



# **CECODHAS**

## **European Liaison Committee for Social Housing**

**Retrofitting of Social Housing in Europe  
8 November 2006 - Thessaloniki**

# Introduction: Reality check

- 2006 European Quality of Life survey by the European foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions
- % of those surveyed who report that they cannot afford to heat their homes – in EU 15 7% (range of 1% - 45%) , in NMS 23% (3% - 56%) and Accession states 47% (44%-51%)
- This proportion is set to increase as fuel prices rise

- Proportion of those surveyed who report rotting window frames, doors and floors
- EU 15 8%, (2% - 16%) EU 10 25% and Accession states 30%

Technologies and Know-how exist but financial and organisation barriers are significant

# Goal: Closing Gaps

- Ensure the transfer of knowledge and experience and best practice throughout the social housing sector
- Consolidate necessary political and financial support from Local, regional, national and EU levels in partnership with universities and industry

# CECODHAS – an introduction

- Established in 1988 to represent the Social Housing Sector vis-a-vis European institutions
- No common definition of social housing in Europe . Huge diversity of systems however the common denominator between our members is that they provide housing on a non-for-profit basis.

# CECODHAS activities

- **Lobby for adequate policy framework** so that social housing providers can play their role to offer decent and affordable housing to those in need
- Facilitate the **exchange of experiences** to learn from others and feed the design of new policies -  
Community Development, - Urban Regeneration, -  
Integration of Immigrants, - Housing for the Elderly,  
- anti-social behaviour, **Energy Efficiency**

# CECODHAS in Numbers

- Direct Members: 43 National and Regional Social Housing Federations in 19 Countries
- Members of Members: 22,000 public, cooperative and voluntary housing companies
- Housing units (rental and for owner occupancy): approximately 20 million housing units
- The sector represents a large proportion of housing and can therefore make significant cuts to energy use.
- Housing organisations have a long-term vested interest in stock and residents.

# Multiplier Effect

- A multiplier effect: Because of the large stock levels, Social Housing Organisations can act as a catalyst by spearheading innovation and energy efficient renovations in local communities and in New Member States.
- A socially cohesive force: Bring different actors in the community together in partnerships with residents, local authorities, industry.
- Sector has considerable employment generation potential
- In creating the funding stream specifically for the retrofitting of social housing under the SAVE programme, the EU (Intelligent Energy Executive Agency) has managed to tap this potential and boost the multiplier effect



# EU, Energy and Social Housing

- Action Plan for Energy Efficiency: Includes a range of measure to speed up the potential 27% reduction in energy consumption in the residential sector over the next 3 years
- Expansion in the scope of existing Legislative and regulatory measures and Norms and establishment of new norms and minimum requirements

# EU, Energy & Social Housing contd.

- Facilitating leveraging of financing for energy efficiency projects, including the multifamily and social housing sectors, in the new member states through structural and cohesion funds (2007-2012)
- Promoting networking amongst member states and regions, to ensure financing of best practices in energy efficiency (2007-2012)

# Challenges for Social Housing

- Funding of investment
- Compliance with growing amount of regulation and norms
- Access to knowledge and training

# CECODHAS actions on energy

- Proposals on Energy Performance of Buildings directive
- Answer to Green Paper on energy efficiency
- Partner in European Sustainable energy campaign, EPBD building platform
- Participation to European Expert Group on the Urban environment

- Lobbying for eligibility of EU structural funds for social housing energy projects
- Promotion, participation, facilitation of network building for the SAVE calls for proposals

# Current Campaigns

- **Greening of the Cohesion Policy:**  
Maximising the potential of new financial instruments to improve living conditions for all in the EU
- Ensuring that local authorities in new member states are aware of the new possibilities open to them in 2007 -2013
- Present a body of expertise and good practice at a conference on January 31st 2007  
at the Committee of the Regions, Brussels

# Greening of Cohesion Policy

- Clearly outline new possibilities to use EU structural funds to support the housing sector targeting local levels
- Identify needs for successful implementation of EU projects
- Present successful projects in integrated urban renewal and community development and energy efficiency

## Current Campaigns contd.

- Establishment of structured exchange of knowledge and best practice through a platform of energy experts from each CECODHAS member federation.
- Capitalisation on work of Intelligent Energy projects ( SAVE, Altener, Research Framework) on a thematic basis:



- Financing
- Fuel Poverty, Housing, energy & Health
- Networks/ Forums Models ( links with universities/industry)
- Training
- Asset management
- Waste/ Water/ common areas



Thank you for your attention

Contact: [info@cecodhas.org](mailto:info@cecodhas.org)

Website: [www.cecodhas.org](http://www.cecodhas.org)