



Önkormányzati
Minisztérium
Hungarian Ministry
of Local
Government



**Options for Social Rental Housing in the
Central and East European Region**
Central and East European Workshop on Social Housing

*Organized by the Metropolitan Research Institute, Budapest
in co-operation with the COUNCIL OF EUROPE under the aegis of UNECE*

October 6-7, 2008

Venue: Council of Europe - European Youth Centre
Zivatar u. 1-3. H-1024 Budapest

Number of participants: 50

Key sponsors:

Hungarian Ministry of Local Government, Habitat for Humanity, HOLCIM Hungária Home Foundation

Co-sponsored by:

CECODHAS, ENHR, FEANTSA

Advisory board:

Per Åhrén, Marja Elsinga, József Hegedüs, Martin Lux,

Mark Stephens, Sasha Tsenkova

Outline

After the political turn in the socialist countries in East and Central European Region, the state had to “withdraw” from the housing sector: cutting the subsidies for the new construction (both public and private), privatization of the building industry and industry for building materials, price liberalization in housing services, privatization of the public housing, privatization of the banking sector etc. In the process of transition, negative consequences of economic restructuring (regional and social inequality, declining living standards, affordability problems, etc.) have raised the need for social housing. Governments in the region started programs after the recovering from the transitional recession and started social housing programs in the beginning of this decade, some more some with less success.

The workshop aims to gather the present and future stakeholders of the emerging new housing systems to exchange recent experiences (failures and successes). On the one hand, *researchers* from the former socialist states and the European area will summarize their findings on the reshaping of housing systems of the region, on the other hand *policy makers* and *practitioners* will discuss the conditions, contexts and outcomes of social housing programs. In this framework, the workshop will also provide for an occasion of disseminating the results of the recent activities of the Council of Europe’s expert group on housing related issues of social cohesion (CS-HO) including the guidelines for housing policies for vulnerable groups.

Bringing together the analytical *and* the practical approach will allow for a better understanding for the success stories and failures of the diverse experiences related to social housing programs and the ways of constituting social housing policies in the region.

Contact persons: J. Hegedüs (hegedus@mri.hu) and N. Teller (teller@mri.hu)

October 5, Sunday

Welcome Dinner at Menta Terasz starting at 19:00

DAY 1, October 6, Monday

8:30-9:00: Registration

9:00-10:00: Introduction and Welcome

Chair: József Hegedüs (MRI)

László Csíder (Ministry of Local Government): Welcome address to the workshop – Hungary's efforts toward social housing

Karl Friedrich Bopp (Council of Europe): Access to housing from a human rights perspective

Ron Terwilliger (Habitat for Humanity): Mission of Habitat for Humanity – a need for changes in policy approach

Paola Deda (UN ECE): [UNECE housing policies and programs in the region](#)

10:00 – 11:30 Session 1. International comparison – Perspectives from West Europe

Chair: Martin Lux (Institute for Sociology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic)

Discussant: Marja Elsinga (OTB)

1. **Darinka Czischke (CECODHAS):** [Social housing actors in Europe: looking from the West to the East](#)
2. **Christian Tutin (University of Paris):** [Social housing: Another French exception?](#)
3. **Claire Lévy-Vroelant (University of Paris) and Christoph Reinprecht (University of Vienna):** [Social housing in a comparative approach](#)

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 14:00 Session 2. International comparison – Perspectives from Central East Europe

Chair: Alina Muzioł-Węclawowicz (National Economy Bank, Poland)

Discussants: Claire Lévy-Vroelant (University of Paris) and Christoph Reinprecht (University of Vienna)

1. **József Hegedüs (MRI):** [Social housing experiences in transitional countries – divergences or convergences?](#)
2. **Sasha Puzanov (IUE of Moscow):** [Social elements in the Russian housing system – new versus old social rental sector](#)
3. **Martin Lux (Institute of Sociology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic):** ["Social Housing in the Czech Republic: Unresolved Question and Possible Directions"](#)
4. **Loucine Hayes (HFH):** HFH's [experience with providing housing for low-income groups with CEE](#)

14:00-15:30 Lunch Break

15:30 – 17:30 Session 3. Social housing in national housing strategies

Chair: Eva Schwebel (CEB)

Discussant: Iskra Dandolo (University of Sofia)

1. **Sasha Tsenkova (University of Calgary):** [Social housing in South East Europe](#)
2. **Gojko Bezovan (University of Zagreb):** [Social housing as a residual part of social care in Croatia](#)
3. **Nermina Dzepar-Ganibegovic (MHRR Bosnia and Herzegovina):** [Housing programs on the halfway between human rights and social rights](#)
4. **Elena Szolgayova (Ministry of Construction and Regional Development):** [Social rental programs in Slovakia](#)

Social Event:

Bus tour to Magdolna District – Social Rehabilitation Pilot Project

World Habitat Day Dinner hosted by Habitat for Humanity Hungary, Location: Kesztyűgyár Community Center of District 8, Mátyás tér

DAY 2, October 7, Tuesday

9:00- 11:00 Session 4. Public Rental housing programs

Chair: Martin Lux (Institute for Sociology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic)

Discussant: Nóra Teller (MRI)

1. **Djordje Mojovic (UN-Habitat Serbia):** [Serbia SIRP program \(UN-Habitat and Italian Government\)](#)
2. **Alina Muzioł-Węclawowicz and Jolanta Bondarczuk (National Economy Bank, Poland):** [The story of “TBS” – is it a sustainable model?](#)
3. **Branislava Zarkovic (Housing Center, Belgrade):** [Social Housing in Supportive Environment - Housing for the most vulnerable refugees and IDPs in Serbia](#)
4. **Nóra Teller (MRI):** [Housing for vulnerable groups -- Roma programs in Hungary](#)
5. **Mina Petrovic (University of Belgrade):** [Social Housing in Belgrade: Strategy and Practice](#)

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:30 Session 5. Role of international agencies and institutions – a critical review

Chair: *Per Ahren (State Housing Bank of Norway)*

Discussant: *József Hegedüs (MRI)*

1. *Freek Spinnewijn (FEANTSA):* [FEANTSA experiences in transitional countries](#)
2. *Eva Schwebel (CEB):* [CEB's experience in social housing: examples of project financing in member countries](#)
3. *Lindsay Youngs (Council of Europe):* [Guidelines for Social Housing](#)
4. *Alice Pittini (CECODHAS):* [The EU and social housing in Eastern Europe: the experience of CECODHAS](#)

13:30-15:00 Lunch Break

15:00- 17:00 Session 6. Measuring the efficiency of program indicators

Chair: *József Hegedüs (MRI)*

Discussant: *Sasha Tsenkova (University of Calgary)*

Christopher Vincent (HFHI Europe & Central Asia): [Housing Policy Index](#)

Panel discussion: *László Csider (Ministry of Local Government, Hungary), Elena Szolgayova (Ministry of Construction and Regional Development), Karl-Friedrich Bopp (COE):* Future of social housing programs and recommendations

17:00- 17:15 Closing

Karl Friedrich Bopp (COE), László Csider (Ministry of Local Government), József Hegedüs (MRI)

For any information, please contact hegedus@mri.hu or teller@mri.hu.
More updated information on the event is available at <http://www.mri.hu>.