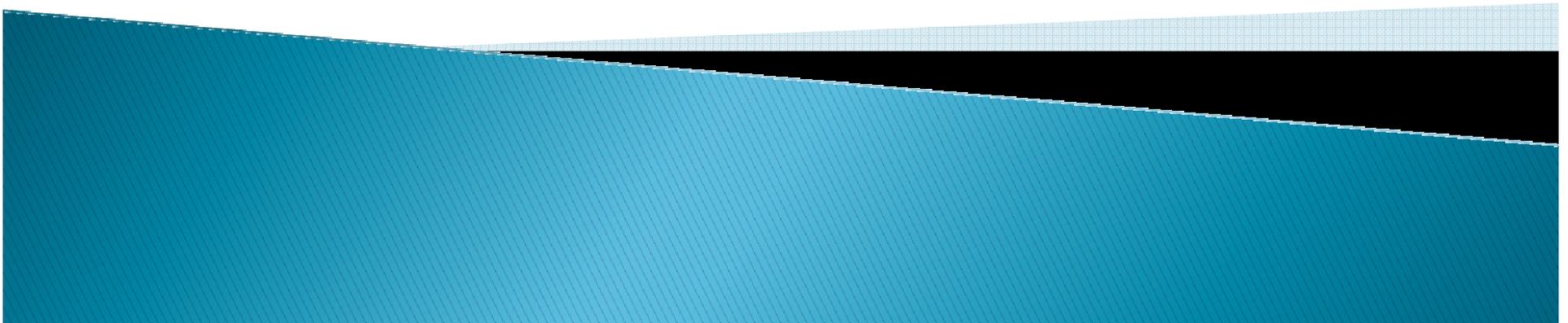


Homelessness and
housing
rights in times of crisis
2008 –2012

Lithuania



Differences that can be seen in 2012 as compared to 2008

2008	2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very rarely were social houses offered to large families.• Mostly they were offered social houses in dormitories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More social houses were built.• People have more possibilities to rent a social flat.• At the beginning of 2012 there are 23 common lodging-houses.• More than 6 thousand social families are waiting for social housing.
<p>In Vilnius:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1592 young families applied for a social house rent.• 194 families with 3 or more children applied for a social flat	<p>In Vilnius:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 300 hundred more young families applied for a social flat.• 75 families more than in 2008 applied for a social flat.
<p>In these 4 years the government took care to build new social houses, but at the same time the number of applicants for a social house increased as well.</p>	

From the experience of the delegates:

Good practices	Bad practices
<p>Gema Laukeviciene has lived in dormitory with 3 children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• She has written an application for a new and big social flat.• After a few years Gema forgot about that dream to live in such social flat.• In 2009 she received confirmation that her family have a possibility to move to new flat.• All family were happy, felt unforgotten and for the first time attention from the government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bureaucracy• Calculations of poor people incomes left most of all families on the street.• If you are living in a social flat you have no possibility to look for a better job to purchase property, or create your own small business. Also this social flat is not inherited.



From the experience of the delegates:



- Young families are living here
- They are trying to create good living conditions by themselves

From the experience of the delegates :

Good practices	Bad practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In our small city grandmother received a social flat;• With donated money this grandmother renovated her social flat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 28 square meters of dwelling have been given two people with disabilities;• Not good places for children; living conditions;• Not good places for young families;• Social flats are in bad condition without heating, hot water, etc.



Social houses:



- In this house – 4 social flats;
- Diable people live here;
- At the initiative of a social worker ,the furnace is renovated and firewood taken care of.

Social houses:



- In this house, a family with 3 young children is living on the 1st floor;
- On the 2nd floor a family of 4 children, 2 of them disabled, is living;
- Heating – furnace;
- Drinking water – well water.

How best to design policies to address homelessness and housing that are adapted to the different needs and realities of different individuals and communities and which can ensure equality in access to homeless services and housing rights?

- It would be great to use a practice such as graduated integration to a society by giving social flats.
- It is not good to accommodate all social risk families in one social house.
- It would be great to use other countries' practice of solving homelessness problems by giving social flats to individual families.
- Social policy to address the specific needs of homelessness the with clear priorities.
- Ensure good living conditions for young families with children.

People want to work to have good jobs and they are ready to pay all taxes, but sometimes they have to pay for those who don't want to pay taxes and who don't want to look for a job.