

The Urban Dimension of EU Regional Policy: Practical Experiences from Berlin

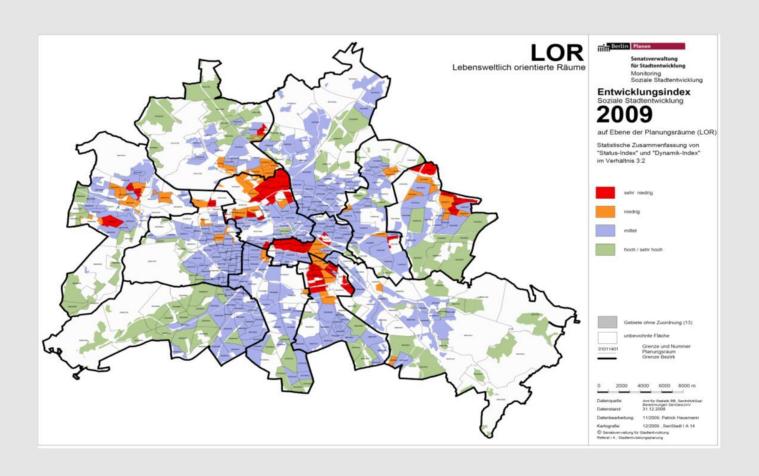


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Monitoring Social Urban Development



Berlin's starting point: Segregation in the 90ies

Main priority of Berlins urban policy: equal opportunities

=> everywhere in Berlin the citizens should have equal perspectives for their lives

Since the early 90ies: highly segregated areas developed

- many unemployed
- many immigrants
- high degrees of poverty among children
- low level of education

Continuous monitoring of development in neighborhoods by: Monitoring Social Urban Development



Zukunftsinitiative Stadtteil (ZIS) = Future for Neighborhoods Initiative

Aims of Berlin's Future for Neighborhoods Initiative are:

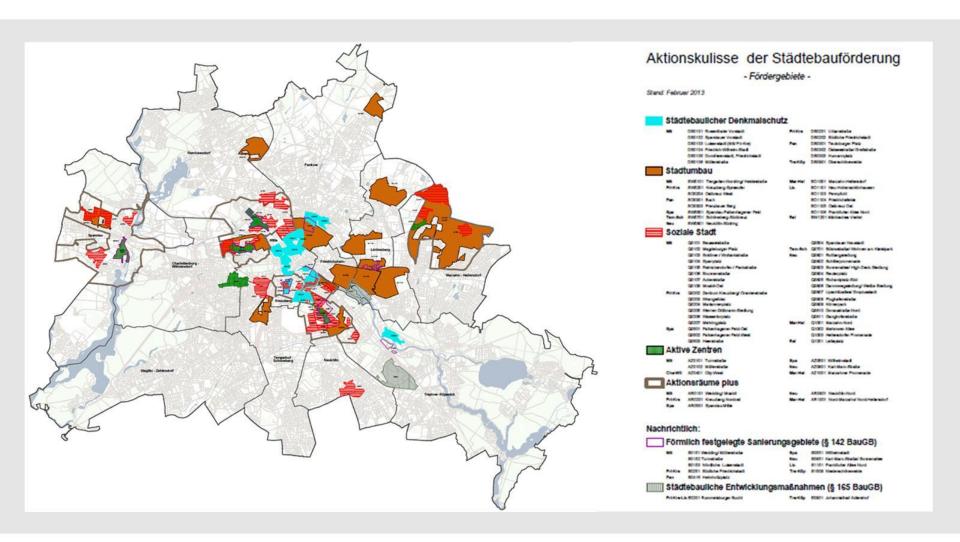
- stabilizing / regenerating deprived neighborhoods
- adaption of neighborhoods to demographic or economic change
- strengthening of local potentials

Based on article 8 ERDF-regulation
Funding from ERDF: 151 Mio. Euro (17% of Berlin's ERDF-budget)
With the same amount of national cofinancing added

Eligible areas: around 50 neighborhoods (defined by the senate)

Neighborhood Programs in Berlin Eligible Areas





Neighborhood Programs in Berlin



Financial Architecture

Urban Heritage Preservation Active City Centres	
Regeneration Urban restructuring Social City	Berlin's Future for Neighborhoods Initiative (ZIS)
Education in Neighbourhoods Community Centres	
Other Berlin programmes	
QUAB FEIN	Federal + State Governmen City/ State of Berlin EU: European Regional



Neighborhood Initiative (ZIS)

Based on the Acquis Urban

The approach is oriented at the Acquis Urban:

- 1. Integrated approach on the basis of local development strategies
- Program management based on partnership with an intensive participation of local stakeholders
- Area-based concentration of funding on the basis of socioeconomic indicators: EU involvement becomes thereby visible for the citizens



