

# Buildings for the Future in 2023



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**BUILDINGS FOR  
THE FUTURE**

# What we accomplished

In 2023, Buildings for the Future celebrated its 10th anniversary, and we became the largest professional interest group representing the building construction and renovation sector in public policy making.

In ten years, Buildings for the Future has contributed to a significant shift in public policies. Massive new programs originated to support building renovation and construction; besides energy savings indoor environmental quality is now considered as an important criteria along with renewable energy and other aspects of sustainability. Our successes stand on consistent, clear and transparent communication, expert analysis, data-driven arguments and the ability to transform practical experience from the sector into recommendations for public policy.



## Buildings for the Future Taking the Lead

Our platform represents 9 member associations and more than 900 entities active in the energy efficiency and construction sectors. We are thus a significant voice for the building sector and relevant partner for the state stakeholders in the design of public policies. We work according to principles of transparency, anti-corruption, technological and product neutrality and imposing the best available practices and solutions. **Key principles we adhere to are expertise, focus on facts, solutions, and transparency.**



# Our Top Achievements in 2023

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## C4E Forum 2023 in Šamorín

The C4E Forum is a prestigious energy efficiency conference held bi-annually in a different Central and Eastern European country. In 2023, the event was hosted by the Buildings for the Future together with Renovate Europe and was attended by more than 250 guests from 22 countries. The conference was held under the auspices of the President of the Slovak Republic, Zuzana Čaputová. In addition to a busy agenda, the highlight of the conference was the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation among seven companies that are among the key suppliers in the building renovation sector. Its aim is to contribute to solving problems in the sector. In doing so, they respond to the unsatisfactory energy performance of buildings and commit to work together to make building renovation a priority of public policies in Central and Eastern European countries, including Slovakia.

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## Buildings Agenda on the Radar of Political Leaders

For a long time, we have been working and advocating for buildings and energy efficiency to be on the agenda of the key political representatives and to pursue ambitious policies. The parliamentary elections in September 2023 were an opportunity to remind that the topics of quality building renovation and construction are strategically important. Our recommendations also resulted in the prioritization of energy efficiency of buildings and quality of both renovation and construction in the government's manifesto. The Presidential Green Seal project, in the preparation of which we participated as experts, received its first ever award. For exemplary renovation, the President's award was given to the Secondary Industrial School of Construction in Trenčín.



C4E FORUM 2023 IN ŠAMORÍN

photo by Jakub Čajko

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### Functioning Support Programs for Ambitious Renovations

The implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Plan and the challenges of the new EU funds is an opportunity to move building renovation from a basic to more ambitious and comprehensive level and quality worthy of the 21st century. Thanks to the Recovery Plan, Slovakia has approximately 2.5 billion euro available for the renovation of buildings and the construction of hospitals. The flagship of the Recovery Plan is a new subsidy scheme for the renovation of family houses with an allocation of half a billion euros. A further approximately 700 million euro for the renovation of buildings will be available from EU funds. What is new is that in addition to energy savings, the new calls also include a focus on the quality of the indoor environment.

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### REPowerEU Chapter with Emphasis on Buildings

We have succeeded in implementing most of the recommendations we defined in our recommendations into a new chapter to the Recovery Plan – REPowerEU. As a result of our work, the new chapter includes investments and reforms for the building sector worth more than 163 million euro. The REPowerEU includes, for example, the additional allocation for the renovation of historic public buildings, measures to reduce energy consumption in state buildings, the reform and creation of a database on public buildings and passports for 4,200 public buildings, the reform of the management of state buildings, the reform of the water law to eliminate charges for the use of water-to-water heat pumps, and the establishment of a new subsidy scheme for the support of low-income households.

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### Relevant and Comprehensive Data on the Single-Family Houses Sector

We have published two comprehensive sections of the **Large Survey of Single-Family Homeowners – The Impact of the Energy Crisis, the Recovery Plan Subsidy Program, and Incentives and Opportunities for Home Renovations**. Both parts of the survey represent the most up-to-date and relevant data we have on the single-family home sector in Slovakia. The representative survey among owners of family houses was carried out by Focus agency. For example, the survey showed that as many as 80,000 owners of family houses who are going to renovate their houses in the next two years are planning to apply for the existing subsidy scheme.



