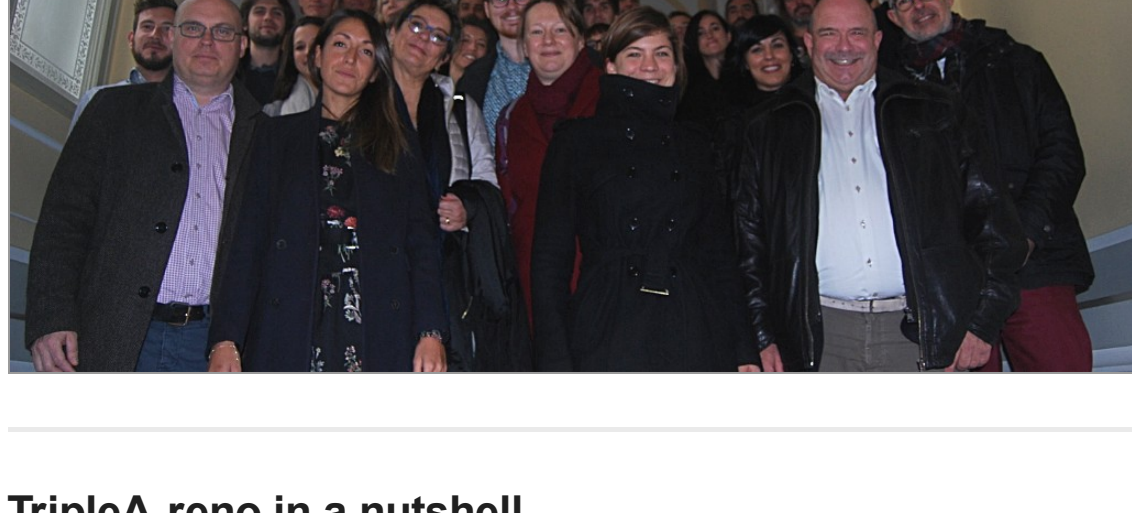


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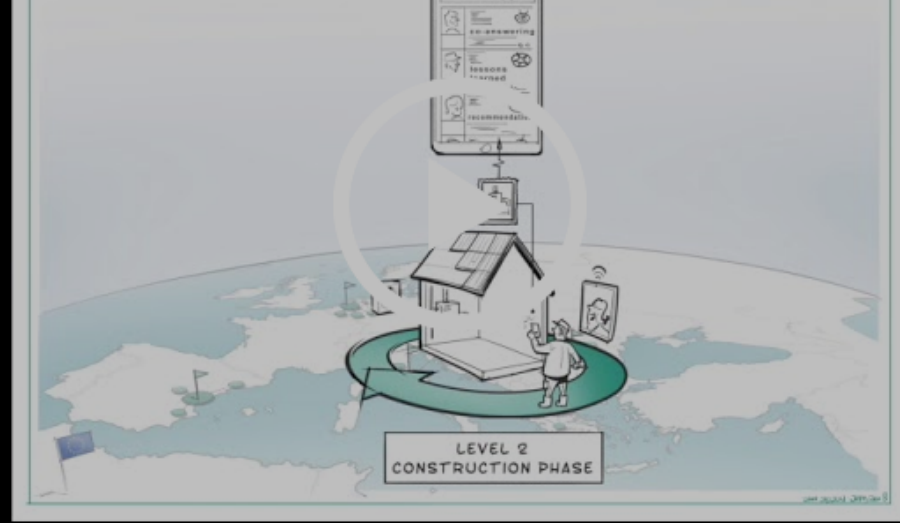


FIRST NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2018



TripleA-reno in a nutshell

Watch the short video introducing objectives and targets of the TripleA-reno Horizon 2020 project.



User-centric Renovation: the TripleA-reno Approach

by Dr. Simona d'Oca

In November TripleA-reno participated at the Retrofit Europe conference in Eindhoven, in the Netherlands. The central question of the conference was "How to get 250 million homes adopt retrofits?". During the debates, workshops and presentations it emerged clearly how the technological obstacles are only one of the barriers. Indeed penetration of deep retrofit practices in the EU market, must be facilitated by higher levels of acceptance for designer and practitioners, comfort and affordability for residents, and combined to attractive and long-term business cases for the investors. In a broader perspective, key stakeholders responsible for the success of advanced deep renovation processes must be involved from the early design to the operational phases. The user-center approach adopted in the TripleA-reno project made the appearance as one of the possible solutions to overcome these barriers.

