



Review Article

Towards net zero energy buildings: A review of barriers and facilitators to the adoption of building energy efficiency practices

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ABSTRACT

With recent and unprecedented attention toward the implementation of Energy efficient building which aids in advocating sustainable construction, numerous attempts have made in establishing flexible approaches to which these practices will assist in savings cost of construction, improve the quality of indoor air as well as lowering the GHG emissions. However, the system is lacking proper and standardized methodology of implementations. Therefore, this study dwelt in examining several factors capable of influencing the application of energy conservation practices in buildings, along with the advantages and barriers for implementation based on existing literatures, which focuses on raising awareness, providing information, implementing proper policies, and creating incentives to provide alternative solutions for building owners. As presented, study's outcomes offer a blueprint for comprehending the nuanced dynamics of building energy efficiency and lay out a clear course for further investigation. The study also, identifies significant factors which majorly influences building energy efficiency which include government supervision, design standards, construction quality, and energy-efficient materials. The study recommends utilizing cutting-edge innovations, building automation systems, and IoT devices to improve energy monitoring and conservation.

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INTRODUCTION

As cities grow and populations rise, the need for energy increases at an alarming rate [1, 2]. According to studies, the construction and building industry alone accounts for over 30 percent of all primary energy consumption and contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions [3, 4]. However, by improving energy efficiency in buildings, this amount of energy will be decrease and help in sav-

ing resources and lessen the impact to the environmental [5, 6]. Hence, it is crucial for facility managers, building owners, and utility companies to understand energy consumption patterns and make informed judgements on energy-saving measures [7, 8]. Researchers have been fascinated by building energy efficiency for years and have focused mostly on identifying factors that contributes in building energy consumption [9, 10]. In addition to that, numerous experts have related the energy efficiency of

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various buildings to their age, which is particularly an interesting aspect, as older buildings may require more extensive renovations to improve their efficiency [11, 12]. However, it is pertinent to note that even older buildings and structures can be retrofitted to meet energy-efficient standards [13, 14].

Energy efficiency is a crucial aspect of achieving a sustainable future [15]. It involves reducing energy use to the lowest possible level without compromising on living standards, production quality, or profitability [16]. That is to say, instead of abstaining from using energy altogether, energy efficiency focuses on using it in a manner that reduces the amount necessary to operate equipment and services [5, 17]. As such, improving energy efficiency in domestic and industrial buildings is essential in decreasing demand on the main supply plants while maintaining the quality of energy services [18]. This can be accomplished by implementing a well-planned strategy and involving various stakeholders, such as the government and building owners, in the process [19]. In addition, energy efficiency policies are not only beneficial to the environment but also to the economy [2]. Those policies can help market forces and enhance household efficiency, the transportation system, offices, and factories [20]. Also, by consuming energy more efficiently, more resources can be freed up on economic sector and more energy will be available in other sectors [21]. This can help in reducing the need for energy exchange and changes in the electricity supply [22].

The need for building energy efficiency design standards across different climatic zones is crucial to reducing energy consumption [23, 24]. However, achieving these standards can be challenging, this is because they are influenced by several factors, such as occupants' behavior, government oversight, the usage of energy-saving materials, design quality, etc., [13, 23]. Hence, the adoption of energy efficiency practices by owners/occupants can greatly impact the energy demand of an area [25], leading to several benefits including job creation, cost savings, energy security, diverse business opportunities, improved health conditions etc., [5, 26]. Furthermore, energy-efficient buildings do not only improve the use of energy but, also enhance the overall life cycle phases of the buildings [10]. Hence, it's vital for property owners, building occupants, facility managers, and utility providers to comprehend how energy usage in buildings tends to behave and take proactive measures toward enhancing its efficiency [27]. Therefore, by understanding the barriers and implementing effective energy management strategies at the public, private, and residential levels, a realistic significance can be noticed in reducing energy consumption, while promoting sustainability [13].

The main trends in influencing factors for energy-efficient buildings have drastically improved in recent times. Factors that were previously evaluated among those that impact building energy efficiency and those that affect energy efficiency investment in existing residential houses have now been merged with occupant behaviour in building man-

agement [6]. Hence, it is critical to investigate the factors influencing building energy efficiency uptake behaviour in order to identify the energy conservation difficulties in residential dwellings. This justifies the aim of this study at reviewing various contributions by the previous researchers to identify the primary impediments to implementing energy efficiency practices in our buildings.

