

BEST PRACTICE IN HUNGARY – ENERGY EFFICIENT CITIES

BASIC INFORMATION

Title of the Best Practice:

Refurbishment of the "Village House", Óbuda, Budapest, Hungary

Energy efficiency measures implemented in the building:

The building was constructed in the '70s and is the biggest single residential building in the country with 886 flats. It was intended to be a testbed of various heating technologies, but the former state of the art technical solutions did not age very well: waste of energy (esp. heating) and very high heating costs quickly became a major issue for the residents. Insulation, new windows and doors, solar panels were installed along the 315 m long housing block. Parts of the works were financed by the STACCATO-project (EU CONCERTO Program) and the Panel Plus Program (Hungarian Government), and contribution from the Municipality and the residents.

Location:

City: Budapest

Region: Budapest, **Central Hungary**

Country: Hungary

GMaps link:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/47%C2%B032'29.1%22N+19%C2%B002'14.1%22E/@47.5414048,19.0361597,18z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m6!3m5!1s0x0:0x0!7e2!8m2!3d47.5414027!4d19.0372541>

Partners involved:

1. Municipality of Óbuda-Békásmegyer

website: <https://obuda.hu/> ;

postal address: **H-1033 Budapest, Harrer Pál utca 2.**

2. Amsterdam Noord and Sofia Oborishte (CONCERTO project partners)

website: <http://www.concerto-project.org>

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- 3. Hungarian Government (Panel Plus Programme; financing)**
website: <https://www.kormany.hu/hu>
postal address: **H-1357 Budapest, Pf. 6.**
- 4. Épkar Zrt. (constructor)**
website: <http://www.epkar.hu/> ;
postal address: **H-1149 Budapest, Egressy út 28-30.**
- 5. Főtáv Zrt. (district heating provider)**
website: <http://www.fotav.hu/> ;
postal address: **H-1138 Budapest Váci út 121-127.**
- 6. Energia Klub – Energy Club (publicity, media)**
website: <https://www.energiaklub.hu/>;
postal address: **H-1056 Budapest, Szerb u. 17-19.**
- 7. Central European University (CEU, sociological research)**
website: <https://www.ceu.edu/>
postal address: **H-1051 Budapest, Nádor u. 9.**
- 8. BECO HU (EU project management, sustainability training)**
- 9. The Union of Energy Efficient Municipalities (EHÖSZ, publicity)**
website: <http://www.klimabarát.hu/>
postal address: **H-2800 Tatabánya, FŐ TÉR 6.**
- 10. The Village House community (residents)**
website: http://www.faluhaz.net/viewpage.php?page_id=1
postal address: **H-1032 Budapest, Szőlő u. 72.**

Implementation year: *Jun 2009 – Dec 2009*

Photo:





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SYSTEM CHARACTERISTICS

Brief Description

The so-called Village House is the biggest residential building in Hungary with an estimated lifetime of 55-60 years. Waste of energy and high upkeep costs are huge issues for the residential blocks built in the socialist era when resource efficiency was not top priority. Since the share of block of flats is around 20% of the total buildings stock it is quite a widespread issue concerning 1,741,577 as of 2011.

From 2001 a development programme (the current being the third iteration now involving financial instrument backed by EU-funds) involving direct government finance and financial instruments supports insulation, refurbishment of doors and windows, improvement of technical building systems, such as heating and installing RES. The renewal of the Village House also involved socioeconomical research as the ultimate goal of project STACCATO was to provide replicable good practices & renovation concepts and accelerate the spread of RES. The heating costs had reduced by around 45-50% and related energy use decreased by the same degree whereas as an additional benefit of the project CO₂ emission had decreased by an estimated 243 tonnes.

FINANCIAL SOURCES AND FINANCING DETAILS

Total investment value: *4,000,000 EUR (approximately)*

Sources of financing:

- *national funds: Panel Plus Program (Government Scheme)*
- *EU funds: FP6 (CONCERTO Program)*
- *Own contribution (residents, Municipality)*

Electricity savings (MWh/year): not applicable

Or fuel savings (kg or m³ or kWh or GJ): *5.183 GJ / year*

Cost savings (EUR/year): not applicable

CO₂ reduction: 243 t/year

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION BENEFITS

The heating costs had reduced by around 45-50% and related energy use decreased by the same degree whereas as an additional benefit of the project CO₂ emission had decreased by an estimated 243 tonnes.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

More information available at:

<https://smartcities-infosystem.eu/sites-projects/projects/staccato>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dz5n85d5oR4>