



Exploring innovative financing in energy retrofits in Latvia – CITYNvest seminar

Date: 23rd of February 2015

Location: Riga, Bellevue Park Hotel Riga

Financing of energy retrofits is a crucial issue for local authorities and citizens in Latvia. Many of the municipalities have heavy heating debts and due to the budgetary restrictions, they are not able to invest in the renovations.

So far, mainly EU funds (such as Structural Funds or the Life Programme) have been used to finance retrofitting projects. However, there is not enough financial incentives to encourage energy efficiency renovations on a big scale. Therefore, building capacities and knowledge of municipalities on innovative financing models (such as Energy Performance Contracting, revolving funds, green bonds etc.) can play a crucial role in triggering large scale renovations.

The CITYNvest event aims to:

1. Rise awareness of existing innovative financing instruments and demonstrate inspiring case studies that could be replicated in Latvian context
2. Identify recurrent and potential barriers for innovative financing instruments in energy efficiency retrofitting and brainstorm with participants on the future of those instruments in Latvia
3. Identify steps necessary to set up local action plans and implementation of specific actions
4. Encourage partnership-building

The event is mainly addressed to the Latvian local authorities, financial institutions, investors, ESCOs, energy agencies and policy makers from local and regional level and relevant institutions.

[The on-line registration is now open.](#) Please sign in before the 17th of February 2016.

Time	Topic	Speaker	Objectives
9:30	Registration		
10:00 – 10:45	Introduction	 <p>Andris Jaunsleinis, Chairman of the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments</p> <p>Elise Steyaert, CITYnvest coordinator</p> <p>Representative of Ministry of Economy, vice state secretary Mr.R.Aleksejenko</p> <p>Municipality role in increasing energy efficiency Mr.MTidens, vice-mayor of Liepaja city</p> <p>Swedbank participation in renovation financing – I.Kukute, corporative clients executive</p>	<p>Opening of the seminar</p> <p>Short presentation of the CITYnvest project</p> <p>The state of art in Latvia in innovative financing for Energy Efficiency</p> <p>Active role of municipalities for energy efficiency as a part of municipal energy management plans can improve the life standards of inhabitants.</p> <p>Presenting the potential and use of financial instruments for energy efficiency renovations in Latvia.</p>
10:45 – 11:15	Overview of various existing innovative financing instruments +Q&A	Elise Steyaert , CITYnvest coordinator	Presenting the various ways of financing energy efficiency in buildings that can be successfully applied and facilitated by local authorities and tips on how to select the most suitable models.
11:15 – 11:35	NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK		
11:35 – 12:00	Case study presentation + Q&A	Energy Fund den Haag – alternative use of ERDF fund to support energy efficiency measures	To inspire and demonstrate existing solutions
12:00 – 12:20	Case study presentation + Q&A	Sunshine project	To inspire and demonstrate existing solutions

12:20 – 12:40	Barriers and solutions	Energy efficiency in Latvia: ways and barriers Ms Andra Feldmane , Adviser on entrepreneurship issues, Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments	Identification of recurrent and potential barriers for implementation of the presented financial instruments and how to overcome them
12:40 – 13:25	LUNCH BREAK		
13:25 – 15:00	Interactive session on the strategy development Moderator - Ms. Anda Kursisa , Passive House Latvia	What is the future of the innovative financing models in Latvia? <i>Riga energy agency</i> <i>Liepaja municipality</i> <i>REN – ESCO</i> <i>Housing association</i> <i>Financing institute. ALTUM</i> <i>Salaspils city DH company</i> <i>House renovation association (TBC)</i> <i>LALRG (TBC)</i> <i>EU expert (TBC)</i>	Experts from different sectors reflecting on the potential of innovative financing for energy retrofits in Latvia. The objective is to gather reactions from the experts and the public on what they think the future of financing instruments would be, what are the barriers for their developments etc.
15:00 – 15:15	COFFEE BREAK		
15:15 – 15:35	Conclusions of the interactive session	Ms. Anda Kursisa , Passive House Latvia Mr.R.Aleksejenko (TBC) Ms.A.Lagzdina (TBC)	Summarizing the discussion, with particular focus on necessary next steps.
15:35 – 15:55	Development of a local action plan – what needs to be done?	Energy Fund den Haag	How to develop a local action plan on innovative financing based on the models discussed during the workshop
16:10 – 16:30	Closing remarks and conclusions	Mr.M.Tidens – vice Mayor of Liepaja	To summarize all discussions that took place during the day and come up with conclusions for local authorities.