IMPORTANT PHRASES

Energy Efficiency

As scoped to the buildings, Mitsushima et, al., [28] defined energy efficiency as the capability to generate a substantial output with minimal energy input, usually expressed as a percentage [28]. According to Demirel and Ibrahim [29] efficiency of electric motors can be described as the amount of mechanical energy produced by an electric motor for a given quantity of electrical energy input [29]. The EU Energy Efficiency Directive defines energy efficiency as the ratio of output, such as goods, performance, services, to energy input.

Building Energy Efficiency

This is described as a designing and construction of a buildings in such a manner that the energy required for conditioning, heating and lighting is considerably reduced, independent of the equipment utilised or the energy source used [30, 31].

Household

This refers to one or more people who live together and share meals. This may be a single-family home or any other group of people living together [32]. In many social, microeconomic, and governmental models, the home is regarded as the fundamental unit of study and is crucial to both economics and demography. If living quarters or meals are not shared, a house is thought to contain more than one household.

Net Zero Energy Building (NZEB)

These are structures that yearly produces as much energy as it uses [24]. This is accomplished by employing renewable energy sources, such as wind or solar energy, and by applying energy-efficient design and technologies to decrease energy usage [33]. These buildings are meant to be self-sufficient and eventually consume no energy. Also, the energy consumption of zero energy building should be reduced accordingly to meet the passive house standards.

Renewable Energy

This is often known as clean energy or non-conventional energy, derived from renewable natural resources or production techniques [34]. Although using the power of nature has long been utilised for transportation, lighting, heating, and other purposes, renewable energy is frequently thought of as a relatively recent technology [31]. Wind, sun, biomass, hydropower, and geothermal are all examples of renewable energy sources.

Non-Renewable Energy

This is also referred to conventional energy, which usually generated from resources that cannot be replenished in a short period of time [34]. Fossil fuels including coal, oil, natural gas, and nuclear energy are examples of non-renewable forms of energy. The buried remnants of plants and animals that lived hundreds of millions of years ago are thought to have served as the source of fossil fuels [33].

ENERGY EFFICIENCY: DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATIONS IN BUILDING COMPONENTS

Energy efficiency is an important concept that refers to the equivalent work being completed with less energy. It's a way to reduce energy consumption, lower costs, and minimize the environmental impact of energy use [35, 36]. There are several approaches to achieving energy efficiency, from simple changes in behavior to more complex technological solutions [18]. Among the easiest methods to improve energy savings is by using energy-efficient devices and appliances. Utilizing a compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) instead of an incandescent bulb, for instance, might save energy as CFLs use less power to produce the same amount of light [37, 38]. This is just one example of how using energy-efficient technology can make a big difference in reducing energy consumption. Another important aspect of energy efficiency is the system and building design itself. Insulating a building can lower the amount of energy required to cool and heat it [39]. Additionally, designing buildings with energy efficiency in mind, might result in lower energy use. This includes using natural lighting, proper ventilation, and making sure that the cooling and heating systems are properly sized for the building [17].

Energy management systems are also key component of energy efficiency. These systems allow users to monitor energy usage and identify areas where energy is being wasted [38]. They can also help in implementing energy-saving strategies and make informed decisions about energy use [22]. In addition to that, energy efficiency can also be achieved through energy conservation, which is the practice of reducing or managing the use of energy. This may be accomplished by taking easy actions like switching off equipment and lights when they're not in use, unplugging chargers and electronics when they are fully charged, and using power strips to reduce standby power usage [18]. Furthermore, energy efficiency can also be achieved through more advanced measures such as implementing building automation systems that can manage HVAC, lighting, and other appliances to minimize energy consumption [16].

