



ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY FINANCING IN LATVIA



Projekta RoundBaltic 3. reģionālais apaļais galds

12. janvāris (tiešsaistē)

**Privātā finansējuma
piesaiste ilgtspējīgas
energoefektivitātes
finansēšanai**

**Pašvaldība kā galvenais
energoefektivitātes pasākumu
ieviešanas katalizators**



January 12, 2023

Online event

Content



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Introduction and purpose	3
Agenda.....	4
1. Part One. Plenary meeting: THE CURRENT FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABLE FINANCING AND PERSPECTIVES IN THE ATTRACTION OF PRIVATE FINANCING FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY	5
Introduction to the Plenary.....	5
The current situation in financing energy efficiency in Latvia	5
Opening remarks - Reinis Aboltins, energy policy expert	5
MĀRIS ZUSTS, CHAIRMAN OF THE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF THE KURZEME PLANNING REGION	5
OPPORTUNITIES OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS IN THE NEW PERIOD, PLANNED CHANGES IN THE REGULATORY REGULATION - GATIS SILOVS, DIRECTOR OF THE ENERGY FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY	6
HOW TO INSULATE AND RENOVATE MULTI-APARTMENT HOUSES WITH EU SUPPORT?! – IEVA VĒRZEMNIECE, HEAD OF THE ALTUM ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT	6
ENERGY EFFICIENCY FUND – JĀNIS IKAUNIEKS, DIRECTOR OF RIGA ENERGY AGENCY	7
Part Two. Break-out sessions	9
<i>Session 1: HOW CAN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN MULTI-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS?</i>	9
<i>Session 2: BUILDING MANAGEMENT - FROM A BARRIER TO AN OPPORTUNITY IN ATTRACTING FINANCING AND IMPLEMENTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES</i>	11
Introduction to the session and its objective.....	11

Disclaimer

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INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The purpose of the Regional Roundtable discussion is to pursue a dialogue between the main stakeholders in Latvia on how to raise private money for energy efficiency projects and identify shared challenges and potential improvements that could be achieved within the current policy context and business practice. This document includes the agenda of the event and the topics discussed. The event was held in Latvian and English.

The event was a follow-up to the National Roundtable discussions held on May 25, 2022, and it brought together stakeholders from the energy efficiency and financial sector, as well as policy makers.

The National Roundtable is held within the framework of the “Smart Finance for Smart Buildings” initiative, which is the broader framework for the European Commission’s Horizon 2020 project “Promoting Smart Finance for Smart Buildings in the Baltic region – Poland, Latvia and Denmark – *RoundBaltic*”. The project includes a series of forums dedicated to energy investments with the aim of increasing the resources of public and private stakeholders and improving their collaboration for developing large-scale investment programs, one-stop agencies, and financing plans for better energy efficiency.

The objective of the event is providing policy makers, government authorities and municipalities with constructive recommendations on how to raise private funding for financing sustainable energy efficiency in Latvia.

In Latvia, the *RoundBaltic* project is implemented by the Latvian Environmental Investment Fund in cooperation with its associated partners.

The third regional level Roundtable was held online and was split into 2 parts according to the *RoundBaltic* concept: there was a main part followed by 2 break-out sessions.

To encourage openness, the event followed the Chatham House rule, which means that none of the opinions expressed during the discussion would be attributed to a particular person or organization. Our purpose was not to arrive at a single consensus opinion but rather generate as many ideas as possible on how to proceed with investments in sustainable energy in Latvia.

The structure and format of the forum was organized to make it as effective as possible with an emphasis on the discussion itself rather than lectures or presentations, mindful of the goal of *RoundBaltic* to have a roundtable discussion for generating new ideas and discussing them.

There were **60** participants from **24** organizations. Around 20% of them were representatives of the finance sector and organizations. Click here http://lvif.gov.lv/?object_id=136746 to view the complete event.

