

## Project-Newsletter No. 1 – June 2006

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### Editorial

Dear partner & stakeholder,

Welcome to our first ROSH newsletter, bringing to you news and background on the alliance of integrated energy concepts with social housing. ROSH is a project supported by the Intelligent Energy for Europe programme and will promote high quality and sustainable solutions for retrofitting of social housing in multi-family buildings. We will inform you about the deliverables and events via newsletters every six months in addition to our continuous online presence. This first newsletter will give you an introduction to ROSH itself and some insight into our first activities. We are looking forward to you getting interested and involved!



Andreas Steege  
target GmbH  
Project coordinator

## The ROSH Mission: More Efficiency for Underprivileged Buildings

ROSH – *Retrofitting of Social Housing* – is a European co-operation project for the development and marketing of integrated concepts for energy efficient and sustainable retrofitting of social housing in the partner regions. For the purpose of the project “social housing” comprises multi-family houses or apartment buildings for low-income households. Running from January 2006 to June 2008, ROSH supports this undertaking with information, training and communication measures as well as helpful tools and materials. Its focus is on social housing providers and on tenants. Within the scope of ROSH, guidelines for the sustainable retrofitting of less privileged houses will be developed as well as financing schemes. ROSH methods will be evaluated by means of demonstration projects.

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## Energy Show 2006 in Dublin

The Energy Show 2006 was held in Dublin, Ireland on the 10th and 11th May 2006. This biennial event is the largest and most successful national exhibition in Ireland. It is an ideal forum for suppliers, customers and consultants in the field of energy, sustainable energy technologies and good energy management. Mr. Noel Dempsey, Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, officially launched the event.



ROSH partner CODEMA has exhibited at the Energy Show for a number of years and the show presented the first opportunity to promote ROSH. A very attractive project leaflet was developed for distribution on this occasion. The attendance level exceeded previous years reaching a record of more than 3,000 people. This was also reflected through the number of enquiries and brochures distributed at the CODEMA stand. To conclude: the Energy Show 2006 was great success in presenting ROSH to a national audience.

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## ROSH online

ROSH has successfully launched a project website. Here you will find all details on the project, its consortium and supporters as well as links to events and trainings. A special highlight is the good-practice-databases for energy efficient modernisations and financial schemes in the social housing. You will be able to access all tools and deliverables online. This English website is connected to regional pages in all partner languages.

Come and visit [www.rosh-project.eu](http://www.rosh-project.eu)

**First Results:**

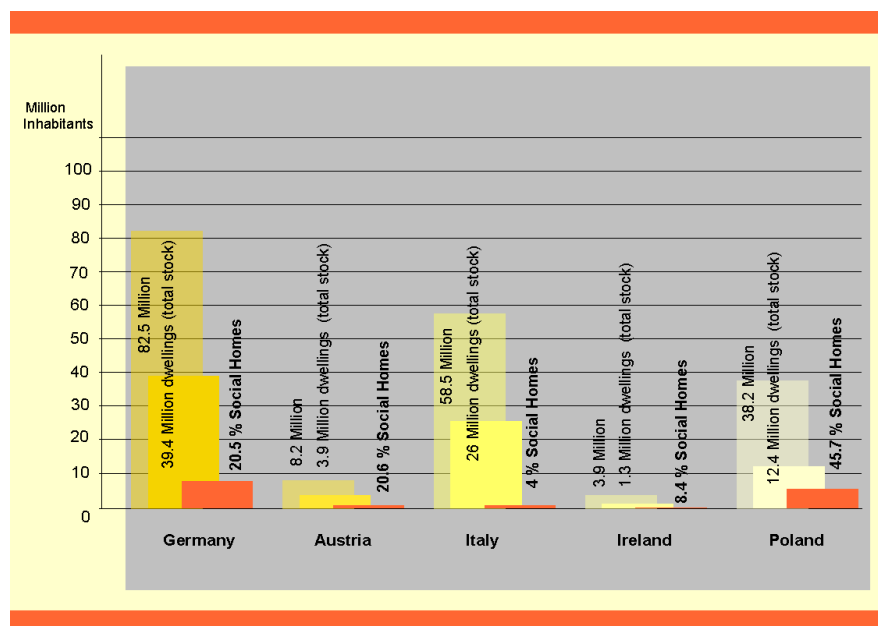
**Social Housing in Partner Regions: Many Differences, Few Similarities**

A large number of retrofitting measures in social housing are still carried out without improving energy efficiency. A great failure, since boosting the energy savings in this field can be achieved with comparatively little expenses. The two main reasons are that the existing standards are often very inadequate and efficiency measures can be combined with other necessary retrofitting steps. It is essential to plan and harmonize overall retrofitting with subsequent insulation and improvement of energy supply systems in joint or consecutive steps.