Another important aspect is the implementation of energy-efficient practices in industries and businesses. This include upgrading equipment and machinery, implementing energy-efficient processes, and incorporating energy management systems [40]. Not only can this decrease energy consumption, but it can also enhance productivity and competitiveness in the industry [37]. Apart from that, government policies and

Table 1. Guidelines and plans for energy efficiency

Sectors	Guidelines and plans
Appliances efficiency	Technology
Architects	Design
Behavioral	Occupants behavior
Public authority	Compile a comprehensive strategy
Public	Conditional behavior
Private developers	Sustainable housing design and development

incentive programs such as credits for energy-efficient appliances and equipment, financial incentives for making energy-efficient upgrades to existing buildings, and regulations mandating energy-efficient building codes while aide towards promoting the adoption of energy efficiency practices [8, 41]. Overall, energy efficiency is a comprehensive approach that involves a combination of technology, behavior, policies, and regulations to reduce cost and energy usage, while reducing the environmental impact of energy use [42]. It's a vital strategy for addressing climate change, energy security, and economic growth [39]. The Table 1 illustrate some policies to enhance energy efficiency practices [39].

Objectives of Energy Efficiency

Energy efficient buildings provide households with a comfortable and quality indoor environment with low energy consumption. The key to unlocking this sustainable future lies in implementing policies that not only lower energy consumption but also enhance the overall well-being of its inhabitants. To bring this vision to life, a comprehensive energy efficiency policy must be put in place by taking the following three objectives [43].

- i. Provision of livable buildings.
- ii. Provision of resilient buildings.
- iii. Provision of affordable buildings.

3.2. Bioclimatic Architectural Design

Achieving energy efficiency in buildings begins with implementing bioclimatic architectural design [44]. This approach involves designing a building to work in harmony with the local climate, utilizing natural elements such as sunlight, wind etc., to minimize the requirement for artificial cooling and heating [31]. By utilizing bioclimatic design principles, buildings can achieve a comfortable indoor environment while minimizing resources such as energy and water [45]. Not only does this approach led to cost savings, but it also improves the overall well-being of the building's inhabitants [44]. Figure 1 outlines the procedure for incorporating bioclimatic strategies into building design [43].

3.3. Energy efficient Mechanical Systems

In addition to using bioclimatic techniques, active systems such as air conditioning are necessary to ensure the comfort and well-being of building occupants. To be resource-effi-

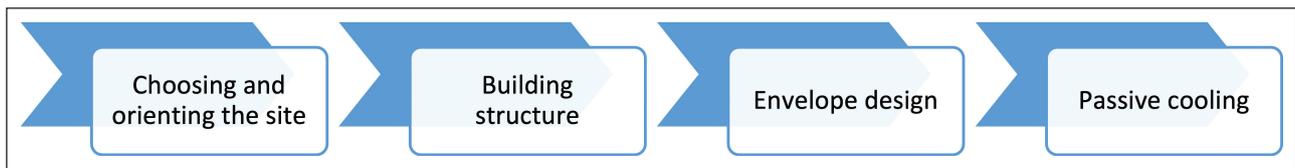


Figure 1. Bioclimatic design sequence [43].

cient, appliances and energy efficiency measures should be used as needed [44]. That is to say, after successfully reducing heat sources from outside, the next step is to decrease the quantity of heat produced within the building through efficient cooling [31].

3.4. Renewable Energy

Passive design and mechanical systems are game-changers when it comes to reducing energy demand. But incorporating renewable energy sources can take the building's performance to the next level [31, 34]. Additionally, incorporating resilient design elements means will result in having less dependency on energy supply, ultimately providing you with peace of mind [46].

Benefits of Implementing Energy-Efficient Building Practices

The energy-efficient building offers numerous advantages to both the environment and the occupants of the building. Some of the key benefits include improved comfort, cost savings, indoor air quality, and a reduction in fossil fuel usage, greenhouse gas emissions, etc., [31, 36]. However, in this study, a concentration will be on three major benefits; environmental, social, and economical benefits as shown in the Figure 2.