At the Retrofit Conference, TripleA-reno organized a workshop together with the MOBISTYLE project, another H2020 project coordinated by Huygen. During this 1 ½ hour workshop Dr. Dan Podjed, anthropologist from Institute for Innovation and Development of the University of Ljubljana, provided a longitudinal introduction to the end-user engagement in deep renovations, as well as to the concept of people-centered approach used in TripleA-reno.

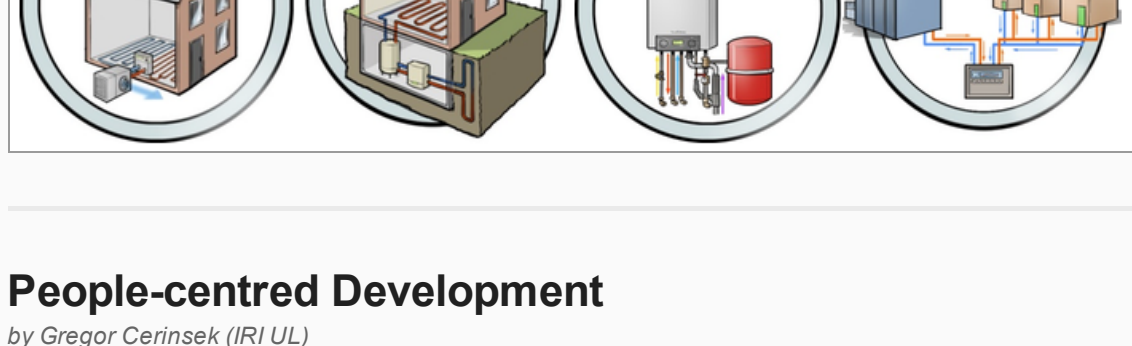
Dr. Simona d'Oca from Huygen Engineers and Consultants, project coordinator of TripleA-reno, explained the TripleA-reno approach to make renovation more affordable and attractive and the way how we engage (end)users through the three levels of gamification platform. The 1st level is aiming at improving acceptance, usability and co-design of advanced construction solutions leveraging on applied anthropology, social psychology, behavioural research and financial modules to understand acceptance and cost-effectiveness of advanced retrofit products and processes. The 2nd level has the objective of solving the fragmentation of the whole-building design among different life-cycle stages and across various disciplines, by providing a fully-integrated BIM-based building optimization, simulation and visualization platform, that supports relevant stakeholders involved during the whole construction process, starting from the design to the end of life. Finally, the 3rd level aims at providing environmental, energy, economic and social benefits during the operational phase through market-ready plug-and-play modular construction packages including smart building components, materials and technical systems (for deep renovation or new construction) and hardware and software user-centric ICT technologies

At the 13th REHVA World Congress CLIMA 2019, that will be held in Bucharest on May 26th – 29th, another workshop will be organized to practically discuss the TripleA-reno approach to make renovation more affordable and attractive. Also, we will brainstorm on the way how we engage (end)users involved in renovation processes through gamification features. In a dynamic interaction with the audience, the workshop will explore how acceptance, usability and co-design of advanced retrofit solutions can be improved by leveraging on applied anthropology, social psychology, and cost-benefit research approaches.

Development of the proven measures

by ISSO

TripleA-reno is developing an easy to use digital tool to create nZE renovation concepts based on morphological design methods. One of the steps towards this goal is to define measures/concepts and how people or consumers interact with them. This has to be on an easy to understand level, so everyone can use the tools. Currently an international set of measures, ranging from sealant for airtightness to heat pumps, is being developed under guidance of project partner ISSO. The first results for this part of the project can be expected in the beginning of 2019. For an example, see the pictures below for the choice of a heating system.



People-centred Development

by Gregor Cerinsek (IRI UL)

The key driving principle of the TripleA-Reno project is to get the renovation motor running with the end-users in the driver's seat. With the end-users we mean actual people that are involved in and are affected by renovation and could either support or enhance or, on the other hand, jeopardize or obstruct the overall process.