Within the frame of ROSH the analysis of existing data and good practice in social housing from the partner regions are used to create additional stimuli and support to invest into energy efficiency. In the first months ROSH provided a database for advanced energy retrofitting solutions in social housing. A questionnaire for the research phase was developed including guidelines to scrutinize the status quo as well as good practise examples in the partner regions.

Now first results of the analysis of the questionnaires can be presented. A few similarities, but many differences concerning social housing in the involved partner countries and regions became apparent.

Key common feature in all regions is a general income limit for tenants in order to qualify for social housing. However, definitions, requirements, criteria, rental charges as well as the percentage of social housing in general differ considerably. The figure above compares the involved partner regions regarding the percentage of social housing in the housing sector. More results of the cross-country analysis including detailed country surveys will be published soon.



Graph: population / total number of dwellings / percentage of social housing; source: IFB

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**Advanced Tailored Financial Schemes**

The major obstacle for refurbishment in social housing is well known: lack of financial means. This situation is significant for all EU Member States. The ROSH project team analysed the specific, current situation in the participating EU regions (in Austria, Germany, Ireland, Italy and Poland) in order to research, compile and assess innovative financial schemes. The starting activities have confirmed the problematic status quo but have shown some interesting approaches (e.g. contracting instruments) to improve the situation. Until autumn this year the ROSH project team will develop new concepts of energy services in cooperation with relevant decision makers.

The main results will then be presented in the guidebook "Sustainable Retrofitting of Social Housing: Financial Schemes". The publication will describe regulatory frameworks concerning energy efficiency, subsidy schemes and advanced tailored financial schemes. In addition it will contain planning tools for and good practice examples of successful financing projects. The guidebook is intended for decision makers in housing companies and local authorities as well as energy agencies, consultants and planners and will be published in spring 2007.

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### ROSH Partner Consortium

ROSH is a EU-project implemented by the following consortium:

- Agenzia Territoriale per la Casa della Provincia di Novara – **Italy**
- Agenzia Territoriale per la Casa della Provincia di Asti – **Italy**
- Ambiente Italia – **Italy**
- AEE – Institut für Nachhaltige Technologien – **Austria**
- Architektenkammer Niedersachsen – **Germany**
- Bałtycka 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 Energieagentur – **Austria**
- Institut für Bauforschung e. V. – **Germany**
- target GmbH – **Germany** (project co-ordination)

You will find contacts in detail at:  
[www.rosh-project.eu](http://www.rosh-project.eu)

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### Calendar of Events

#### ROSH – next events

##### **November 2006**

#### **Second ROSH technical meeting**

The second ROSH technical meeting will take place in Brussels in November. On this occasion the preliminary contents and the products of ROSH will be discussed by all the partners.

##### **Spring 2007**

#### **Training for investors**

The ROSH consortium is developing 6 training courses for investors of the social housing sector to be carried out in Spring 2007 in the partner regions. The courses will be especially adapted to meet the needs of the market actors. More information will be soon available on the ROSH website.

#### ROSH – last events

##### **10 to 11 May 2006**

#### **Energy Show in Dublin, Ireland**

This bi-annual show is the main and largest energy exhibition in Ireland: ROSH was represented by CODEMA with the first project leaflet.

##### **21 to 22 June 2006**

#### **VKA2 Projects co-ordinator's Meeting in Brussels, Belgium**

The Intelligent Energy Executive Agency (IEEA) organised a meeting with the co-ordinators of the VKA2 projects aiming at discussing the projects status and co-ordinating the tasks in the different projects. ROSH was represented by Andreas Steege and Erika Villa, target GmbH.

##### **29 to 30 June 2006**

#### **Project meeting and technical meeting in Gdansk, Poland**

The second ROSH project meeting and first technical meeting took place in Gdansk, Poland on the 29 and 30 June 2006 at the premises of the project partner BAPE. The first project results were discussed by all partners which will be made available on the ROSH web-site in the section "tools and products".

#### Social Housing in Europe

##### **31 May to 2 June 2006**

#### **Seminar "Urban Renewal as a challenge for Housing Associations in Europe" in Berlin, Germany**

The seminar was organised by CECODHAS to outline the role of housing association in sustainable urban development with policy debate and best practices from Germany and around Europe.

##### **7th to 8 November 2006**

#### **Conference "Retrofitting of Social Housing: Financing and Policy Options" in Thessaloniki, Greece**

CRES (Centre for Renewable Energy Sources, Pikerimi) in co-operation with CECODHAS organises an international conference in connection with the General Assembly of CECODHAS.