3.5.1. Economic Benefits

- a) Lower energy bills: Among the most significant economic advantages of an energy-efficient structure is that it can result in decreased cost of energy bills for the building's occupants [20]. This is achieved by using energy-efficient appliances, lighting, and HVAC systems, in addition to implementing energy-efficient building design features like proper insulation and air sealing [30]. These measures can result in significant cost savings for building owners and renters.
- b) Increased property value: Another financial advantage of an energy-efficient building is that it can enhance the value of a property [47]. Energy-efficient buildings are more attractive to potential buyers or renters and may be valued higher than similar, less efficient properties. This is because energy-efficient buildings can provide a more comfortable living environment, lower energy bills, and a smaller environmental footprint [47].
- c) Job creation: Building energy efficiency can also lead to job creation in related industries such as construction, manufacturing, and engineering. As demand for energy-efficient buildings increases, so too will the need for professionals who can design, build, and maintain these structures [48].

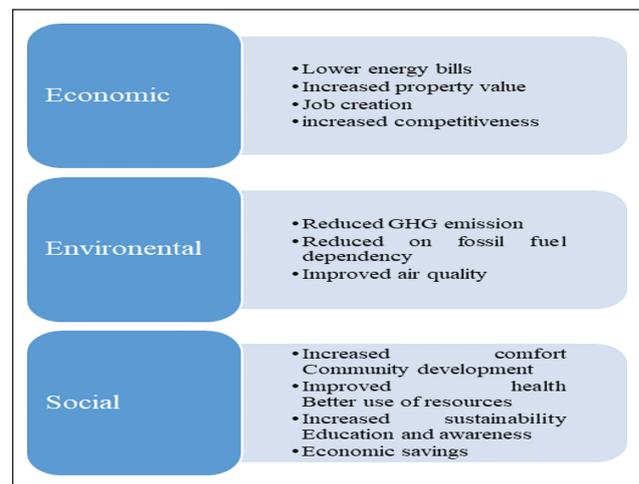


Figure 2. Benefits of building energy efficiency.

- d) Increased competitiveness: Building energy efficiency can also help businesses to reduce operating costs and increase their competitiveness in the marketplace. By using less energy, businesses can decrease their energy expenses and pass on savings to their customers [49].

3.5.2. Environment Benefits

- a) Reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions: Among the significant environmental benefits of building energy efficiency is that it can lower the amount of GHG emissions linked to electricity generation [38]. As such, by consuming less energy, buildings lessen their carbon footprint and contribute towards combating global warming [33].
- b) Reduced dependence on fossil fuels: Building energy efficiency can also decrease reliance on fossil fuels, which are a limited resource as well as a leading cause of global warming [38]. Hence, by using less energy, buildings can lessen reliance on fossil fuels and their environmental consequences [50].
- c) Improved air quality: Building energy efficiency can also enhance indoor air quality by minimizing the number of pollutants and moisture that can enter the building [50]. This can be achieved by using high-efficiency air filters, proper ventilation, and controlling indoor humidity levels [30]. Moreover, the health and well-being of the building's occupants may be positively impacted by better indoor air quality, which may also lessen allergy and asthma symptoms [51].

3.5.3. Social Benefits

- a) Increased comfort: Building energy efficiency can lead to increased comfort for the people living or working

inside the building. This is achieved by controlling temperature and humidity, improving indoor air quality, and providing natural daylight. Energy-efficient building design and technology can also help to reduce drafts and eliminate hot and cold spots in a building [30].

- b) Improved health: The health and well-being of the building's occupants may be positively impacted by better indoor air quality, which may also lessen allergy and asthma symptoms [51]. This is an important social benefit that can enhance the general quality of life for those residing in or employing the structure [52].
- c) Increased sustainability: Building energy efficiency may assist to foster a more stable environment for the community as well as the planet by reducing energy consumption and dependence on fossil fuels. This can lead to even more responsible resource usage and a more sustainable future for all [53].
- d) Economic savings: Building energy efficiency can lead to economic savings for building owners, renters, and even the local economy. Lower energy bills and increased property value can contribute to the overall financial well-being of the community [47].
- e) Community development: Job creation and increased competitiveness can lead to community development and growth. As energy-efficient building becomes more prevalent, they can create new opportunities for employment and economic growth [48].
- f) Better use of resources: Building energy efficiency can make better use of resources and reduce the strain on the environment which will help toward conserving natural resources and reducing waste [53].
- g) Education and awareness: Energy efficiency can also help to improve public understanding about the necessity of energy efficiency and environmental responsibility. Hence, by showcasing the advantages of energy conservation, building owners and operators can inspire others to adopt more sustainable practices and promote a culture of conservation [49, 54]. In summary, building energy efficiency offers a wide range of benefits that can positively impact on the society, the economy, and environment as a whole. As such, by investing in energy-efficient building design and technology, building owners, developers, and occupants can reduce their environmental footprint, save money on energy costs, and improve the comfort and health of those who live or work inside the building, as well as contribute to community development and the better use of resources [20].

