

# Brussels: Connecting Smart specialisation and Smart city

From eco-building to sustainable city

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# WHO MAKES THE DECISION ? HOW TO DECIDE ?

In Belgium, three levels of decision:

- Federal
- Regional (Brussels-Capital Region, Flemish, Walloon)
- Community

## **Opportunity:**

At regional level, Regions (Brussels-Capital Region included) decide themselves for virtually all the policies about::

- Innovation
- Environment (sustainable buildings / territorial development)

## **From planning to achievements:**

### 1. Plans:

- Innovation: « Regional innovation plan »
- Environment: « Regional air, climate, energy plan »
- Economic policy

### 2. Creating « ecosystems » to undertake projects

### 3. Merging innovation and environment (sustainable buildings) / merging research and experience



# BRUSSELS INNOVATION PLAN

## PILOT: INNOVIRIS, MEMBER OF RIS3 PLATFORM

- 2007 – 2013: FIRST Regional innovation plan
  - **Environment** as 1 of the 3 “priority sectors”
  - Emerging cluster policy (greentech.brussels and ecobuild.brussels)
- 2012 – 2014: UPDATE of the plan
  - **Sustainable building** as 1 of the 4 “priority sectors”
  - Launch of the Brussels Retrofit XL strategic platform
- 2015 – 2019 (+2025): NEW Regional innovation plan (10 years term)
  - **Green economy** as 1 of the 3 “strategic business/innovation areas”
  - Targeted ERDF support (2014-2020) via 4 specific projects:
    - Le Bâti Bruxellois: new materials
    - Living Lab: follow up of the Retrofit XL strategic platform
    - Hamster: testing room to study the hygrothermal behavior of building components
    - Irissphere: industrial symbiosis



# BRUSSELS AIR – CLIMATE – ENERGY PLAN

## PILOT: BRUSSEL ENVIRONMENT

- Soon adopted by the Brussels Government
- OBJECTIVES (10 years term) :
  - **Climate** : Cutting down the CO2 regional emissions by 30% by the year 2025 (compared to 1990)
  - **Air** : Respecting the EU air quality and air pollutants emission standards
  - **Energy** : Reaching the EU energy efficiency directive targets by 2020 (+18% energy efficiency in Belgium)
- MEASURES (5 years term):
  - **Mitigation** (cutting down the CO2 and air pollutants emissions) :  
All emitting sectors (Building, transportation, consumption) are targeted through the monitoring of air quality
  - **Adaptation** (adapt to the impacts of climate change) :  
Very first Brussels 'adaptation strategy
  - **Integration** :  
The plan incorporates air, climate and energy through transversal issues (economy, urban planning, poverty)
  - **International** :  
Deals with international aspects of climate and energy policies (climate financing, cooperation mechanisms, etc.)



