



QUALICHECK
Towards better quality and compliance



Co-funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe
Programme of the European Union

QUALICHeCK in brief

Towards improved compliance and quality of the works for better performing buildings (2014-2017)

- **Overall goal is to disseminate approaches to:**
 - Increase the reliability of EPC input data
 - Influence quality of construction
 - Support compliance
- **Specific focus on:**
 - 9 countries
 - 4 technology areas
 - Handling of innovation
- **How?**
 - Identify current issues with field data
 - Identify best practice to overcome those issues
 - Raise awareness among stakeholders
- Budget: 2.2 M€
- Duration: 2014-2017



Co-funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme of the European Union



● = National consortium

QualiChEck Consortium

The QualiChEck consortium consists of a broad range of organisations in 10 countries spread over Europe. Its partners and otherwise related members cover a wide range of expertise and competences and have several strong links to many European initiatives.

In addition to the project partners listed below, there are a limited number of subcontractors.



QUALICHeCK objectives

- *To set up a series of actions which should result in more attention and practical initiatives for **actual compliance with the claimed energy performance for new and renovated buildings***
i.e. ‘Boundary conditions which force people to do what they declare’;
- *To set up a series of actions, which should result in more attention and practical initiatives for **achieving a better quality of the works,***
i.e. ‘Boundary conditions which stimulate and allow the building sector to deliver good quality of the works’.

Why QUALICHeCK?

Issue of concern

Deviations in EPC input data distort competition and bring distrust among professionals and end-users.

High performance buildings are very sensitive to poor quality of the works. Poor quality also brings distrust.

Uneffective control discourages professionals to be compliant



Project goals

Increase the reliability of EPC input data

Influence quality of construction

Support compliance



Why QUALICHeCK?

18.6.2010

EN

Official Journal of the European Union

L 153/13

DIRECTIVE 2010/31/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 19 May 2010
on the energy performance of buildings
(recast)

Article 18

Independent control system

1. Member States shall ensure that independent control systems for energy performance certificates and reports on the inspection of heating and air-conditioning systems are established in accordance with Annex II. Member States may establish separate systems for the control of energy performance certificates and for the control of reports on the inspection of heating and air-conditioning systems.

Article 27

Penalties

Member States shall lay down the rules on penalties applicable to infringements of the national provisions adopted pursuant to this Directive and shall take all measures necessary to ensure that they are implemented. The penalties provided for must be effective, proportionate and dissuasive. Member States shall communicate those provisions to the Commission by 9 January 2013 at the latest and shall notify it without delay of any subsequent amendment affecting them.

QualiCheck project (2014-2017)

