

## Case Study 20: Building energy audits project

Latvia

### Summary

During the last 5 years, the Construction, Energy and Housing State Agency has been providing support for energy audits. The goal of the support is to provide information to end-users about the energy efficiency level in their buildings and to promote adequate energy efficient measures.

The existing housing stock in Latvia has a significant potential for energy savings, as regards multifamily houses, but there have not been many refurbishments projects implemented until now. Technologies and possible energy efficient measurements are well known, but, due to different reasons, the process of implementing an energy efficiency project is not simple.

The Construction, Energy and Housing State Agency involved the private sector for sponsoring the project. The projects are successful according to the Agency, but only some of the buildings have implemented energy efficient measures after the energy audits. There were no specific targets defined for the project, for example, it was not stated how many buildings would be renovated based on the results of the energy audits. Any specific targets for behavioural changes are not considered in this project. The only actual target was to provide a grant for carrying out a set of energy audits. On the other hand, one of the aims of the project was to distribute information about energy efficiency in buildings. This target was reached, as several workshops were organized in different parts of Latvia.



### Lessons learned

The following five most crucial factors influencing the success of the programme can be defined:

1. There are no quantitative objectives that would allow monitoring or evaluating the project results.
2. Appropriate timing was not maintained, personnel changes were quite frequent, and there was a high level of bureaucracy involved.
3. In order to evaluate the level of success of the project, the evaluation or the monitoring has to be introduced as a part of the project.
4. Target group selection criteria have to be revised.
5. This type of project allowed involving banks in the project realization, which provided better loan conditions for dwelling owners.