

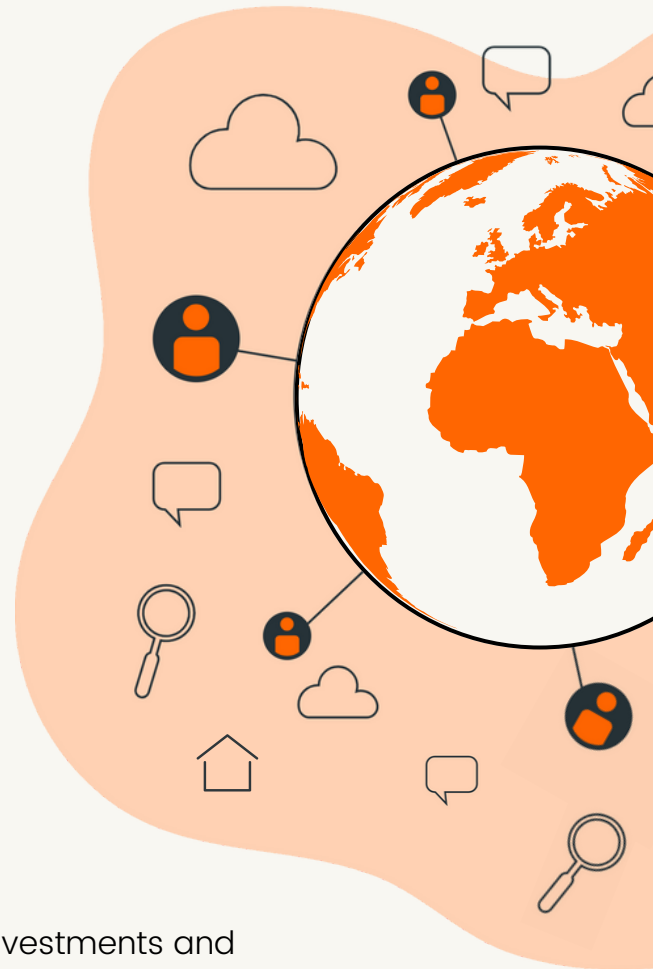
EUROPEAN IMPACT HOUSING NETWORK

The European Impact Housing Network is an innovative and collaborative initiative that aims to address the pressing issue of housing across Europe.

Impact housing refers to private and innovative investments and financial tools in the housing field, in synergy with the public and non-profit sectors, aimed to generate positive measurable, social, economic, and environmental impact.

As a coalition of organisations committed to creating impactful solutions in the private market, the network seeks to harness the power of impact investments, exchange best practices, advocate for policy changes, and become a formal reference group in the field of impact housing.

The network is tailored as a community of practice placing a strong emphasis on utilising the collective experience and expertise within the network to enact practical applications, tangible changes and innovative solutions.



The Network emerges as a response to urgent challenges:

Addressing Social and Affordable Housing Needs

The European Union faces a significant housing affordability challenge, resulting in homelessness, insecurity, financial burdens, and substandard living conditions. The latest Household Budget Survey (HBS) reveals that in 2020, 60.6% of the household consumption expenditure in 23 EU countries, for which data are currently available, was spent on housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels (32.7%).

This impedes young individuals from establishing independent residences, causing health disparities and limiting opportunities. The consequences extend to increased healthcare costs, reduced productivity, and environmental degradation. Private tenants experience substantial housing cost increases, while mortgage-holders are vulnerable to interest rate hikes. Owners without mortgages, particularly in post-communist and southern European countries, confront poverty and inadequate housing.

Promoting Sustainability and Energy Efficiency

Housing holds a central position in sustainability considerations, primarily due to the energy consumed for heating and cooling. Households account for 27% of final energy consumption in the EU and contribute to 21% of total greenhouse gas emissions (Eurostat). Ensuring energy efficiency and quality in housing is imperative for long-term benefits to both people and the environment. The concept of a "just transition" is crucial to ensure that renovations consider the more vulnerable populations and avoid the negative impacts of so-called "renoviciton."

Tackling Homelessness

Homelessness is on the rise in Europe. This includes all living situations which amount to forms of homelessness according to the ETHOS typology developed by FEANTSA (rooflessness, houselessness, living in insecure housing or living in inadequate housing). In 2022, the minimum estimate of rough sleepers, people staying in night shelters, and those in temporary accommodation was 896,430, according to FEANTSA. To address and ultimately end homelessness, the Housing First approach has proven successful. However, generating sufficient housing remains a significant challenge, particularly in European countries lacking adequate social housing. Scaling up Housing First policies across the EU is crucial for preventing homelessness, emphasising the importance of independent, stable housing that is genuinely unconditional on engagement with support services.

Our Vision

At the European Impact Housing Network, we envision a Europe where every individual enjoys access to safe, secure, good quality and sustainable housing. We firmly believe that impact investments have the potential to challenge the notion that only the public sector is responsible for caring for the more vulnerable and marginalised. We aspire to make it possible and structure it as a practice, a business model, through which, starting from housing, it is possible to ensure the achievement of the SDGs 2023 and the European Green Deal. In particular, our activity aims to make our cities increasingly inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.