AGENDA

Development of sustainable financing framework for energy efficiency



09:45 Dalībnieku reģistrāšanās

10:00 Pasākuma ievads, īss atskats uz projekta aktivitātēm – Reinis Ābolliņš

Atklāšanas uzruna

Māris Zūsts, Kurzemes plānošanas reģiona Atīstības padomes priekšsēdētājs

10:15 Ievadprezentācijas diskusijai

- **Pašvaldību iespējas jaunajā periodā, plānotās izmaiņas normatīvajā regulējumā**
Gatis Silovs, Ekonomikas ministrijas Enerģētiskās finanšu instrumentu departamenta direktors
- **Kā siltināt un atjaunot daudzdzīvokļu mājas ar ES atbalstu?!**
Ieva Vīrzemiece, ALTUM Energoefektivitātes programmu departamenta vadītāja
- **Energoefektivitātes fonds**
Jānis Ikaunieks, Rīgas enerģētiskās aģentūras direktors

Jautājumi un atbildes

11:45 Pārtraukums

12:00 PARALĒLO SESIJU DISKUSIJAS

1. Kā pašvaldībām vēl veicināt energoefektivitāti daudzdzīvokļu ēkās?

Sesiju moderē Reinis Ābolliņš

Pašvaldības jau daudzos un dažādos veidos atbalsta daudzdzīvokļu ēku īpašniekus energoefektivitātes pasākumu ieviešanā – paralēlās diskusijas mērķis ir dalīties ar līdzšinējo pieredzi un kopīgi radīt idejas esošo atbalsta pasākumu pilnveidei. Katra no KPR pašvaldībām ir aicināti dalīties ar īsu apkopojumu par līdzšinējo pieredzi un sasniegumiem – kā notiek plānošana, kā atbalsts tiek organizēts pašlaik, kas strādā vislabāk u.c. Idejas sadarbības attīstībai vietējo un reģionāla mēroga atbalsta pasākumu izveidē.

Diskusijā par labas prakses piemēriem, izaicinājumiem un nākotnes aktivitātes piedalās:

- **Inguna Tomsona**, Projekta vadītāja, Kurzemes plānošanas reģions
- **Alla Kudiņa**, Projekta vadītāja, Kurzemes plānošanas reģions
- **Kārlis Beihmanis**, Liepājas pilsētas pašvaldības administrācijas projektu vadītājs
- **Renāte Bražinska**, SIA "Solaspils siltums"

Jautājumi un atbildes

2. Ēku pārvaldība – no barjeras par iespēju finansējuma piesaistē un energoefektivitātes pasākumu ieviešanā

Sesiju moderē Gundars Rēders

Energoefektivitātes pasākumus daudzdzīvokļu ēkās ievieš namu apsaimniekotāji, it īpaši KPR pašvaldības un namu pārvaldītāji tiek aicināti dalīties pieredzē ar līdzšinējo pieredzi un kopīgi radīt idejas, kā veiksmīgāk attīstīt šo jomu. Kādus pienasumus pārvaldībā sniegs jaunā ALTUM programma daudzdzīvokļu māju energoefektivitātei? Kas mainīsies ēku pārvaldībā un iespējās ieviest projektus sadarbībā ar BVKB pārvaldīto BĪS, datu sistēmu? Finansēto un sociālo ieguvumu popularizācija. Ņemot vērā lielo finansējuma nozīmi, diskusijā piedalās arī finanšu nozares pārstāvji.

Diskusijā par energoefektivitātes projektu ieviešanu un to atbalstu piedalās:

- **Gunta Čakule**, LABEĒF padomes locekle
- **Edgars Augustiņš**, RenEco direktors
- **Ieva Vīrzemiece**, ALTUM Energoefektivitātes programmu departamenta vadītāja

Jautājumi un atbildes

13:30 Apajā galda sesiju galvenās atziņas, diskusija un turpmākie soļi

14:00 Pasākuma noslēgums

RoundBaltic, H2020 contract no 957051



1. PART ONE. PLENARY MEETING: THE CURRENT FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABLE FINANCING AND PERSPECTIVES IN THE ATTRACTION OF PRIVATE FINANCING FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY

INTRODUCTION TO THE PLENARY

Reinis Aboltins, acting as moderator, offered an insight into the *RoundBaltic* project and its history, and spoke about the importance of the project. He also shared some technical information and gave an overview of the current event.

