



Romanian Ministry  
of Development,  
Public Works and  
Housing



Housing +



## Urban Regeneration in Romania

### The Role of Government, Civil Society, and Economic Stakeholders

International Seminar  
November 1 and 2, 2007

Palace of the Patriarch, Bucharest, Romania

Draft programme 191007

#### Background

Urban regeneration is the revitalisation of urban areas in a cooperative effort by municipalities, homeowners and other stakeholders. Its aim is to improve the living conditions, increase the environmental and social quality, and strengthen the local economy. In Romania, urban regeneration will be one of the biggest challenges for the coming decades. Urban regeneration will be impossible without the involvement of homeowners and their organisations, and other stakeholders in civil society and in the local economy, particularly financiers and project developers.

<b>Objectives of the seminar</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raise awareness among stakeholders in Romania on urban regeneration.</li><li>• Provide a forum for the exchange of experience between the Netherlands and other countries.</li><li>• Address the different barriers to the process of urban regeneration.</li></ul>	<b>Participants</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Romanian central and local government</li><li>• Romanian and international civil society</li><li>• Project developers and construction companies.</li><li>• National and international financing institutions</li><li>• Dutch government and social housing organisations</li><li>• Platforms of homeowners organisations</li></ul>
<b>Programme plenary sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The story of urban regeneration in Romania and the Netherlands</li><li>• The needs of homeowners in the Romanian cities</li><li>• Financing urban regeneration</li><li>• Involving stakeholders in urban regeneration</li></ul>	<b>Programme working sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Securing financing and project development in Romania</li><li>• Lessons learned on involving stakeholders</li><li>• Legal framework for urban regeneration</li></ul>



## PROGRAMME

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### WEDNESDAY 31 OCTOBER 2007

#### **Afternoon**

Meeting Cecodhas Working Group Eastern Europe 15.00 – 17.00.  
Hotel Capitol

#### **Evening**

Informal gathering speakers and participants

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### THURSDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2007

#### **Venue Palace of the Patriarch**

**8.30-9.15**                      **Seminar registration and coffee**

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#### **9.15 - 10.00 OPENING ADDRESSES**

His Excellency Laszlo Borbely - Minister of Development, Public Works and Housing of Romania

His Excellency Jaap L. Werner, Ambassador of the Netherlands in Romania

Mr. Hubert van Eyk, Manager International Housing Unit, Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment. Vice-President of the Committee on Housing and Land Management of the UN Economic Commission for Europe

Representative of the Romanian Presidency (invited)

Representative of the Romanian Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reform (invited)

Representative of the Patriarchy (invited)

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#### **10.00 – 13.00 PLENARY SESSION**

Conference Chair: Jan van der Moolen. Chairman of the Habitat Platform for Central and Eastern Europe

**10.00-11.00**    **1<sup>st</sup> plenary session “What is at Stake?”**

#### **1. The Story of Urban Regeneration in the Netherlands**

Jan Hauwert, Member of the Board of Woonbron, Dutch social housing company

#### **2. The story of Urban Regeneration in Romania**

Speaker: Vera Marin. University of Architecture, Bucharest

*11.00-11.30*    *Press conference*

*11.00-11.30*    *Coffee break*

## 11.30-13.00 Continuation 1<sup>st</sup> plenary session “What is at Stake?”

### 3. The needs of homeowners in the Romanian cities

Speaker:

Mihai Mereuta, President of the HABITAT League of Homeowners’ Associations in Romania

### 4. Financing Urban Regeneration

Speaker: Wolfgang Amann, IIBW Institute for Real Estate Construction and Housing Ltd. Vienna

### 5. European Housing and Regional Policy – Delivering Regeneration

Speaker: Ms Flo Clucas, Rapporteur for Housing and Regional Policy of the Committee of the Regions, and Executive Member for Economic Development and Europe for Liverpool City Council

## 13.00-14.30 Lunch

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## 14.30 – 16.30 WORKING GROUP SESSIONS

### 14.30-16.30 1st parallel working group sessions

<b>Working group 1: Financing urban regeneration in Romania</b>	<b>Working group 2: Involving the stakeholders</b>	<b>Working group 3: Legal and institutional framework for urban regeneration</b>
Chair: Roderick Brederoo, Chairman Housing Plus	Chair: Mr. Dick Reinders. Manager International Projects at Woonbron	Chair: Claus Hachmann, Vice-President of Cooperatives Europe – Housing
1 <sup>st</sup> Introduction Speaker: Marie-Odile Zanders, Dutch International Guarantee Fund for Housing (invited) Topic: Financing Urban Regeneration	1 <sup>st</sup> Introduction Speaker: Eleonara Gaydarova, Union of Homeowners’ Associations CAC, Bulgaria Topic: The experiences in Bulgaria with residents’ involvement in urban regeneration	1 <sup>st</sup> Introduction: Topic: Recommendations from the project “Implementation of European Standards in Romanian Housing Legislation” for the Romanian Ministry of Development, Public Works and Housing, IIBW Institute for Real Estate Construction and Housing Ltd. Vienna (to be confirmed)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Introduction Speaker: Ioan A. Bejan, Consultant in housing finance and housing policy and Raiffeisenbank, Bucharest (invited) Topic: Public Private Partnerships in urban regeneration and the potential for limited profit companies	2 <sup>nd</sup> Introduction Speaker: Vera Marin, University of Architecture Topic: Interactive presentation on residents’ involvement	

## 19.00-21.00 Dinner

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## FRIDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2007

**9.00-9.30**     *Coffee*

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### 9.30 – 11.00 WORKING GROUP SESSIONS

**9.30-11.00**     **2<sup>nd</sup> parallel working group sessions (continuation of day 1)**

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> working group session draft conclusions and recommendations to be included in the seminar communiqué will be discussed and agreed upon.

