



NEWSletter

BUSHROSS BEGINS – PROJECT LAUNCH AND PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

**2ND PROGRESS MEETING IN SOFIA
BUS EXCHANGE MEETING ORGANIZED BY CINEA
MEET OUR PARTNERS!
PACT FOR SKILLS &EPALE**

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ABOUT PROJECT

The project aims to enhance the skills of relevant authorities, such as national, regional, and local governments, as well as energy agencies, to effectively establish and operate one-stop-shops (OSS) that support homeowners in the energy refurbishment of residential buildings. By accelerating the pace of housing renovation, the project will contribute to the European Green Deal and improve the well-being and health of citizens and future generations.

In addition, the project will develop and pilot qualification and upskilling programs for stakeholders, including training of trainers, ensuring that the programs are modular, adaptable to local needs, and delivered through digital materials utilizing innovative methods like online courses with gamification. Local experiences will be mapped to identify skills gaps, and sustainable, replicable solutions will be put in place for continued impact after the project's completion.



2ND BUSHROSS'S PROGRESS MEETING IN SOFIA

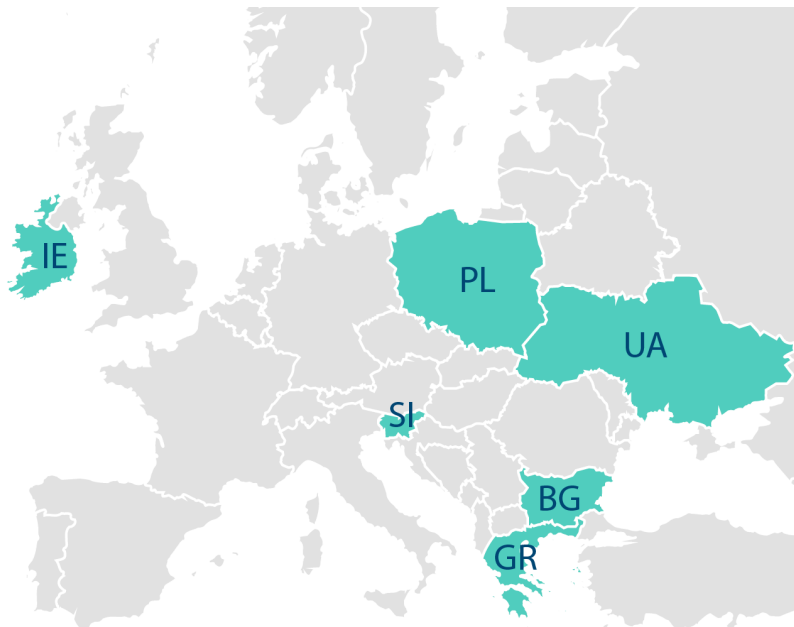


On March 19th, the BUSHROSSs consortium gathered in Sofia for the project's 2nd Progress Meeting. The event, held at the Hemus Hotel, brought together partners from six European countries to reflect on the project achievements so far and plan the road ahead, for the first time in person.

Throughout the day, we exchanged insights on project coordination, the plans for development of training materials, as well as strategies for engaging stakeholders and communication actions. The collaborative spirit and productive atmosphere highlighted the shared commitment to supporting the development of One-Stop-Shops for home renovation. We left Sofia with a clear vision and energy to keep building on our joint efforts.

BUSHROSS'S PARTNERS

- University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork (UCC), IE - coordinator
- Cork City Council (CCC), IE
- Sofia Energy Centre Ltd (SEC), BG
- Stowarzyszenie Kamara na Instalatorite v Bulgariya (CISB), BG
- Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving Fondation (CRES), GR
- Association of Municipalities "Energie Cites" (PNEC), PL
- National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine (NUBIP), UA
- Gradbeni Institut ZRMK Doo (GI ZRMK), SI



In this edition, we're excited to introduce the first two partners of the BUSHROSS project. Get to know the organisations helping drive forward sustainable home renovation across Europe!

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BUS EXCHANGE MEETING ORGANIZED BY CINEA



The 16th edition of the BUILD UP Skills European exchange meeting took place on Wednesday 2nd April 14:00 – Thursday 3rd April 15:00 at COMET Louise in Place Stéphanie 20, 1050 Bruxelles.

BUSHROSSs was one of 9 projects selected under call LIFE-CET-2023-BUILDSKILLS and project representative Ruchi Agrawal provided a brief overview of your project during the virtual poste session on 2 April 2025. The purpose of this meeting was to foster the exchange of ideas and knowledge among participants from various EU-funded projects.

The BUILD UP Skills European exchange meetings are forums for discussing and sharing experiences within the EU-funded projects focused on upskilling building professionals. These meetings, which have been held since the initiative's start in 2011, aim to advance the skills agenda in energy-efficient buildings. They provide a platform for participants to exchange ideas on common challenges and best practices.



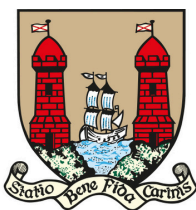
ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES POLISH NETWORK “ENERGIE CITES”

The Association of Municipalities Polish Network Energie Cites (PNEC) is a non-governmental and non-profit organisation that has been supporting the energy transition of cities in Poland since 1994. The Association acts towards climate neutrality with a network of over 80 partners from 25 countries working on more than 85 projects. PNEC has been a member of Energy Cities since 1998 and was the first official Polish Supporter of the European Covenant of Mayors. PNEC actively promotes European initiatives and helps Polish cities to achieve their energy and climate goals and obligations.



