

SHARE

Social Housing Action to
Reduce Energy Consumption



Case Study 9

Demonstration Flat for Energy Saving



The SHARE project established a Forum in Remscheid where the needs and methods of energy advice for social housing tenants are identified and continuously adapted.

The active participation of the Forum members plays a major role in the target group oriented delivery of energy advice and training.

While information brochures and leaflets are a valuable asset in the awareness campaign, the Forum identified a hands-on practical approach as the most effective, and agreed that bringing the information into the tenants' living rooms is the best way to achieve energy awareness and reduction of energy consumption.

However, it was recognised that some households may find a home visit intrusive.

With this in mind, and to ensure that advice and training is made accessible to a wide range of residents, the GEWAG Housing Association established a demonstration flat for practical training and advice.

The flat is used to demonstrate and explain about heating and ventilation, showing good and bad practice. The flat is also equipped with energy efficient and inefficient appliances and equipment.

SHARE is an Intelligent Energy Europe Project working in eight European areas to develop energy efficiency and low carbon technologies in social housing. For more information about the SHARE project and for other case studies see the project website:

www.socialhousingaction.com

Benefits of the demonstration flat:

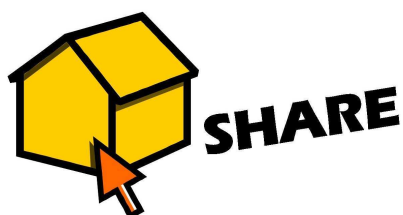
- Groups of 6-12 tenants can be trained at one time.
- Each session cover a wide range of topics, driven by the needs of the participants.
- Targeted sessions can be held, for example days for Turkish women only.
- Each participant receives a SHARE info folder and a digital thermometer and hygrometer.



Tenants' Feedback: "When you used the fog machine to show how quickly the humidity escapes from the room when you fully open the window; that really visualized how heat is wasted by keeping the window open all day"

"It is really shocking to see how my computer and washing machine still consume energy when they are switched off. Great, that I can borrow a stand-by meter to check that at home."

"I really didn't know that our family produces 6 litres of water a day just by breathing, perspiration, cooking and washing. To see the amount of water in the acrylic water column explains where our mouldy walls come from."



Inventory (sponsored by GEWAG):

Topic: Energy efficient household appliances

- energy cost meters
- power strips with switch
- wireless switch
- floor lamp with transformer (no "off" position)
- TV set and VCR
- HiFi set
- PC, monitor, printer

Topic: Energy saving in cooking and refrigerating

- refrigerator
- stove with two plates, different pots/saucepans
- electric kettle
- coffee maker
- stand-by meters

Topic: Energy saving in lighting

- energy saving light bulbs of various shapes & sizes

Topic: Heating and ventilation

- curtains
- cupboard,
- sofa
- fog machine

Topic: Condensation

- humidifiers for radiator
- wallpaper: foamed material and wood-chip
- drying rack
- towel rails
- acrylic water column, 6 litres
- hygrometers

Contact Details

Name: Petra Hackmann
Organisation: B.&S.U. mbH
Telephone: +49(0)221 37 77 686
E-mail: phackmann@bsu-koeln.de

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