

Energy Efficiency and Residential Buildings Management in Central and Eastern Europe

Analytical approach in scaling up renovation of multi-apartment buildings

A joint online webinar by Habitat for Humanity Macedonia
and Habitat for Humanity International Europe and Middle East

1-2 June, 2022

Zoom platform



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Concept Note

For more than a decade, Habitat for Humanity International – Europe and Middle East (HFHI/EME) and Habitat for Humanity Macedonia (HFHM) have been addressing the issue of energy poverty and energy efficiency in the residential sector in the region of Central and Eastern Europe and Western Balkans. Our activities under the Residential Energy Efficiency for Low-Income Households (REELIH) project funded by USAID, together with other initiatives, involve work on scaling up the finance for renovation of multi-apartment buildings to increase the energy efficiency and comfort of living of the inhabitants living in the residential building stock across this region. Habitat for Humanity has become a facilitator of establishing the “eco-system” of stakeholders by working with the municipalities and financing institutions to develop, test and scale financial models for residential energy efficiency with the special emphasis on the low-income households.

In the past 10 years both HFHM and HFHI/EME have worked together with researchers and published number of research papers and other evidence based on our fieldwork. Furthermore, our work was featured in several publications by key stakeholders including UN-ECE, the European Parliament and FEANTSA. Building on this long experience it seems timely to lift our efforts to generate evidence to a new level.

HFHM is preparing a new publication named “Residential buildings management and energy efficiency investment potential in Western Balkan countries”. The publication will feature both academic and best practice papers, covering the legislative processes and regulations in the residential sector and energy efficiency, good examples in implementation of energy efficiency upgrades and management practices, developed financial products and technologies, organization and management, finances, and technical aspects of energy efficiency refurbishment, all with the focus on multi-apartment buildings.

To contribute to the development of effective building renovation strategies and policies and enhancing the cross-sectoral dialogue, HFHI/EME is planning to launch the Residential Energy Efficiency Observatory in Central and Eastern Europe (REE Observatory in CEE). We consider collecting studies and best practices as an important addition to our work in the field and as a possible long-term policy instrument for stimulating the debate about the specificities of residential energy efficiency in the region. This new initiative will be focusing on generating and disseminating knowledge on energy poverty and renovation of the owner-occupied multi-apartment buildings.

The two-day webinar will discuss topics of residential energy efficiency in multi-apartment buildings from the theoretical/academic perspective by inviting professors and authors of the studies featured in the new publication by HFHM. We will discuss further the relevance of establishing the REE Observatory in CEE. Further, we will move from theory to practice and present several best practices from the field showcasing how refurbishment of multi-apartment buildings in the region can succeed.

Webinar Agenda

June 1, 2022

Link to online meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89035475109> (Meeting ID: 890 3547 5109)

13:00 – 13:45 **Welcome Remarks**

Speakers:

- **Besim Nebiu**, Director, Central and Eastern Europe, HFHI/EME
- **Andrew Popelka**, Senior Energy Advisor, Energy, and Infrastructure Division, Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, USAID – TBC
- **Eva Gerohazi**, Researcher, Metropolitan Research Institute Budapest

13:45 – 15:15 **Introducing the Residential Energy Efficiency Observatory in Central and Eastern Europe: How should research support sectorial approaches to scaling up renovation of multi-apartment buildings and alleviating energy poverty?**

There is a need to build up evidence base for well-grounded actions and there is only a limited availability of official statistics and data on energy poverty and residential energy efficiency across the Central and Eastern Europe. Collecting studies and best practices about these topics is an important addition to the work in the field. Such activity can be further used as a long-term policy instrument for stimulating the debate about the specificities of residential energy efficiency in the region. This session will discuss the importance of establishing the initiatives focusing on generating and disseminating knowledge, with the emphasis on topics of energy poverty and renovation of the owner-occupied multi-apartment buildings.

Moderator: Gyorgy Sumeghy, Associate Director of Advocacy & Policy, HFHI/EME

Panelists:

- **Kostiantyn Gura**, Policy Coordinator of the REE Observatory in CEE, HFHI/EME
- **Clotilde Clark-Foulquier**, Project Manager, FEANTSA/Housing Solutions Platform
- **Sergio Tirado-Herrero**. ‘Ramón y Cajal’ Senior Research Fellow. Department of Geography. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM)
- **Edo Omic**, Economist at Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)

15:15 -15:30 **Coffee Break**

15:30 – 17:00 **Energy Efficiency Activities in the residential sector by HFHM – HABIDOM, RABA, TABULA**

Residential energy efficiency, especially in the multi-family apartment buildings is a complex issue that require analytical approach in designing, planning, implementing, and monitoring different initiatives for improvements in the sector. A significant part of the program portfolio of HFHM is to entail analysis, research, surveys, educational and other materials for capacity building, advocacy and policy making. This session will present the HFHM approach, concept, implementation, and deliverables to upgrade the energy efficiency in the residential sector and to support different groups of stakeholders, including academic community, governmental institutions, entrepreneurs, students, NGOs and so on.

Moderator: Zoran Kostov, National Director, HFHM

Speakers:

- **Liljana Alceva**, Deputy Director – Program, HFHM
- **Ivan Popovski**, Construction specialist, Finerty Ltd.
- **Goran Tanchevski**, Consultant, Freelance
- **Valentina Stardelova** or **Ismail Luma**, Head of Energy Sector - TBC

June 2, 2022

Link to online meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83911610484> (Meeting ID: 839 1161 0484)

9:30 – 11:00 **Presentation of the academic articles from Western Balkan and Central and Easter Europe countries**

Moderator: Angel Ristov, Professor at the Faculty of Law Iustinianus Primus, Skopje

Speakers:

- **Alice Corovessi**, Managing Director, INZEB
- **Angel Ristov**, Faculty of Law Iustinianus Primus, Skopje
- **Zana Prelvukaj**, University for Business and Technology-UBT, Prishtina
- **Davorin Pichler**, Faculty of Law, University J. J. Strossmayera, Osijek

11:00 – 11:15 **Coffee Break**

11:15 – 12:45

Presentation of the best practices in energy efficiency from Central and Eastern Europe

Moderator: Veronika Kiss, Research Coordinator of the Observatory, HFHI/EME

Speakers:

- **Mincho Benov**, National Director, Habitat for Humanity Bulgaria
- **Varsenik Khloyan**, Project Manager, Residential Buildings, Habitat for Humanity Armenia
- **Fexhri Selmani**, Zip-institute, Energy poverty in Macedonia-Saraj case study
- **Andrzej Rajkiewicz**, NAPE, Poland
- **Elena Szolgayova**, Former government representative, Co-Chair of #Housing2030 initiative, Slovakia

12:45 – 13:00

Closing remarks of the event

- **Zoran Kostov**, National Director, HFHM