Status of compliance
and quality on the ground

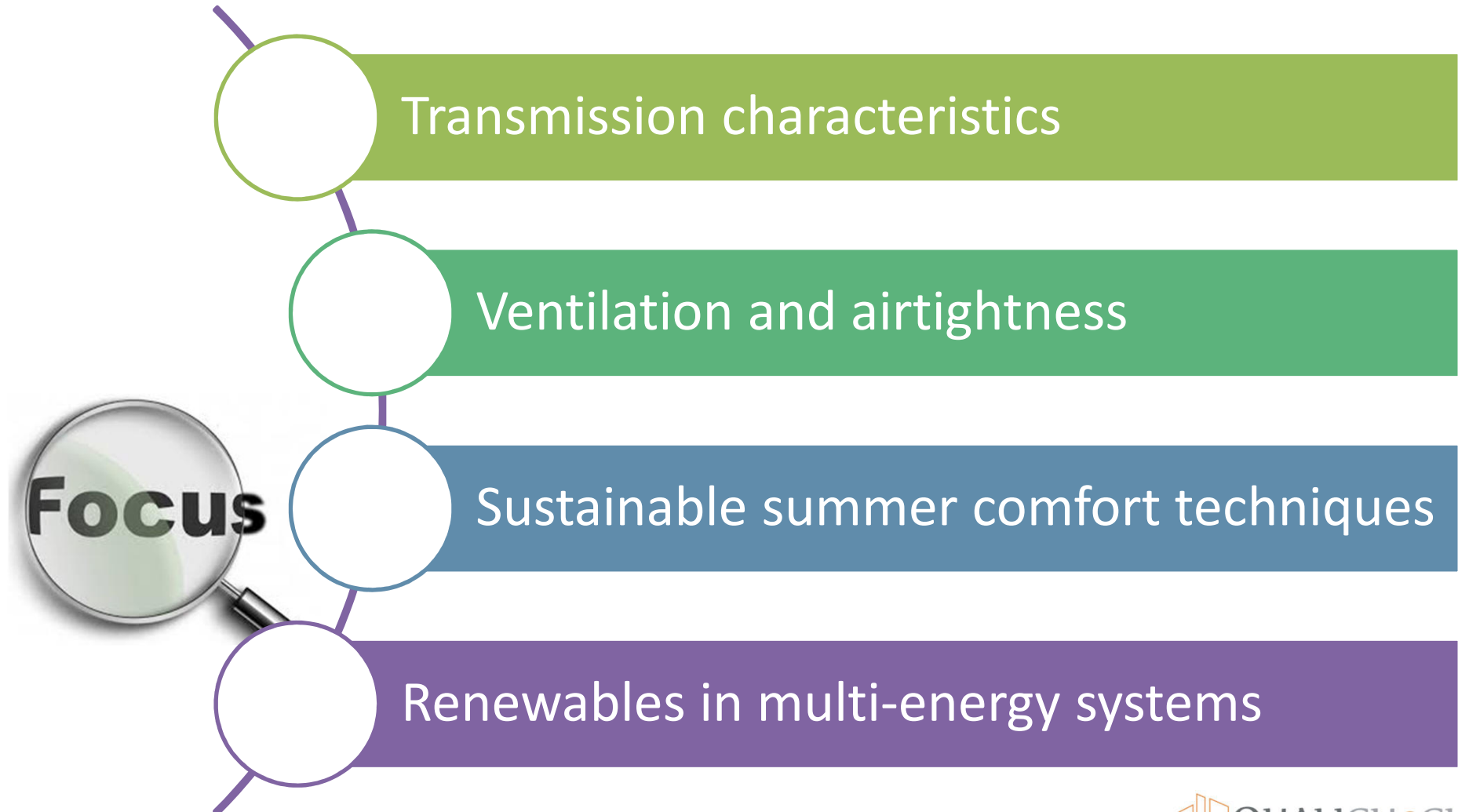
Easy access of **reliable** EPC input **data**

Towards better **quality** of the works

Towards better **compliance** and
effective penalties

Solutions

4 focus areas in QUALICHeCK



Synergy with Concerted Action and BUILD UP Skills

- Concerted Action (CA)
 - Virtual meetings with key representatives
- BUILD UP Skills (BUS)
 - Specific meetings in EU/national contexts (BUS meetings, roadshows, etc.)
 - Participation to workshops

QUALICHeCK officially introduced to BUILD UP Skills

Posted on 2014/11/21 by Marianna Papaglastra

QUALICHeCK has been invited to contribute a short introductory presentation at the BUILD UP Skills (www.buildupskills.eu) EU Exchange meeting of the European Commission, on November 12 in Brussels.



In the presentation, QUALICHeCK highlighted the two ways interaction between on the one hand requirements and on the other hand competence building and how together they contribute to more energy efficient buildings. It also presented possible approaches for an effective quality and compliance framework, putting possible external stimuli in the spotlight

QUALICHeCK events

- 4 international conferences
- 4 international workshops (1 on each focus area)
- 16 webinars

1st QUALICHeCK Conference

Posted on 2014/10/21 by Alexander Deliyannis



Brussels, 30 September 2014

KBC auditorium: Havenlaan 2, 1080 Brussels, Belgium

The 1st international QUALICHeCK Conference "*Towards improved compliance and quality of the works for better performing buildings*" was organised on 30 September 2014 at the KBC auditorium in Brussels. The event represented a major physical opportunity to expand dialogue on compliance and quality issues for energy efficiency in buildings, with the initial QUALICHeCK project findings used as one of the starting points for discussion.

