

Effects on labour market of construction and refurbication

- For every 100 jobs in construction of social housing there will be another 50 to 90 jobs in the service sector
- Building of social housing utilizes more labour than for instance road building
- Refurbishing of the existing stock of social housing (for instance to save energy) needs even more labour

Tenants pay most

- Tenants in Europe in cities with market rents pay almost 34 percent of their disposable income
- Tenants in the UK pay 44 and in Spain 42 percent.
- Owners without mortgage only pay 16 percent, and with mortgage 21 percent.
- Tenants below the “poverty threshold” (with income below 60 percent of the national median income) in Slovakia, Poland, Latvia, Ireland and Belgium pay an average over 60 percent

IUT urges governments to

- Reduce subsidies, like tax relief, to home owners;
- Strive for a minimum of 33 % rental housing of which 50 % should be social/public housing;
- Stimulate the supply of affordable rental housing, by allocation of funding and state/municipally owned land;
- Work against segregation and towards social cohesion by stimulating local diversity of housing types and housing tenure - prevent the development of large areas of low-quality rental housing.
- Focus on the quality at least as much as on the quantity;
- Stimulate the development of lifetime housing and housing with care and support.