<b>Working group 1: Financing urban regeneration in Romania</b>	<b>Working group 2: Involving the stakeholders</b>	<b>Working group 3: Legal and institutional framework for urban regeneration</b>
Chair: Roderick Brederoo, Chairman Housing Plus	Chair: Mr. Dick Reinders. Manager International Projects at Woonbron	Chair: Claus Hachmann, Vice-President of Cooperatives Europe – Housing
1st Introduction: Stefania Racoltza, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (invited) Topic: Overview financing schemes for urban regeneration	1st Introduction: Ms Daniella Roman. City Hall Bucharest Sector 6 Topic: Experiences urban regeneration pilot project in Bucharest Sector 6; involving the citizens.	1st Introduction: Speaker: Henk Rieff, Ministry of Housing, Spatial Development and Environment, Netherlands Topic: Legal framework for urban regeneration in the Netherlands
2nd Introduction: Roland van der Post, CEO of the Foundation Social Housing Guarantee Fund (WSW), Netherlands	2nd Introduction: Mr Sorin Solomon. City Hall Bucharest Sector 4 Topic: Experiences urban regeneration pilot project in Bucharest Sector 4; involving the citizens.	2nd Introduction Speaker: Expert Romanian Ministry of Development, Public Works and Housing of Romania Topic: Legal framework for urban regeneration in Romania
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Introduction: Topic: Partners in Regeneration. Speaker: Andrew Malone, Former President CECODHAS, European Liaison Committee for Social Housing	

**11.00-11.30**     *Coffee break*

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### 11.30 – 13.00 PLENARY SESSION

**“Lessons Learned: How to start the Urban Regeneration Process in Romania” Part 1**

Chair: Mr. Jan van der Moolen. Chairman of Habitat Platform for Central and Eastern Europe

**11.30-12.30**     **Reporting on Lessons Learned from the working groups**

- Chair WG 1 Financing
- Chair WG 2 Involving the Stakeholders
- Chair WG 3 Legal Framework for Urban Regeneration

**12.30-13.00**     **Discussion**

**13.00-14.30**     *Lunch break*

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## 14.30 – 16.15 FINAL PLENARY SESSION

### “Lessons Learned: Starting the Process for Urban Regeneration in Romania”. Part 2

#### 14.30-15.30 Panel discussion

Introduction to the panel discussion: Jan van der Moolen, Chairman of the Habitat Platform for Central and Eastern Europe

#### Panel members:

- Chairs of the three working groups
- Mr Henk Rieff, Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment of the Netherlands (confirmed)
- Representative Minister of Development, Public Works and Housing of Romania
- Mihai Mereuta President HAL-Habitat,
- Jan Hauwert, Member of the Board, Woonbron

#### 15.30-16.15 Presentation and discussion of the draft seminar communiqué

A discussion paper will be distributed to the participants before the seminar. This will be the basis for the seminar communiqué.

#### 16.15 Closure of the seminar

### Discussion paper and seminar communiqué

A seminar paper will be prepared by a Romanian-Dutch experts. The paper will introduce and outline the issues to be discussed during the seminar, especially during the working session. The conclusions and recommendations of the seminar to the Romanian government, in particular, will be put down in a final seminar communiqué.

### Organisation and support

This seminar is organised by League of Homeowners Associations Habitat in cooperation Woonbron, a large Dutch social housing organisation, and Foundation Housing +.

The seminar is part of a MATRA project implemented MATRA is a wide-ranging programme of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs designed to promote social transformation in Central and Eastern Europe. It supports existing private initiatives, focusing on activities that contribute to the development of a pluralist and democratic society, securely embedded in the rule of law.

The Eastern Europe Working Group of CECODHAS, the European Liaison Committee for Social Housing, will kindly support the organisation. The Working Group will hold its regular biannual meeting in Bucharest on October 31, 2007.

### Working languages

English and Romania. During the plenary sessions simultaneous translation is provided. During the parallel working group sessions consecutive translation is provided, if needed.

## Venue

The Palace of the Patriarch. Metropoliei Hill, Piasta Unirii, Bucharest



## Registration and conference fee

The conference registration fee is € 100, which includes conference materials, lunches, and dinner on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Your registration can be confirmed after receipt of the fee.

You can register for the conference by sending the following information by email to [info@housingplus.nl](mailto:info@housingplus.nl) titled "Registration Bucharest"

- Name, position, organisation
- Contact details, including email address
- An indication of the specific topics you are most interested in.

You will receive updated programmes and a conference discussion paper by email.

Stichting Housing +, Hoofdweg 60, 8383 EH Nijensleek  
ING Bank, Regentesselaan 1, 7316 AA Apeldoorn  
ACCOUNT: 665128711 / IBAN: NL98INGB0665128711 / BIC: INGBNL2A

## Accommodation in Bucharest

A limited number of rooms is available for invited speakers at Hotel Capitol. [www.hotelcapitol.ro](http://www.hotelcapitol.ro). Bucharest offers a range of middle-class to upmarket hotels. We recommend you to book on time. For hotel information, please contact [info@housingplus.nl](mailto:info@housingplus.nl).

## For further information

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More information on the Matra project can be found at [www.regenerareurbana.ro](http://www.regenerareurbana.ro)

