

## **THE NETHERLANDS**

### **REDUCING ENERGY DEMAND IN EXISTING BUILDINGS: LEARNING FROM BEST PRACTICE RENOVATION POLICIES**

July 2014



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## THE NETHERLANDS: BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE RENOVATION STRATEGY

Under the Energy Agreement (dEA) for Sustainable Growth, the Netherlands has set a goal for a sustainable energy supply system by 2050. The Agreement sets overall building targets for the Netherlands, establishing specific building sector targets that take into account a target number of buildings to be renovated by 2020, and an increase in energy labelling for the existing building stock by at least two label steps. By 2030, the average for the existing building stock is targeted to be label A (or better). The dEA for Sustainable Growth calls upon market parties to actively promote ESCOs and “Green Leases” and has introduced a National Energy Saving Fund as a new financial mechanism in 2014. Since the 1990s, the Netherlands has had strong taxation mechanisms in place to support energy efficiency efforts, as of 2000, energy premiums on the purchase of energy-efficient appliances and other energy-saving measures for households were made available.

The Policy Tool for Renovation highlights six key areas where the Netherlands’ Renovation Policy Package excels: overall country reduction targets, labelling schemes, incentive schemes, taxation mechanisms, utility-funded energy efficiency programmes, training and education campaigns and a one-stop solution centre.

The residential consumption in the Netherlands has been reducing steadily for the past few decades as well as the GDP, making it a prime candidate for the comparison study. There is a slight increase in 2008-2009 that can be explained by the financial crisis in Europe during that period. Population is 16.7 million (Eurostat, 2012).

Change in Energy Consumption  
(Base year equals 100)

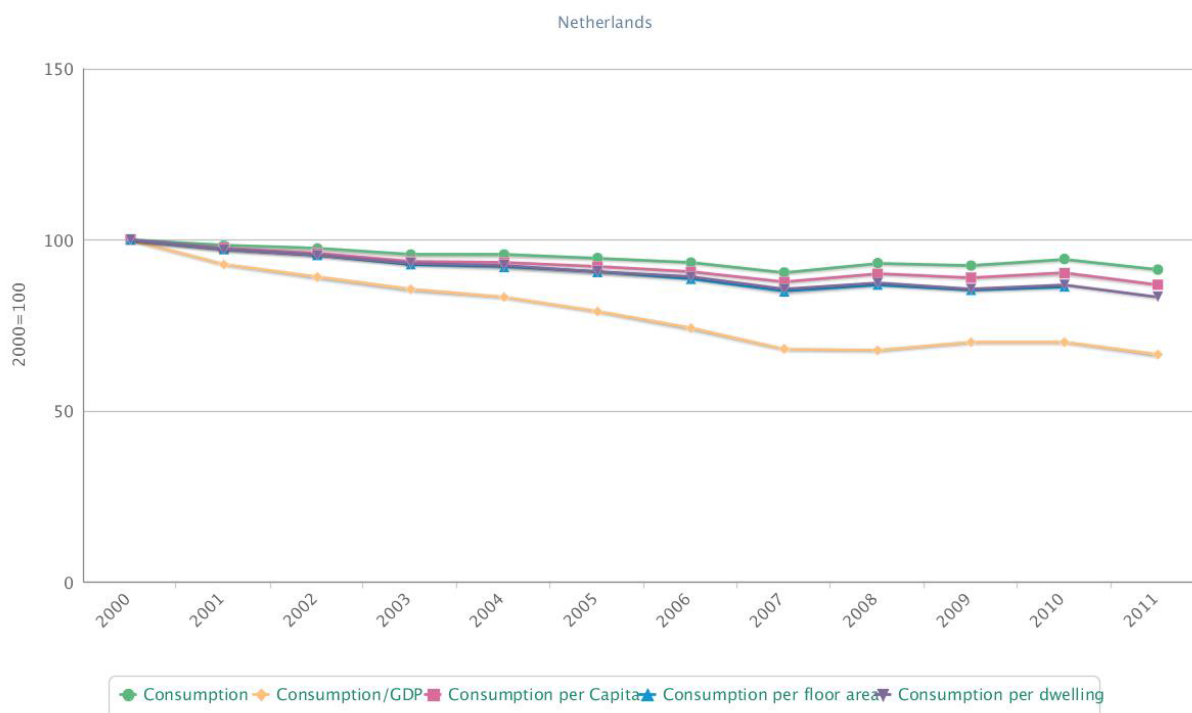


Figure 3.4. Objective Criteria in the Netherlands, all consumption units are normalised in relation to 2000, GDP is normalised to year 2010.

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**About GBPN** The Global Buildings Performance Network (GBPN) is a globally organised and regionally focused network whose mission is to advance best practice policies that can significantly reduce energy consumption and associated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from buildings.