

PRESS RELEASE

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Case studies demonstrate faster, more reliable deep retrofits

outPHit initiative to take 17 buildings to the high performance, Passive House based EnerPHit standard

Darmstadt, 15 December 2021. A total of 17 case studies comprising 27,566 m² of floor area are poised to show how prefabricated elements and streamlined processes can help make good on climate goals in the building sector. Within the framework of the European Union funded outPHit initiative, 207 residential units and three non-residential buildings in five European countries will demonstrate how high performance, deep retrofits to the EnerPHit standard can be made faster and more cost-effective. outPHit has now published its first nine case studies online with further details, projects and updates to follow over the next two years.

“While we desperately need to tackle energy use in our built environment, we also need to realise that not all renovations are created equal,” explains Jan Steiger, Passive House Institute managing director and outPHit project coordinator. “High quality retrofits are of the essence if we want to avoid locking high levels of emissions into the future. With outPHit’s case studies, we are showing how to meet the performance of the EnerPHit Standard for Passive House retrofits with shortened construction times and reduced risks.”

Overall, the outPHit consortium will oversee refurbishments amounting to a budget of almost 30 million euros. Each project is characterised by different climates, occupancy types, uses, local construction traditions as well as specific opportunities and challenges. For some buildings in need of renovation, the main challenge is mould and poor air quality. Many are social housing units in which renters are struggle to pay high energy bills while for others, the main challenge is that of convincing the owners of the benefits of deep retrofitting to begin with. A focus on renovation with modular systems featuring high degrees of prefabrication as well as streamlined execution processes will form the common thread.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- [Case studies online](#) | [Complete list of case studies](#) (pdf)
- [The EnerPHit Standard](#)
- [Online version of this press release](#)

CONTACTS

Katrin Krämer, Passive House Institute
+49 6151 826 99 25
presse@passiv.de

Sarah Mekjian, Climate Alliance
+49 69 7171 39 -20
communications@climatealliance.org

OUTPHIT

PROJECT LEAD



Passive House Institute
Rheinstr. 44/46
64283 Darmstadt
Germany

T. +49 6151 826 99 0
info@passiv.de

COMMUNICATIONS LEAD



Climate Alliance

Climate Alliance
Galvanistr. 28
60486 Frankfurt am Main
Germany

T. +49 69 717139 0
europe@climatealliance.org



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OUTPHIT – DEEP RETROFITS MADE FASTER, CHEAPER AND MORE RELIABLE

outPHit pairs such approaches with the rigour of Passive House principles to make deep retrofits cost-effective, faster and more reliable. On the basis of case studies across Europe and in collaboration with a wide variety of stakeholders, outPHit is addressing barriers to the uptake of high quality deep retrofits while facilitating the development of high performance renovation systems, tools for decision making and quality assurance safeguards. outphit.eu

THE PASSIVE HOUSE INSTITUTE

Creator of the Passive House Standard and later, the EnerPHit Standard for deep retrofits, the Institute bundles more than 30 years of experience in the field high performance, cost-effective construction. The institute carries out research, simulations, quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation, training, and communication as well as project support, design and implementation for Passive House buildings and deep retrofits. passivehouse.com

THE CLIMATE ALLIANCE

For over 30 years, Climate Alliance member municipalities have been acting in partnership with indigenous rainforest peoples for the benefit of the global climate. With more than 1,800 members spread across 27 European countries, Climate Alliance is Europe's largest city network dedicated to comprehensive and equitable climate action. climatealliance.org