The topic selected specifically concerned on the sustainable financing framework, since private money is clearly going to be indispensable. Therefore, there is a need for effective solutions on how to raise private money and channel it into energy efficiency projects. The project activities evolve in the framework of the “Smart Finance for Smart Buildings” initiative.

THE CURRENT SITUATION IN FINANCING ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN LATVIA

PRESENTATIONS

OPENING REMARKS - REINIS ABOLTINS, ENERGY POLICY EXPERT

The main points highlighted in the opening speech were as follows: it is important not only to talk, but also to act in order to promote the implementation of energy efficiency measures. It is important to talk about practical issues, where this time the decisive role is played by municipalities, which are often the main ones that have to implement energy-efficient solutions. Now there are many measures that can be promoted to improve the situation in general. Considering the current situation in the energy market in Europe and the world, energy efficiency becomes an essential part of the development of every country.

MĀRIS ZUSTS, CHAIRMAN OF THE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF THE KURZEME PLANNING REGION

Municipalities play an important role in the implementation of energy efficiency measures, as they are in constant contact with local entrepreneurs and building management associations. At the same time, they develop support mechanisms and programs that are directly aimed at raising the standard of living of the population. Implemented energy efficiency measures can contribute not only to the financial savings of buildings, but also to their visual appearance, which increases their value. At the same time, the domino principle is observed - if one building is insulated and renovated, it often motivates the residents of the neighboring house to take action as well.

OPPORTUNITIES OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS IN THE NEW PERIOD, PLANNED CHANGES IN THE REGULATORY REGULATION - GATIS SILOVS, DIRECTOR OF THE ENERGY FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY

Energy efficiency measures have been taking place in Latvia since 2009, and during this time great progress and interest can be observed. Speaking of the Kurzeme region, the example of Liepāja must be mentioned, where entire blocks have been insulated and renovated during these years. It takes several years to achieve this, but the benefits are also clear and long-lasting. One of the novelties is the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation of July 6, 2021 No. 481 «Support programs

conditions for construction works in multi-apartment houses and improvement of their territories», where the available financing for issuing loans and covering losses is 31,000,000 euros. It provides loan options from 10,000 to 400,000 EUR for one house for a term of up to 20 years with an interest rate of 3.9% per year. Collateral is a commercial pledge on the right of claim against the apartment owners, resulting from transactions between the authorized person and the apartment owners.

The loan is intended for the following apartment building improvements:

- For construction works of enclosing structures and common areas, such as exterior walls, replacement of windows, including modernization or replacement of elevators
- Engineering systems for renovation, reconstruction or creation
- For the construction, reconstruction or renovation of a driveway, sidewalk or parking lot
- For the construction, reconstruction or renovation of lighting by installing energy-efficient LED lights
- For other improvement works – installation of children's playgrounds, installation, reconstruction or renovation of benches, bicycle racks, waste bins, waste container storage and sports fields, laundry dryers, etc.
- For the creation of new greenery
- For project management, author supervision and construction supervision

A received loan is possible when the residents have voted for the realization of the project and receiving the loan (the decision is made if the apartment owners, who represent more than half of all residents, vote "for" for apartment properties (50% +1). Regulation regarding apartments in shared ownership - 100% votes are required) Likewise, house debts for services received (management, garbage, heat supply, water, etc. services) must be less than 10% of the sum of all utility bills in the last 12 months. In addition, the possibility of repaying the loan has been substantiated and the refusal of the credit institution to grant the loan has been received.

Thus, in addition to other available support mechanisms, this is definitely an additional tool that municipalities can use and citizens with available opportunities.

CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL PRESENTATION:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1liicXH8O3ZkxSYT5OD06X0dS3u3v-YrY>

HOW TO INSULATE AND RENOVATE MULTI-APARTMENT HOUSES WITH EU SUPPORT?! – IEVA VĒRZEMNIECE, HEAD OF THE ALTUM ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

Since December 8, 2022, ALTUM has been offering the new energy efficiency program for multi-apartment houses, within the framework of which you can receive an EU grant for the implementation of the project, which basically means a complete renovation of the house. The funding available within the program is 57 million euros. The program rules are:

- Financing 57 million. EUR (support for 170 apartment buildings)
- Deadline for project implementation – 31.03.2026.
- The goal of the project is to achieve no less than 30% primary energy savings
- Primary energy has been achieved for every EUR 5,000 attributable cost of the project savings – 1 MWh/year.
- Total amount of aid 49% of the eligible costs of the project in the form of a capital rebate paid after the completion of the project
- Support for the preparation of technical documentation 49%, but not more than 10,000 EUR

At the same time, it is important to remember that VAT is not funded and supported. Also, costs that exceed the established cost limits (3% of project management cost limits, 20% of other measures limits) are not applied.

Program conditions:

- Is registered in the cadastre information system and has at least three groups of residential premises
- If there are several houses at the same address, an application for each house separately
- Compliance with the requirements of the State Environmental Service (in the case of Natura 2000)
- Authorized person – legal person authorized by the apartment owners (manager, association)
- Project manager – A legal entity that provides project management, including communication with "Altum" company, authorized persons and service providers
- Economic operators – apartment owners (De minimis)
- The house must not have a debt of more than 10% for the last 12 months

Measures that may occur before the signing of the contract with Altum (not earlier than 01.02.2020) may also be applicable:

- Technical documentation preparation costs – Energy audit costs, temporary energy certificate costs, technical survey report preparation costs, design documentation development costs, etc. costs
- Digital surveying costs – In case digital surveying costs are included in the contract that provides for the preparation of project documentation, then they are allocated separately, including it in the support application for compensation of technical documentation costs
- Project management costs – Costs incurred by the authorized person on the basis of an employment contract or service contract and which are necessary for ensuring the implementation of the project, leading the team's work and organizing the process to achieve all project goals. The aid amount is included in the reserved capital discount

In order to be able to apply to the program, a decision/discussion of the apartment owners is required, in which they agree on the development of an energy audit, participation in the program, and also agree on authorization (Authorized person) - organizing the decision in the form of a survey/meeting, preparation of technical documentation, selection of service providers and preservation of capital discount.

CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL PRESENTATION:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1liicXH8O3ZkxsyT5OD06X0dS3u3v-YrY>

ENERGY EFFICIENCY FUND – JĀNIS IKAUNIEKS, DIRECTOR OF RIGA ENERGY AGENCY

Although the Energy Efficiency Fund is complicated and not easily implemented, it is of great importance to promote the renovation and insulation of buildings. The current obstacles are:

- Low proportion of renovated apartment buildings
- Low population activity
- Available co-financing is not used actively enough

- Complex building renovation process
- Failure to agree on joint decision-making
- Low level of trust
- Low level of liability for shared ownership
- Low awareness of residents about heat energy saving and proper renovated building
- Previously low tariff
- Currently high construction costs

Currently, a situation is observed where energy consumers make payments for existing energy bills. The main task of financial instruments is to secure future money today. Therefore, by taking energy efficiency measures, future bills are reduced with today's investments. Thus, the goals of the Energy Efficiency Fund are:

- Provide independent financing for building residents
- Standardize project implementation and management
- Simplify and facilitate the renewal process
- Ensure renovation of complex buildings
- Attract financing for building renovation (EIB, EBRD, PPP)
- Ensure no increase in monthly payments

Main events:

- Insulation of the building's boundary structures with thermal insulation, considering the solutions of ventilated facade and plastered facade (second scenario);
- Replacement of aging windows and doors of the building;
- Insulation of building foundations;
- Arrangement and/or renewal of the building's heating system by replacing old heating devices, creating a bypass pipe, installing thermostatic valves and heat charge distributors. Arrangement of the heating unit, if necessary;
- Renewal of the building's heating system by creating a new two-pipe system with individual meters, replacement of old radiators and installation of thermostatic valves.
- Arrangement of the heating unit, if necessary;
- Arrangement of the ventilation system, ensuring adequate air exchange;
- Restoration of the hot water system, if necessary;
- Warming of heating and hot water pipelines in non-conditioned rooms;
- Installation of modern energy resources equipment.

