

SUREURO – one of the largest research project approved by CEC – has successfully developed methods that makes it possible to save large quantities of energy and considerably improve the environment in the European residential areas.

The project models and tools can – at its utmost potential – in connection to necessary refurbishments realise energy savings and environment improvements for the European housing companies, who manage about 80 000 residential areas with some 56 million flats build after the second world war.

SUREURO have during the past two years received a 5 Million Euro funding from European Commission's RTD 5th Framework programme. The involved housing companies, research institutes and consultancy firms invest the corresponding amount.

The developed models and tools are to be tested in large refurbishment projects in seven member states; England, Finland, Denmark, Germany, France, Holland and Sweden. All together, the testing affects investments in the seven pilot projects for about 250 Million Euros.

Housing Companies	Turnover Million Euro	No of flats	No of flats in pilot	Investment in pilot
Kalmarhem, Sweden	26	5 000	159	8,5
AKB, Denmark	68	17 000	975	31
Finnish Real Estate Fed. Finland				
▪ Tamperen Vuokratalosäätiö	27	6 450	250	3
▪ VVO	167	35 000	8 500	6,7
▪ ATT	220	40 000	400	5
wonenCentraal, Holland	40	8 930	600	15
Logirep, France	113	25 538	417	3
Sandwell MBC, UK	215	41 000	1 000	65
LUWOG, Germany	55	10 000	800	120

Involved in the national pilot projects are, besides the housing companies, tenants and the Tenants Association together with municipalities and regions.

All together some 300 people are active in the project that will proceed with EU-funding for four years.

In reality the project started four years ago and a company, which will include all involved companies, is under formation. The company will on commercial basis assist the European housing companies during their refurbishment processes.

The developed methods are easy to implement, vouch for that set goals are reached and require that the involved partners - housing companies, tenants and municipalities – together set and follow the goals.

The project involves, besides the seven housing companies, the most competent research organisations in the area; BRE, CSTB, TNO, VTT, Renova, Motiva, IWU, IRS, By og Byg and Byfornyelse together with a number of qualified consultancy organisations. National project organisations are formed around each pilot project where additional research institutes, universities, authorities etc are involved.

“There are very interesting results that have been developed during four years”, says the scientific officer Mr Karel Dekker, TNO in Holland. “Now it is time to test, implement, evaluate and refine the instruments in the seven national pilot projects”.



Concurrently testing in the Czech Republic and Italy will start. Two residential areas that are not part of the original **SUREURO** pilot projects represent an important part of the development.

“It is fascinating to hold together and run a project of this extent involving so many cultures, traditions and system”, says project leader Mr Jan A Blomstrand.

“We have spent a lot of time to make people go in the same direction and we have an enormous power from the housing companies at the same time as the involved researchers learn how to realise their theoretical knowledge in the hands of pronounced practitioners”:

The European Commissions independent evaluators are now evaluating the project before the project transforms to the next phase; testing and implementation.

So far the project has followed the set time schedules and budget exactly. When the project is finished the continuous work will change to a consulting organisation. All methods, systems and tools will be at all housing companies disposal in an advanced web based system which already is open for all partners.

“We want as many people as possible to learn about our methods and to gain insight in the available solutions for energy saving and environment improvements in the residential areas – without exceeding the costs of a normal refurbishment”, says project leader Jan A Blomstrand.

”A successful, long-term result requires that the tenants have influence on the process and that the municipalities and their institutes are involved. Our systems vouch for that this will happen”.

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