

# REGIONAL FORUM

## ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

29 – 30 MARCH 2023 | HYBRID EVENT | GENEVA & ONLINE



### SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

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#### Event title

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*Scaling up renovations of multi-apartment buildings in the current context of energy crisis in CEE*

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#### Background and Rationale

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In the current energy crisis, the owner-occupied multi-apartment buildings in CEE represent a special challenge both for energy consumption, energy poverty and air pollution. The appx. share of energy consumption by residential buildings in CEE region is quite significant (about 30-40%), so energy retrofitting of MABs is crucial for reducing energy consumption and CO2 emissions from this sector. In order to achieve the ambitious goals of SDG 7 and SDG 11 (plus 10,13,17) a massive wave of energy efficiency renovations should take place in CEE. An enabling policy environment, Resource Centres/One-Stop-Shops and community engagement are essential. This session shares the lessons learned from the REELIH and ComAct projects. Presentation by project partners will cover recent research on energy poverty and best practices to set up community resource centers in Armenia, Hungary and North Macedonia.

More information:

<https://getwarmhomes.org/>

<https://comact-project.eu/>

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#### Session objectives and expected outcomes

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The session wants to raise awareness the specific challenge of multi-apartment buildings in Central and Eastern Europe when it comes to achieve the ambitions SDG 7 targets. Retrofitting of these buildings is first and foremost, a community challenge and the session will provide various best practices how to address this challenge. The session will emphasize how creation of enabling policy framework, financial schemes and community engagement tools can contribute to different initiatives focused on energy resilience, sustainable cities and climate change. For example, many cities in CEE region have signed Covenant of Mayors and created Sustainable Energy Action Plans which are linked to the EU's climate and energy policy framework and contribute to reaching the SDGs set by the countries. However, the signatory cities do not have proper systems and mechanisms to reach their commitments. The outcomes and learnings of such projects like ComAct and REELIH can highly support the Covenant signatories to reach their residential energy targets under SEAPs. It's expected that the

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learning could be channelled to the SDG 7 Roundtable discussion and the upcoming regional report to the HLPF.

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### Organizers

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**Lead organizers:** Habitat for Humanity International, Europe and the Middle East

**Contributors:** Metropolitan Research Institute, HFH Armenia, HFH Macedonia

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### Agenda and Structure

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0-10: The moderator will expose the topic and put the retrofitting of multi-apartment buildings into the SDG 7 context

10-25: MRI will provide the research context for the topic and share how technical plans can be a tool for community building based on recent community meetings with pilot buildings in the framework of the ComAct project in Hungary

25-30: The moderator will ask some clarifying questions and also will ask the audience for clarifying questions

30-45; HFH Macedonia will show best practices about the involvement of citizens in the renovation. They will demonstrate the resource center's role in education and information of the citizens. They will focus on MFAB's renovation and how important is to inform, motivate and educate stakeholders to have a successful energy efficiency retrofits. In the same context, can tackle the usage of renewable energy sources for MFABs

45- 50: The moderator will ask some clarifying questions and also will ask the audience for clarifying questions

50-65: HFH Armenia: will focus on the two aspects from REELIH project implementation in Armenia, namely on the importance of policy reforms and sustainable financial schemes for scaling up renovations and energy upgrade of multi-family buildings

65-70: The moderator will ask some clarifying questions and also will ask the audience for clarifying questions

70-85: Q&A

85-90: Moderator ask panellist to share one short takeaway/conclusion from the session

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### List of Panellists

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Moderator:

Gyorgy Sumeghy, Associate Director, Policy and Advocacy, Habitat for Humanity International, Europe and the Middle East

Panellists:

Eva Gerohazi, Senior Researcher, Metropolitan Research Institute, Budapest

Varsenik Khloyan, Residential Buildings Project Manager, Habitat for Humanity Armenia

Liljana Alceva, Deputy Director - Program, Habitat for Humanity Macedonia

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[Sign-up / Registration Link](#)

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<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/87cdd2fa-a89f-4ff3-bec2-0d203ebd0a0a@f8b64cf5-1617-4589-8e02-d3a56ee0792a>