The Conference covered among others:

- The overall scene regarding compliance and quality of the works for energy efficient buildings.
- Lessons learned from major EU initiatives regarding reliability of Energy Performance Certificate input data and quality of the works.
- Experience from industry representatives regarding reliable energy performance data and challenges in

Website www.qualicheck-platform.eu



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16-17 March 2015, Workshop, Lund, Sweden – Voluntary and Regulatory Frameworks to Improve Quality and Compliance of ventilation and airtightness

Posted on 2014/11/18 by Alexander Deliyannis

Although ventilation and airtightness are covered in most countries by various regulations focused on energy performance and/or indoor air quality, the effectiveness of these regulations is often called into question. A number of studies have shown significant deviations between assumed and actual characteristics of the building or equipment, possibly resulting in non-compliance to the regulation and/or degraded performance.

The principal objective of this workshop is to discuss and identify ways to reduce these deviations with or without regulatory measures, thereby increasing the confidence in declared values of documents produced to show compliance with the regulations.

Three aspects will be more specifically addressed:

- how to improve the reliability of the input data used to issue Energy Performance certificates;
- how to improve the quality of the works;
- how to take into account innovations in a compliance framework.

The workshop discussions will be based on detailed presentations of schemes that are operational or under development to address those issues. In addition, specific interactive sessions will be devoted to

Newsletter

QUALICheck NEWS

Towards better quality and compliance issue #1 : 2014/10



Welcome

Environmental concerns, in particular, have over the last decade led to a series of new initiatives in the European Union related to energy efficiency in buildings, with several directives comprising the main driver for action at the level of the Member States. In about 6 years from now, all new buildings should meet the nearly zero-energy (nZEB) targets and, at the same time, building renovation represents a major challenge. Further steps have to be taken on the longer term and in particular for the existing building stock to ensure radical progress.

All Member States are currently transposing the various directives (in particular the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, the Renewable Energy Sources Directive and the Energy Efficiency Directive) into national legislation. Though imposing stimulating requirements is important, the claimed energy performance can be different from the reality. Moreover, it is important that works related to energy efficiency and renewables are of good quality, in order to ensure that the expected energy performances are achieved and that the works will be sustainable over a long lifetime. In the opposite case, societal and political support might be lost.

These 2 concerns are in the centre of the QUALICheck project, which started in March 2014 and which will run until February 2017. The key objectives are the following:

- > To set up a series of actions which should result in more attention and real action for reliable information in the Energy Performance Certificates of new and existing buildings i.e. "Boundary conditions which force people to do what they declare";
- > To set up a series of actions, which should result in more attention and real action for achieving a better quality of the works, i.e. "Boundary conditions which stimulate and allow the building sector to deliver good quality of the works".

Dissemination of information is a key activity in QUALICheck. This newsletter is one of such activities, as is the website. In this issue, you find information on various QUALICheck related events and outcomes.

I wish you a pleasant reading.



Peter Wouters
QUALICheck Coordinator

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1st QUALICheck Conference

The 1st international QUALICheck Conference "Towards improved compliance and quality of the works for better performing buildings" was organised on 30 September 2014 at the KBC auditorium in Brussels. The event represented a major physical opportunity to expand dialogue on compliance and quality issues for energy efficiency in buildings, with the initial QUALICheck project findings used as one of the starting points for discussion. The Conference covered among others:

- The overall scene regarding compliance and quality of works for energy efficient buildings.