3.6. Building Energy Efficiency Design Tools

When it pertains to constructing and designing energy-efficient buildings, the right tools and software can make all the difference. With so many options available, it can be overwhelming to know where to start [55]. Luckily, many tools have been created across the world to aid with decision-making and guide the design team and building oc-

cupants into the future [38, 56]. One of the most impactful tools in recent years is simulation-based optimization software. This technology has increased flexibility in the design process, reduced the time required to complete the design, and made the software more user-friendly [57]. This means that not only can you achieve energy efficiency more easily, but you can also do it in less time and with less hassle. The future of energy-efficient building control design is also being shaped by new-generation tools [49]. These tools are based on control-focused features that can improve the overall performance of the building. This means that not only can you design an energy-efficient building, but you can also control and monitor its performance in real-time to ensure that it continues to operate at peak efficiency [58].

Currently, the community is already utilizing advanced control and simulation software and devices to construct energy efficiency. Typical software and technologies used for comprehensive design of buildings includes; Athena, Eco-Bat, the IES Virtual Environment, and Green Building Studio [55]. These tools have been widely adopted and tested, and have proven to be effective in designing energy-efficient buildings. For those looking to design energy-efficient buildings, there are a plethora of options available. Passive house planning packages, Energy Plus, eQuest, HOT 2000, DesignBuilder, IDA-ICEA, Revit, Modelica/Dymola, Simulink/Matlab, and ESP-r are just some of the tools and software available [59, 60]. Each of these options has its unique features and capabilities and can be used to design energy-efficient buildings that are sustainable, and comfortable for their occupants [61].

4. BARRIERS TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY PRACTICES

Energy efficiency barriers can include a lack of methods and tools to calculate energy savings, the absence of financial incentives for energy-efficient equipment, high initial costs for such equipment, challenges in obtaining funding, and difficulties in procuring, deploying, running, and maintaining energy efficiency systems and techniques [62]. According to Seddiki et al., (2009) [63], economic and behavioral barriers are more prevalent in the building sector, while the transportation sector faces more institutional and economic obstacles [64]. However, the expense of executing energy-efficient measures is frequently considered as the most significant obstacle to attaining energy efficiency [65]. The high initial investment required for energy-efficient equipment and retrofits can be a significant obstacle for many building owners and operators; hence, the major barrier across all sectors is the financial barrier [42, 66]. The three main types of barriers to adopting energy efficiency in buildings are depicted in Table 2 [67].

4.1. Behavioral Barriers

Behavioral barriers, including a lack of understanding about the concept of energy conservation and the advantages of non-energy alternatives, a low level of trust, a lack of information, or inconsistent behavior, can all impede

Table 2. Major barriers to energy efficiency practices

Description of barrier types	Description
Behavioral	Cultural saving shortage, savings attentiveness, scarcity of skills, social crowd interface, knowledge scarcity, and information trust.
Institutional	Existence of infrastructural limitation, non-combined goals and confliction strategies, Ineffective legislative initiatives and regulations.
Economical	Insufficient financial resources, indecision of savings, higher risk of investment, and encouragement of monetary shortage.

