



## SEMINAR

# Tackling Health Inequalities through Investing in Housing

*Quality housing for population health and equity: EU cross-sector collaboration amidst health and social crises*

**22 January 2013**  
9:00am – 16:30pm

**Room 5B01**  
European Parliament  
Brussels

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*Interpretation FR/EN*

### **Event Objectives:**

In order to bring issues of housing, poverty, inequalities, health and wellbeing in line, this event/workshop will attempt to qualify the extent of the problem by bringing in speakers and panelists from EU and international institutions, as well as acclaimed academics. It will aim at:

- Informing cross-sectoral civil society actors on potential of more comprehensive advocacy on health-housing links;
- Opportunities to level structural funds to improve public housing for better health outcomes;
- Opportunities to use environmental policies to increase investments in good quality housing for health and equity win-wins;

- Showing the potential of cooperation between social housing organisations and public health organisations

### Who should attend?

The event/workshop will be of particular interest and importance for the representatives of civil society organisations dealing directly and indirectly with health and housing issues, wishing to learn on health-housing links, analyse on recent developments at EU policy level on health and housing, explore on potentials for increased advocacy and use of EU funds on a health-housing link, and build up and/or expand their cross-sectoral network for future partnerships and collaboration.

### Draft Programme

8.30 – 9.00      Registration

#### **Why now, why here, why we?**

9.00 – 9.30      **Welcome and opening**

*What do we know, what is needed and how do we get there?*

**Karima Delli MEP (France, Greens/EFA)**, Vice-President of the EP URBAN Intergroup

**Monika Kosinska**, Secretary General of European Public Health Alliance – *Cross-sector civil society triggering the change. Are we at the tipping point for equity in health yet?*

**Ozgur Oener**, Vice-President of CECODHAS Housing Europe – *Enabling quality social housing to boost wider public goods such as health and equity*

#### **Unpacking Quality Housing for Health Equity**

9:30 – 10.30      **Key-note speeches**

**Matthias Braubach** - WHO Europe Environment and Health, Technical Officer, Housing and Urban Planning, coordinator of the WHO report on environmental health inequalities in Europe, *Environmental Health Inequalities in Europe – Health and Housing implications. (30 min)*

**Carlotta Balestra** - OECD, analyst, Directorate of Statistics, *OECD findings on health inequalities and housing (30 min)*

10.30 – 10.45 **Questions and Answers session**

**Housing for Health and Equity** – looking for cross-sector collaboration and socially innovative solutions

*Approach taken by cross-sector service planners and deliverers towards tackling and preventing health inequalities through promoted quality social housing*

10.45 – 12.00 **Presentation of 5 case studies**, moderated by **Muriel Boulmier**, chair of CECODHAS Housing Europe Working Group on Ageing and Housing

**Case study n°1:** *Health benefits of investing in housing and impact on health expenditure/ Fuel poverty and health impacts (10 min)*

- **Joe Frey**, Head of Research, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE)

**Case study n°2:** *Cooperation between social housing organisations and health services providers (10 min)*

- **Dr. Chris HANDY**, CEO Accord Housing Group

11.00 - 11.30 **Coffee Break**

**Case study n°3:** *Social housing sector inclusive towards marginalized communities (20 min)*

- **Deyan Kolev** (NGO Amalipe from Bulgaria): Social housing, education and health for Roma communities - financed by Regional Development OP  
- **Bent Madsen** (BL, interest organization of 700 housing associations in Denmark): Educating tenants for a healthy lifestyle

**Case study n°4:** *Social housing sector, homeless population and health outcomes. (10 min)*

- **Dr Pascale Estecahandy**, National Technical Coordinator of the "Un chez soi d'abord" programme

**Case study n°5:** *Analysis of national policies to address injuries in the built environment of the home (10 min)*

- **Morag Mackay**, Childsafety Europe

12.15 – 12.45 **Questions and Answers session**

12.45 – 13.45 **Lunch**

**Overview of relevant EU policies**

*Public health is an all-level all-government, all-society shared responsibility. The conditions in which individuals and communities live in, shape their health outcomes. How can the EU-level policy making support the Civil Society efforts towards quality housing for health equity?*

13.45 – 14.45 **Presentation of the current EU policies in the field of housing and health**, moderated by **Sébastien Garnier**, chair of CECODHAS Housing Europe Social Affairs Working Group

*DG Health and Consumers*: Presentation on activities by the Working Group on Vulnerable Energy Consumers

- **Kyriakos Gialoglou**, Policy Officer in Unit Consumer strategy, Representation and International relations

*DG Employment and Social Affairs*: Presentation of the Social Investment Package

- **Nicholas Costello**, Head of Unit - Social policies, Innovation and Governance

*DG Regional and Urban Policy*: ERDF support for social and health infrastructure and social housing

- **Wladyslaw Piskorz**, Head of Unit - Inclusive Growth, Urban and Territorial, Development

*DG Justice (Minorities' Inclusion)*: synergies between housing and health reflected in Roma Integration strategies

- Representative of Directorate G (Equality) unit D4 Nondiscrimination policies and Roma coordination, *tbd*

14.45 – 15.00 **Questions and Answers session**

### Health and Housing in times of fiscal crisis – how to move forward?

15.00 – 16.00 **Open Discussion** moderated by **Monika Kosinska**, Secretary General of European Public Health Alliance

*Could and should the EU do more for quality housing sector supporting health equity? What could be done, when, by whom and to what end?*

*What do we need to make it happen? Research, funds, collaboration, political will, social movement, leadership?*

*How can the european elections 2014 help change the paradigm of social investment?*

**Françoise Castex, MEP** (France, S&D), chair of the Public Services Intergroup *tbc*

**Antonyia Parvanova, MEP** (Bulgaria, ALDE) *tbc*

**Peter Liese, MEP** (Germany, EPP) *tbc*

**Inês Cristina ZUBER, MEP** (Portugal, GUE/NGL) *tbc*

**Jean Lambert, MEP** (the United Kingdom, Greens/EFA)

16.00 – 16.30 **Conclusions and closing**

**Monika Kosinska, Secretary General of European Public Health Alliance**  
**Claire Roumet, Secretary General CECODHAS Housing Europe**

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*EPHA is the European Platform bringing together public health organisations representing health professionals, patients groups, health promotion and disease specific NGOs, academic groupings and other health associations.*

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*CECODHAS Housing Europe is a network of national and regional housing federations of housing organisations. Together the 43 members in 18 European members States manage 25 million dwellings which represent 12% of the total housing stock.*

*Its members work together for a Europe that provides access to decent and affordable housing for all in communities which are socially, economically and environmentally sustainable and where all are enabled to reach their full potential.*