

Shelter for a Sustainable Living: Heating, Cooling, and Lighting in the Sustainable Household

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Within the conference workshop "The Sustainable Household: Technological and Cultural Changes" organised by Philip Vergragt there will be - besides presentations on the methodology of the *SusHouse* project and its theoretical background - two presentations showing first results from the investigation into two of the three household functions that the project deals with. This paper will focus on the function "Shelter".

The "Shelter" research is concerned with two of the most end energy consuming fields of private households: indoor temperature and lighting. It was in particular the energy sector which saw an enormous upswing of efficient inventions, improvements, and market introductions throughout the past decade. In numerous cases they could help to reach a factor of resource saving that lies far beyond the often discussed factor four. Nevertheless, it must be realised that time after time the highly energy-efficient technology fails to reach its aim. As the American researchers Yates and Aronson clearly stated this efficiency gap "can no longer be viewed as a purely technical or economic problem but a people problem as well". Thus, examining sustainable ways of heating, cooling, and lighting residential dwellings the focus of the *SusHouse* function "Shelter" will be on cultural, social, and psychological factors that have an impact on the behaviour of household members and on their use of related energy-efficient systems or services. The investigations are carried out in Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom.

The presentation will show interim findings from the three countries including:

- a description of the chain of economical actors involved in the "Shelter" function,
- identification and involvement of present and future stakeholders in "Shelter",
- the present environmental burden of the function,
- main differences between the three countries,
- identification of key variables for a sustainable fulfilment of "Shelter" in the 21st century including examples for technological and behavioral changes.

Workshop "The Sustainable Household: Technological and Cultural Changes" organised by Philip Vergragt

Presentation "Heating, Cooling, and Lighting in the Sustainable Household"