



**GERMANY:**

German Association for Housing, Urban and Spatial Development (Berlin)

Housing Initiative for Eastern Europe (Berlin)

Center of Competence for Major Housing Estates (Berlin)

Ministry for Infrastructure and Agriculture of the State of Brandenburg (Potsdam)

Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Potsdam

Ministry of Science, Economic Affairs and Transport of the State of Schleswig-Holstein (Kiel)

**POLAND:**

City and County Piaseczno

**LITHUANIA:**

Housing and Urban Development Agency (Vilnius)

Siauliai City Municipality Administration

**LATVIA:**

City of Riga

City of Jelgava

**ESTONIA:**

Credit and Export Guarantee Fund KredEx (Tallinn)

City of Rakvere

Baltic Union of Cooperative Housing Associations (Tallinn)

**BELARUS:**

Grodno Oblast Executive Committee, Housing Department

**Lead Partner**

German Association for Housing, Urban and Spatial Development (DV)

Andreas Lindner

a.lindner@deutscher-verband.org

T: +49(0)30 206132556

**Project Coordinator**

Housing Initiative for Eastern Europe (IWO)

Britta Schmigotzki

schmigotzki@iwoev.org

T: +49(0)30 20605485

**Contact and Information**

www.urbenergy.eu

Urb.Energy is funded by the Baltic Sea Region (BSR) Programme 2007 – 2013 and national co-financing from the project partners. The BSR Programme 2007 – 2013 is an EU Structural Funds programme for transnational cooperation under the European Territorial Co-operation objective. The programme aims to make the Baltic Sea Region an attractive place to invest, work and live in. The BSR Programme is divided into four priorities. Urb.Energy is allocated to priority 4: “promotion of attractive and competitive cities and regions”.

This flyer has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The content of this document is the sole responsibility of the author and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.



Part-financed by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund and European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument).

# Urb.Energy

## Energy Efficiency and Integrated Urban Development





*European cities and their housing stock need to become more energy efficient in order to implement EU climate and energy policies. Sustainable and energy efficient neighbourhoods and cities can only be achieved with integrated approaches that tackle urban, structural and social problems as well as energy waste. These approaches are to be funded with innovative and sustainable financial schemes.*



## Project Background and Objectives

Against the background of climate change and limited energy resources, improved energy efficiency in buildings, increased use of renewable energy and energy saving urban structures gain importance.

The European housing stock is a major contributor to energy waste and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Improving the thermal efficiency of existing buildings has great potential to reduce greenhouse gas emission, energy consumption and heating costs. However, the refurbishment rate, especially in the Eastern European EU Member States, is still rather low. Current renovation activities in the multi-family housing stock are often limited to the application of minimum or standard measures. At the same time, a large number of housing estates in the Baltic Sea Region is characterised by a rather poor quality of the residential environment and infrastructure facilities.

To tackle these problems, Urb.Energy aims to combine measures of energy efficient refurbishment of the prefabricated housing stock with the overall development of the residential neighbourhood. To enable this approach to work effectively, innovative financing schemes are developed in parallel.

Urb.Energy's key objective is the development of integrated concepts and strategies for the comprehensive energy efficient renewal of residential areas in the Baltic Sea Region.

To reach this target the project work is focussed on three main topics:



## Integrated Urban Development

The overall aim of this part of the project is the increased application of integrated urban development concepts. This covers the combination of energy efficient housing refurbishment with the renewal of the energy supply infrastructure, the revaluation of the residential environment, the improvement of the social and economic infrastructure and the participation of citizens.

“Old” EU Member States, as e.g. Germany, have wide experience in the energy efficient revitalisation of large housing estates and the development of integrated concepts for urban neighbourhoods and cities. Although these approaches cannot be simply transferred to Eastern European partner countries, they provide valuable know-how and experiences which are exchanged and discussed in the project. Specific activities focus on the analyses of existing urban development approaches as well as the introduction and part implementation of transferable integrated urban development concepts at six selected target areas. Residents and other local stakeholders will be involved via information and awareness campaigns.

### Energy Efficient Renewal of Buildings and Energy Supply Infrastructure

As part of the integrated urban development approaches, Urb.Energy focuses on methods of energy efficient modernisation of residential buildings and district heating systems. In six target areas the project partners are developing, and partly

implementing renewal concepts. These plans consist of an optimised complex package of refurbishment measures and new approaches for the district heat energy supply, including renewable energy sources. It is crucial that these activities are implemented with the involvement of local stakeholders such as residents, homeowner associations, energy providers, city council, etc.

### Innovative Financial Schemes

Integrated and energy efficient urban development measures need to be financed. As the existing financial structures in the partner countries are not sufficient to finance the necessary works to buildings and the residential environment, Urb.Energy aims to develop and promote financial schemes and tools to fund integrated urban development activities, including energy efficient housing refurbishment.

The development of such financing strategies is based on an assessment of the available national and international sources of financing, which also includes an analysis of deficits and shortcomings in the existing funding possibilities. Special attention is given to the possibility of co-financing housing refurbishment measures in the Member States with EU Structural Funds and to the implementation of revolving funds.

Based on this, Urb.Energy provides best practice and guidelines for the design of sustainable funding schemes to support measures in the housing sector and urban areas.

## Facts

Project duration: January 2009 – January 2012

Partners: 15 partners from five EU-countries (D/PL/LT/LV/EE) and Belarus

Budget: 3.8 Million Euro