

Name of project: iBRoad – Individual Building (Renovation) Roadmaps

Award category: Innovation

Organisation: Sympraxis Team

Location: Athens, Greece

Other countries involved: Bulgaria, Poland, Portugal, Germany, Belgium, Austria, Romania

Duration: 2017–2020

Website: <https://ibroad-project.eu>

Factsheet:

iBRoad - Renovating homes: easy and efficient for every homeowner

Home improvements made simple

From energy efficiency improvements to installing solar panels on rooftops, renovating a home can feel like a daunting series of tasks. It requires a lot of planning and the necessary budget over a long period of time. Moreover, many homeowners lack knowledge on the renovation options available to them, which part of the house to start from and the energy savings that the renovation could bring.

Looking to boost the number of housing renovations and help the EU improve the energy performance of its housing stock, Horizon 2020-funded project iBRoad has developed a set of tools and methodologies that will aid homeowners in planning and managing their renovation projects over a long period.

“We aim to make home renovation easier and more energy efficient. Our tools help develop a business plan for a home over a 5, 10 or 30-year period. With the support of iBRoad’s tools, people can think about questions like what they want to change, when and how to finance it,” says Alexander Deliyannis, partner at Sympraxis Team and iBRoad project coordinator.

A renovation roadmap

iBRoad created the ‘Individual Building Renovation Roadmap’ (iBRoad-Plan) for single-family houses which is a personalised renovation plan for the next 5-30 years. The roadmap makes it possible to improve a building gradually, taking into account the occupants’ personal and financial situation.

The project also developed a logbook (iBRoad-Log) to collect and combine important information like house plans and household energy consumption and production, as well as to track any improvements people make to their houses. This document is useful for both homeowners and contractors who need technical details about the building. Together, the roadmap and logbook make up a ‘Building Renovation Passport’ (BRP).

Using these tools, iBRoad supported 10-15 homeowners in drawing-up step-by-step renovation plans in 3 pilot countries: Bulgaria, Poland and Portugal. Homeowners were encouraged to think of works that could help them save energy including maintaining or replacing heating and cooling

systems, insulation and roof improvements, future plans to produce energy through renewable technologies like solar panels, as well as changes to boost comfort and health through indoor air quality improvements and sound-proofing. , etc.

iBRoad also helped participants put together their logbook gathering general administrative information on the building, building construction information, energy performance information, data on how the building operates and electricity bills.

“Each renovation project looks at specific problems and requires tailored solutions. iBRoad makes it possible to improve a building gradually, avoiding errors that would mean more effort over the long-term” says Deliyannis.

Energy and carbon savings for all

The EU’s Energy Performance of Buildings Directive estimates that home renovations planned with a ‘Building Renovation Passport’ could boost energy efficiency in the EU by up to 10% by 2050. This would save up to 43 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions and €27 million in residential energy costs.

The project’s tools, which can be easily replicated in countries across the EU, are already available for relevant authorities and agencies on the project website.