

The Programme „Social City“ (Soziale Stadt)

Kennisatelier

„Europese Krachtwijken: Gluren bij de Buren“

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German Institute of Urban Affairs (Difu)

- founded in 1973
- supporting German municipalities:
 - ⇒ information/networking/consultation
 - ⇒ research
 - ⇒ training
- non-profit „intermediate“ institute
- funded by BMVBS (Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Affairs), Land Berlin, members

German Institute of Urban Affairs (Difu)

- Programme support since 1999
 - ⇒ Website www.sozialestadt.de
 - ⇒ Reporting/publications (e.g. newsletter)
 - ⇒ Conferences/workshops
 - ⇒ Onsite research (2000-2002)
 - ⇒ Surveys
- since 2003: Centre for Knowledge Transfer Social City („Bundestransferstelle Soziale Stadt“)

Programme “Social City” (1)

- launched in 1999
- Integrative urban district policies (holistic approach)
- Focus on disadvantaged neighbourhoods (area-based approach)
- 2007: ~ 500 neighbourhoods participate
- each year, some 50 new neighbourhoods become programme areas
- 2007: total amount of ~ 330 Mio. €/year
- 1999-2007: allocated funding > 2 billion €

Programme “Social City” (2)

- since 2006: pilot projects eligible for funding (fields: education, local economy, integration of migrants)
- supplementary labour market programmes being implemented in programme areas
 - ⇒ ESF Federal Programme „Social City – Neighbourhood Training, Economy and Work (BIWAQ)“ [BMVBS]
 - ⇒ „Local Social Capital (LOS)“ [BMFSJ]

Disadvantaged Neighbourhoods

Situation

- Economic restructuring
 - Polarization of income/consumption patterns
 - Deregulation/privatization of housing market
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- ⇒ New quality/quantity of social inequality
 - ⇒ **Socio-spatial segregation**
 - ⇒ Spatial fragmentation of cities: disadvantaged neighbourhoods vs. privileged areas

Disadvantaged Neighbourhoods

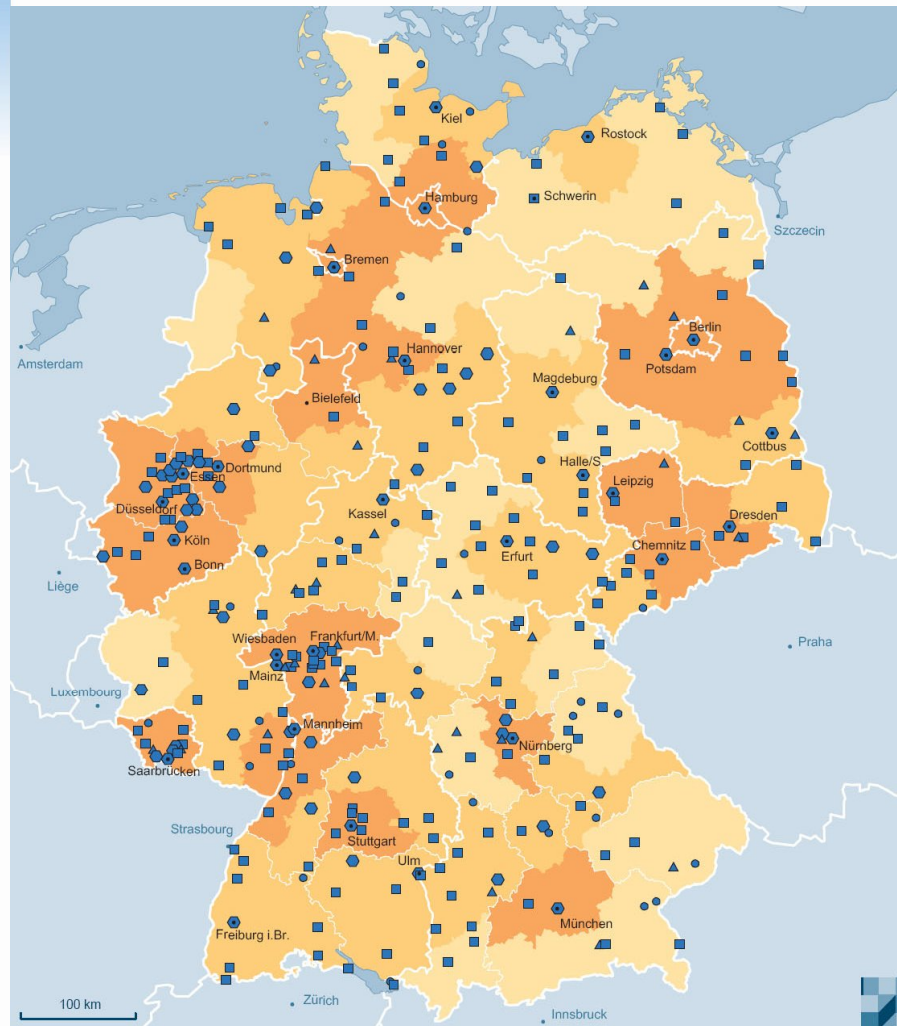
Types



Domination of two types of neighbourhoods:

