

Case Study 21: SANIT

Germany

Summary

The project “strengthening the regional economy by creation or securing employment in the Ruhr area by independent energy consultancy of private consumers living in or owning old buildings” is funded by the region Land Northrhine-Westphalia (NRW) and the EU structural funds and is implemented by the consumer organisation of NRW Verbraucherzentrale NRW. The Ruhr area was chosen, because the part of not yet refurbished old houses is higher than average.

For private property owners of flats and residential buildings as well as for tenants consultation energetic refurbishment is offered. This results in contributions to climate protection and in strengthening the regional economy. The aim is to motivate towards energy modernisation and the use of renewable energies. For this reason it is offered, that independent energy advisers come to the buildings and do a qualified counselling in-situ. Different aspects of energy-modernisation are touched by the project.



The improvement of the living quality shall stop people from leaving the area and enforce the regional economy, as many of the measures are being realised by local craftsmen, architects and engineers.

Lessons learned

1. The context of the EU-funding enabled Verbraucherzentrale NRW to cover a big area by its services. The extent of the project made the support very effective.
2. The focus of the project was bifocal: one part concentrated on the aims of the funder, the regional government. The other focus was on the individual level, where many aspects of improvement have been promoted, like lower energy bills, increased housing quality, climate protection, etc.
3. The design of the project concentrated on individual contacts between the consumer and the consultant.
4. In the project energy consultants worked as employees of the Verbraucherzentrale NRW. Their main objective was to work as energy consultants for private households.