



Together we change Romania
and its buildings!



BUILD UPON WORKSHOP

#8 Timișoara, Romania

19 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 8TH WORKSHOP IN ROMANIA – Timișoara, 19 May 2016

The eighth workshop “Change Romania with BUILD UPON” was organized on 19 May 2016 by Romania Green Building Council (RoGBC) in Timișoara at the Minds HUB. The event had 40 physical participants and 6 more joining via live webcast; providing input to the set of recommendations with the objective to improve the design and implementation of the National Renovation Strategy. The participants were from different areas such as NGOs (23,7%), local government and building occupants (10,5% each), construction businesses and professionals, financial institutions, academic and research, environment, energy sector and media. The main objectives of this workshop was to address the challenge of the current renovation process in Romania, define the BUILD UPON consultation process to enable stakeholders to engage and participate in the dialogue and policy creation process and explore the views of the interested parties to find out how they can build a high-impact community together.

The event was opened by Dr. Dorin Beu, President of RoGBC who presented the BUILD UPON project, the results of the previous workshops and the next steps. He spoke about the issue of a superficial/low quality renovation process that occurred in the recent past and still continues. He considered this as the biggest threat to sustainable renovations because once completed it will take a long time until the next renovation occurs. Furthermore, the low quality renovations have consumed required funding and created a negative perception of the possibilities of future renovation activities. He outlined that to create a functional National Renovation Strategy we must intervene at many levels in the public administration to finally obtain suitable results.

Mr. Vlad Stanciu, Executive Director of the Romania Sustainable Energy Cluster (ROSENC) and an expert in ESCOs (Energy Service Company) projects presented the benefits of this financial tool. In the ESCO projects presented, a collaboration was created based on a participative method at each stage of the project, in which all stakeholders were invited to be part of the project development and help plan the next stage plus; introduce each actor's opinion. Mr. Stanciu also delivered an interactive presentation during the second part of the event presenting a case study related to a new acceleration program for energy efficiency of buildings using the ESCO approach. An international expert in urban sustainability, Mr. Ivan Luque Segura from ELIH-MED (Energy Efficiency in Low Income Housing in the Mediterranean – a program supported by the European Regional Development Fund) Project, presented a successful case study for stakeholder collaboration in energy efficient renovation of a social housing project in Malaga, Spain, involving residents from “Los Limoneros”, a residential complex consisting of 140 apartments. An intense collaborative process involved end users, City Council representatives, students, architects and professionals in energy efficiency. Mr. Segura presented another interesting case study from Malaga - Sustainable Urban Models – Methodologies. The project includes the identification and the mapping of "green apples", which represent demonstration areas that could be extended to the whole city.

The event also included the participation of Ms. Cristina Badulescu – National Project Coordinator for the Climate-KIC program and Timis Chamber of Commerce for Industry and Agriculture. Climate-KIC, created in 2010 by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is “Europe's largest public-private innovation partnership focused on climate change, consisting of dynamic companies, the best academic institutions and the public sector”. Ms. Badulescu stated we should focus on the benefits both to the environment and to people. Other speakers were Mr. George Ștefu, General Manager at Styronit Romania, Mr. Vasile Dogaru, Professor at West University from Timisoara, Mr. Remus Radvan, Founder of the MindsHub innovation center and Mr. Mihai Toader-Pasti, RoGBC team member and Project Manager of EFdeN presenting a case study about the first Romanian research center on building comfort conditions.

A participative session using the “World Café” methodology (www.TheWorldCafe.com) was organized during the event offering the participants an effective opportunity to express their point of view, answer to the main questions related to deep energy efficient and green renovation and contribute to the recommendations for the Government.

CONCLUSIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS: The beneficiaries must have a decision role related to renovation quality as a result of all stakeholders being informed at the community level including homeowner associations, public authorities, financial institutions, NGOs, manufacturers, experts and professionals. Additionally the collaboration at the micro-community level must encourage debates and informed choices for the renovation solutions through public initiatives such as contests, workshops, and online information platforms. Funding should be supported by accessing public funds such as the Regional Operational Fund or ESCO financing, green loans and mortgages with preferential interest. The identified solutions must address the current issues related to superficial renovations and encourage people to support safer, greener and better quality renovations.

View these recommendations integrated into the “[Declaration in 10 Points](#)” in sections 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 9.

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



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



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