Table 3. Reviewed studies on the barriers to energy efficiency practices

Barriers	Typical barrier	Sources
Behavior (social, culture)	Habits, custom	[38, 67]
	Lack of interest	[67, 74, 82]
	Unawareness of possible savings	[38, 67, 82]
Economic	Insufficient access to financing	[67, 86, 84]
	Inadequate economic institution to funding renewable energy technologies, inadequate instrument	[82, 86]
	Shortage of commercial feasibility	[87]
Environment	Resource competition, pollution and ecological aspects,	[82]
Misconceptions about renewable energy technology	Uncertainty about new technologies and benefits	[82]
Institutional	Complex regulatory procedure	[67]
	inadequate enforcement of pertinent law	[34, 67, 82]
	Insufficient knowledge and information	[34, 82, 85]
	Inadequate infrastructure	[82, 85]
insufficient infrastructure	Issue with infrastructure accessibility	[82]
Technological	Inadequate training facilities	[82, 86]
	Limited ability to implement innovation	[82]
	Operation and management of technological knowledge are insufficient.	[82]
Uncertainty on public authority	Policy uncertainty and under-equipped agencies	[82]

progress in the realm of energy efficiency and building performance [68, 69]. Occupant behavior is critical in influencing energy use and household well-being, but it is frequently not completely understood or incorporated in building energy efficiency due to its interdisciplinary nature, diversity, and complexity [70, 71]. Traditionally, Tenant behavior has been perceived as a passive component, similar to weather, rather than an active participant in building energy consumption [4, 38]. However, recent studies have revealed the significant impact that occupants can have on building energy consumption, leading to a surge of research in this area [72, 73]. Behavioral barriers also impact transportation habits, with individuals often prioritizing convenience over sustainability due to societal attitudes and customs [42, 45].

4.2. Institutional Barriers

Institutional impediments are linked to obstructionist politics, poor strategy management, and opposing perspectives in government decisions [75, 76] The implementation of en-

ergy-saving measures necessitates the cooperation and coordination of various actors within the sector [77]. As such, inadequate or non-existent support from both commercial and governmental sectors, often stemming from a lack of clear and straightforward administration and collaboration can impede the energy efficiency guidelines' implementation [21, 38]. Previous research has emphasized the necessity of providing clear, concise, and practical explanations of energy-saving initiatives [70]. Streamlining administrative process can aid reduce confusion and the burden on government systems [67, 78]. Hence, a strong vision for energy efficiency set at the highest administrative level is critical in lowering institutional impediments such as uneven governance configurations and guidelines, redundant strategies, and an absence of policy coherence [67, 79].

4.3. Economic Barriers

Economic barriers, such as difficulties in accessing adequate credit and unbalanced existing finance, high threats to shareholders, and institutional finance, are considered to

Table 4. Reviewed studies on the factors influencing the implementations of building energy-efficiency practice

Sources	Features	Factors	Methodology	Conclusion
Annunziata et al., 2014 [90]	<p>The four factors that have been highlighted include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The presence of buildings and capabilities for energy-efficiency ii. Increasing energy-efficiency capacity iii. Financial and technical assistance iv. Adoption of "low-hanging fruit" energy-saving methods has a knock-on effect. 	<p>Capacity building, technical and financial support</p>	<p>Questionnaires were employed for the study.</p>	<p>The findings underline the significance of increasing knowledge efficiency, maintaining and assessing consistency, and establishing a development strategy.</p>
Cui et al. 2014 [91]	<p>Technology and management guidelines</p>	<p>Management effects happened as a result of a clean technical efficiency change guide, whilst technology is influenced as a result of a technological advancement change index.</p>	<p>Panel regression Mode</p>	<p>According to the research, management and technological guidelines are the most important influencers on energy efficiency.</p>
Chen, et al., (2020) [6]	<p>The building's features or attributes</p> <hr/> <p>Equipment and technologies</p> <hr/> <p>Residents' behavior</p>	<p>Building type, wall insulation, location, window-to-wall ratio, window glazing, ideal insulation thickness, and insulation materials are some of the factors that can be considered when evaluating a building's energy efficiency.</p> <p>Thermal storage, Variable air volume, heat recovery, improved control, and evaporative cooling.</p> <p>Smart grid, access to control, smart meter, and plug load.</p>	<p>Article review</p>	<p>To assist occupants in making informed decisions, technological innovations, building services, and tenant behavior management must be prioritized.</p>
Nair et al, 2010 [66]	<p>Contextual factors</p> <hr/> <p>Personal factors</p>	<p>Location, perceived energy cost, thermal comfort, building age, and past investment.</p> <p>Income, age, gender, skill, and method used to reduce energy usage, as well as education and</p>	<p>Questionnaires were employed for the study.</p>	<p>In summary, a demanding lifestyle characterized by a high amount of time pressure can lead to a shorter window of opportunity for the utilization of energy conservation measures in the building.</p>