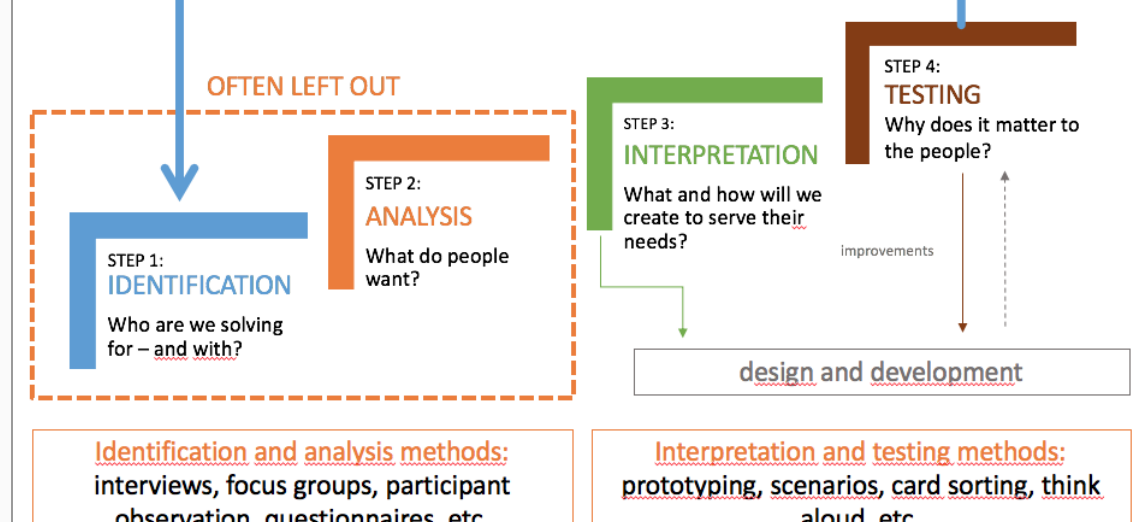
To support the co-creation with the people we implement the people-centred development approaches to:

- Identify the relevant stakeholders – who are we solving for and with?
- Analyse what people want together with their habits, values and behaviours;
- Interpret what and how we will create proper solutions to serve their needs;
- Test why and how does this matter to people.

Key principles of the People-centred development:

- Ask people! Based on qualitative and quantitative inquiries (surveys, questionnaires, interviews, focus groups, participant observation, experiments, field visits etc.).
- Engage people! The so-called „end-users“ or „customers“ are understood as partners and active co-creators; they are involved in product development already from the inception.
- Less is more! Smaller samples are used to acquire rich in-depth data.
- Big Data + Thick Data Best results achieved by combining quantitative and qualitative approaches.

People-centred development approach draws from anthropology as comparative study of people in different contexts in order to understand what they do, want, need. Through ethnographic inquiry we aim to understand what are the human-based factors (motivation, values, assumptions etc.) that influence decisions and the (un)willingness for deep renovations in different case studies. Using qualitative ethnographic approaches (such as semi-structured interviews, participant observations, focus groups and sensory ethnography) on smaller samples we want to dig deeper into habits and behaviours of people and to get familiar with their way of living, behaving and thinking. In our case the anthropologists also work as translators between different disciplines and, in addition, between people (end users) and their way of living on one hand side and developers on the other.



How to get 250 million homes adopt retrofits? Highlights from the 'Retrofit Europe' Conference

by Housing Europe

Together with other project partners, Housing Europe attended the Retrofit Europe conference in November in Eindhoven. This "SBE19 NL" 2-day conference was the first conference in the 2019-2020 cycle of international conferences on Sustainable Built Environment. Sorcha Edwards, Housing Europe Secretary General took part in the closing panel session on "How to get 250 million homes adopt retrofits?" and highlighted the battle on two fronts the social, public and cooperative housing sector are fighting in practice.

For his part, Sébastien Garnier, Innovation and Project Manager at Housing Europe, presented various innovative EU Horizon Zero projects in which Housing Europe and its membership are working. For instance, Transition Zero on the market-uptake of zero energy bill renovation concepts (Transition Zero); the development of an completely integrated and computer-optimized renovation toolkit (HEART) and, finally, the increase of residents satisfaction and acceptance of deep renovations by new technological advances in the field of Gamification Engines, Ethnographic studies, Decisions Support Systems and Morphologic Design (Triple-A RENO).

The conference tried to link the newest innovations with market demand. It provided a deep dive into current policies, technologies and challenges like social acceptance, upscaling of production, choice of concepts for local climates and avoiding material rebounds. Solutions being discussed more in depth include modular packages for large scale retrofitting; prefab retrofit product production units and upscaling; Circularity of materials and CO2 impacts of retrofitting. Also examples about the 1st generation H2020 projects were presented (MORE-CONNECT, MOBISTYLE, P2ENDURE, PROGETONE), in particular on deep renovation and how to implement a diverse range of innovations.

The question of "How to get 250 million homes adopt retrofits?" shows the magnitude of the task ahead. However it was promising to see that innovations are bearing fruits. The technological obstacles are only one of the barriers however, and the environmental objective of retrofits must be facilitated by a higher levels of acceptance, comfort and affordability for residents, feasible long-term business cases and a more holistic focus on CO2 (and embedded energy) savings.



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