environment more environmentally friendly
- securing the access to healthy and safe buildings for all people
- making the sector more customer-oriented
- utilising sophisticated communication technologies (e.g. e-procurement, project web and 3D)
- involving SMEs in developing and adopting innovations (e.g. finding best practice solutions)
- motivating and promoting change in a traditional industry

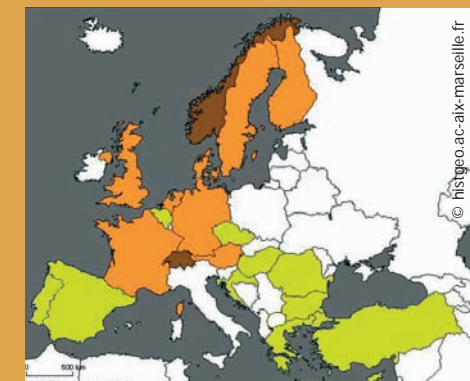
These major challenges influence the construction industry as well as national and EU policies. Research policies can be used as an important means to meet these challenges.

 **Eracobuild**

## Part of the Answer: Eracobuild

Eracobuild aims at developing synergies between national programmes by sharing strategies and establishing joint programmes and projects. Eracobuild is a follow up initiative to ERABUILD which started in 2004 as a consortium of 8 countries sharing the knowledge and resources of 10 national construction research programmes. Eracobuild fulfils the need for networks at both strategic and operational levels. The aim is to build a durable cooperation between European funding bodies with the goal of increasing the impact of research on the sector and also enhancing the quality in research and global performance of the construction industry.

34 partners from 21 different European countries and 1 region are participating in Eracobuild. Since Eracobuild represents national and regional funding programmes for research related to construction and operation of buildings, it provides a natural platform for the sector to find a financial match for their research needs. It will also be a key-player in developing research infrastructure in the European Research Area.



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