- Lessons learned from major EU initiatives regarding reliability of Energy Performance Certificate input data and quality of works.
- Experience from industry representatives regarding reliable energy performance data and challenges in respect to quality of works.
- The QUALICheck action and networking perspectives.

More specifically, the following topics were presented and discussed:

Setting the framework: • Financing energy efficiency - The challenges (Erik Van Acker, KBC) • EU energy policy - Status and challenges (Linn Johnsen, DG ENERGY) • EU Directives and challenges for the Member

Interaction with BUILD UP Skills

As one of the key aspects for contributing energy efficient buildings, quality of the works is currently dealt with at EU level through the following two IEE funded projects:

- > The EU BUILD UP Skills initiative is dealing with stimulating better competence of the workers.
- > QUALICheck aims to enable this competence to be applied in practice, by supporting effective quality and compliance frameworks.

Interaction between these two initiatives aims to raise awareness about the potential relevance of compliance frameworks for stimulating interest in training, as well as in the effective application of the competence gained.

In this context, QUALICheck is invited to contribute a short introductory presentation at the 1st Pillar II EU exchange meeting of BUILD UP Skills, taking part on November 12 in Brussels. This is just the first of a series of interactions planned between the two initiatives.

In the presentation of November 12, QUALICheck will highlight the two ways interaction between requirements and competence building and how together they contribute to more energy efficient buildings, and will present possible approaches for an effective quality and compliance framework, putting possible external incentives in the spotlight. A country testimonial aims at helping showcase how interactive stakeholder engagement will contribute to the most effective use of knowledge, experience and resources.

Save the Dates!

- 16-17 March 2015, Lund, Sweden: 1st QUALICheck workshop; topic: ventilation and airtightness
- 4 September 2015, Brussels, Belgium: 2nd QUALICheck Conference

Join us
at
www.qualicheck-platform.eu

International Workshop on Ventilation and Airtightness in Buildings: Voluntary and Regulatory Frameworks to Improve Quality and Compliance

16-17 March 2015, Lund, Sweden

Although ventilation and airtightness are covered in most countries by various regulations focused on energy performance and/or indoor air quality, the effectiveness of these regulations is often called into question. A number of studies have shown significant deviations between assumed and actual characteristics of the building or equipment, possibly resulting in non-compliance to the regulation and/or degraded performance.

The principal objective of this workshop is to discuss and identify ways to reduce these deviations with or without regulatory measures, thereby increasing the confidence in declared values of documents produced to show compliance with the regulations.

Three aspects will be more specifically addressed:

- > how to improve the reliability of the input data used to issue Energy Performance Certificates;
- > how to improve the quality of the works;
- > how to take into account innovations in a compliance framework.

The workshop discussions will be based on detailed presentations of schemes that are operational or under development to address those issues. In addition, specific interactive sessions will be devoted to collaborative work.

The workshop is organised by INIVE on behalf of the QUALICheck consortium; AIVC (Air Infiltration and Ventilation Centre, aivc.org); TightVent (Building and Ductwork Airtightness Platform, tightvent.eu); venticool (international platform for ventilative cooling, venticool.eu).

To register for the Workshop, visit www.qualicheck-platform.eu



Partner Organisations

The QUALICheck consortium has been composed with an outlook on the project priorities, the intention to focus on 9 countries and 4 technology areas, and the need to have partners with good knowledge of the market and access to stakeholders and national governments. The consortium is led by INIVE and its member BBRI,

organisations with significant experience in managing European and international projects (e.g. ENPER, BUILD UP, ASIEPI, AIVC, TightVent Europe, venticool). The issues of compliance and quality of the works have been for many years priority topics within the context of the INIVE activities.

