

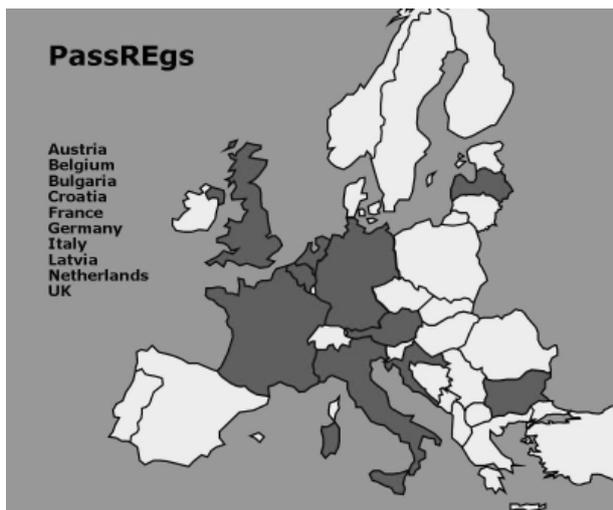
**Press Release 16 May 2012**



## **PassREg: Passive House Regions with Renewable Energies**

*Passive House Institute introduces new EU funded project*

16 May 2012/Darmstadt, Germany: Making frontrunners visible – supporting potential frontrunners. This is the motto of the PassREg project, funded within the European Commission’s Intelligent Energy Europe programme and headed by the Passive House Institute. As reflected in its name, the project supports the growth of Passive House Regions in which “energy efficiency first” through Passive House is promoted, enabling remaining energy needs to be feasibly covered with on-site or nearby Renewable Energy sources. To do this, the project looks to regions such as Hanover, Brussels and Tyrol – front runner regions already actively and successfully supporting this approach. By investigating what makes the varied models these regions employ so successful as well as by making their successes more visible, the project aims to help other aspiring regions to become front runners themselves – taking, adapting and implementing best practice examples as well as the lessons learned throughout the project to facilitate the implementation of the EU’s 2010 Energy Performance of Buildings Directive on the basis of Passive House with renewable energy sources.



“Since the conditions vary greatly in different countries, regions and cities, the first objective is to analyse existing front runner models and their structures, such as proKlima’s in Hanover, and adapt them to different regional conditions,” says project manager Marianne Fajara from the Passive House Institute, who presented the PassREg project at the 16th International Passive House Conference in Hanover, Germany. “Afterwards, these adapted structures are to be adopted by municipal and regional governments as well as housing associations and manufacturers, thus contributing to climate protection.”

The project kick-off, held in Hanover, Germany from 6 to 8 May directly after the 16th International Passive House Conference, commenced with an in depth look at Hanover’s commitment to energy efficiency through the Passive House Standard. Participants from all

14 project partners as well as special guests from regional governments were invited to view real Passive House projects with renewable energies, such as Hanover's zero:e park zero emissions settlement. The tours were followed by a series of presentations from Matthias Wohlfahrt of proKlima-fund, Elisabeth Kirscht of the Climate Alliance Hanover 2020 and Udo Scherer of the Hanover Region Climate Protection Agency among others, giving the participants insight into how Hanover has achieved its successes with respect to energy efficiency in construction. This kick off was just the beginning needed for a project that aims to provide the impetus necessary to take Passive House with the integration of renewables mainstream across Europe.

**Project partners:** BRE | United Kingdom, Municipality of Burgas | Bulgaria, Municipality of Zagreb |



Croatia, Municipality of Cesena | Italy, Dubonetwerk Foundation | Netherlands, Eneffect Group | Bulgaria, IG Passivhaus Tirol | Austria, Latvian Environmental Investment Fund (LEIF) | Latvia, NOBATEK | France, Passiefhuis-Platform vzw (PHP) | Belgium, Plate-forme Maison Passive asbl (PMP) | Belgium, proKlima | Germany, end use Efficiency Research Group, Politecnico di Milano (eERG-PoliMI) | Italy.

Participants of the PassREg Kick-off Meeting | © Passive House Institute

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