- Inner city late-19th-century (working class) neighbourhoods
- High-rising housing estates of the 1960's and 1970's

Programme Areas



Soziale Stadt - 2007

Gemeinden mit laufenden und ruhenden Maßnahmen,
Programmjahr 2006

Stadt- / Gemeindetyp

- Großstadt
- Mittelstadt
- ▲ Kleinstadt
- Landgemeinde

Siedlungsstruktureller Regionstyp

- Agglomerationsraum
- Verstädterter Raum
- Ländlicher Raum

Datenbasis: Städtebauförderungsdatenbank des BBR,
Stand Februar 2008
Geometrische Grundlage: BKG, Gemeinden, 31.12.2006

1999 162 districts
in 124 towns / cities

2007 498 districts
in 318 towns / cities

Disadvantaged Neighbourhoods

Characteristics (1)

- *Town planning:* great need for renovation, disinvestment, poor living environment, high building density
- *Infrastructure:* poor commercial, social and cultural infrastructure, inadequate leisure facilities (for children and teenagers)
- *Environment:* lack of green and open spaces
- *Local Economy:* loss of small businesses, trade and services, declining or inadequate job and training opportunities

Disadvantaged Neighbourhoods

Characteristics (2)

- *Socio-Economy*: (long-term) unemployment, dependence on state benefits, poverty
- *Community*: concentration of underprivileged households and migrants, social conflicts, departure of higher-income households, no community spirit, little resident initiative, lack of perspective, drug and alcohol abuse, vandalism and crime
- *Negative image*

Programme “Social City”

Aim

- Overall aim:
 - ⇒ „Halting the downward spiral“
 - ⇒ improvement of living conditions
 - ⇒ Counteracting growing social-spatial polarization
 - ⇒ Upgrading and stabilizing deprived neighbourhoods
- „Traditional“ urban development → holistic approach
- Integration of investment and non-investment measures
- Long-term, district-/area-oriented approach

Programme “Social City”

Implementation

- Programme implementation on 3 levels:
- *Federal Government* → programme „philosophy“, framework
- *Länder* → programme regulations
- *Municipalities* → programme specifications / implementation
- Basis: annually renewed contracts between Federal Government and Länder

Programme “Social City”

Elements (1)

- Pooling of resources, cooperation
- Activation/empowerment and participation of local players/inhabitants
- Establishment of new managerial and organisational structures
- Area-based focus

Programme “Social City”

Elements (2)

- **Resource Pooling**

- ⇒ Interdepartmental cooperation at national, regional and local levels
- ⇒ Coordination/Integration of different funding opportunities (e.g. EU and national programmes, municipal and non-governmental resources)
- ⇒ Pooling of know how

Programme “Social City”

Elements (3)

- **Activation and participation, empowerment**

- ⇒ Inclusion of non-administration players (residents, business owners etc.)
- ✓ Adaption of participatory procedures and empowerment strategies to the needs of different target groups
- ✓ Involvement of social service providers, local initiatives etc.
- ✓ Devolution of decision-making power
- ✓ Top down as well as bottom up approaches

Programme “Social City”

Elements (4)

- **Area-based focus**

- ⇒ Basis for identification of individual potentials and problems of different urban areas/neighbourhoods
- ⇒ Foundation of communication and cooperation between all players involved
- ✓ Orientation of goals/strategies/measures/projects to specific urban areas (within the citywide/regional context)

Tools (1):

Integrated Action / Development Plan

Prerequisite for Programme Implementation

- Visions/goals/targets/themes
 - Strategies/projects/measures
 - Cost and project planning
 - Organizational structures
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- ⇒ Planning framework
 - ⇒ Participation of local residents/players

