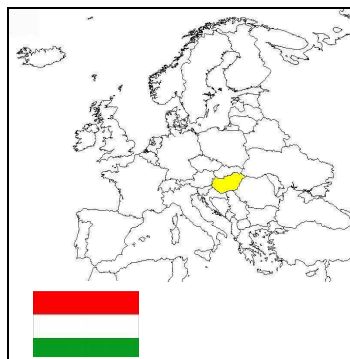


Web Platform to Facilitate the Reuse of Construction Materials "Nemsitt.hu" (Hungary)

	Country	Hungary
	Type of prevention measure	Promotion of Reuse and Repair
	Geographical level of implementation	National
	Target	Businesses (Construction Sector)
	Date of implementation	2003
	Type of waste	Construction and Demolition Waste

Approximately 40-50% of raw materials extracted annually are used in manufacturing building products, according to the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP). In Hungary only 1-2% of construction materials are reused. To improve the situation the Independent Ecological Centre developed an online forum to facilitate the exchange and resale of construction materials.

Context

In 2003 the Independent Ecological Centre, an environmental NGO in Hungary, developed a website that allows users to exchange and resell used construction materials. Since the time of its launch, the web based application has been a particularly popular tool in Hungary.



Objective

The overall objective of the project was to reduce the amount of construction waste sent to landfill by increasing the reuse of second hand construction materials (e.g. bricks and tiles) and building components (e.g. windows and doors).

Means

An interactive online forum was established to facilitate the exchange of used construction materials. It is searchable in 12 construction material categories (e.g. bricks, tiles, wood products, window frames etc.) and by geographic region in Hungary. The initiative is self-sustaining, in that supply meets demand, and apart from the exchange of links for other related sites, no advertising has been used.

Results

The development of the internet application cost EUR 4000. The Hungarian Ministry of Environment and Water provided 80% of this sum. On average 5 new advertisements are announced on the online forum per day and over 1500 annually. On a yearly basis there are approximately 21 thousand visitors. The website is particularly successful in the trade of bricks and tiles.

21,000 visitors and over 1,500 advertisements annually

The web platform will become an integral part of the interactive Sustainable Construction Information Page (www.fenntarthato.hu/epites) also operated by the Independent Ecological Center in the near future.

Further Information
 Project website: www.nemsitt.hu
 Independent Ecological Centre: www.foek.hu