Table 4 (cont). Reviewed studies on the factors influencing the implementations of building energy-efficiency practice

Sources	Features	Factors	Methodology	Conclusion
Richerzhagen et al., 2008 [93]	The following five issues were identified: i. A cluster of residing individuals ii. Society, life style and attitude. iii. Economic considerations. iv. Awareness, information, and knowledge. v. Legal structure and implementation.	awareness The corporate structure, regulation, and economic variables were recognized as the most powerful and critical aspects influencing building energy efficiency measures.	Questionnaires were employed for the study	The findings suggested that the essential factors for building energy conservation policy development, including the five identified elements, needed to be enhanced.
Yao, 2010 [23]	The study identified seven factors: i. Governmental regulation ii. Design standards iii. Building quality iv. Design quality v. Energy-efficient materials vi. Occupant behavior.	The most important aspects are government oversight, construction quality, and design specifications.	“Decision-Making Trial and Evaluation Laboratory Method”	The findings suggest that the most important criteria to assure the utilization of energy-efficient building techniques are government supervision, design standards, and construction quality.
Fatma, et, al., 2023 [94]	This focused on i. Challenges ii. Motivations iii. Recommendations iv. Futures pathways	These include carbon mitigations, reducing energy use improving building energy performances	Systematic review	Established a rigorous framework for government agencies and other relevant stockholders using the recent literatures as benchmark for implementing for proper energy efficiency in sustainable buildings.
Akram et, al., 2022 [95]	This mainly concerned with i. Fossil energy effects on buildings ii. Exploring other alternative sources of energy	Minimizing the usage of energy in Commercial and residential buildings	Reviewing energy policies and energy best practices	The research will assist relevant stockholders in advocating sustainable and green building through implementation other sources of energy for usage in buildings
Alawneh et, al., 2018 [96]	Achieving UN sustainable goal of i. Energy efficiency in green building ii. And water contribution assessment	Water efficiency, energy standards, and atmosphere standards in green buildings	Quantitative method was employed using structured questionnaire	Comprehensive Contribution to Development Index (CCDI) was proposed as reliable tools of examining the water and energy efficiency in green buildings in Jordan
Shareelna, 2021 [97]	This attempted to i. Balancing the demand and supply of energy in green buildings ii. Optimize the consumption through the advocate of green building energy	Improving annual cooling and lighting systems in existing buildings	Analytical approach of benefit transfer method	Creating sustainable future roadmap for the optimizing energy usages in Malaysia's housing.
Liu et, al., 2014 [98]	Analyzed the energy efficiency technology application on green building of china	Evaluating and Improving energy efficiency in green buildings	Cost-benefit analysis on green building technology	The research found out that power price is the most sensitive factor, followed by unit increase and lifetime of the building as the most parameters influencing cost of green building technology

be among the major hurdles to the adoption of energy-efficient policies [80, 81]. Quantifying and communicating the economic advantages of these measures can be difficult, and the need to provide evidence of benefits can decrease the return on investment [67, 82]. To overcome these barriers, a public guarantee mechanism may be an effective solution, as it would alleviate monetary risk and make it more attractive for institutional finances to invest in energy-efficient projects for households with low and middling incomes [19, 83]. Moreover, the lack of financing is also a primary contributor to these barriers [45, 84, 85] and manufacturers often face significant major investments and costs related to mass barriers of production caused by limited access to adequate capital [84, 86]. Furthermore, severe controls that limit access to funds, even when money is available on normal models, aggravate the problem [62, 87].

In addition to the barriers discussed earlier, several other impediments to the adoption of energy-efficient building practices have been explored by previous studies, providing valuable insights into the field. Some of these studies are summarized Table 3.

