No One Left Behind

Web conference #2
UIA-URBACT Joint Knowledge Activity - Cities engaging in the right to housing

Moderated by Laura Colini, UIA and URBACT expert
Welcome and introduction by Laura Colini

Key findings from FEANTSA & Fondation Abbé Pierre’s report on housing exclusion and homelessness

From managing homelessness to eradicating homelessness: lessons from Ghent (BE)

Discussion on tackling homelessness with Glasgow (UK), Odense (DK), and Lyon (Fr) - followed by Q&A session

Key findings from FEANTSA & Fondation Abbé Pierre’s report on housing exclusion of migrants

Empowering refugees and migrants to ignite housing affordability: lessons from Athens (EL)

Discussion on how to address housing exclusion of migrants with Thessaloniki (EL), Antwerp (BE), and Thomas Lacroix, CNRS - followed by Q&A session

Concluding remarks
2020 HOUSING EXCLUSION REPORT
- KEY FINDINGS ON HOMELESSNESS (SLIDES UNDER EMBARGO)

Chloé Serme-Morin and Sarah Coupechoux, FEANTSA and Fondation Abbé Pierre

@UA_initiative @URBACT #Right2Housing
From MANAGING homelessness to ERADICATING homelessness
- LESSONS FROM GHENT (BE)

Patricia Vanderbauwhede, Lead Partner URBACT ROOF Network
From managing to eradicating homelessness

No One Left Behind
URBACT-UIA webconference

Patricia Vanderbauwhede - City of Ghent
Project Leader URBACT APN ROOF
A. Europe and its cities joining forces against rising homelessness

- EU UA Partnerships Poverty and Affordable Housing
- Policy Lab 2018 together with FEANTSA on combatting homelessness
- The Shift (UN)
- The Pledge (European Pillar of Social Right Principle 19 – Eurocities)

URBACT and Ghent joining forces
Ending homelessness
Right to housing

Eradicate homelessness through innovative housing solutions at city level.

→ Exchange knowledge on how to:

1) gather accurate data
2) make the shift from management to the actual ending of homelessness, with Housing First and Housing Led as guidance model

OUTPUT: Produce integrated local action plans linked to the long term strategic goal of Functional Zero (no structural homelessness)
Housing Readiness

fail points
- medical
- mental
- behavioural

Homeless ➔ Shelter ➔ Transitional ➔ Permanent

Housing First

Homeless ➔ Permanent

Life Stability

- medical
- mental
- behavioural
- income
- landlord relationship
B. Tackling homelessness locally through housing solutions

CHALLENGES FOR GHENT

> Inaccessible and unaffordable housing stock
> Growing diversity among homeless people
> ‘Societalisation’ of residential social services (e.g. psychiatry)
> Migration (different legal status and rights)
From **managing homelessness (past policy)**...

... to **ending homelessness (new policy)**...
... through structural housing solutions

- HOUSING
- SOCIAL SUPPORT AND WELLBEING
1. **Provide prevention**

> Make an integrated Poverty Reduction Plan

> Provide **rental arrears mediation**

> Support people at key life moments that are predictive to homelessness
2. Provide more affordable housing stock

> Make an integrated master plan for social and affordable housing

> **Gather funds**: 92 million euro for 6 years (use advocacy, covid, HF...)

> **Focus on structural solutions**
- **expanding rental housing stock** for lowest income and families with children
- **improving quality** e.g. renovating of bad-quality housing from poor owners with recurring funds (UIA)
3. Provide more housing (first/led) for vulnerable groups

> **Focus on sufficient stock for different groups**
  
  - Providing 59 Housing First units/year for homeless people Social housing companies
  
  - Doubling 266 to 532 social rental units for vulnerable groups
  
  - Building 11 Robust units for the most complexe group (Skaeve Huse)

> **Gather accurate data using ETHOS Light (ROOF)**
4. Provide sufficient accompanying social support

- Expand Housing First/Led support along with housing stock
- Maintain outreaching services
5. Optimise shelter system and temporary housing, also for migrants

- **Optimise your shelter system**

- **Provide solutions for migrants**
  - Shelter and orientation system for people without legal documents or with a precarious status
  - Post mobile housing

HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS
6. Work on local, national and European level

➢ Engage all your local stakeholders
  – Taskforce Housing and Sheltering
  – Action plan housing solutions for homeless people (ROOF)

➢ Advocate on national and European Level to align homelessness and housing policy
  – Advocacy trajectory ROOF
    ▶ National strategy is crucial
    ▶ Use story telling
    ▶ Use COVID 19 momentum!
Thank you for listening!
Any questions?

