



International Conference on Information Support for Housing in Central and Eastern Europe

29 September - 1 October 1997 Forum Hotel Prague, Czech Republic

CIB is a Co-Sponsor

The Conference is in conjunction with the 39th Annual Meeting of the International Union of Building Centres and will follow the 8th International Building Exhibition FOR ARCH '97.

Background

In the 1990s Central and Eastern Europe have experienced great social changes that are reflected in changing legislative and economic conditions. This process has enabled the region to make use of international technological know-how and foreign capital. A temporary decrease, or even a halt to, housing construction has been a significant feature of the transformation process. Only 5-10% of the need for 2 million flats a year has been met. Meanwhile the maintenance and refurbishment of current housing stock is delayed. Fulfilling the need for flats and houses is an acute social problem. However, it is also a great entrepreneurial opportunity for the developing market.

The conference will assess the conditions in various countries and their readiness for housing construction, and will describe the market to potential investors, suppliers and building material producers.

Goal

The goal of the conference is to gain relevant and factual information, to publish this in the form of a booklet, and to set up an information database on the Internet. A permanent source of information on the Central and Eastern Europe housing market conditions will be available when the database is established, and it will be continually updated.

Programme

Section I. State Support, Financing, Conditions

Task: To present and recommend various forms of state support, including methods of financing and loan support for housing construction and legislation. During the workshop national programmes, the experience of advanced countries and their offer of services for Central and Eastern Europe can be presented.

Goal: To define the extent and structure of information and conditions needed to make the market transparent. These should be used in the database which will be regularly updated.

Section II. International Union of Building Centres

Task: To present experience in applying various information support tools for housing. During the workshop it will be possible to present the experience of some building centres in running permanent exhibitions, educational programmes, consultative and advisory services, publishing magazines, databases and other materials, and in applying modern information technologies.

Goal: To assess information tools already in use, and discuss the information database structure needed on the Internet for housing support.

Section III. Materials and Technologies for New Housing Construction, Refurbishment and Modernisation of Existing Houses and Flats

Task: To summarise experience and define specific conditions in various countries, and present products and services providing solutions from both home and foreign manufacturers.

Goal: To define the basic structure and form of information regarding product suitability and recommend how to present this in the database.

Registration Fee

Conference delegates	300 US\$
Accompanying persons	150 US\$
Students	110 US\$

The registration fee covers: welcome and farewell parties, lunches, refreshments during the conference breaks, conference materials.

Accompanying persons have free entry to the welcome and farewell parties.

The FORUM Hotel is a comfortable, modern hotel with a foreign clientele near the city centre (two underground stops), and has a beautiful view of Prague. The conference will take place in the hotel congress hall.

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