Green Jobs for Climate Neutral Homes

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Who does and will do the work necessary to build climate neutral homes?

Are there enough enterprises and workers with the necessary knowledge and skills?

How to combine climate neutral home construction with employment creation and good working conditions?
Housing and Employment

- Home-based entreprises
- Working away from home
- Employment in housing construction
1. Can create between two and four times more employment (mostly unskilled or semi-skilled)

2. Construction is an industry which often employs a large number of entrants to the labour market

3. Promotes small and medium enterprises

4. Causes the drop of foreign exchange requirements by 50% to 60%

5. Decreases overall cost by 10 to 30%

6. Reduces environmental impacts

7. Increases the use of associated local resources – materials, tools, equipment, skills, knowledge, finance. Reinforces the percentage of investment that remains in the country and often in the locality of the works, reduces the dependence on costly imports, and stimulates the local economy
Green homes, green jobs
Examples of employment function of green refurbishment

- 20% savings of present energy consumption in the EU by 2020 can potentially create directly or indirectly up to one million new jobs in Europe.
- Globally: 100,000 workers are presently employed in the production of solar photovoltaic panels.
- In the production of solar thermal panels, more than 600,000 workers are employed in Europe, China, and the USA.
Potential for green jobs

Examples
- Production and use of “green” building materials
- Efficiency in construction sites (e.g. reduction of waste)
- Energy efficiency in buildings, e.g.
  - Potential demand for LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) or hot plates for households currently using open fire biomass
  - Dwellings potentially requiring PV installations for direct lighting
  - Retrofitting and solar installations for water pumping and heating, space heating
  - Replacement of existing appliances with more efficient appliances, e.g., light bulbs
  - Retrofitting for insulation
  - Treatment of grey water, collection of rain water
Policy considerations

- Information and awareness raising
- Skills training for labour force
- Managerial training for enterprises
- Information on profitability for investors
- Labour-intensive techniques
- New products and services (e.g. solar panels)
- Use of unemployment benefits
- Community contract
- CSR (corporate social responsibility)
- Institutional reform
  - Legislative
  - Financial framework
Decent work

- Employment generation
- Social protection
- Workers rights
- Social dialogue
Green jobs, decent jobs