



# SUITE

## Analysis of the ENVIRONMENT thematic fact sheets

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AN URBACT II PROJECT



Connecting cities  
Building successes



# URBACT SUITE analysis fact sheets environmentally sustainable housing

## CONTENT

- Brief overview
- Main questions towards the network
- conclusion
- Full range of information to be developed in TFS ENVI report
- To be completed with some more data, need for clarification



# URBACT SUITE environmentally sustainable housing

- › **First,  
the environmental standard of housing  
in the partner cities:**

**Very different starting points**

- › **Better standard of our housing stock  
is crucial**



## Headline 'situation'

- › **well on the way.**
- know about the needs,**
- › **started or are even advanced.**
- › **.... tackle the crisis, more or less.**



# URBACT SUITE analysis fact sheets

TABLE I / 1:

Which of the following statements describes best *the environmental standard of housing in your city?*

	Ham burg	Iasi	Krak ow	Med way C.	Nan tes M.	New cast le u.T.	Ren nes M.	Sant iago d.C.	Talli nn
There is still a lot to be done	-		<b>X</b>	-	-	-	-	n.a.	<b>X</b>
The economic crisis worsened the conditions			<b>X</b>	-	-	-	-		<b>X</b>
There are some promising pilot project in new construction / in refurbishment	-	<b>X</b>	-	-	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>
We are already implementing a feasible mainstream policy in new construction / in refurbishment	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	-	<b>X</b>	-	-	-		<b>X</b>



- › **(1) majority:**  
**some promising pilot projects in new construction or refurbishment.**  
Many of them are cities in competitive regions (OMS), but not only – also cities in convergence regions, as Tallinn or Iasi.
- › **(2) two of these:**  
**'also already implementing a feasible mainstream policy'**  
(in new construction or refurbishment) (Tallinn, Iasi)
- › **(3) two other:**  
**fully in the 'feasible mainstream policy'**  
(Hamburg, Medway C.).
- › **(4) two cities in the NMS:**  
**still a lot to be done,**  
**economic crisis worsened the conditions.**

- › **Implementation:**  
**first action based on housing programme (majority)**  
**not all sufficient support**  
**holder of the pole position: Hamburg**
- › **also the two French partners:**  
**advancing and sufficient support**
- › **Tallinn: active and successful**
- › **No one: among the inactive**
- › **quantitative effect: not yet sufficient data –**  
**URBACT network initiative?**



Headline  
 which type of action?  
 how is the impact?



- › **over all, convinced:**  
     **positive impact on the quality of life**
- › **But, concentrated on just some of the possible effective actions**
- › **On top - thermic insulation**

'action and impact' 1  
main fields of action?



- › **Energy efficiency** is the main field.  
**Average: 'low energy standard'**
- › **Further priorities (but much less important):  
waste management: collection, separation, recycling.**
- › **Less:**  
**Healthy buildings  
and the elimination of dangerous material**
- › **Also, green space more or less relevant.**
- › **At the end: water consumption and recycling and  
energy generation, storage and use.**

Headline 2  
funding and social access?

- › for people in need,
- › broad variety in types of funding.
- › low income groups profit from funding, better housing remains affordable ---.



'action and impact' 2  
Positive impact?



1. Increasing quality of living conditions.
2. Reduction of running costs.  
More demand for this high quality housing.  
Reduction of CO2 emission.

**>>>>for the individual, for nature and society,  
for the market.**

***But,***

**Good practice example as 'models for others' ?  
Rising user satisfaction?**

'action and impact' 3  
recent implementation?



- › Mainstream: 'Thermic insulation'
- › Also majority: energy production or provision, renewable energy (e.g. solar panels, heat recovery, urban heating etc.)
- › and choice of adequate construction material, infrastructure and design concepts.
- › Plus, take into account user behavior, information, and even empowerment.
- ›
- › >>>>>> **strong concentration on the built environment**
- › Only average: Green space and green buildings
- › not yet in the center: Urban concepts (low land consumption, short distances, public transport and slow traffic, community infrastructure)

action and impact' 4

standards, examples?

› standards of performance:

**average approaches 'low energy standard'.**

majority  $\leq$  40/30 kWh/sqm/y

Rennes M.: also passive house standard (below 15)

three: a weaker standard.

Medway: more complex system of measuring.

› **some more detailed information on one action in the city: much on thermic insulation.**

## Inspiration on what?

- › **Some questions formulated:**
- › a certain focus on  
financial aspects plus technical aspects:
- › **Funding solutions,**  
**fast production,**  
**and, more generally,**  
**avoiding rent increase.**

**I.e. maintaining access for low income groups  
and balancing upgrading effects.**

# Consequences? (1) Questions -



- › **Something useful learned?**
- › **Hints for your next steps in the LAPs?**
- › **Dominant gaps? Who could fill them?**

Two types of access:

For **Tallinn and Medway** – focused on an environmental topic.  
**Nantes M.** – including environmental aspects.

For **all other LAPs** –

Look early if also environmental criteria can be met sufficiently – our ‘synergy self-assignment’!

- › **Use the findings from this focus as a sort of checklist!**



Picture credits (all): Heidrun Feigelfeld, Lead Expert

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