5. FACTORS INFLUENCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDING PRACTICES

Three main factors have been identified by previous studies as the main influencers towards incorporating energy-efficient building techniques: occupant behavior, building characteristics, equipment, and technologies [21]. Building features such as orientation, design, window glazing, insulation, and materials all have a part in influencing energy usage [55]. In addition to that, heat recuperation, thermal energy storage, evaporative cooling, and adjustable air system are other major contributors to energy efficiency [18]. Occupant behavior, including the use of smart meters, smart grids, and control access, also plays a crucial role in determining energy consumption [86]. However, it is crucial to highlight that building attributes alone cannot ensure the optimal approach to designing a structure because it may be dependent on other aspects [6]. Additionally, economic and environmental benefits are not always considered in energy-efficient design solutions, also significant difficulties still exist in terms of cost-effectiveness [6]. As such, interventions aimed at changing occupants' behavior offer a relatively low-cost and simple solution to enhance energy efficiency [89]. These interventions may include technological updates, building service systems, and education to change their attitudes toward energy efficiency [6]. Therefore, technological updates, building service systems, and interventions to change occupant behavior should be considered as energy performance benchmarking to help occupants make smart decisions [6]. Table 4 bring together key insights from previous studies and presents a comprehensive outline of the numerous aspects that play important role in the implementation of energy-efficient building techniques and practices.

6. CONCLUSION

This study provides a thorough review of the various factors that influence the use of energy-efficient building practices, and the issues related to these factors, including barriers to implementation. The majority of reviewed studies focused on examining the impacts of energy efficiency using a questioner survey and decision-making trial and assessment laboratory technique. This study also highlighted that, government supervision, awareness, design standards, construction quality, and Energy Star materials are among the most significant factors influencing the building energy savings practice. Hence, both the government and construction stakeholders' roles are vital to promoting energy efficiency programs, standardizing building codes, and providing incentives for energy-efficient buildings. It is pertinent to remember, that cost-effectiveness is often one of the primary considerations in energy efficiency practices, Furthermore, precise numerical analytical findings are not always feasible to validate under realistic conditions [6]. To achieve this and provide alternative solutions for building owners, it is essential to have awareness, information, proper policy implementation, and other incentive programs. Therefore, by enhancing energy-efficient buildings with relatively low costs and simple construction procedures, the implementation of energy-efficient building practices can be made easy and can be useful for both existing and new buildings.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

Removing barriers, as well as addressing the interplay of obstacles to the operation of energy-efficient building practices, are both essential and necessary. Possible suggestions for addressing these barriers include the following:

- To improve energy efficiency, it is essential to carry out local energy audit programs in buildings. This will make it easier to find areas that need improvements and create energy-saving initiatives. Additionally, regular monitoring and reporting of energy consumption can help to track progress and identify additional opportunities for savings [21].
- To increase energy efficiency awareness among residents, it is vital to involve the media in educating the public about environmental issues and energy conservation [46]. This can include public service announcements, news articles, and educational campaigns to promote energy-saving behaviors and technologies [24].
- It is critical to disseminate innovative technologies that use renewable resources throughout the world in order to increase energy efficiency. This will encourage the use of alternative energy methods and lessen reliance on fossil fuels [38]. Furthermore, in order to maintain the efficacy and cost of green energy sources, it is essential to encourage research and development of new solutions [13].
- To overcome financial hurdles to energy efficiency, it is critical to conduct research and form cooperation with institutions and international organizations [35].

This can include grants, low-interest loans, and tax incentives for energy-efficient upgrades. Additionally, financing options such as energy performance contracting (EPC) can also be considered.

- To reduce transaction costs, it is advisable to use marketplace-based regulations such as energy performance contracting (EPC). EPCs have been shown to have significant financial benefits and can be used to pay for energy efficiency measures. Additionally, implementing policies such as cap-and-trade systems or carbon pricing can also help to reduce transaction costs and incentivize energy efficiency.
- To ensure the effective execution of energy efficiency programs, it is crucial to involve all stakeholders, including individuals and institutions. This will help to build support for energy efficiency measures and to overcome any obstacles that may arise. Additionally, involving community members and local organizations can help to build grassroots support for energy efficiency efforts and increase participation in programs and initiatives. Furthermore, it is essential to consider the cultural and societal implications of energy efficiency, as different communities may have different needs and preferences.

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The author confirm that the data that supports the findings of this study are available within the article. Raw data that support the finding of this study are available from the corresponding author, upon reasonable request.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

ETHICS

There are no ethical issues with the publication of this manuscript.

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