Tools (2): Neighbourhood Management

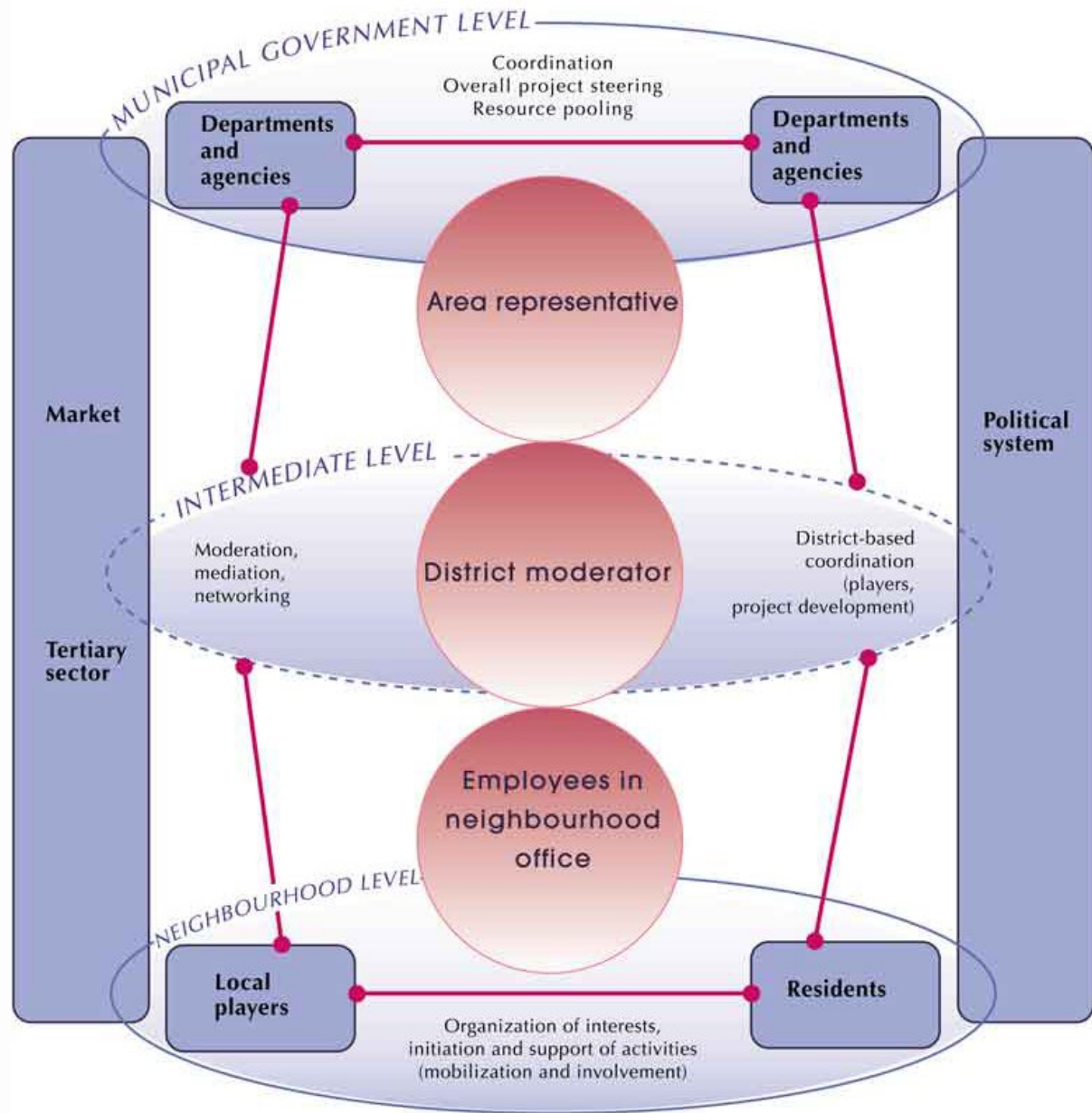
Key Instrument for Programme Implementation

- ⇒ Targeted investment of municipal resources
 - ⇒ Incorporation of neighbourhood management process into citywide development strategy
 - ⇒ Activation/empowerment and participation of local residents/players
- !** *Operations spanning various fields of activity and levels*



Neighbourhood Management

Fields of activity



Neighbourhood Management

Neighbourhood Level

- ⇒ Networking of/cooperation with local players
 - ⇒ Outreach work/mobilization of neighbourhood residents
 - ⇒ Elements of Community Development
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- ✓ Establishment of **neighbourhood offices** with qualified staff and suitable facilities



Neighbourhood Management

Municipal Government Level

- ⇒ Interdepartmental cooperation
- ⇒ Harmonization of different funding resources
- ⇒ Establishment of goals/standards/indicators
- ⇒ Coordination of an Integrated Action Plan
- ⇒ Management of individual projects
- ⇒ Monitoring

