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
10.00-10.05 Welcome and introduction by Laura Colini

10.05-10:15 Key findings from FEANTSA & Fondation Abbé Pierre’s report on **housing exclusion and homelessness**

10:15-10:25 From managing homelessness to eradicating homelessness: lessons from **Ghent** (BE)

10:25-10:55 Discussion on tackling homelessness with **Glasgow** (UK), **Odense** (DK), and **Lyon** (Fr) - followed by Q&A session

**AGENDA**

10.55-11:05 Key findings from FEANTSA & Fondation Abbé Pierre’s report on **housing exclusion of migrants**

11:05-11:15 Empowering refugees and migrants to ignite housing affordability: lessons from **Athens** (EL)

11:15-11:50 Discussion on how to address housing exclusion of migrants with **Thessaloniki** (EL), **Antwerp** (BE), and Thomas Lacroix, CNRS - followed by Q&A session

11:50-12:00 Concluding remarks

@UA_initiative @URBACT #Right2Housing
2020 HOUSING EXCLUSION REPORT
- KEY FINDINGS ON HOMELESSNESS

Chloé Serme-Morin and Sarah Coupechoux, FEANTSA and Fondation Abbé Pierre
5th Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe 2020
sneak preview

No one left behind
URBACT/UIA web conference
26.06.2020

Chloé SERME- MORIN – FEANTSA
Sarah COUPECHOUX – Fondation Abbé Pierre
WHO ARE WE?

European Federation of National Organisations
Working with the Homeless

Over 130 member organisations from 30 countries

Work towards ending homelessness in Europe

Fondation Abbé Pierre

French foundation fighting against housing exclusion and homelessness
WHAT IS THE ANNUAL OVERVIEW OF HOUSING EXCLUSION IN EU?
1st DIALOGUE ON THE KEY FINDINGS OF THE REPORT RELATED TO HOMELESSNESS
ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF HOMELESS PEOPLE IN EU

- **FRANCE**
  - +50% from 2001 to 2012
  - 143,000 homeless people (*1 night in 2012*)

- **IRELAND**
  - +211% from 2014 to 2019
  - 10,148 homeless people in emergency accommodation (*1 week in 2020*)

- **THE NETHERLANDS**
  - +121% from 2009 to 2018
  - 39,300 homeless people (*annual estimate*)

- **DENMARK**
  - +29% from 2009 to 2019
  - 6,431 homeless people (*1 week in 2019*)

- **SLOVENIA**
  - +29% from 2009 to 2019
  - 4,029 homeless people registered by social services (*annual estimate*)

- **FINLAND**
  - -32% from 2015 to 2019
  - 4,600 homeless people (*1 night in 2019*)

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No common definition of homelessness/methodologies & lack of standardised EU statistics on homelessness
ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF HOMELESS PEOPLE IN EU

700,000

people sleeping rough or in emergency or temporary accommodation on any one night in the European Union

= + 70%

in 10 years
CHAPTER 1

THE MANY FACES
OF HOMELESSNESS IN EUROPE
THE MANY FACES OF HOMELESSNESS IN EUROPE

**Homelessness:** From 0 to 99 years old, all genders combined

**In Ireland:** One in three homeless people in temporary accommodation was a child.

**In Sweden:**
- In 1993, 83% of the homeless population were men, and 17% were women.
- In 2017, 62% of the homeless population were men, and 38% were women.

**In the Netherlands:** The number of homeless young people (between 18 and 29 years old) increased from 4,000 in 2009 to 12,600 in 2018.

**In Finland:** A quarter of homeless families are immigrants.

**In Barcelona, Spain:** 52.3% of homeless people are third-country nationals.

**In Greece:** 16% of the 3,774 unaccompanied minors are sleeping rough.

1 in 5 LGBTIQ people experience homelessness in Europe.
CHAPTER 2

THE IMPACT OF THE EUROPEAN HEALTHCARE CRISIS ON THE HOMELESS AND THOSE FACING HOUSING EXCLUSION
Housing is a key determinant of health and must be recognised as such.

The impact of emergency measures on homelessness services.

The impact on reception systems for asylum seekers & refugees.

