



Project Fact Sheet

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

Programme area:	SAVE projects, Social housing
Status:	ongoing
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Partners:	Arbeitsgemeinschaft Erneuerbare Energie; Institute for Sustainable Technologies, AT Architektenkammer Niedersachsen, DE Ambiente Italia srl Istituto di Ricerche, IT Baltycka Agencja Poszanowania Energii SA, PL Black Sea Regional Energy Centre, BG City of Dublin Energy Management Agency, IE Grazer Energie Agentur, AT Institut für Bauforschung e.V., DE Agenzia territoriale per la casa della provincia di Asti, IT Agenzia territoriale casa Novara, IT Federcasa – Federazione Italiana per la casa, IT
Website:	http://www.rosh-project.eu
Objective:	Development and marketing of integrated concepts for energy efficient and sustainable retrofitting of social housing
Benefits:	Influence on the decision making process for retrofitting of SH for more energy efficiency in renovation projects and stimulation of the market
Keywords:	energy efficiency, sustainable retrofitting, social housing
Duration:	01/2006 – 06/2008
Budget:	€ 1.330.623 (EU contribution: 49.86 %)
Contract number:	EIE/05/140/SI2.419590



Short description

ROSH 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: Lower Saxony (Germany), Styria (Austria), Dublin (Ireland), Warmia-Mazuria (Poland), Lombardy and Piedmont (Italy) as well as in Bulgaria. For the purpose of the project "social housing" comprises multi-family houses or apartment buildings for low-income households.

The project, running from January 2006 to June 2008, supports this undertaking with information, training and communication measures as well as helpful tools and materials. Its focus is on the social housing providers and on the tenants. Within the scope of ROSH, guidelines for the sustainable retrofitting of houses will be developed as well as financing schemes. These practices will be evaluated by means of demonstration projects.

The market for advanced energy-efficient retrofitting solutions shall be expanded, while comfort levels and the quality of life for tenants shall be increased. The project aims mainly at influencing the decision making process for retrofitting of social houses and to stimulate the market to increase the amount of social houses being retrofitted.

Expected and/or achieved results

1. Tools for advanced integrated retrofitting solutions: analysis of the current situation, of the existing financial mechanisms and the economic conditions; good practice retrofitting projects and innovative financial and partnership schemes; inventory of technologies; integrated sustainable retrofitting solutions and advanced tailored financial schemes; audit and advice toolkit; quality assurance tools,
2. Two guidebooks summarising all tools from 1: “Sustainable retrofitting of Social Housing – part I and part II” presenting technical solutions (I) and financial schemes (II)
3. Training and further education measures: for architects, consultants and planners and courses on user behaviour, quality assurance and related cost effects
4. Support of demonstration projects to apply and improve tools and instruments
5. Market campaign and information and EU-wide dissemination and transfer of the project results (provision of all information material via project website; Networking and transfer of results on the national and European level)

Lessons learnt

Although the project has not been completed it is possible to draw the following preliminary conclusions:

The different participating partner regions within ROSH are positive about the enormous potential in energy savings. Though local conditions and requirements differ, similar problems as well as positive results have been experienced:

1. There is no common definition of the term “social housing” and no common building standard for social housing across Europe. This fact leads to problems in the development of tailored schemes in the different partner countries.
Though there is no common definition of “social housing” there is still common ground: Quality assurance is a key topic in all partner regions irrespective of specific local conditions. Quality assurance helps to guarantee good energy performances and a healthy living environment and prevents construction damages.
2. The type of financial framework is one of the main reasons for successful and comprehensive refurbishment. Nevertheless, any comprehensive refurbishment cannot be realised without (maintenance) reserves. Therefore a strategic and financial forecast, taking into account a period of the upcoming ten years, is essential for all partner regions.
Across Europe, concerning retrofitting of social housing there seems to be a lack of convincing and innovative financing schemes that take into consideration particularities like prospects of future maintenance costs and indirect return of investment.
3. A European project like ROSH can help to bridge communication gaps between different actors (e.g. local building departments) and thus paves the road for shared future projects. For example: tenants are less interested in technical specifications but more interested in their individual needs like balconies, noise protection and, above all, low energy costs.