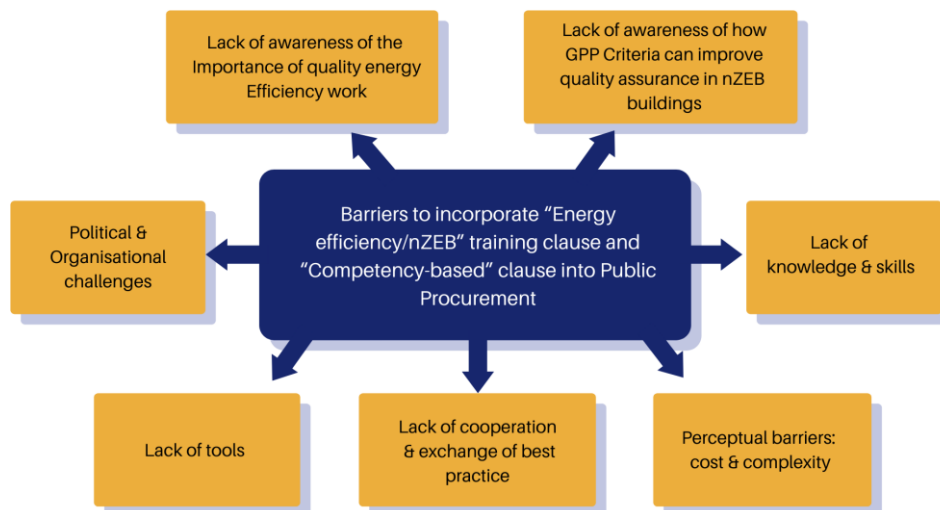


**Deliverable 3.1:**

**Main barriers to incorporate “Energy efficiency/nZEB” training clause into Public Procurement**

*User friendly version*

Prepared by:	IGBC
Date:	21-09-2021
Partners involved:	ISSO, AVE, EnE, BCC, IVE, AEA
Related deliverable:	D3.1



*Fig. 1: Barriers to incorporating nZEB/energy efficiency training clauses or competency-based clauses into Public Procurement identified as part of the desk research*



## DESCRIPTION

**Public procurement is a strategic instrument for each Member State, as it can significantly influence the market.** By using GPP, public authorities can provide industry with real incentives for upskilling, and other stakeholders with the confidence they need to upgrade their buildings. Yet, public procurement is currently not widely used to support energy efficiency upskilling.

This document summarises the **main challenges faced by public bodies who want to use public procurement to better incentivise energy efficiency upskilling.** It was developed based on desk research, one-to-one meetings and six national workshops organised in Austria, Bulgaria, France, Ireland, the Netherlands and Spain between February and July 2021. The content of this report will inform the project partners' work in relation to the development of useful and usable energy efficiency/nZEB training clauses. These clauses will be piloted in these six member states in 2021-2022.

### About competency-based clause and training clause

- **Competency-based clause**

Specific training or education may be requested as part of a tender, but they can only be requested as selection or award criteria and must specifically relate to the subject matter of the contract. How competency-based clauses may be used is further explained in the introduction section.

- **Training clause**

A training clause may be included whereby the company who won a tender commit to train all staff working on the project on a specific topic. Training clauses are for instance used in the Hauts-de-France region in France. This is further explained in the introduction section.

### Key barriers to using energy efficiency/nZEB training clauses

The main barriers to energy efficiency/nZEB training clauses and competency-based clauses identified through the consultation process are the lack of awareness of GPP and of nZEB – as well as of the importance of strong quality assurance in relation to it. The lack of knowledge and skills within public administration was also perceived as a real barrier. Furthermore, in some countries, participants highlighted that the lowest price remain the main (if not only) award criterion.

These findings are broadly in line with the main barriers identified by the project partners as part of the desk research (see Fig. 1). Consequently, raising awareness about GPP, nZEB and the importance of strong quality assurance in relation to it will be a priority in all countries involved. More specifically, awareness raising activities should primarily target senior management within public bodies and specialised departments within these organisations (e.g., building procurement offices and architecture offices).



## MORE INFORMATION

The full version of this deliverable can be found on the BUSLeague project website at the following link: <https://busleague.eu/outcomes/>

## OTHER PICTURES

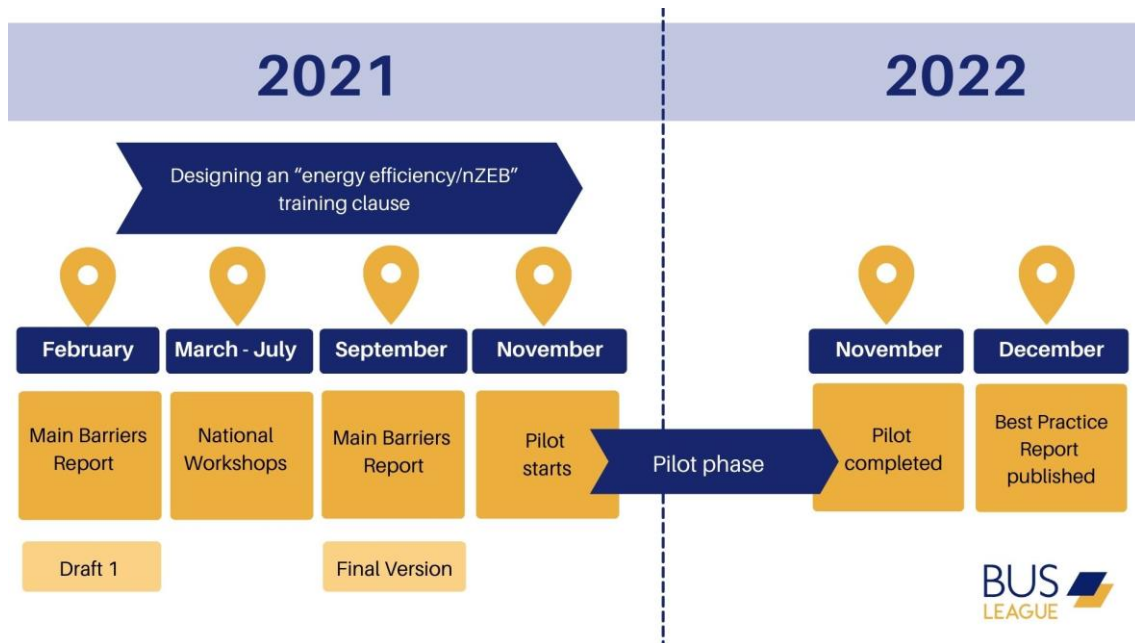


Fig. 2: Piloting energy efficiency/nZEB training clause timeline



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