



A Comparative Analysis of Building Energy Efficiency Policies For New Buildings

The GBPN

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Improvement of the energy performance of buildings will depend on a comprehensive and ambitious policy framework that is anchored by a strong building energy efficiency code.

The premise of a new GBPN report is that necessary savings can only be achieved with new mandatory energy efficiency building codes that are dynamic and ambitious and supported by a policy package with a long-term target of achieving zero or positive energy for all new construction.

The report analyses the content of building energy efficiency codes and surveys how countries are developing and implementing them.

The GBPN convened a panel of more than 60 world-leading experts to develop criteria for best practice of building codes and policy packages.

The criteria were used to score 25 best-practice building energy efficiency codes from around the world. The results were used to form an interactive comparative tool that facilitates the analysis and comparison of best practice energy efficiency codes and supporting measures.

The scoring used multiple criteria that fell under five themes for considering best practice in building codes: a holistic approach, a dynamic approach, good enforcement, individual elements of performance and overall performance. This resulted in a total of 15 criteria that provided an objective basis for rating by the panel of experts.

Building codes can be compared according to single or multiple criteria using a specially-developed online tool. The scores awarded to each code are publicly available on the GBPN website in the [Policy Comparative Tool](#).

The GBPN developed this first objective comparison of building codes in order to share, understand and learn from the best practice, rather than to rank various approaches to best practice. As the GBPN states, all building codes can be improved. The comparative tool aims to promote examples of dynamic and ambitious building energy efficiency regimes for new buildings, with a focus on building energy efficiency codes. The accessible and easy comparison of approaches under different circumstances and criteria will, hopefully, lead to wider adoption and greater guarantee of success.