

City of Ravensburg (Germany)



Project Co-operation Area



City profile

Ravensburg, "The city of towers and gates" is situated between Lake Constance and Allgaeu in a scenic landscape with a view of the Alps. In the past, the city was a major, medieval commercial centre of the region with more than 500.000 inhabitants. Today, with its about 50.000 residents, it is the lively, economic hub of Upper Swabia and an attractive holiday destination

The historic town centre is still very much intact, including three town gates and over 10 towers of the medieval fortification.



Local challenges

The old town of Ravensburg is a large department store experience for the entire surrounding region. It has interesting cultural offers, a comprehensive service offering and approximately 11,000 jobs. Nevertheless, the population stable at about 3,000 residents held. To maintain the urban mixed-use development great efforts in the city, especially in the area of housing it is needed.

Challenges in ACP

The lopsided influx of senior citizens into the historic city centre, especially the run on apartments ideal for seniors. On the other hand, the city observed sub urbanisation tendencies of families with children.

An urban city needs the intermingling of young and old. Therefore a sustainable development in city planning can only succeed if inhabitants of all ages feel at ease, living together in the city.



Objectives

In the context of the demographic development it is necessary to create incentives for young families to move to the old town and stay there to live. Therefore the local activities take place on the field of "Improving the living quality for young families in the historical old town of Ravensburg". Ravensburg is developing concepts to keep and to bring back young families as residents in the city centre.

The project is designed as a participation process with different stakeholders who can contribute substantially to shaping the development of the historic centre as a liveable city.

Working methods

The participation of the inhabitants of the old town is one main item of the local ADHOC process in Ravensburg. The local activities are including:
Workshops for inhabitants and experts – to start the dialogue and participation process with the stakeholders. At a first level to inform them about the project and to get to know their specific view concerning the housing situation and the living conditions of the old town. At a next level they were invited to develop jointly concepts for the historic centre.
Questionnaires for inhabitants and property owners – concerning the topics housing and the urban residential environment.
Planning Workshop with citizens – to develop ideas and measures from the

previous results (questionnaires and workshops)
Walking with children through the old town - to learn about their point of view. The administration of Ravensburg wanted to know the ideas, associations and wishes of the children concerning the design of the old town of Ravensburg.



The local ADHOC Project team is under the management of the mayoress for building affairs and head of the department of urban renewal and project management. Furthermore representatives of the administration from the area social affairs, town planning and business promotion are involved in the project team. An important stakeholder is the local agenda group „Town for families“ in Ravensburg.



Today



Visions



Results

Within the project ADHOC, a dialogue process with stakeholders in the old town is initiated. Thereby the following problems are identified as the reasons for the departure of young families from the old town:
•Lack of quality and number of private and public space and green areas
•Accessibility (e.g. of the apartment by car)
•Dealing with noise pollution

In the planning workshop the stakeholders develop first ideas how to cope the identified problems. The results of the dialog and therefore the result of the local activities will flow into the urban development and urban renewal.

In the future the city of Ravensburg wants to go on with the process and implement some of the jointly worked out concepts and measures. One of the next steps is to redesign a city square together with the citizens.

External project manager

The German urban redevelopment agency Wüstenrot Haus- und Städtebau GmbH assists the lead partner with project and financial management.

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Measure 1.2
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For more information see www.adhoc.jeleniagora.eu

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