



Residential housing stock in North-West Europe

Buildings are responsible for 40% of energy consumption and 36% of CO2 emissions in the European Union. Older residential buildings account for a large share and are in urgent need of energy performance improvements. Indeed, half of the residential housing stock in most EU countries was built before the first thermal regulations in 1970. Yet with an average renovation rate of only 1%, change isn't happening fast enough to meet the EU energy efficiency targets.

Municipal climate change mitigation strategies in the cities of North-West Europe are taking aim at this challenge, but major barriers to implementation exist. Especially in deprived city quarters, poverty and social exclusion are aggravating factors.

Interreg North-West Europe Climate Active Neighbourhoods

European Regional Development Fund

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Partners



Improving energy performance on a neighbourhood level

A new approach

Climate Active Neighbourhoods – CAN

The CAN project encourages bottom-up initiatives that change energy consumption paradigms on a neighbourhood level, with a special focus on social housing and deprived areas.

CAN helps develop and launch **new organisational models** for the sharing of responsibilities between local authorities and neighbourhoods to foster action from the bottom up. This novel approach aims at strengthening commitment for energy savings in neighbourhoods while ensuring coherence between bottom-up activities and city-wide strategies.

While the newly agreed upon organisational frameworks are being applied, **financing schemes and activation tools** serve to support the development of bottom-up energy retrofitting initiatives. CAN is also realising **pilot investments for energy efficiency** in selected neighbourhoods.

Examples of planned activities

Shared responsibility

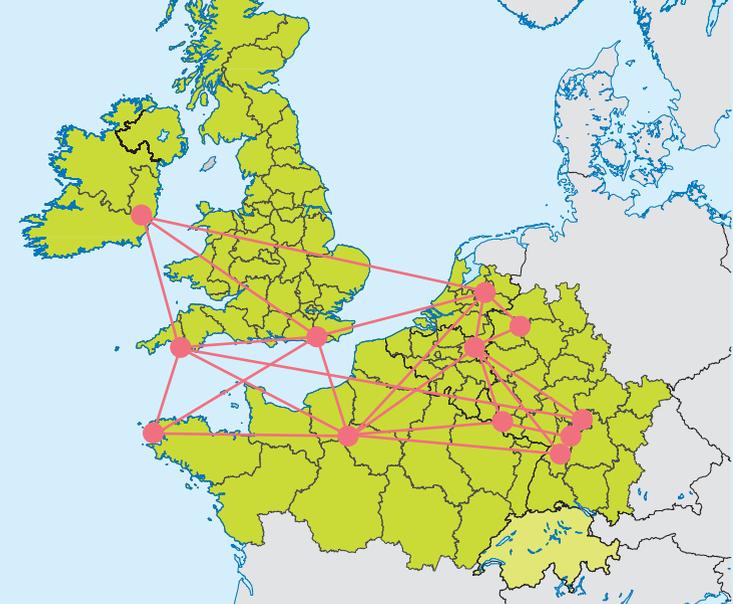
CAN will help municipalities establish shared responsibilities with various districts for example while supporting community-led organisations dedicated to improving the energy performance of the homes in the neighbourhoods. The project will find cost effective approaches to energy savings and craft programmes to help tenants understand the effect of their behaviour on energy use.

Financing schemes

On the neighbourhood level, CAN will develop and launch both investment funds for residents with a focus on migrant communities and new financing schemes with focus on rental homes.

Neighbourhood action

CAN will develop neighbourhood tools to promote good practice examples on the basis of retrofitting city tours, face-to-face consultations or local energy management.



Project Area

Benefit from trans- national experiences

CAN goes off the beaten path, finding new ways to achieve sustainability and CO₂ reduction goals. Strong partnership between actors aware of the barriers to uptake of energy retrofitting strategies and willing to overcome them together will pave the way. Thanks to CAN's transnational work, various approaches can be explored and synergies leading to enhanced solutions can be created. Even public authorities outside of CAN's direct sphere of influence can benefit from project results through a transnational coaching framework.