



Call for Papers

Rethinking the neighbourhood: opportunities and challenges of integrated district development

Special Issue

Raumforschung und Raumordnung | Spatial Research and Planning

The growth of cities – mainly in metropolitan areas – leads to new quantitative and qualitative challenges in the development of neighbourhoods and housing supply. How and where can the required housing needs be met? How can the various quality requirements be realized, taking into account different sustainability goals?

Undoubtedly, neighbourhoods have very different and sometimes conflicting requirements. Housing and the immediate living environment, the design and security of public spaces, leisure opportunities, and mobility and care structures determine the quality of life and prospects of the residents. In addition, the implementation of energy and other technical standards for new buildings and existing housing stock offers great potential for attaining climate and environmental policy goals (e.g. reduction of CO₂-emissions, inner urban development). With regard to different dimensions of sustainability, the objectives of social housing supply can quickly come into conflict e.g. with dimensions of desirable standards of environmental compatibility and economic efficiency. Thus, social, economic and individual demands and the requirements of a sustainable urban way of life impact upon one another at the neighbourhood level.

Especially, newly planned neighbourhoods can act as starting points for participation and engagement in the context of formal and informal participation processes. But not everywhere do such new plans gain popularity. On the contrary: they have lately often been the trigger for opposition or even resistance. Here the planning, management and governance of city-wide planning processes seem to contradict local participation procedures.

This diversity of tasks and goals often leads to conflicting goals in societal and political everyday life, suboptimal decision-making processes and, ultimately, to sustainability-relevant assessment problems. Strategies and existing valuation concepts tend to take a rather sectoral approach and select individual objectives. Furthermore, it is not uncommon that the development of these approaches is not participative. Thus integrating and participatively developed goals and visions, as discussed by transformative research, seldom form a framing and governance context – even in the first step. It is crucial for the implementation and diffusion of transformative processes and social innovations to develop and strengthen new practices and local strategies for their social acceptance.

Last but not least, the introduction of the concept of "real laboratories" (Reallabore) has led to neighbourhoods also being rediscovered by research as an object of investigation. The contributions to the special issue "Rethinking the neighbourhood: opportunities and challenges of an integrated district development" advertised with this call should therefore be based explicitly on insights, experiences and results from practice and research. Authors are invited to present their research approach for the implementation of an integrated neighbourhood development (e.g. new forms of local governance, participation processes, conflict resolution, and assessment concepts).

Possible topics and questions addressed by the contributions from current research and practice can include:

Planning, management and governance processes

- How can different perspectives of civil society, politics and administration be purposefully included in the process of neighbourhood development?
- What new instruments or formats of local governance exist to deal with current and future conflicting goals?
- What measures could be taken by different actors to promote the participation of local residents?

Housing supply and neighbourhood development between inner and outer development

- What impact do different urban development paths have on the development of new neighbourhoods?
- What are the success factors for the transformation of a sustainable neighbourhood?

Target conflicts: measurement, formulation and consideration of different target dimensions

- Which overall (political) objectives for the development of cities and neighbourhoods exist and what role do they play?
- How do urban actors deal with different target dimensions and objectives in urban and neighbourhood development?

Important information

This Call for Papers for a special issue of the journal "Raumforschung und Raumordnung | Spatial Research and Planning" invites interested researchers and practitioners to submit a paper within the presented framework in German or English language. All contributions follow the usual review procedure; the planned date of publication is mid 2020. Submission of all papers by June 30, 2019 online via the following website:

<https://www.editorialmanager.com/rara>

Please look at the instructions for authors:

<https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/rara/rara-overview.xml>

For any content-related questions or the discussion of ideas and draft versions, please contact Sebastian Eichhorn (Sebastian.Eichhorn@ils-forschung.de) and Dr. Bettina Brohmann (b.brohmann@oeko.de), for organisational questions please send an email to the journal's editor-in-chief Prof. Dr. Andreas Klee (klee@arl-net.de).