Patricia Vanderbauwhede
Project Leader URBACT APN ROOF
Policy advisor - Housing service City of Ghent – Belgium
patricia.vanderbauwhede@stad.gent
Discussion on TACKLING HOMELESSNESS

WITH

Glasgow (UK), URBACT ROOF Network, Marie McLelland - @MarieMcLelland@URBACTROOF

Odense (DK), URBACT ROOF Network, Tom Pedersen Rønning

Lyon (FR), UIA Home Silk Road, Martine Chanal - @AutreSoie#HomeSilkRoad

Please use the Q&A for questions @UAinitiative @URBACT #Right2Housing
**Access to social housing (2019):**

Active requests **70,575**

Requests filled **9,883**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Individuals</th>
<th>Households</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Declared as homeless or «Winter plan»/emergency shelters</td>
<td>2,522</td>
<td>1,539</td>
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<tr>
<td>Declared as «no fixed residence»</td>
<td>15,887</td>
<td>7,080</td>
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</tbody>
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Q&A session

Ruth Owens, FEANTSA deputy director & UIA expert
2020 HOUSING EXCLUSION REPORT
- KEY FINDINGS ON HOUSING EXCLUSION OF MIGRANTS (SLIDES UNDER EMBARGO)

Chloé Serme-Morin and Sarah Coupechoux, FEANTSA and Fondation Abbé Pierre
EMPOWERING refugees and migrants to IGNITE housing affordability
- LESSONS FROM ATHENS (EL)

Antigone Kotanidi,
UIA Curing the Limbo project manager

Please use the Q&A for questions

a.kotanidi@athens.gr - synathina curingthelimbo

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Curing the Limbo

www.curingthelimbo.gr
Age: 18+
Asylees living in Athens
Arabic, Farsi, French speakers
Pilot for 350 people
The challenge

• Create a dynamic and holistic integration model
• Help refugees transit from humanitarian aid programs to a life they chose
• Connect refugees with local active citizens
• Support collaborative actions that respond to city needs
The main action pillars

- Training
- **Affordable housing**
- Job counselling
- Connection to city activities
The context

• Following the 2015 crisis, thousands of arrivals in the city → need for quick accommodation solutions.

• Bulk of available housing stock privately owned (apartments, city center).

• Humanitarian programs initially addressed the problem with temporary accommodation approach for people in transit.

• No long-term housing solutions for the people who are granted asylum.

• No long-term social housing policy at national level.
A twofold goal

• How to help refugees transition from emergency to longer term housing solutions? How to best support them to build their life in the new city?

• How to create a sustainable housing model that fits the characteristics of the Athenian housing market? How to give incentives to landlords to participate in this pilot?
Housing Facilitation Unit

Social Rental Agency

- Access to a pool of apartments
- Rental technical support
- Conditional cash subsidy
- Support through bureaucracy
- Household finance planning
- Neighborhood integration
- Legal support to renters and owners
Lessons learned so far

- Better understanding of target population → tailoring support to their needs.
- Importance of mediation and support during the transition → build trust.
- Importance of providing rental technical support: participants taking ownership of the solution.
- Program’s holistic approach and key linkages with other pillars help monitor participants’ engagement and assess their needs for further support.
- Need for more radical incentives to owners.
- Initial learning from Curing the Limbo contributed to the development of the National Integration Program “Helios”
Challenges

• Dependence on private market availability and costs, subject to changes in the housing market

• Failure to collaborate with publicly-owned apartments

• Lack of employment opportunities which contribute to precarious tenancies

• Impact of housing model: will refugees be able to keep their apartment?

• Financial sustainability: still unclear who could incorporate this housing model into their mandate
Key figures

Based on the ongoing survey for the total population with signed leases

- 62% of respondents stated that they feel ready to maintain their apartment beyond project support.
- 79% of respondents stated that rental subsidy enabled them to meet their accommodation needs according to their personal choice criteria.
- 88% of respondents stated that the rental subsidies combined with the accommodation support received allowed them to focus on their priorities.

The program has supported 115 households which corresponds to 287 individuals.
DISCUSSION ON HOUSING EXCLUSION OF MIGRANTS

WITH

Thessaloniki (EL), URBACT ROOF and Arrival Cities Networks, Meric Ozgunes - @URBACTROOF

Antwerp (BE), UIA CURANT project, Jolien De Crom

Thomas Lacroix, CNRS Research Fellow

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From temporary accommodation to housing solutions for asylum seekers and refugees in Thessaloniki

Challenges/housing exclusion factors:
- No social housing stock, policies: primarily subsidy based interventions
- Increasing pressure on affordable housing availability due to increasing rents, red loans, auctions of primary residence, housing costs
- Temporary accommodation for asylum seekers
- Refugees once recognised lose benefits (temporary accommodation + cash assistance)
- Limited durable accommodation options for refugees

Opportunities:
- Action planning through Arrival Cities and ROOF networks
- Establishing social rental agency/house provider
- Baseline study for evidence-based policy making
- Building, managing and providing affordable housing stock at city level

https://urbact.eu/arrival-cities
https://urbact.eu/roof
ozgunes@mdst.gr (ROOF ULG Coordinator)
81 refugees and 77 buddies cohoused in 3 years

Together:
- living room
- kitchen
- bathroom

Unaccompanied young adult refugee (17-22 years)

Young (Flemish) volunteer (20-30 years)

One-2-one integration
Housing by City of Antwerp: 63 duo units

- **16** modular units on 1 location
- **6** bought units = 1 big studenthouse
- **37** rental units from private landlords (2 and 4 bedroom units)
- **4** renovated units through the city

Antwerp, UA CURANT project
Q&A session

Ruth Owens, FEANTSA deputy director & UIA expert

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CONCLUDING REMARKS

Ruth Owen, FEANTSA Deputy Director & UIA expert
Laura Colini, UIA and URBACT expert
What’s NEXT?
6 November 2020
Web conference #3
Fair Finance
Municipal strategies protecting housing from speculation
UIA-URBACT Joint Knowledge Activity - Cities engaging in the right to housing

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!