2 Societal Relevance

Social Relevance


If these are not or only little available, as is often the case in the Lenzsiedlung, social cohesion and democratic participation are particularly important topics.

3 Stakeholder Involvement

3.1 Tenants Initiative

Tenant Initiative

Initial problem: 800 social housing units fall out of fixed rental price system - what happens next?

- the initiative consists of 180 residents, of whom 30 are actively involved
- it represents the residents’ interests towards the municipal housing authority (providing information, mediating role, negotiation processes)
- community work provides resources such as premises, participation in the district advisory board, publications in the neighbourhood magazine

- residents experience self-efficacy which leads to more social cohesion
- residents are encouraged and supported to contribute to the community with their own expertise
- closer networks between residents

Opportunities

- closer networks between residents
- residents are encouraged and supported to contribute to the community with their own expertise
- residents experience self-efficacy which leads to more social cohesion

Limitations

- communal services and courses rarely promote networks and social cohesion between inside and outside residents
- men are only little involved in communal activities
- success of services often depends on personal engagement and personal networks of social workers

Challenges

- diverse groups of people are difficult to integrate in services of social work
- services promoting social cohesion are time-consuming (comparatively high personnel costs)
- communal services often do not fit into the state-required documentation system

4 Measures to Maximise Impact of Research Results

Transfer Workshops

The results of the study will be presented to relevant actors of social work (e.g. institutions, sponsors, authorities) in all districts of Hamburg, who will be invited to discuss the findings in several workshops.

The results of the discussions will then be included in the further research process. This exchange of experiences and knowledge between researchers, social services and funding institutions will also serve to reflect, negotiate and possibly adapt professional action, e.g. by dealing with language barriers or by providing and supporting platforms for current and urgent issues within the estate.

5 Examples of Good Practice

Neighbourhood Festival

Initial problem: How can better networks among the residents be established? How can the neighbourhood become more visible within the surrounding area?

- organized by community workers and the adjacent sports club
- the coordinator of the planning process is usually one of the residents
- various institutions and residents are actively involved with (food) stands, stage performances etc.
- the event has been very popular with both local residents and neighbours from adjacent communities

Language Mediator

Initial problem: Many people living in the Lenzsiedlung and beyond only have very limited knowledge of the German language.

- organized as part of the social-orientated services Youth and Family Aid (SAF) - instruction, exchange, arrangement
- bilingual residents offer assistance for dealing with authorities etc.
- the service is free of charge for people from the local neighbourhood

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6 Outcomes

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Opportunities

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Research Methods

- Participant observation
- Narrative guideline interviews
- Expert interviews

- Network analysis (n = 50) (scheduled for 2020/2021)

- Analysis of requirements (n = 300) (scheduled for 2020/2021)