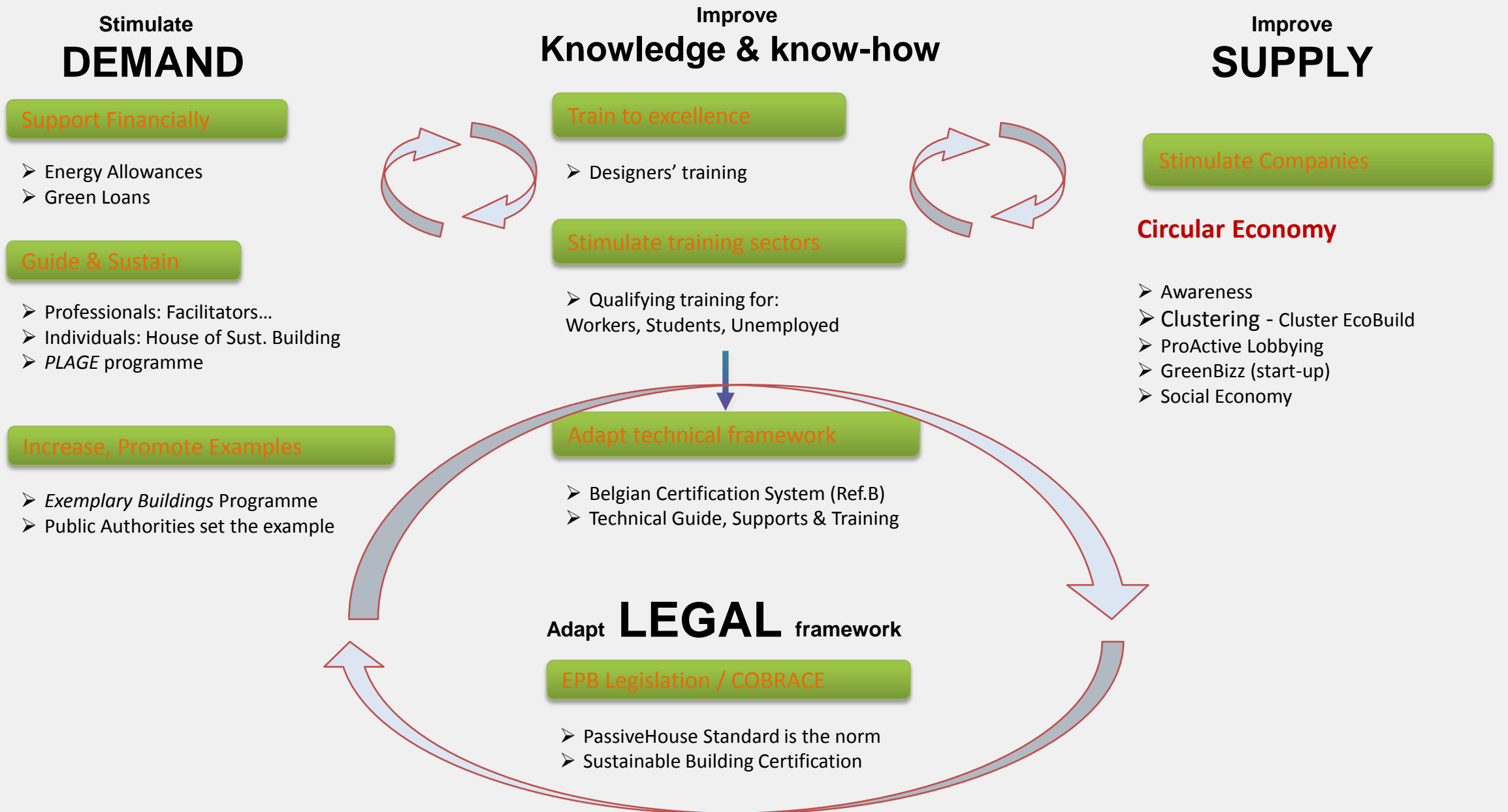
# INNOVATION POLICY: BUILDING / SUPPORTING AN ECOSYSTEM

## 3 KEYS MEASURES (+ INTEGRATED APPROACH IN OTHER ACTIONS)

- **Technological and strategic guidance:** Structural collaboration with the CSTC (scientific and technical research, innovation and development, support and advice)
  - Aim: Increase the skills and knowledge of the Brussels sector, in particular by stimulating innovative activities and technologies in the field of sustainable construction
- **Brussels Retrofit XL** (Strategic platform, 2012): Technological transfer from research centres to companies in the field of housing renovation
  - Key actors: Innoviris, CSTC, building's manufacturers, academic stakeholders and Impulse
- **Living Lab** (ERDF Project, 2014-2020): Follow up the Retrofit XL strategic platform



# ENVIRONMENT POLICY: BUILDING / SUPPORTING AN ECOSYSTEM





# CREATING "ECOSYSTEMS"

## MERGING RESEARCH AND EXPERIENCE

The meeting point: **Exemplary Buildings Program (BATEX)**

The goal of this call for projects is to stimulate demand through a voluntary approach, in the sustainable buildings market.

Then it's a matter of showing by example that it is completely possible and relevant to achieve excellent energy and environmental results within a reasonable financial budget.

The projects selected must be noteworthy according to 4 criteria of equal values:

- the highest energy performance
- the lowest environmental impact
- the reproducibility and profitability of the proposed solutions
- the urban and architectural integration of the building in its urban context.



# CREATING "ECOSYSTEMS"

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243 projects / total area of 620,000m<sup>2</sup>







# CREATING "ECOSYSTEMS"

## MERGING RESEARCH AND EXPERIENCE

The meeting point: **Exemplary Buildings Program (BATEX)**

- From environment policy to innovation policy:  
(Bottom - up)  
Batex is like a **stock of experience** to inspire research projects
- From innovation policy to environmental policy :  
(Top – down)  
Batex is an **opportunity to implement** research products directly in real building's projects
- And so on ... to increase performances



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Thank you for your attention.