

Development and marketing of integrated concepts for energy efficient and sustainable retrofitting of social housing

ROSH – *Retrofitting of Social Housing* – is co-funded by the European Commission's Intelligent Energy Europe programme and will cover the period from January 2006 till June 2008. Twelve partners from six European countries are involved, the coordinator being target GmbH in Hanover, Germany. For the purpose of the project "social housing" comprises multi-family houses or apartment buildings for low-income households.

The overall objective of the project is to promote energy efficient and sustainable retrofitting of social housing in the partner regions Lower Saxony (Germany), Styria (Austria), Dublin (Ireland), Warmia-Mazuria (Poland), Lombardia and Piemonte (Italy) as well as in Bulgaria. ROSH wishes to expand the market for advanced energy-efficient retrofitting solutions at the same time with increasing comfort levels and the quality of life for tenants.

The instruments of ROSH are information, training and communication measures. Interested institutions are provided with helpful tools and materials to support their sustainable retrofitting activities. At the centre of ROSH are activities directed at those providing social housing and at the tenants. But the further relevant stakeholders of authorities (subsidy schemes), energy service companies (ESCOs) and planners are included as well.

Crucial deliverables / instruments

- **Market analysis and report** of the current situation in social housing and of the existing financial mechanisms and economic conditions in the partner regions
- Catalogue of **Good practice examples** (more than 30)
- 56 software tools are listed in an **online-tool** (or available as CD). Most of the software tools are used as planning and support devices for architects, planners, energy consultants, engineers, energy auditors, but there are also procedural and financial tools as well as quality assurance, monitoring and controlling tools included in this Audit and advice tool-kit.
- Two **guidebooks** (with technical and financial focus) present the results and contains **checklists** and details for investors and planners
- **Training** and further education measures for architects, consultants and planners (e.g. on quality assurance or related cost effects)
- Training courses for occupants on energy saving behaviour (slides and brochures available on the project web-site)
- 10 **Demonstration projects** (2 in each partner region) to apply and improve tools and instruments; a brochure "10 shining examples" will be available soon
- **Market campaign** and information events (e.g. leaflets, poster, checklists for investors and workshops, fair presences)
- 150 **consultations and reports** about retrofitting measures as well as thermographies
- **Dissemination** on National and European level

Lessons learnt so far

Referring to the characteristics of the social homes, it can be outlined that they are similar in the partner countries: the average size of the dwelling is between 51 m² in Poland and 70 m² in Italy, whereas in the other three countries it is about 65 m². The average number of rooms varies between 3.1 in Poland and 4.6 in Ireland, while the number of inhabitants per dwelling is higher in Ireland (3.3 persons) and very low in Austria (2.05 persons per dwelling). On the other hand the building typologies in the partner countries are very different.

The ownership structure varies in the partner regions and somehow it is very inhomogeneous. Furthermore there is a high complexity and diversity of the legal regulations, aid and loan programmes, and criteria required to receive subsidies.

Consequently, due to the complexity of energetically refurbishment in the multi-family-sector of social housing, tools and support are needed and very helpful for the initial stimulus (see also guidebook part I and II of the project).

Moreover comprehensive consultations and energy audits together with adapted financial schemes for each object are indispensable.

In this regard very good experiences have been made in the ROSH demonstration projects:

- Consultation for the development of energetically refurbishment concepts
- Quality assurance actions (e.g. consultation, thermographies)
- Training for occupants on energy saving behaviour besides the refurbishment actions

European partner consortium

ROSH is being implemented EU-wide by the following co-operation:

- Agenzia Territoriale per la Casa della Provincia di Novara – Italy
- Agenzia territoriale per la casa della provincia di Asti – Italy
- Ambiente Italia – Italy
- Arbeitsgemeinschaft Erneuerbare Energie – Austria
- Architektenkammer Niedersachsen – Germany
- Baltycka Agencja Poszanowania Energii SA – Poland
- Black Sea Regional Energy Centre – Bulgaria
- City of Dublin Energy Management Agency – Ireland
- Federcasa – Federazione Italiana per la casa – Italy
- Grazer Energie Agentur – Austria
- Institut für Bauforschung e.V. – Germany
- target GmbH – Germany

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Further information about ROSH and the activities in the partner regions, as well as a numerous useful tools are available on the project web-site

www.rosh-project.eu

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