UP STRAW

UP STRAW is an Interreg NWE funded project in which French, Belgian, Dutch, British and German partners cooperate. The UP STRAW project is funded for 60% by Interreg NWE. 40% of the expenses is match-funding to be organized by the partner. Total project budget: € 6,4 million. (EU funding: € 3,8 million)

Aim: to position straw as the premium biobased building material, positively affecting healthy buildings, CO2 reduction and environmental impact.

UP STRAW

website:
http://www.nweurope.eu/projects/project-search/up-straw-urban-and-public-buildings-in-straw

facebook:
facebook.com/upstraw

twitter:
twitter.com/up_straw

supporting the use of straw in urban and public buildings

UP STRAW

Interreg
North-West Europe
UP STRAW
European Regional Development Fund
EUROPEAN UNION

UP STRAW PROJECT AT A GLANCE

UP STRAW stimulates and facilitates the use of straw

Reducing greenhouse gas (CO2) emissions can make an important contribution to solving the global climate challenge. Approximately 36% of CO2 emissions in Europe are caused by buildings. Reducing the energy consumption of existing buildings and constructing new buildings with CO2 neutral or CO2 negative building materials will make a major contribution to addressing this challenge.

Despite the positive effects of straw as a building material, it is applied on a very modest scale. In the UK,Belgium and the Netherlands (and in other European countries) straw buildings are a small part of the total building production. In France there are about 5000 buildings in straw but there is also a big opportunity for increasing this number.

Straw is -so far- mostly applied using an artisan approach. The development of more industrial applications (prefabricated elements, blown-in straw) is recent. These techniques make straw more applicable in the existing concrete and brick- building industry. The application of straw for insulating existing buildings is, as yet, hardly known.

UP STRAW ACTIONS

LONG TERM EFFECTS

- o Integrate straw elements in the BIM library
- o Identify regulations and policies to be improved for straw uses
- o Create a CO2 computation approach and Life Cycle Analysis

EDUCATE

- o Create training modules about straw construction
- o Collaborate with universities to implement training programmes
- o Create a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) about straw construction

STIMULATE

- o Make an inventory of existing straw buildings in FR, BE, NL, UK and DE
- o Facilitate the entry of SME's into the straw building sector
- o Formulate a strategic marketing approach for construction and renovation

INFORM

- o Organise straw events in all participating countries
- o Publish 3 yearbooks :
  - – The straw bale experience in living
  - – The straw bale experience in learning
  - – The straw bale experience in working
- o Participate in construction fairs and/or dedicated events

DEMONSTRATE

Show various straw application opportunities with buildings built or renovated with straw by the project partners

UP STRAW INVESTMENTS

HASTINGS (UK):
Visitors' centre nature reserve built in load bearing technique

MUNICIPALITY OF TILBURG (NL):
Sports hall renovated, insulated with straw panels

NAMUR (BE):
Cluster Eco-construction new office built in straw

PLANKSTETTEN (DE):
Construction of a new building on the abbey site

MONTARGIS (FR):
Creation of the European straw education centre location Maison Feuillette
(Oldest straw building in Europe: building year 1920)