

<b>Title and format of the event</b>	Training Seminar "How to engage flat owners in improving energy efficiency in residential buildings"
<b>Purpose of the event</b>	To engage the participants with the current situation in the field of energy efficiency of housing stock in the Republic of Belarus and the opportunities of its improvement by means of motivation of flat owners to implement energy efficient activities, decision-making procedure and possible financing schemes.
<b>Organizer of the event</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– IPO "Ecopartnership"</li> <li>– Baltic Environmental Forum Latvia</li> <li>– the Department of Energy Efficiency under the State Standardization Committee of the Republic of Belarus</li> </ul>
<b>Place</b>	J.Rau International Educational Centre (11 Gazeta Pravda Ave, Club Room )
<b>Date</b>	May 30, 2014
<b>No of participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Public organizations/initiatives – 17 people;</li> <li>– representatives of government entities and civil society organizations – 5 people;</li> <li>– members of the media – 1 person;</li> <li>– university professors – 3 people;</li> <li>– business community representatives – 5 people;</li> <li>– representatives of associations of proprietors – 4 people.</li> </ul> <p>Total number is 35 people.</p>
<b>Agenda</b>	<p>Opening the meeting Meeting Moderator emphasised the importance of involvement of flat owners in the improvement of housing energy efficiency. Natallia Andreyenka, coordinator of energy projects in IPO "Ecopartnership", made an overview of current problems in housing stock in Belarus, which prevent widespread of energy efficient construction.</p> <p>Vitaliy Kretski, Head of Department of Organizational and Legal Work of the Energy Efficiency Department of the State Committee for Standardization of the Republic of Belarus, provided data on the implementation of energy efficiency measures, trends and planned activities in the country.</p> <p>Irina Alekseeva, Baltic Environmental Forum Expert, emphasized typical problems of housing stock as well as methods of assessing buildings, starting with simple assessment and ending with energy audit.</p> <p>Daina Indriksone, Baltic Environmental Forum Expert, told in detail about possible individual and collective actions on the improvement of energy efficiency. She gave recommendations on sealing windows, ventilation and energy saving. Seminar participants asked questions on state regulations in the Housing stock sphere in Baltic countries. The most popular questions were about interest rates and terms of credit for the implementation of energy efficient actions. Furthermore," the Most Energy Efficient Building" contest in Latvia provoked a considerable discussion.</p> <p>Gennadij Kalionov, Executive Director of International Management in Constructions Association, reported on the intended amendments of legislation of the Republic of Belarus in the respect of associations of proprietors and building consumer cooperative societies. He focused on the rights and responsibilities of tenants and the service organization, possibilities of financing of energy efficient activities and the procedures of decision-making in housing cooperatives.</p> <p>Igor Shesteren, Leading Engineer in "Ista Mitering Service", told about technical and legal aspects of the shift to per apartment accounting for heating of multi-apartment houses. Also he focused on the most common mistakes in the process of engineering and installation of equipment and in subscriber service work.</p> <p>One of her presentations Daina Indriksone devoted to the methods for moderation and mediation at joint meetings and direct communication with flat owners. She shared her experience in what convincing arguments</p>

	<p>to use to overcome fears of refurbishment. She paid special attention to nonpayers issue.</p> <p>Irina Alekseeva presented Latvian experience in planning and implementation of energy efficient activities, namely, time periods and quality control.</p> <p>One of the hottest issues was the presentation by Hanna Susha, Chairman of Belarusian Society for Protection of Consumer Rights. She made a review of legislation that regulates responsibilities of subcontractors for defects in construction.</p>
<b>Main target groups</b>	Associations of housing owners, Oblast departments of the Housing and Public Utilities, Regional departments of the Society for Protection of Consumer Rights, public organizations.
<b>Speakers from the ARCEE</b>	Natallia Andreyenka , coordinator of projects on energy and climate, IPO "Ecopartnership", Irina Alekseeva, Baltic Environmental Forum Expert Daina Indriksone, Baltic Environmental Forum Expert
<b>External speakers</b>	<p>Moderator: Evgenij Ziavakin</p> <p>Experts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vitaliy Kretski, Head of Department of Organizational and Legal Work of the Department of Energy Efficiency under the State Committee for Standardization of the Republic of Belarus;</li> <li>- Gennadij Kalionov, Executive Director of International Management in Constructions Association;</li> <li>- Igor Shesteren, Leading Engineer in "Ista Mitering Service"</li> <li>- Hanna Susha, Chairman of Belarusian Society for Protection of Consumer Rights</li> </ul>
<b>Reporter</b>	Alesia Chumakova and Natallia Andreyenka, IPO "Ecopartnership"
<b>Outcome</b>	<p>The seminar contributed to drawing attention to energy efficient actions and to stimulating activities both by flat owners represented by chairmen of Associations of housing owners and public organizations.</p> <p>The participants were engaged with the activity, implemented within the framework of ARCEE project, policy of the Republic of Belarus in the field of energy efficiency and respective legislation, regulating the responsibilities of subcontractors for construction. Baltic Environmental forum experts presented Latvian experience in energy efficient activities, involvement of flat owners in refurbishment through personal resources. Moreover, they gave pieces of advice to Belarusian experts on improving energy efficiency of residential houses.</p>
<b>Feedback from the participants</b>	<p>After the training seminar together with the presentations electronic evaluation form were circulated and was filled in by 9 people.</p> <p><a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1z1D1uGLiQXm4n3YLMQyczzlJGf6Oc40YrP18OIEbotM/edit#gid=93001817">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1z1D1uGLiQXm4n3YLMQyczzlJGf6Oc40YrP18OIEbotM/edit#gid=93001817</a></p> <p>Evaluation form questions and answers:</p> <p>How do you estimate the importance of the Session?: 2 marks "Good" and 6 marks "Excellent"</p> <p>How do you estimate the organization of the Session?: 1 mark "Good" and 7 marks "Excellent"</p> <p>How do you estimate the content of the Session? (topical content of experts' presentations)? 3 marks "Good" and 5 marks "Excellent"</p> <p>I consider that the most efficient part of the Session was:</p> <p><i>...experts' presentations</i></p> <p><i>... all the topics of the Session are important and especially relevant for Belarus, where Housing and Public Utilities sector is desolated</i></p> <p><i>...Sessions 1,3,4</i></p> <p><i>...was deeply impressed by Vitaliy Kretski's presentation and by presentations+tutorial of Latvian participants</i></p> <p><i>... practical examples</i></p> <p>I think that the least efficient part of the Session was:</p>

	<p><i>... general public representatives' reports</i></p> <p><i>...Session2. Kalenov's report was the least interesting</i></p> <p><i>...was a bit tired in the end, some participants had to leave as they were from other cities, but the last presentation was very interesting and it's a pity not all the participants could listen to it! Thank you for your invitation. Wish you all the best in such a vital activity! Good Bye! Best regards, Elvira Poluian</i></p> <p><i>...no</i></p>
<b>Lessons learned</b>	<p>Representative of Mogilyov Regional Executive Committee requested IPO "Ecopartnership" to hold a similar training in Mogilyov for major energy specialists of Mogilyov district enterprises, housing associations chiefs, technical group specialists of education departments and principals of schools.</p>
<b>Remarks</b>	<p>Photos</p> <p>Agenda, List of Participants, presentations (individually in files).</p>