- ✓ Nomination of an
„Area Representative“



Neighbourhood Management

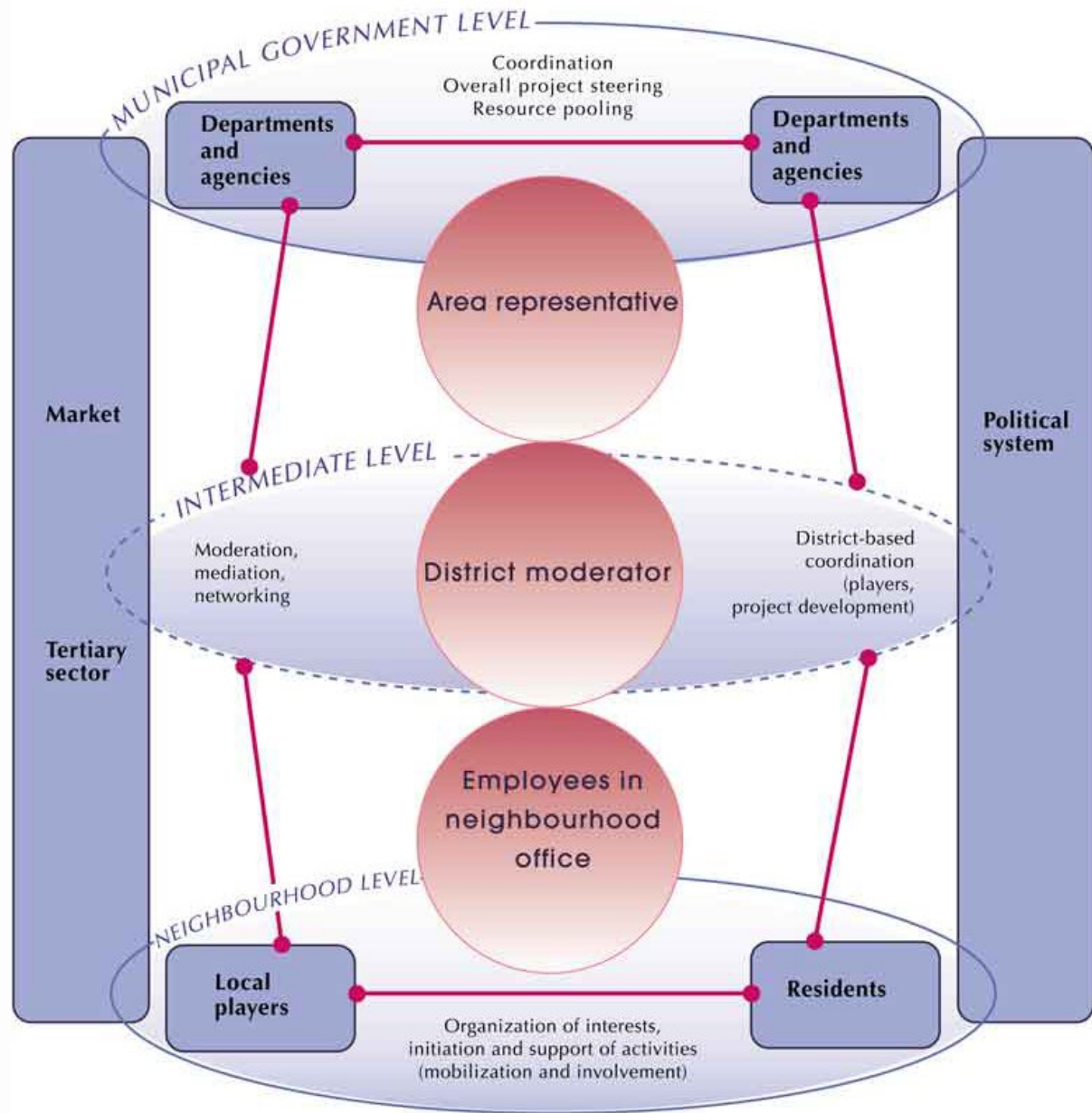
Intermediate Level

- ⇒ Circular networking between municipal government, policymakers, business, non-profit sector, residents, other local players
- ⇒ Information flow between municipal government and neighbourhood levels
- ⇒ Initiation of projects
- ⇒ PR
- ✓ Nomination of an
“District Moderator”



Neighbourhood Management

Fields of activity



“First Findings”/Conclusions (so far) (1)

Positive impact

- + Downward spiral is stopped
- + Improved living conditions (sense of optimism)
- + Improved cooperation within municipal governments
- + Improved cooperation between municipal and neighbourhood levels
- + improved neighbourhood image
- + expanding opportunities for participation and empowerment
- + design of living environments
- + quality of housing
- + provision of socio-cultural infrastructure

“First Findings”/Conclusions (so far) (2)

Room for improvement

- Rivalries between different departments
- Migrants, local entrepreneurs hardly reached
- Integration of migrants
- Education/schools
- Local economy/labour market
- Sustainment strategies
- Monitoring systems and evaluation

General remark:

- Inable to solve overriding structural problems, e.g. unemployment and the resulting low income

Thank you for listening!

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www.sozialestadt.de

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