

CURANT



Diversity and civic integration through housing Policy

'If social integration and inclusion in the host society is the end goal, cohabitation is the vehicle to get there, the volunteer buddy is the copilot and circular integrated support services provide the fuel to finish the road.'

A total of 75 cohousing units were set up through purchase, renovation and private renting. In these units about 120 unaccompanied young refugees cohabited with Flemish buddies for at least 1 year. The buddy helps the refugee on different daily challenges, such as looking for a job, building a network, learning Dutch.

How did the housing system combined with the buddy method influenced integration?



ANTWERP

- Population 520,504
- Area: 204.5 km²

378

unaccompanied young refugees between the ages of 17 and 21 currently get financial benefits from the social welfare system in Antwerp, but not the needed assistance

33%

of all Flemish refugees come to the City of Antwerp

17,000

people are on the list for social housing in the City of Antwerp

PARTNERSHIP

JES VZW

'urban lab' for children and youngsters in Antwerp, Ghent and Brussels

SOLENTA

unit of the psychiatric division of UZ Brussels

ATLAS INTEGRATIE & INBURGERING ANTWERPEN
NGO

CITY OF ANTWERP

VORMINGPLUS
NGO

UNIVERSITY OF
ANTWERP

THEORY OF CHANGE

IF



Social housing

AND



*network of
supportive relations*

THEN



The newcomer



The Buddy

- transcend their status as welfare beneficiaries
- are enabled to create a good future in Antwerp
- their success stories set an example for their peers
- sharpen their intercultural qualities and take up an exemplary role as pioneers of a welcoming society
- are enabled to develop cooperative working methods, allowing regular future services to be tuned



The society

- are given close and daily example of a positive integration
- get to know cultural diversities without intermediaries and with a sensitive approach towards respect and integration

STEPS

1

Cohousing units in urban patrimony are renovated, recruitment of the first buddy's and refugees starts

2

Testing with 30 refugees and 30 buddies who are selected and live together

3

Evaluation of the first refugees and buddies moving out of the project

4

Opening of 16 modular units

5

Monitoring 66 buddies and newcomers living together

6

Project results and knowledge sharing at different levels

EVALUATION

NEWCOMERS
ASPIRATIONS

PERSONAL
SKILLS

SKILLS OF
INTEGRATION IN THE
CONTEXT

SUPPORTIVE
NETWORKS

CHANGE OF
PERSPECTIVES IN THE
"BUDDIES"



U-RLP



Living, learning and working together

'If enabling an inclusive approach to facilitate the integration of asylum-seekers from day one is the aim of the project, the solution is to build an innovative reception facility to establish and develop social networks with neighbours, encouraging them and newcomers to attend training courses in English language about entrepreneurship and international business .

In the Overvecht district of the city, asylum seekers and refugees lived together with young local people, while residents from the neighbourhood were invited to take courses together and engage in social activities in a shared social space. With courses in English and entrepreneurship, asylum seekers and local residents work on their professional future,

How did the co-living combined with the co-learning influenced integration?



UTRECHT

- Population: 344,384
- Area: 99.32 km²

50%

of Utrechts asylum seekers are targeted to participate in U-RLP

73%

of dutch people would object a large AZC with 500 inhabitants in their neighbourhood

20%

neighborhood participation to U-RLP activities is targeted as a minimum amount to ensure an inclusive approach

PARTNERSHIP

CITY OF UTRECHT

STICHTING VOLKSUNIVERSITEIT UTRECHT

VLUCHTELINGENWERK MIDDEN-NEDERLAND NGO

UNIEVRSITY OF UTRECHT - U.S.E & UTRECHTCE

SOCIAL IMPACT FACTORY NGO

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

ROEHAMPTON UNIVERSITY

SOCIUS WONEN SME

THEORY OF CHANGE



The newcomer

- don't feel on hold in their life and use productively the time awaiting for their status
- better their prospects for labour market participation
- are given chances of entrepreneurship



The Neighbours

- apply gained skills to develop business ideas into start ups and/or engage in (early) labour market
- generate high social capital: increased connections, positive attitudes, trust in each other, reduced hostility



The society

- an inclusive neighbourhood experiencing long term social cohesion, with participants experiencing (future free) labour market integration and reframing of broken narratives

STEPS

- 1 Disseminate information and provide opportunities for dialogue
- 2 Recruit people for participation
- 3 Facilitate youth self management and capacity to develop joint activities
- 4 Training courses
- 5 Recruit volunteer local business mentors
- 6 Provide in-depth assessment and recruit asylum seekers to courses
- 7 Provide practical support through stay

EVALUATION

CITY'S WORK AND INCOME DEPT. DATA

PERSONAL SKILLS

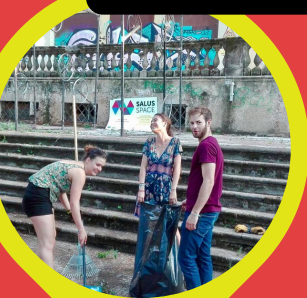
ENGLISH AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS

SUPPORTIVE NETWORKS

KNOWLEDGE AND ENGAGEMENT WITH THE CENTRE



SALUS



"When a city welcomes, it grows in culture, richness and humanity."