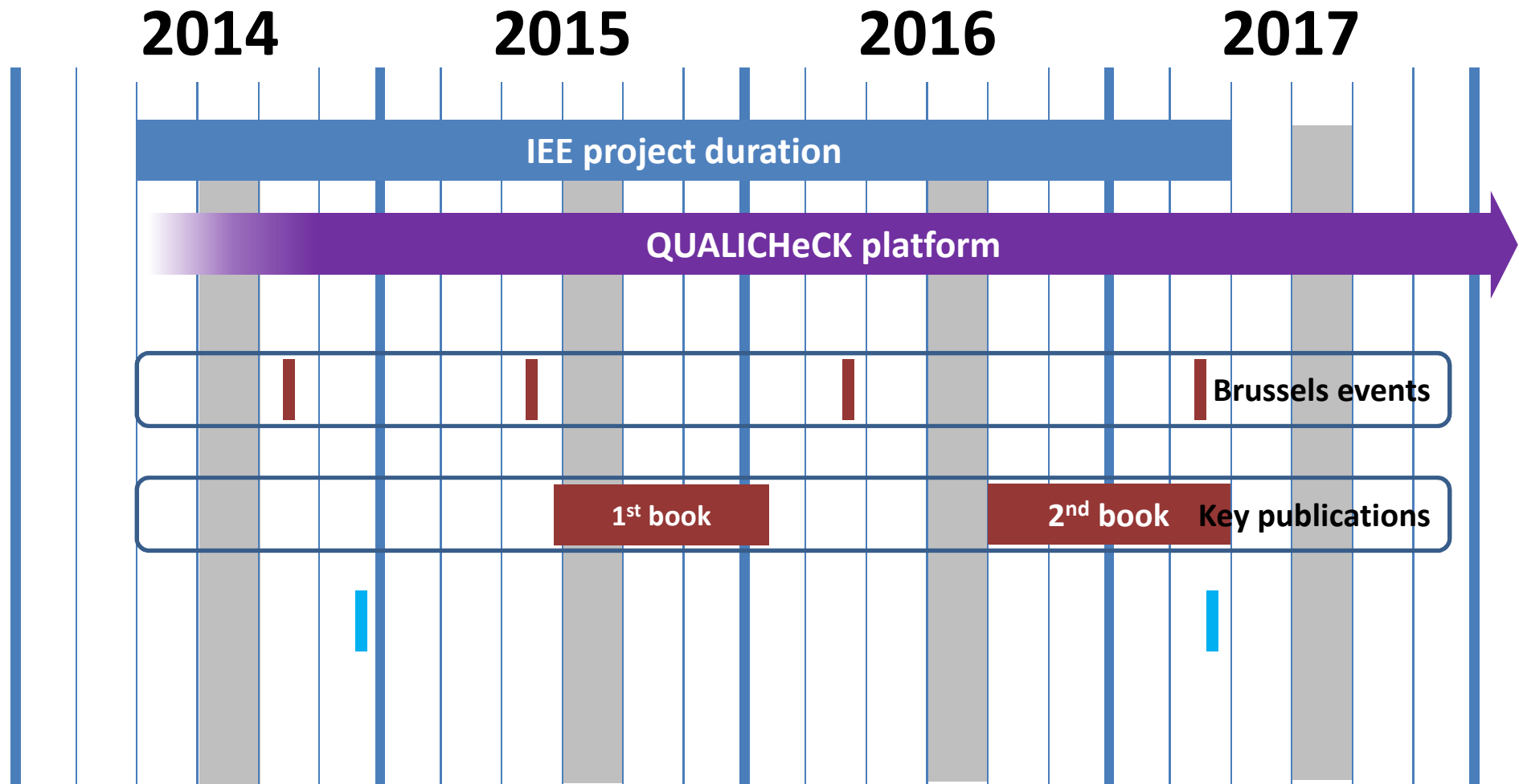


National stakeholders' consultation and roadshows

- In each of the 9 focus countries:
 - Consultation platform based on existing exchange channels if appropriate
 - Roadshow (1-day seminar)

QUALICHeCK platform

- A platform involving stakeholders beyond the duration of the project



THANK YOU