The current & future impact of the health crisis on people experiencing housing exclusion & dire poverty.
From MANAGING homelessness to ERADICATING homelessness
- LESSONS FROM GHENT (BE)

Patricia Vanderbauwhede,
Lead Partner URBACT ROOF Network

✓ Please use the Q&A for questions

Patricia.Vanderbauwhede@stad.gent - @URBACTROOF

@UAinitiative @URBACT
#Right2Housing
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
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)
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)**...
No One Left Behind - ROOF and how Ghent tackles homelessness

... 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
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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Declared as homeless or «Winter plan*/emergency shelters</td>
<td>2,522</td>
<td>1,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declared as «no fixed residence»</td>
<td>15,887</td>
<td>7,080</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Ruth Owens, FEANTSA deputy director & UIA expert
2020 HOUSING EXCLUSION REPORT
- KEY FINDINGS ON HOUSING EXCLUSION OF MIGRANTS

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

@UAinitiative @URBACT #Right2Housing
2nd DIALOGUE ON THE KEY FINDINGS RELATED TO ASYLUM SEEKERS & REFUGEES

Photo: David Boureau – Emmaüs Solidarité Paris Ivry
CHAPTER 3

EXILED AND HOMELESS:
RECEPTION AND ACCOMMODATION CONDITIONS FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES IN EUROPE
Definitions & outlines
asylum seekers, beneficiaries of international protection, ‘dublinised’ people, migrants in transit, rejected asylum seekers

9 countries selected for comparative analysis (highest nb of asylum applications in 2019): DE, FR, GR, IT, ES, NL, SE, BE, UK

Source: FRA, 2019 Integration of young refugees in the EU: good practices and challenges
Seeking refuge: inadequate reception & accommodation conditions for asylum seekers

Eurostat, 2020

- 77% < 35 years old
- 29% children < 18 years old
Seeking refuge: inadequate reception & accommodation conditions for asylum seekers

- Outdated & unsuitable specialised accommodation systems: the institutionalisation of emergency accommodation for asylum seekers

- Access to dignified housing conditions hindered by the abuses of the Dublin Regulation & by a tightening up of national legislation

- Varied measures when it comes to provision for people in vulnerable situations

- The absence of accommodation options for migrants in transit
« Under protection » but homeless: the difficulties beneficiaries of international protection face in accessing housing

- Housing exclusion in EU: housing inequalities increased in EU between 2008 & 2018 > non-EU nationals 2x more likely to be overburdened by housing costs & 2.5 more likely to live in overcrowding

- The problem of housing transitioning despite the change in administrative status

- The escalation of barriers to accessing common law housing for people under international protection

- Feedback from the field & best practice
CONCLUSION

Migration crisis  →  Reception crisis  →  Another consequence of the Europe-wide housing crisis

Reception conditions and accommodation for exiles must be an integral part of social policies to combat housing exclusion & poverty in the EU

Everyone has the right to shelter & dignified support regardless of their administrative status
THANK YOU!

Launch webinar: 23rd July, 9:30 - 11:00

http://www.feantsa.org


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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

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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

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

Household finance planning

Neighborhood integration

Legal support to renters and owners

Support through bureaucracy

Conditional cash subsidy

Rental technical support

Access to a pool of apartments
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

The program has supported 115 households which corresponds to 287 individuals.

**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.
Antigone Kotanidis
Project Manager
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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

Please use the Q&A for questions

#Right2Housing
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
@URBACTROOF
ozgunes@mdal.gr (ROOF ULG Coordinator)
Unaccompanied young adult refugee (17-22 years)

Together:
- living room
- kitchen
- bathroom

Young (Flemish) volunteer (20-30 years)

81 refugees and 77 buddies cohoused in 3 years

Antwerp, UIA CURANT project
Housing by City of Antwerp: 63 duo units

16 modular units on 1 location

6 bought units = 1 big studenthouse

4 renovated units through the city

37 rental units from private landlords (2 and 4 bedroom units)
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
THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

What’s NEXT?
6 November 2020
Web conference #3
Fair Finance
Municipal strategies protecting housing from speculation
UA-URBACT Joint Knowledge Activity - Cities engaging in the right to housing

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!