The full recording is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=siOXV7hNGNA>

PART TWO. BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

SESSION 1: HOW CAN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN MULTI-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS?

The session was moderated by Reinis Āboltiņš, energy policy expert

Speakers at the discussion:

1. Inguna Tomsona, Project Manager, Kurzeme Planning Region
2. Alla Kudiņa, Project Manager, Kurzeme Planning Region
3. Kārlis Beikhmanis, project manager of Liepāja city municipality administration for climate change and energy efficiency issues
4. Renāte Bražinska, SIA "Salaspils siltums"

Inguna Tomsona, Project Manager, Kurzeme Planning Region

In the Kurzeme region, 4 out of 8 municipalities have energy and climate plans until 2030, which is an important tool to be able to implement energy efficiency measures as efficiently as possible. After the administrative reform, they have been revised and updated according to the real situation. Of the remaining municipalities, 2 municipalities have plans in the development stage and 2 municipalities do not yet have them. However, it is interesting because many support tools are directly created in the process of developing these documents.

Regarding the work results, the trend in the 2021 RTU report on energy policy building assessment is that the more urbanized the place is, the more successful are the performance indicators related to capacity and human resources and knowledge. Accordingly, in the Kurzeme region, it is Liepāja and Ventspils, or if more widely, then they are the centers of the county.

The practical conclusions are that it is necessary to search even more and more aggressively to achieve the goals that are written in various planning documents and strategies. This means that in addition to EU funds, other sources of financing must be sought, including private to ensure the principle of continuity.

Alla Kudiņa, Project Manager, Kurzeme Planning Region

One of the real ways of helping the region is that work is currently underway on the new project, working with municipalities to promote awareness of available funding sources and models. Networking events and exchange of experiences take place at the same time. Available funding is not being fully absorbed, so more education is needed. One way is to create a one-stop shop that will facilitate communication and information exchange.

The main directions are capacity building, networking and actualizing the issue of energy sharing.

There is interest here both from the municipality, residents and entrepreneurs. An energy and climate adaptation plan is being worked on at the regional level, which is also incorporated into the new draft climate law at the national level. Finally, it is planned to promote the development of pilot projects in the region related to capacity building.

Kārlis Beikhmanis, project manager of Liepāja city municipality administration for climate change and energy efficiency issues

Liepāja's experience of how the municipality can promote energy efficiency in multi-apartment buildings is based on the 2007 binding regulations on co-financing for the renovation of multi-apartment buildings. Also, since 2009, there has been regular participation in EU fund programs with the aim of covering the maximum number of buildings. Until now, the practice of creating an example in each micro-district was successfully implemented in order to encourage residents of other houses to act similarly. Local government support (informative, educational, financial (for technical documentation)) is regularly available, as well as active work with contacts and explanations to residents. So far, there has been a lot of interest from caretakers, as it encourages house cleaning and yard improvement.

At the moment, 178 or 30% of the 600 multi-apartment residential buildings connected to the centralized heat supply system have been renovated. Unfortunately, there are still parts of the city where the number of renovated buildings is only 7% and 13%. This is due to the inability or unwillingness of apartment owners to accept and agree on a joint decision, increasing construction costs, as well as loan availability, conditions of support programs, low interest of builders and residents, despite the benefits to planners.

Considering the current pace and the capacity of the municipality, 33 more years are needed to restore the remaining houses. Therefore, one of the main tasks of the municipality is to continue to financially support the costs of developing documentation, promote informational events, and educate students. The state finds an opportunity to provide or borrow, for example, EUR 100 million, by setting appropriate guarantees for the lender. A simple and understandable Altum co-financing program is being prepared with unconditional support of 30% if a 30% improvement in energy efficiency for heating is achieved.

