

Large housing estates in Germany

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RESTATE



Berlin Consultancy Centre for the Redevelopment of Large Settlements: Knowledge Transfer in Europe

The Berlin Consultancy Centre for the Redevelopment of Large Settlements in Berlin-Hellersdorf, transfers the Berlin expertise on the large housing estates' transformation process "from state to market". The centre provides conferences, seminars and excursions in Berlin, counselling for integrated development strategies, suitable for the local context of European housing estates and an on-site counselling for the over-all restructuring process. It addresses actors of the political, social and housing economic management of all European large housing estates, especially to eastern European local actors. This form of knowledge transfer is a convincing example for the adaptation of good practice to different contexts.

Trans-national learning in urban regeneration and development

EU research programmes have proved valuable for international knowledge transfer about integrative urban development programmes and policies. This knowledge transfer is however mainly restricted to local partners of research projects and in most cases limited to publications and conferences, to which only a few actors have access.

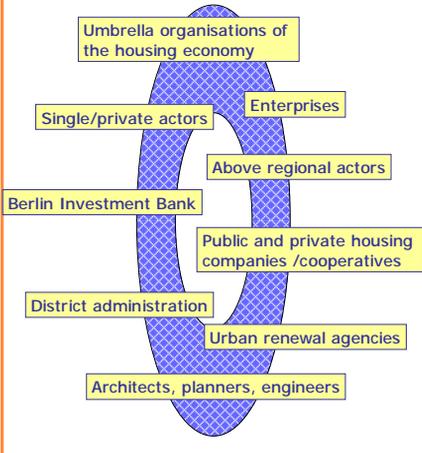
Research, comparing international case-studies, and the evaluation of EU - and national funding programmes have come to the conclusion that trans-national learning enhances the sustainability of the process of urban regeneration and development.

To achieve this, some essential prerequisites are in demand:

- ▶ Promotion of a face-to-face trans-national learning among local actors
- ▶ New techniques of knowledge generation and dissemination
- ▶ Adaptation of conceptual categories (good practice) to local conditions
- ▶ Institutional learning and creation of learning environments for reciprocal learning
- ▶ Formative evaluation of funding programmes and planning processes



The consultancy centre's local network:



The work of the centre builds on Berlin's comprehensive approach to rehabilitate East Berlin's industrially pre-fabricated panel housing blocks. Facing the present challenges of the management of large housing estates in terms of housing economics, housing technology, quality of life and social cohesion, the concept is composed by five elements:

- ▶ Refurbishment of the buildings / Re-design of the housing environment and public space / meeting housing requirements of different life-styles and generations
- ▶ Efficient Administration / Careful allocation policies / Stabilising the social structure
- ▶ building neighbourhood-structures and centres / Linking the estates to the city
- ▶ Improving the quality of life
- ▶ Participation of local actors and residents in decision-making processes

The Berlin Consultancy Centre for the Redevelopment of Large Settlements offers :

- 1 Conferences Symposiums
- 2 Training Internships
- 3 Lectures Guided Tours
- 4 Information PR Work



- 5 Development of Financing Plans
- 6 Expertise Analysis
- 7 Networking Consultancy
- 8 Funding Programms



The centre's international network
In the new EU member states shift and organisation of ownership, shortages of living space and physical decay of the buildings are the main concerns today. The five core objectives of the LHASA project are to support in these estates

- ▶ urban development,
- ▶ revitalisation
- ▶ participation
- ▶ local economies
- ▶ pooling of EU-funding to initiate national/local housing development

Building on the experiences of Venice and Berlin / Marzahn-Hellersdorf and Leipzig in East Germany, which have experienced a much faster transition process than the project partners in Central and Eastern Europe, LHASA will provide appropriate

reconstruction measures to redesign large housing estates to convenient living spaces and solutions to the question of ownership rights.

LHASA aims at contributing to the stabilisation of large housing areas by integrated planning efforts (zoning plans), new initiatives for the reuse of vacant buildings, and through pilot projects to improve employment and social inclusion.

German and Italian experience will help to prepare the investments necessary to ensure the regional and social cohesion in East and Central European Estates. German and Italian pilot projects to hinder social segregation and the deterioration of the environment shall provide examples for Central Europe, the Danubian, Adriatic and South-Eastern INTERREG III B space.

