

# CONNECT WITH OTHER INNOVATORS IN EUROPEAN HOUSING



**EFL**

EUROPEAN FEDERATION  
FOR LIVING



# A VISION TO BUILD ON

EFL's vision is for its unique make up of members to be at the forefront of economical and sustainable social housing community development in Europe, through quicker and better access to research, new innovations and funding than any other route.



# CONNECTIONS ARE OUR CORNERSTONE

Our key point of difference is our unique membership base. EFL is a consortium of forerunners, unlike any other. We combine the shared knowledge of social housing providers across Europe, the cutting-edge thinking of universities, and earlier access to private sector companies at the very forefront of innovations in property and community development. That means you can convert new ideas into actions.

# NO BORDERS TO OUR AMBITION

We pride ourselves on breaking down barriers. No matter which country a member comes from, or their category of membership, EFL facilitates easy access to relevant and recent insight, information and expertise.

As one of the most positive, professional and progressive organisations within the EU, our aim is to promote the strategic goals of each member. Whether those goals are generating new business opportunities, improving know-how or achieving innovative breakthroughs, EFL can offer a strong network of like-minded, proactive partners to call on.

# A BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE

Sharing insights, expertise and experience through regular meetings and seminars, working groups and direct access to information via our online database e.g. case studies, tools and research reports. Our ambition is to become Europe's number one exchange platform for housing companies, related industries and expertise centres. To this end, members can expect the following:

1. Concept development of low energy, sustainable buildings, both new and refurbished with latest scientific expertise and use of BIM technologies
2. EU subsidies
3. A series of 'Toolkits' offering concrete, practical solutions:  
  
Toolkit 1: 'Neighbourhood Approach'  
  
Toolkit 2: 'Real Estate Investment Analysis'  
  
Toolkit 3: 'Construction Costs Calculation confirmed to DIN (Deutsche Industry Norm)'
4. Five active EFL Working Groups with the goal to exchange best practices and co-create joint instruments or reports. Topics include 'Energy Efficiency', 'Accessible Housing/ Senior Living', 'Financial Instruments', 'Low Cost Construction', 'EU Subsidies' and 'Social Return on Investment and Corporate Social Responsibility'
5. Brochures outlining best practices from European cities (through EFL members) with most best practice brochures produced by Working Group 'Social Domain'
6. Employee Exchange: EFL offers members the opportunity to exchange staff between one another. The most recent example being French staff exchanged with a Berlin housing association
7. Bi-annual EFL Awards starting in 2015. Categories to be judged include accessibility, sustainability, flexibility and more. Next year's EFL Awards will be held in Helsinki
8. Organisation of regular events and small conferences including bi-annual EFL General Assemblies and a number of seminars for housing professionals. In 2013, there was a meeting in Amsterdam between German Association of Largest Housing Companies (AGW) and EFL. Seminars in 2014 include one on housing policy held in Berlin
9. The opportunity for site and study visits to cities
10. EFL Newsletters: Four times a year with updates about all groups, plus any relevant developments.

At the European  
Federation for  
Living (EFL),  
we have a vision.

# MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS US ALL

Whether you're a housing company with a social and commercial background, a business from the building industry and design sector, a not-for-profit expertise institute or university; membership or associated partnership of the EFL offers a number of real benefits.



## BENEFITS FOR HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS?

1. Easier access to EU funds, whichever EU country you're from, means additional income for innovations and research
2. Direct access to ideas from others means you improve your core business
3. Ability to share ideas with peers, or take over services, products or instruments, means you support the industry in Europe and gain additional income for yourself
4. Access to the very latest innovations, insight and expertise through excursions, discussions and workshops means you can see, hear and even touch the latest developments, helping you make better informed choices in your own country
5. This is an informal international consortium, which means there won't be too much for you to do other than network, benefit and grow
6. Shared development of instruments means you can access tools that are proven to be effective
7. Keeping informed of the very latest international research by scientific institutes means you'll be one step ahead when seeking EU funding
8. With your EFL colleagues, start the (re)construction of cost efficient, sustainable buildings with the use of cutting-edge expertise from scientific and industrial partners.