Renāte Bražinska, SIA "Salaspils siltums"

2015.gadā Salaspils siltumam tika deleģēts uzdevums iesaistīties enerģētikas apsaimniekošanā un ēku atjaunošanas projektos. Tas ietver sevi, gan informatīvo atbalstu, piedaloties sanāsmēs un tikšanās par renovāciju, līdz pat atjaunotas ēkas nodošanai ekspluatācijā. Iesaiste ir nepieciešama, jo bieži vien namu apsaimniekotājam vai biedrībām nav vajadzīgas kapacitātes un zināšanu. Līdz šim notika jau 22 māju atjaunošanas projekti. Viena no lietām, kas kavē projektu veiksmīgu realizāciju ir tehnisko projektu kvalitāte, jo tas sadārdzina ēku atjaunošanu un prasa papildus laiku nepilnību novēršanai.

Negatīvie piemēri citos projektos, kuri tika īstenoti iepriekšējos gados, kavē cilvēku pārliecināšanu par nepieciešamību veikt mājas renovāciju. Vēl viens aspekts ir nedrošība par finansiālo stāvokli nākotnē, kas bremze uzņemties jaunas saistības.

Pašvaldība sniedz 30 000 eiro līdzfinansējumu katram projektam/mājai, bet ar atrunu, ka tiem dzīvokļiem, kuriem ir autonoma apkures sistēma, atbalsts nepienākas, attiecīgi līdzfinansējums tiek proporcionāli

samazināts par konkrēto platību. Ar to tiek mudināts pieslēgties pie kopējas sistēmas, lai tā būtu kopēja un sabalansēta, kas nodrošina tās efektīvu darbību.

Key findings

1. Municipalities must participate at all levels, from project documentation to implementation.
2. It is necessary to develop regional climate plans that would regulate activities and expected results and systematize the role and responsibility of the involved parties.
3. Promotion of practical examples of how citizens' support was achieved
4. Applying different coefficients when calculating costs and promoting a more flexible approach for beneficiaries of funding related to energy performance.
5. Facilitate the arrangement of technical documentation in order to avoid unexpected costs during the project implementation stage.
6. Municipal co-financing for complex solutions (for example, arrangement of the surrounding environment, improvement of territories) for buildings that have implemented insulation/energy efficiency measures
7. Reduction of the VAT rate or introduction of other mechanisms to encourage the choice in favor of building improvements, reducing costs
8. Creation and implementation of a one-stop shop as a solution for simplifying the process and better exchange of information.

The full recording of the session is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXFtHZOsFZw&t=6s>

SESSION 2: BUILDING MANAGEMENT - FROM A BARRIER TO AN OPPORTUNITY IN ATTRACTING FINANCING AND IMPLEMENTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES

The session was moderated by Gundars Rēders, journalist

INTRODUCTION TO THE SESSION AND ITS OBJECTIVE

Evaluation of financing options Strategic energy decisions and the attraction of financing necessary to achieve energy efficiency goals can only take place if all parties involved have access to publicly reliable energy consumption data and a clear source of financing - a comprehensive energy consumption profile. . The session is planned to discuss sustainable financing frameworks available in Europe and what are the conditions for their application.

Participants of the discussion:

1. Gunta Cekule, LABEEF board member
2. Edgars Augustiņš, director of RenEsco
3. Ieva Vērzemiece, Head of the Department of Energy Efficiency Programs at ALTUM

Gunta Cekule, LABEEF board member

LABEEF provide the first private financing investment instrument in Latvia for building renovation and EE improvement projects for financing. Shareholder and company manager – Funding for Future B.V. (NL). The company's business model and concept - adopted and implemented in several EU countries, in the case of Latvia in 2016. attracted EUR 4M financing from the EBRD. Investments in Latvia basically took place in 2018, when LABEEF purchased the future cash flow of Renesco's portfolio of 6 renovated buildings. These were buildings in Cēsis, Valmiera, Sigulda and Riga. The average energy efficiency level of these buildings is 57% (average remaining term of EPC+ contracts – 16 years).

