The International Passive House Association (iPHA) is a global network uniting both Passive House experts and enthusiasts alike. Together with its 22 Affiliate Organisations, iPHA works to promote the Passive House standard and foster a greater public understanding of its benefits and achievability. The network makes a wealth of information available and facilitates active exchange among professionals, policymakers and the public.

The Passive House Association of Ireland (PHAI) is a catalyst for the increased awareness of the opportunities and benefits of low energy design based on the Passive House principles, across the Irish construction industry. Passive House design is seen as a specifically proven successful way of designing such buildings. The Mission of the PHAI is to promote, educate and facilitate, to develop a strong identity, understanding and demand for the Passive House concept. PHAI is an Affiliated Association with the International Passive House Association. The Association is non-profitmaking in so far that all membership fees collected go toward the promotion of the Passive House Principles in their many varied forms.

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Efficiency:
The First Renewable Energy
Efficiency First

Meeting our goals for climate protection

The United Nation’s IPCC highlights the substantial action needed to limit global warming. Currently, 35% of global energy consumption comes from the building sector alone. The operational stage is the largest contributor to carbon emissions, with the majority of this stemming from heating and cooling demand.

Therefore, think #EfficiencyFirst! The Passive House standard (or EnerPHit for retrofits) provides a pathway to meeting our climate goal.

The Passivhaus Standard

A thriving international network

Passive House stands for comfort, health, sustainability and savings. As the name suggests, Passive House buildings make efficient use of passive heating and cooling sources. This means they are heated mainly from the sun and from heat by people and equipment.

During the warmer months, strategic, passive cooling techniques such as night ventilation and shading keep Passive House buildings comfortably cool. This substantially reduces the need for active cooling.

The 5 Passive House principles (© Passive House Institute)

- **Energy**
  - Non-residential buildings 8%
  - Transport 28%
  - Residential buildings 22%
  - Other 5%
  - Building construction industry 5%
  - Other industries 32%

The benefits of building better

The associated benefits of building better exceed environmental and cost benefits. Certified Passive House buildings:

- **Achieve a high level of comfort** - Passive Houses are optimally insulated for the local climate creating a consistently comfortable indoor climate, free of draughts.

- **Provide fresh air** - The ventilation system with heat recovery cares for comfortable indoor temperatures. In humid climates, a humidity recovery is applied.

- **Are built to last** - Passive House buildings are resistant to moisture build-up and mould damage. The reason: Good airtightness and high-quality components.

- **Perform as planned** - The planning tool (PHPP) ensures a reliable energy balance. There is no so-called “performance gap” between the planned energy need and the real energy consumption of a building.

- **Can be designed as desired** - The Passive House standard is a performance standard and not a specific construction method. Designers are free to choose how to meet the energy performance criteria.

- **Are more cost-effective** - Over the building’s lifecycle, a Passive House building is more cost effective than a conventional build due to its extremely low energy demand and therefore low running costs.

Efficiency and renewables: A match made in heaven

The low energy demand of a Passive House building makes it easy to achieve more with less. Renewables placed on even a small surface area suffice to cover the biggest part of your energy demand! This #EfficiencyFirst approach reduces the costs for energy infrastructure and (em) powers local communities!