C4E FORUM (ADRIAN JOYCE, EUROACE)

photo by Jakub Čajko

# Our Future Focus

## Our 2024 Priorities

### **Quality and Ambitious Implementation of European Legislation**

The initiatives of the Fit for 55 package are being taken forward to Member State level. The transposition of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) and the transposition of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) will be key for the building sector. In light of the energy crisis, these two directives are key documents by which we can realistically achieve a decarbonized building stock. Our aim is to move Slovakia towards real policies with a positive impact.

*In 2024, Slovakia will start transposing the revised EU directives on energy efficiency and energy performance of buildings. We will work to ensure that this process delivers real results by protecting building owners from future energy price rises and accelerating our country's green transformation.*

**Peter Robl**, Chairman of the Board of Buildings for the Future

### **Sustainable Funding for Functioning Support Programmes**

The package of money for the renovation and construction of buildings until 2026 or 2027 is large. However, the investment debt in the buildings sector is larger. In addition to the Recovery Plan and the European Structural Funds, other sources such as the Social and Climate Fund or the Modernization Fund will also be available for Slovakia. The renovation of public buildings can be multiplied by private resources if we effectively set up a financing model, including energy performance contracting services. Our aim is to work systematically to ensure that the financing of building renovation is sustainable and predictable in the long term. This is the only way we will be able to meet our long-term strategic goals and ambitions.



PANEL DISCUSSION EINPARK

photo by Jakub Čajko





BUILDINGS FOR THE FUTURE 10TH ANNIVERSARY

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## BPB 2023 in Snapshots

We published 9 position papers and analyses.

We carried out a large survey of house owners with a sample of 1,013 respondents.

We organized 4 expert roundtables and 9 public events.

We successfully hosted the prestigious C4E Forum conference for 250 participants from 22 countries.

We held dozens of political meetings.

We communicated our themes through 450 media outputs.

### **Creating Partnerships for Slovakia's Long-term Vision**

For a long time and repeatedly, we have encountered the fact that Slovakia is acting without a long-term vision when it comes to such a strategic priority as energy efficiency in buildings. We therefore want to invest capacity in more intensive partnership building so that we have a stronger voice in calling for a long-term and conceptual vision.

# As Strong as Our Partners

In 2023, our activities were again supported by our long-term, as well as new partners. We have cooperated with the Slovak Climate Initiative, Union of the towns and cities of Slovakia, and with the international partners of the EU campaign **Renovate Europe**. Our platform represents 9 member associations, and we cooperate with 7 corporate partners.

As a member of the **Slovak Climate Initiative**, we establish further cooperation from the ranks of experts, political representatives and representatives of government institutions. We are trying to create opportunities to use the potential of the building sector to apply energy efficiency as one of the solutions to climate change and a means to meet climate goals.



BUILDINGS FOR THE FUTURE 10TH ANNIVERSARY

*photo by* Jakub Čajko



# Board of Directors

*We thank the representatives of our member organizations and the members of the BPB Board of Directors for their support, guidance, valuable professional advice, practical experience and excellent cooperation.*

Peter **Robl**, *Chairman of the Board of Directors*

Pavol **Kukura**, *Slovak Green Building Council*

Igor **Krajčovič**, *Association for the support of apartment building renovation*

Henrich **Pifko**, *Passive House Institute*

Daniel **Holler**, *SLOVENERGOokno—association of Slovak manufacturers and sellers of fillers for building holes and structures*

Alexander **Prizemin**, *Association of mineral insulation manufacturers*

Marcel **Lauko**, *Association of energy service providers*

Vladimír **Orovnický**, *Slovak Association for Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heat Pumps*

Natália **Šovkoplias**, *Citenergo*

Robert **Špaček**, *Slovak Technical University, Faculty of Architecture and Design*

# Contacts to the B4F Team

Director, Katarína **Nikodemová**,  
[nikodemova@bpb.sk](mailto:nikodemova@bpb.sk)

Analyst, Richard **Paksi**, [paksi@bpb.sk](mailto:paksi@bpb.sk)

Event manager, Karina **Rosíková**,  
[rosikova@bpb.sk](mailto:rosikova@bpb.sk)



BUILDINGS FOR THE FUTURE 10TH ANNIVERSARY

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# Founding members



# Regular members



# Associate members



SLOVENSKÁ TECHNICKÁ  
UNIVERZITA V BRATISLAVE  
FAKULTA ARCHITEKTÚRY A DIZAJNU



# Our Partners



# Cooperation

