

WP 5 Financing

Minutes - Piaseczno WP 5 Seminar

Topics for discussion

On 3 and 4 March 2011, the final WP5-Workshop on financing concepts for the target areas took place in Piaseczno, Poland.

More than 30 participants took part in the event, which was opened by the hosts Janusz Bielicki from City of Piaseczno and Andrzej Raikiewicz from the Polish “National Energy Conservation Agency” (NAPE). Afterwards, Magdalena Bartcak from the Marshal office of the Mazovian Voivodeship presented the perspectives of the JESSICA instrument in the Mazovian Voivodeship.

The prior topics of the first day, which was organized by WP5 coordinators - the Ministry of Science, Economic Affairs and Transport of Land Schleswig-Holstein and KredEx, have been the presentations on the experiences with the national revolving fund in Estonia (Mirja Adler, KredEx), the integrated urban development and financing instruments in Brandenburg (Thomas Knorr-Siedow, Arge Brandenburg), as well as the development of municipal revolving fund in the city of Vilnius (Ingrida Rauckiene/ Kestutis Nenius, City of Vilnius). Afterwards, short presentations were held by representatives of each target area in order to present ideas and strategies for financing energy efficient and integrated urban development measures in residential areas of the BSR.

The participants discussed the findings and lessons learnt presented by the speakers. All partners agreed that the use of revolving funds handing out loans to final recipients can be assessed as a good complementary instrument or even a consideration to grant schemes for energetic refurbishment of housing areas. On the other hand loans alone seem not to be the best solution but a combination of loans with low interest rates and grant schemes as a topping up. A special challenge is the financing of unprofitable actions like many urban design measures. An active discussion showed that this is a topic of high interest.

The examples of KredEx but also on a smaller scale of the municipal funds in Siauliai and Vilnius, show the potentials and operational challenges of such funds. An open question remained the reluctance of apartment owners to take such loans due to individual financial problems and lack of information.

The presentation about the financing instruments in Germany (region Brandenburg) showed the German approach of a huge national urban planning and investment promotion programme (Städtebauförderung), co financed by the German Länder and the long tradition of the revolving fund of the KfW bank since 1949.



In the other partner countries there is still a lack of national or regional programmes that can be used to finance the planning of an integrated urban development concept and/or preparatory steps/feasibility studies for investments in energetic refurbishment or the establishment of suitable organizational structures like for example energy managers for residential areas.

Therefore the inclusion of investments in the public space/the areas around and between the buildings is often not planned and organized. Several operational problems and challenges were discussed and it was decided to discuss further at the next WP 3 workshop in Vilnius in April.

On the second day of the workshop the project partners were informed about the findings and outcomes of Mid-term Self-Evaluation by the project coordinators, Britta Schmigotzki and Kristina Peselyte. Furthermore, the transnational project outputs, project management issues and upcoming activities were discussed.

The participants from the Ministry of Science, Economic Affairs and Transport of Land Schleswig-Holstein and KredEx are happy about the active contribution of the workshop participants. The work package leader noted these contributions and will use it for the further development of the WP5 results.