



International Social Housing Festival – Helsinki, Finland

Workshop: Climate-neutral housing – Decarbonizing the housing stock in an inclusive and affordable way

Theme: People first – quality of housing as quality of living. Achieving affordability and sustainability in housing

15 June 2022, Wednesday

12:30 to 16:00 EEST (Helsinki time)

Venue: Kino Regina, Helsinki Central Library Oodi

Language: English

Format: in-person

Registration required: Please register at <https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/ISHF2022-registration>

More information on the event is at <https://unece.org/info/Housing-and-Land-Management/events/366766>

Short description

Buildings have the largest potential for improving energy efficiency and mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. Decarbonizing the housing stock is very costly and creates a financial burden on inhabitants, often causing “energy poverty” among lower-income population. In the UNECE region, which includes most of the “rich” countries in the world, almost 42 million face arrears on their utility bills and more than 52 million people cannot keep their homes adequately warm. There is a need for implementing large-scale housing renovation programmes that are affordable for all. Such programmes are essential to meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement and related SDGs.

This workshop is a side event to the International Social Housing Festival. It aims to present the UNECE-Housing Europe-UN-Habitat study [“#Housing2030: Effective policies for affordable housing in the UNECE region”](#) containing a toolkit on affordable climate-neutral housing to demonstrate its use in mitigating potential negative social impacts of decarbonization strategies on vulnerable sections of society, particularly young people. It will also support the regional exchange of experiences and good practices in countries of the UNECE region on promoting access to decent, adequate, affordable and healthy housing as part of the countries’ responses to, and recovery plans for the COVID-19 pandemic (this will include the topics of “greening” cities and housing, using architectural and urban planning solutions and innovations to promote better quality of life, etc).

The #Housing2030 study and an online platform at www.housing2030.org were launched on 6 October 2021 at the [UNECE Housing Ministerial Meeting](#). The side event will also inform about the [“Place and Life in the ECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030: Tackling challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate and housing emergencies in region, city, neighbourhood and homes”](#) which builds on conclusions of the #Housing2030 study, as well as other relevant tools and practices, including the [UNECE High Performance Buildings Initiative](#).



Organizers:

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and Housing Europe.

For more information on this side event, please contact: Gulnara Roll, Regional Adviser, Forest, Land and Housing at UNECE Gulnara.Roll@un.org with cc to Juan Valle Robles at juan.vallerobles@un.org

Draft agenda

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| 12:30-12:50 | <p>Opening and welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doris Andoni, Chair, Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, and Director of Housing Department, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Albania • Sorcha Edwards, Secretary General, Housing Europe, Brussels, Belgium |
| 12:50-13:45 | <p>Presentation of the #Housing2030 study and “Place and Life in the ECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030”</p> <p>Moderator: Elena Szolgayova, Co-Chair, #Housing2030 Initiative, Bratislava, Slovakia</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Orr, Co-Chair, #Housing2030 Initiative, UK • Julie Lawson, Hon. Associate Professor, Centre for Urban Research, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia • Prof. Holger Wallbaum, Professor in Sustainable Building, Chalmers University, Sweden • Michelle Norris, Director of the Geary Institute for Public Policy, University College Dublin, Ireland • Prof. Brian Evans, City Urbanist, Glasgow City Council; and Director of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Centre of Excellence on Smart Sustainable Cities <p>The film by the city of Glasgow “Living in Glasgow: A pathway to 2030”</p> |
| 13:45-14:00 | Break |
| 14:00-14:45 | <p><u>Session One:</u> Best practices at local level on affordable climate-neutral housing</p> <p>Moderator: Juan Valle Robles, Consultant on urban planning and housing policy at UNECE, Madrid, Spain</p> <p><u>Questions to presenters:</u></p> |



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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an example of a practice on affordable climate-neutral housing your local government or your organization implemented. How did it evolve and who (the local government itself or any of the stakeholders) was driving and supporting it? 2. What challenges did you face in the implementation process? 3. What advice would you offer to policymakers from another city if they were seeking to adopt or replicate your best practices? <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olivier Richard, L'Atelier Parisien d'Urbanisme, Paris, France • Eduard Cabré Romans, Barcelona Housing Department, Barcelona, Spain • Paul Cartwright, Programme Manager for New Building Efficiency at C40 Cities, London, UK • Gyorgy Sumeghy, Associate Director, Policy Advocacy Europe, Middle East and Africa, Habitat for Humanity International, Bratislava, Slovakia <p>Discussion</p> |
| <p>14:45-15:00</p> | <p>Break</p> |
| <p>15:00-15:50</p> | <p><u>Session Two: Best practices at national level on affordable climate-neutral housing</u></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Doris Andoni, Chair, Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; and Director of Housing Department, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Albania</p> <p><u>Questions to presenters:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an example of a practice on affordable climate-neutral housing your government or your organization implemented at the national level. How did it evolve and who (the local government itself or any of the stakeholders) was driving and supporting it? 2. What challenges did you face in the implementation process? 3. What advice would you offer to policymakers from another city if they were seeking to adopt or replicate your best practices? <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saša Galonja, Head of Spatial Planning and Construction System Division, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of Slovenia • Rachael Marie Scicluna, Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society, Valletta, Malta • Veronika Rehakova, Director, Housing Policy Unit Ministry of Transport and Construction, Bratislava, Slovakia • Crystal Bergemann, Senior Advisor on Climate, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA |



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| | Discussion |
| 15:50-16:00 | Conclusions and closing by the Moderator |