



The Portuguese Statement about the Conference on Retrofitting in Greece

NORBICETA was invited, by the CECODHAS in Portugal, to present a paper aiming to participate in the Conference on “Retrofitting of Social Housing: Financing and Policy Options”, that took place in Thessaloniki, Greece, on the 7th and 8th November.

Taking into account the recent experience of Housing Cooperatives of the North of Portugal, firstly, with the retrofitting of the Bouça’s Ensemble and, secondly, and thanks to the participation in the SHE Project, through the construction of the 2nd Phase of the Building of Ponte da Pedra, in achieving a high performance in terms of energy efficiency, our paper was accepted by the Selection Committee of the Conference.

José Coimbra represented the Cooperative Union of NORBICETA, presenting the experience gathered in both buildings – Bouça and Ponte da Pedra, showing the audience the way that led to success Portuguese Cooperatives. This explains the subject of the Portuguese Presentation – “Energy Efficiency in Portuguese Social Housing – Two Buildings, Two cases for success – The SHE Project in Portugal”.

We considered this Conference of huge importance; the subjects approached were very well organized and very well presented by high technical experts. On the other hand, the approach of the subject was multidisciplinary and extremely rich if we consider the very different presentations. During the event, there were presentations of examples of retrofitting and construction of energy efficient buildings; examples of retrofitting of social housing in several European countries; general rules for every housing promoter

who intends to build such efficient buildings; different kinds of technical solutions; monitoring initiatives allowing the measurement of the energy performance; various recommendations as far as social retrofitting is concerned; there were also presented all the policies and European Directives that rule the building sector and that allow the improvement of the energy performance, as well as several existing financing systems. As far as Portuguese participation is concerned, the audience enjoyed especially the practical way of how Portuguese cooperatives achieved the transition from theory to reality.

The dissemination initiatives of Portuguese Cooperative Activities continue to go abroad, convincing and impressing technical experts.

