



Together we change Romania
and its buildings!



BUILD UPON WORKSHOP

#7 Craiova, Romania

16 MAY 2016

CO-CREATING OUR NATIONAL RENOVATION STRATEGY
THROUGH “AN AMBITION STATEMENT IN 10 POINTS”
CREATED FROM THE RECOMANDATIONS OF THE
STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGED IN AN EXTENSIVE
CONSULTATION PROCESS.



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SUMMARY OF THE BUILD UPON 7TH WORKSHOP IN ROMANIA – Craiova, 16 May 2016

The seventh workshop of the “Change Romania with BUILD UPON” series was organized on 16 May 2016 by the Romania Green Building Council in Craiova at the Multifunctional Center, in partnership with the Construct Cluster of Oltenia. 30 participants joined the BUILD UPON project team to work together and contributing to the creation of a set of recommendations for the government authorities to improve the design and implementation of the National Renovation Strategy. The participants were from different areas including academics and research (36,7%), NGOs (16,7%), construction businesses and financial institutions (13,3% each) as well as the energy sector and media.

The event was opened by Dr. Monica Ardeleanu, Executive Director of Romania Green Building Council who presented the BUILD UPON project. She mentioned that “we need to contribute to the creation of a new renovation strategy that represents us and this strategy must be accompanied by an implementation plan”.

The participants worked together in an innovative way, using the “World Café” methodology designed to encourage inclusive and effective consultation sessions (www.TheWorldCafe.com). The participants tried to find the best answer to important questions and bring efficient solutions to the actual barriers. Some of the most relevant discussed topics were in line with raising the awareness among the final beneficiaries regarding energy-efficient and green renovation. The solutions were innovative and their views coincided in the sense that they follow the same direction. The general opinion was that awareness among consumers must be implemented through concrete examples (best practices of exemplary renovations) because only then can they understand what is required to renovate environmentally friendly.

The event benefited from the presence of Mr. Marian Petcu, President of the Construct Cluster Oltenia; an organization which expressed its interest in working with the Romania Green Building Council as experts. He highlighted the wish to engage the Construct Cluster Oltenia in the BUILD UPON project, outlining the benefits and the expertise that will be obtained through this project experience.

The second part of the event was dedicated to case studies presented by experts in energy efficiency. Mr. Vlad Stanciu, Executive Director of the Romanian Sustainable Energy Cluster joined from the Banat region of Romania. He presented the new acceleration program for energy efficiency of buildings using the ESCO system. The ESCO principle offers that energy efficiency can be self-finance by companies using the expected energy savings. The pilot project initiated in Timisoara aims to introduce the ESCO system into a national program. The project encountered barriers in building renovations due to lack of awareness of the benefits for the end users. RoGBC confirmed its own belief that ESCOs remain a useful solution which has struggled with market awareness and realized projects financed in the ESCO format.

CONCLUSIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS: Many participants wanted to emphasize that the most salient point related to addressing the challenge of bureaucracy as an identified barrier. The participants considered that public bureaucracy must be reduced through a process of simplification; both in accessing information and in obtaining building permits for energy efficient renovation. Other recommendations gathered from the participants included: establishment by law of clear rules, standardized technical specifications in terms of sustainable renovation, replication of best practice examples from Romania or other countries, training specialists in public administration on energy efficiency and green renovation, creating in all city halls a “one stop shop” as an information point on energy efficiency topics for the end users (again referencing the action of the Municipality of Cluj-Napoca from workshop #2), appointment in the city halls of specialists to manage the process and good and effective relationships with the other stakeholders involved in the renovation process.

View these recommendations integrated into the “[Declaration in 10 Points](#)” in sections 2, 6, 8, 9, 10.

You can find reports on each of the BUILD UPON workshops [here!](#)



www.buildupon.eu/dialogue/countries/romania/



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