Our Mission

By uniting as a collective force, our network aims to drive positive social, economic, and environmental impact, while increasing awareness and accessibility to impact housing initiatives. Our mission is to influence and advocate for a more robust framework that fosters impactful investments in the housing sector, also by enacting practical applications.



Objectives

- Learning and Exchange + Experimentation/defining funding strategy** The network will serve as a platform for participating organisations to share knowledge, experiences, and best practices in impact housing. Regular interactive sessions, workshops, and webinars will facilitate collaborative learning, leading to the development of innovative housing solutions.
- Advocacy and Influence** Armed with a unified voice, the network will advocate for impact housing policies that promote sustainability, inclusivity, and measurable positive outcomes. We will actively engage with the European Commission and national governments to drive positive policy changes and secure necessary funding for our shared objectives.
- Formal Reference Group** By consolidating expertise and experience, the network aspires to become a recognized and respected formal reference group in the domain of impact housing. This status will lend credibility to our collective efforts and enable us to engage with policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders.
- Policy working group** Together, we will establish and actively engage in a policy working group, aiming to contribute to the development and advocacy of impactful policies in the domain of impact housing.

Key Activities

Online Forums and Workshops The network will host regular online forums and workshops where member organisations can share their experiences, challenges, and success stories in impact housing. These gatherings will foster cross-border collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Mapping different models By consolidating the varied experience and expertise within our network we aim through systematic mapping to create a comprehensive repository of various models, methodologies, alliances, and best practices.

Participating in other events The network will engage in additional events to broaden our comprehension, connect and network with similar organisations, and gain valuable insights.

Presentations and visits to good practices Organise and participate in presentations and visits to organisations with exemplary models in our field. To gain insights, learn from successful implementations, and adapt those learnings to our context. These activities also provide opportunities to showcase and advocate for effective models and best practices that can serve as catalysts for change within our industry.

Policy Development Together, we will analyse impact housing policies at the European and national levels, identifying gaps and proposing evidence-based solutions. By submitting policy briefs and recommendations, we will seek to influence decision-makers and shape future impact housing regulations.

Impact Measurement and Reporting The network will work towards developing standardised impact measurement metrics for impact housing initiatives. This will enable us to showcase the tangible benefits of impact investments to potential investors and stakeholders.

Collaborative Funding strategy

As a united network, we recognize the importance of securing funding to drive our impactful housing initiatives forward. Working together, our member organisations can leverage their collective expertise and resources to apply for grants, investment opportunities, and funding programs. By pooling our knowledge, research, and data on the positive impact of our projects, we can present a compelling case to potential funders and stakeholders. Through joint proposals and coordinated efforts, we can increase the likelihood of securing funds for innovative impact housing solutions. Additionally, our network can provide a platform for sharing successful fundraising strategies, connecting with impact investors, and engaging with philanthropic foundations dedicated to advancing sustainable and inclusive housing. Collaborative fundraising will be a cornerstone of our joint mission to bring lasting positive change to communities across Europe.

Network Coordination

Impact Housing Foundation is coordinating the network and is responsible for:

- Organising meetings and exchanges
- Keeping track of the exchanges and creating summary documents when needed
- Creating a shared space for exchange between members
- Coordinating the communication efforts
- Planning and implementing the above activities with active collaboration of the members
- Maintaining contacts with other networks and organisation
- Coordinating fundraising



Members characteristics

Member organisations are distinguished by their commitment to directing impact investments toward social and affordable housing. Specifically, all members:

- Engage directly with private investors.
- Ensure that investments are dedicated to addressing urgent housing needs for social and affordable housing.
- Utilise existing housing stock whenever possible.
- Integrate social management and social care services into real estate management.

Organisations Joining the Network



Habitat et Humanisme
France



Homes4All
Italy



Hogar Si
Spain



Erste
Central and Eastern Europe



FUNDACIÓ HÀBITAT3
Spain



Resonance
United Kingdom

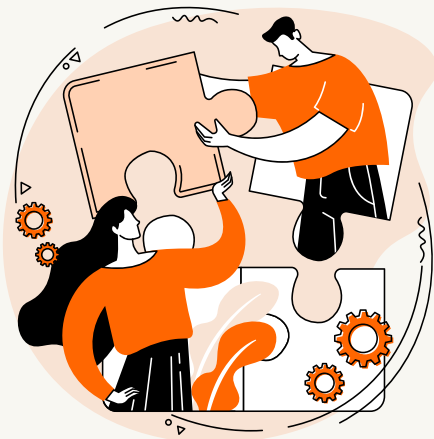
Organisations becoming part of the network actively engage in coordination meetings and other events, sharing content and information.

Fees

Currently, there is no membership fee.

Each partner, including the coordinating Foundation, is responsible for covering its own expenses.

The European Impact Housing Network represents a transformative opportunity to unite like-minded organisations towards the common goal of creating impactful solutions in the housing field.



By fostering collaboration, advocating for change, and measuring our collective impact, we are determined to shape a better, more sustainable, and inclusive housing landscape for Europe's most vulnerable populations.

Together, we can build a future where every individual can access safe and sustainable impact housing, driving positive social, economic, and environmental change.