

LEAF Toolkits Published

A key output of the LEAF project is the development of a set of resources to support organisations looking to improve the energy efficiency of apartment blocks. This consists of a technical toolkit and an engagement toolkit designed to be used together as a step-by-step guide to retrofit. The UK version of the technical toolkit and the European version of the engagement toolkit are now available on the LEAF website. Further country specific versions will be available in January 2015.

Technical toolkit

The overall aim of the technical toolkit is to enable organisations to identify appropriate energy improvements for apartment blocks, and provide associated guidance and information required to help decision-making about these improvements. The toolkit has four sections:

LEAF TECHNICAL TOOLKIT

The technical toolkit offers guidance on the following topics:

- A. What is an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC)?
- B. Recommended Improvement Measures on EPCs (explanations of measures, investment costs, payback times and possible subsidies)
- C. Impact of the user behaviour (as it energy saving or energy wasting, possibilities to improve the user behaviour, links to detailed approaches for calculating the impact)
- D. Possible additional savings (household energy, heated common stairways, common lighting, elevators)

Apply the LEAF TECHNICAL TOOLKIT in the following national versions and national languages:

 UK/ENGLISH	 AUSTRIAN	 FRENCH
 GERMAN	 HUNGARIAN	 SWEDISH

- A** What Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) are and the information they provide
- B** What measures are available: costs, payback times and subsidies
- C** Impact of occupancy behaviour
- D** Additional savings in communal areas.

The UK version also includes a tool which creates a communal EPC using EPC data from individual dwellings¹.

Engagement toolkit

The engagement toolkit is a project management guide to support retrofit in apartment blocks. It contains information and guidance on important considerations before, during and after the retrofit including:

- The benefits of retrofit
- Collecting baseline information
- Decision-making
- How to communicate with residents
- Planning the project
- Warranties and permits required.



¹ Once available, the French version of the technical toolkit will also include a communal EPC tool

Recent events



Partner Meeting, Budapest
 Discussing case study progress and toolkit development



STACCATO Conference, Budapest
 Presentations on 'Barriers to retrofit in apartments' by Changeworks and LEAF by Energia Klub



Historic Scotland Conference, UK
 Challenges associated with retrofitting traditional buildings. LEAF case studies presented by Changeworks



Case study spotlight: Visby, Sweden

The Kommendantsbacken apartment block board members became interested in participating in the LEAF project after looking for ways to assess the energy efficiency of the building. This four storey building has seven dwellings, some of which are located in the basement and others in the roof. All of the apartments are under the shared ownership of the housing cooperative.



The building is located within the Visby old town World Heritage site. Whilst it is not listed, strict building regulations apply: any measures that might change or alter the building's use or external characteristics require a permit from the municipal office. The focus therefore needs to be on indoor refurbishment. There is the added complication that the main building is connected to the district heating network, while the two smaller buildings run and finance their own heating system. The buildings current EPC rating is band 'F'.

In order to narrow down the various retrofit options, the building's energy efficiency performance and fuel systems are being assessed using the EPC to gain a comprehensive view of the situation and its potential. The residents will also contribute their opinions and experiences of indoor comfort and utility bills to inform the decision making process.

Upcoming events

LEAF will be presented at the following events:

December 2014

- 40th IAHS World Congress on Housing: Sustainable Housing Construction, *Funchal, Portugal* – *Fraunhofer IBP*

2015

- National energy congress, *France* – *FLAME*
- Press conference: presenting the results of the project (April), *Budapest Hungary* – *Energia Klub*



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