## BENEFITS FOR UNIVERSITIES?

1. Access to EU funds for applied research means you get the money you need before other research institutes
2. Learning from European practitioners means you can match theory and research with real experiences
3. Direct access to housing associations means research outcomes can be easily shared
4. Offering internships for students means you can access the latest talent, EU-wide
5. Teaming up with fellow scientists means you share thinking and intelligence
6. Expansion of the network means you broaden your access to the social housing market and many of its major players.



## BENEFITS FOR PRIVATE SECTOR COMPANIES?

1. Access to EU grants means additional income for innovations and research, income that would be tough to find elsewhere
2. Early, inside track knowledge on the hot topics in the housing sector means you can plan your approach, strategies and innovations with greater clarity
3. Direct access to members means the opportunity to discuss, informally, new products, services and ideas with CEOs, housing association staff and universities, giving you direct, early insight from interested parties
4. Plan, construct, maintain or offer your consulting activities within EFL projects.

The EFL offers a number of real benefits.

# REAL, CONCRETE RESULTS

The following examples are proof that we can put plans into actions and achieve real, concrete results by working as one network with shared ambitions and aims.

We put plans into action and achieve real, concrete results.

1. Successful EU grants have been obtained for three projects:
  - a) REBECEE: Renewable Energy and Building Expositions in Cities of the Enlarged Europe (2009)
  - b) IStay@Home: INTERREG subsidy for technological developments to support elderly people staying in their homes (domotics), 2011-2015
  - c) TRIME (Trias Mores Energetica): EU subsidy within IEE (Intelligent Energy Europe). Focuses on consumer behaviour, lower energy use and purchase policy of housing associations and healthy indoor environments
2. Prepared proposals for Horizon 2020 EU Grants, currently for EeB 8 (Retrofitting) and Energy Efficiency 2
3. Project EFL House: low cost building and chain integration with several EFL members, max 1000€ per metre construction costs. Making maximum use of each other's experience with one, shared target: low cost, high quality. 48 new units developed in June 2014
4. Project EFL Waterhomes – developed and constructed energy efficient 'floating homes' in more than 4 countries including the UK, Netherlands, Germany and France
5. Neighbourhood Approach Tool – best practices from Eigen Haard eg. The Amsterdam Experience, 'Indische Buurt' and 'Vogel Buurt'
6. The value of tenant communication in the process of renovation – practical advice to reach your energy efficiency goals
7. The Queens Wife's of Landlust is an EFL project developed by the Eigen Haard housing association and involving the full renovation of 220 dwellings in Amsterdam. Two kinds of renewable energy sources (PV, heat pumps) were used and the project was regarded as the most innovative in the Netherlands for energy efficient retrofitting, with a 'box in box' insulation concept. The project won several accolades, including the Amsterdam Green award and the Best Renovation. Constructed by EFL member Van der Leij Bouwbedrijven and engineered, in part, by German experts with a European exchange of insights
8. Currently in development, Full Zero House is a new project that involves a concrete development process initiated by the EFL working group, Energy Efficient Housing. The plan is to realise this new concept (no emissions, evt energy producing) in three or more countries, including the UK, Netherlands, Germany and, possibly, France
9. Neighbourhood Approach and Tenant Involvement Tool – best practices from De Woonplaats.



# DO YOU SHARE OUR VISION?



Can you see the advantage in:  
Being part of a unique consortium of  
fellow forerunners in European housing?



Can you see the advantage in:  
Having direct access to recent and  
relevant cutting-edge thinking?



Can you see the advantage in:  
Hearing about new research and  
innovations in property and community  
development before anyone else?



Can you see the advantage in:  
Enjoying the inside track on EU funding,  
and giving yourself an even greater  
chance of building more economical  
and sustainable communities?

If the answer to those questions is yes, then  
why not join us in turning hopes, dreams and  
ambitions into concrete fact?

## THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF CONNECTIONS:

1. **Membership:** Only open  
to housing companies.
2. **Associated partnership:**  
Open to commercial companies  
and expertise institutes.

Members and associated partners  
currently originate from France, Germany,  
the Netherlands, Finland, Belgium,  
Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

# MAKE A CONNECTION AND JOIN US TODAY





## Interested?

Get in touch today to register  
or to find out more.

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**Visit:** [www.ef-l.eu](http://www.ef-l.eu)