The overall objective of the three year project is to build a center for hospitality and work as well as intercultural welfare and wellness. Or in broader terms: Salus Space.

Evaluation procedures are used during the whole process and are shared with all the partners, citizens included.

The project is accompanied by a strong communication campaign that involves both partners and citizens, with the aim to set up an Editorial Board.

The purpose of Salus Space is to create and define an innovative and replicable model of reception and integration for refugees, to be used also in other European contexts.



BOLOGNA

- Population: 388.367
- Area: 140.86 km²

1948

asylum seekers hosted in the metropolitan city

10.088

newcomers arrived in 2016

24%

average unemployment rate

+ 30%

of families who turns to social services since 2005

PARTNERSHIP

CITY OF BOLOGNA
UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA
SOCIAL RESEARCH CENTER
ASP CITTÀ DI BOLOGNA
public agency
ETA BETA COOP
SME
CIOFS FP / CEFAL / CSAPSA
training center

OPEN GROUP SOCIÉTÉ COOPERATIVE / ANTONIANO / ICIE / COOPERATIVE SOCIALE CAMELOT
ASSOCIAZIONE CANTIERI METICCI
SOCIETÀ DOLCE
ASSOCIAZIONE MONDODONNA
NGO
MICROFINANZA SRL
organization
ACLI
national agency

THEORY OF CHANGE



*experimental
site for social
innovation*



*generative and
intercultural
Welfare approach*

STEPS

- 1 start-up of the participative planning, integrated with other place-based projects
- 2 Building the stakeholder community, writing a "vision" document and creating a Think Tank
- 3 Co-design of the space and the services
- 4 The final design is accomplished and the project approved by the city council
- 5 Construction and experimentation
- 6 Monitoring and management of the space

EVALUATION

CONFLICT
MANAGEMENT

KNOWLEDGE
CONTAMINATION

SKILL
GROWTH

URBAN
ENVIRONMENT
QUALITY

ENTREPRENEURIAL
DIFFUSED
APPROACH



The newcomer



The neighbourhood



The society

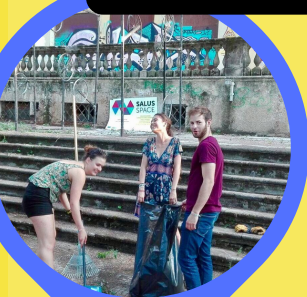
- receive employment support through field-training
- interaction with locals through opportunities of shared entrepreneurship

- urban regeneration of the area, and lowering the risks of squatting and social decay while improving the environmental quality

- develop trust and self-motivation to face difficulties, overcoming individualism and competitiveness, feeling part of a larger community
- reduce conflicts and foster a new intercultural model of co-living and mutual support, where migration will be seen as resource and not as a threat



CORE



Faster and more needs-oriented integration of refugees

CoRE is an empowerment fabric jointly planned, utilized and operated by public institutions, NGOs, civil society initiatives and refugees, a physical infrastructure in the form of a CoRE building, which will be adapted to the needs of the project, and a think tank, which monitors, analyses, and innovates policies and develops and tests new solutions. These three aspects convey into the main aim of providing refugees with integrated support to facilitate their integration in the city of Vienna.

The identified objectives to reach the main aim are to secure integration from day 1, to involve and empower refugees, to give basis to a stronger integration system, to define more user-oriented services and to counteract stereotypes and prejudices.



VIENNA

- Population:
1.868 million
- Area:
414.60 km²

88.430

request for asylum in
Austria in 2015

14.413

people were granted asylum
in Austria in 2015

2.478

people were granted
subsidiary protection
in Austria in 2015

PARTNERSHIP

CITY OF WIEN

FONDS SOZIALES WIEN
public agency

WIENER ARBEITNEHMERINNEN
FÖRDERUNGSFONDS
public agency

WIRTSCHAFTSAGENTUR WIEN
Business Support Agency

STADTSCHULRAT FÜR WIEN
EUROPA BÜRO
training center

THEORY OF CHANGE



- refugees' preparation for the labour market starts already during the asylum procedure
- the whole integration system will be strengthened and made fit for new challenges
- it will be possible to reach a diverse target audience (in terms of gender/social background/nationality etc)
- service provision will be more relevant and functional by adopting a bottom-up rather than top down method



- perception of integration of refugees as successful and as a source of prosperity of the city
- a more positive public discussions about integration will be reached
- diversity is perceived as a success

STEPS

- 1 Developing a competence database in a cross institutional structure
- 2 Selection and training of the core group of refugee peers
- 3 Implementation of the health promoting programme
- 4 Conducting a first fact finding missions in other European countries
- 5 Providing a minimum of 200 refugees with accommodation through the Housing First Platform

EVALUATION

REACHING THE
TARGET AUDIENCE

QUALITY OF THE
ACTIVITIES
PROVIDED

USE OF THE
CORE CENTRE

RELEVANCE OF
THE ACTIVITIES
PROVIDED

COOPERATION
WITHIN THE CORE
PROJECT

