

PRESS RELEASE

Renovation Project Tackles Housing Crisis and Energy Poverty with Sustainable Innovations in Milan

Local stakeholders are invited to discover components used to retrofit the roof and facade of a community house in Milan

Milan, 9 December 2024 – On **12 December 2024**, the RE-SKIN project will be organising a **public demonstration event** at their demo site in Milan where local stakeholders are invited to register and hear from local policymakers, such as **Guido Bardelli** (Councillor for Housing, Municipality of Milano), and project partners about the work undertaken by the project. Attendees will also be able to discover some of the components used to renovate the building, such as a heat pump or repurposed PV modules, during a **Capacity Building Workshop** hosted by Politecnico di Milano.

The demo case building in Milan is a community house belonging to the Municipality of Milan and is surrounded by an almost residential neighbourhood. It is used by the Fondazione Progetto Arca association, which hosts 16 vulnerable people, including tenants who are on an addiction recovery path. It was constructed and retrofitted in 1965 and 2005, respectively. The two-floor building has four bedrooms, 6 toilets, a laundry room, a living room, a kitchen, a TV room, an office and a boiler room.

At the community house, the RE-SKIN project carried out a precise and accurate photographic survey of the interior rooms to provide an overview of the spaces in a 3D tool. Two sensors have also been installed to measure the temperature and humidity of the rooms. With the climate of the region being continental, and temperatures varying between -4.9 °C and 35.8 °C, it is difficult for inhabitants to keep warm in the winter and stay cool in the summer.

The construction and installation work at the demo site is expected to take eight months. The roof was temporarily fixed in July 2024 and further execution work is scheduled to finish by the end of February 2025.

“RE-SKIN is tackling the challenges of the European housing crisis, energy poverty, and climate change by providing a safer and more sustainable environment for the residents of its four demo sites. We bring cutting-edge technology and materials to renovate and improve the energy efficiency of residential, public and commercial buildings.”

– Niccolò Aste, Project Coordinator, Politecnico di Milano

According to [Eurostat](#), over 5.58 million people in Italy (9.5% of the population) were unable to keep their homes adequately warm in 2023. These innovations not only address energy poverty but also contribute to broader societal, environmental, and economic benefits.

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With four demo sites across Europe (Milan, Italy; Burgas, Bulgaria; Lille, France; Asturias, Spain), the RE-SKIN project aims to enhance total energy and environmental efficiency in the building sector by developing and demonstrating an integrated, multi-technology and low-impact renovation package for energy retrofit and smart upgrade of residential, public and commercial buildings.

ENDS

If you wish to attend the RE-SKIN demonstration event on 12 December 2024 in Milan, please register [here](#).

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Background

The RE-SKIN project is a testament to the power of collaboration between public institutions, industry leaders, and academia to drive sustainable change. By combining retrofitting with innovative technologies, RE-SKIN sets a precedent for cities across Europe to enhance living conditions for their most vulnerable citizens. This initiative underscores the importance of holistic approaches in tackling interconnected crises, offering hope and a sustainable future to communities facing the dual challenges of energy poverty and climate change.

Given that 85% of EU buildings were constructed before 2000, with 75% performing poorly in energy efficiency, such initiatives are crucial. Buildings account for 40% of the EU's energy consumption, with heating and cooling making up 80% of that usage.

About RE-SKIN

RE-SKIN aims to enhance total energy and environmental efficiency in the building sector, intensively applying the life cycle sustainability and circular economy principles. The project is expected to develop and demonstrate an integrated, multi-technology and low-impact renovation package for energy retrofit and smart upgrade of residential, public and commercial buildings.

Want to know more about EU projects on sustainability? Or speak to a sustainability expert on topics such as energy transition or sustainable cities? Then join REVOLVE's pool of journalists [here](#).

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