POLSKA SIEĆ
Energie Citēs

CORK CITY COUNCIL



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí
Cork City Council

As the municipal authority for the City of Cork, the City Council is charged with making the city an attractive place to live work and invest in. The services provided include Housing, Roads and Infrastructure, Community Culture and Placemaking, and the Environment. The Council is also a social housing landlord with a stock of over 10,500 houses. The city contains over 83,000 private households. Combined these households house a population in excess of 212,000 people. Cork City Council has been selected to join the EU mission “100 climate neutral and smart cities by 2030” project. The city is committed to ensuring that 25% of its existing housing stock will achieve the A3 energy rating as defined in the Irish Building regulations by 2030 and to having 100% of its housing stock achieve this status by 2050.



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Meet our project team from Cork City Council

PATRICIA TOBIN BSC ENV, VN



Patricia Tobin is the Communication Manager on the Interreg Europe Frugal Cities Project with Cork City Council. Patricia was instrumental in the running of the Home Energy Upgrade Office in recent years offering citizens a physical building for energy upgrade information. Patricia has been with Cork City Council for over three years.

BRIAN CASSIDY BSC(HONS), NCEA DIP ENG PGRADDIP, MBA CENG, FIEI

Brian is a fellow of Engineers Ireland and is employed by Cork City Council in the Social Housing Directorate. Brian leads on the implementation of Cork City Councils Climate Action Plan in the directorate. With a housing of eleven thousand social and growing there is a considerable challenge to improve the energy rating of the existing stock to ensure that they have a Building Energy Rating of A3 or better and a heat loss indicator of 2.3 or lower. Brian has been the Council lead on a number of European projects including the Interreg Europe North Sea Region project Indu-Zero (Advisory Board Member) ([INDU-ZERO, Interreg VB North Sea Region Programme](#)), The Interreg Europe Project Empower, [EMPOWER | Interreg Europe](#). Brian was influential in the opening of the Home Energy Upgrade Office (HEUGO) in Cork City. [Home Energy UpGrade Office \(HEUGO\) - Cork City Council](#)



MICHAEL CANNY, PROJECT TEAM MEMBER



Michael is Assistant Engineer in the Housing Assets Department of Cork City Council. Michael has previously worked on the H2020 'Upstairs' project where a OSS was opened to the public in Cork City, Ireland. He is also involved in another H2020 project called 'MiniStor'

Meet our project team from Association of Municipalities Polish Network “Energie Cites”

IZABELA KUŚNIERZ, PROJECT MANAGER



Izabela Kuśnierz is a graduate of the AGH University of Science and Technology, where she majored in Environmental Engineering. She is a leader in international projects focused on energy transition and climate action in cities, working as Project Manager at PNEC. In addition to her work with municipalities, Izabela is involved in various international programs and projects aimed at addressing climate change and promoting sustainable energy practices. She actively participates in global exchanges, such as the Open World Program, where she has shared her expertise in energy sustainability and fostered international collaboration.

DOROTA GUZIK, SENIOR PROJECT ASSISTANT

Graduate of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków (major: sociology). Experienced in ESG reporting and carbon footprint analysis.

Responsibilities: participation in the implementation of international and national climate action projects, increasing public awareness on climate change and energy policy.



DARIA BOROWIK, PROJECT ASSISTANT



Graduate of the AGH University of Krakow, majoring in Revitalization of Post-industrial Sites.

Responsibilities: participation in the preparation of grant applications and in the implementation of national and international pro-energy and pro-climate projects, assistance in the preparation of publications and translations, promotion of the association's activities in social media.

PACT FOR SKILLS & EPALE

The activities within BUSHROSS are aligned with the values of EPAL and the Pact for Skills initiative. They are based on the principle of lifelong learning, which helps to amplify the project's impact.

Pact for Skills

Pact for Skills is one of the flagship actions (Action 1) of the European Skills Agenda.

The Pact aims to support public and private organisations with upskilling and reskilling, so they can thrive through the green and digital transitions.

Members of the Pact have access to knowledge on upskilling and reskilling needs, advice on relevant funding instruments to boost the skills of adults in their regions and countries, and partnership opportunities within our growing community.

What does the Pact for Skills offer?

Through the Networking Hub, members can find partners and relevant EU tools like Europass, Skills Panorama, EURES and the European Network of Public Employment Services. They can also promote their activities.

The Knowledge Hub organises webinars, seminars and peer learning activities for members. It also provides updates on EU policies and instruments, as well as information on projects, tools, and best practices.

In the Guidance Hub, members can find information about EU and national funding opportunities, and guidance to partnering with national and regional authorities.

EPALE – Electronic Platform for Adult Learning in Europe

EPALE is a European, multilingual, open membership community of adult learning professionals, including adult educators and trainers, guidance and support staff, researchers and academics, and policymakers.

The platform is funded by the Erasmus+ programme. It is part of the European Union's strategy to promote more and better learning opportunities for all adults. EPALE does this by supporting and strengthening the adult learning professions. It enables members to connect with and learn from colleagues across Europe, through its blog posts, forums, the Partner Search tool, complemented with physical gatherings.



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