Our company also works actively abroad, not only in Latvia. Examples of European solutions include:

- FINEERGO-DOM (H2020), adaptation and implementation of the LABEEF model in 5 countries – PL, AT, SK, RO, BG. Results:

- o Priority program EPC+ has been introduced in Poland

- o BULBEEF was created in Bulgaria and the model is included in the BG Renovation Strategy

- o SUNSHINE platform implemented in all project countries

- REFINE (H2020), which aims to adapt financial services to market needs, incl. integration of refinancing schemes in order to coordinate the implementation of energy efficiency service projects AT, SP, HR, CZ, GR, SI, IT, UA. Results – standardized contract terms, project refinancing risk assessment system, guarantee instrument rules, coordination services

- EUROPA (H2020), Developed Energy Efficiency service subscription model that guarantees energy savings when renovating residential buildings. The subscription model is based on the LABEEF financial model and is implemented in IT, PT, DE and FR.

In general, it should be concluded that attracting funding for financing long-term energy efficiency will promote the complex approach:

- The involvement of private investments will ensure much faster achievement of the sustainability and energy efficiency goals of the building sector

- Long-term strategy and policy demand for market development

- Creating a sustainable business environment

- Market-appropriate, complementary financial instruments

- The Refinancing Fund already has a private sector initiative!

- The role of the public sector and capacity building

CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL PRESENTATION: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1liicXH8O3ZkxsvT5OD06X0dS3u3v-YrY>

Edgars Augustiņš, director of RenEsco

As for ESCO companies, in the case of Latvia, the problem is the small market, which does not contribute to the development of ESCO. At the moment, we can consider that there are 4 ESCO companies in Latvia, of which 3 are relatively active and one not so much. Currently, the definition of energy service companies introduced in the Energy Efficiency Law of 2016 is a big reflection in Latvia. Standard terms to be stipulated in the contracts, the flow and use of funding were agreed upon.

Still bigger challenges are the funding and project pool and demand for energy efficiency activities. During the last six months, this issue has been discussed much more actively and interest has grown due to the increase in understanding and the positive solutions available so far.

The new ALTUM program is clearly a big step forward in the implementation of new projects, as it ensures the continuation of energy efficiency without interruptions. The funding is not enough, but it is a significant start. The biggest challenge is the cost of construction and ensuring that the end user's monthly payments do not increase after the renovation.

Ieva Vērzemiece, Head of the Department of Energy Efficiency Programs at ALTUM

Reģionos ir vērojama tendence, ka tiek saņemti atteikumi no banku sektora finansējuma piešķiršana ēku renovācijas darbiem. Gadījumā, ja mājai nav ievērojamu parādsaistību un ir laba maksāšanas disciplīna, ALTUM varētu izskatīt iespēju piešķirt finansējumu šādiem projektiem. Iepriekšēja programma, kura tiks pabeigta šogad un tajā viss iepļānotas finansējums tika izlietos, labi parāda to, ka nevienai mājai, kurai banka atteica finansējumu, netika liegts ALTUM finansējums. Kopš 2016.gada ar vecas programmas palīdzību tika renovētas apmēram 670 māju.

Bez esošās atbalsta programmas, kura pašreiz ir pieejama, jau tiek plānota nākama atbalsta programma no ES struktūrfondiem, kur tas finansējums būs lielāks apmēram 3 reizes, tas nozīmē, ka apmēram 600-700 mājas varēs pieteikties finansējumam.

Key findings

1. In order to promote the growth of ESCO, the involvement of the public sector is necessary, which would also promote the involvement of apartment buildings.
2. Involvement of the local government with subsidies, development of the technical project, documentation and prepayments in order to fulfill the requirements set by the EU directives. Currently there are already positive examples.



3. Minority vote problem because banks do not see it as a common house desire to get involved in energy efficiency projects.
4. In case of rejection of funding for ESCO projects, it is possible to seek funding from ALTUM, which is the only instrument in such cases.
5. Building citizens' trust by setting positive examples and offering support tools.

The full recording of the session is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wjre64nBEOI&t=10s>