Neighborhood Initiative (ZIS)

The Integrated Approach

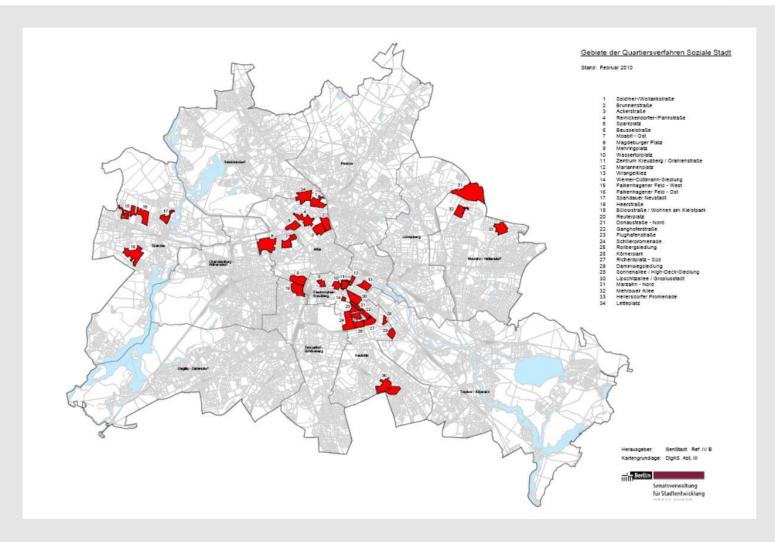
The integrated approach is vital to reach effective solutions:

- stable neighborhoods can compensate for difficult social circumstances
- local networks evolve between administrations, local institutions and citizens
- a learning system is installed to improve the neighborhoods
- new routines are introduced to administration: an area-based perspective and interdisciplinary working scheme

Social City Program (Neighborhood Management) Program Areas = Neighborhoods







Social City Program Eligible Areas & Funding Volume







Eligible areas

- determined by the Berlin Senate (government) according to § 171e BauGB (Federal Building Code)
- 34 neighborhoods with 390.000 inhabitants



Funding volume

- Funding for projects and neighborhood management teams
- Funding 1999-2012: 260 Mio. € (EU/ Federal / Berlin)
- Funding in 2012: 23 Mio. €

Social City Program Program Goals





"The joint initiative S.C.P. aspires to initiate development processes in the neighborhood that promote socially depressed areas to become independent and viable districts with positive prospects for the future."



- improvement of public spaces and social infrastructure
- integration of diverse (social / ethnic) groups
- better access to education, training and employment services
- encouraging public participation and networking

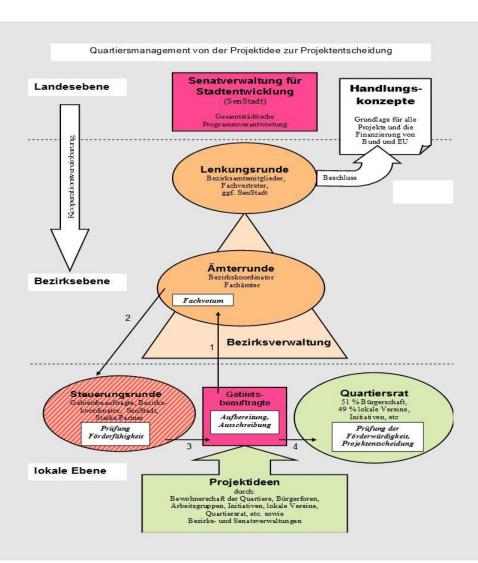
Social City Program



Governance Structure of Neighborhood Management

Most important:

- District Administration
- Neighborhood Management Team
- Steering Committee
- Neighborhood Council



Social City Program Neighborhood Councils





Representatives of local groups, initiatives, schools, associations and religious groups a.s.o.

Maximum 49% of members

Residents - elected

Minimum 51% of members



A brief view of the neighborhood

- 2,500 social housing units (built in the 1970s)
- 6,400 residents, 32 % are children under 18 years, 68% of the residents have a migration background,
- 60 % of the residents depend on government transfers
- high youth unemployment and widespread child poverty





Priorities of neighborhood management

- activating residents and promoting empowerment
- improving the multi-ethnic neighbourly relations
- social and professional integration
- enhancing the social infrastructure
- raising the value of the residential environment





Neighborhood meeting point "Mittendrin"

- place for easy get-togethers
- storytelling afternoons, lectures, discussion events, exhibitions
- evenings events to get to know other cultures and hold celebrations together
- residents' group is actively involved in planning and preparation
- small-scale residents' meetings in the individual rooms





Pilot project in cooperation with the Job Center

- on-site assistance to recipients of government transfers
- low-threshold educational offers (language, IT, vocational prep)
- counselling (debts, residence status, parental guidance)
- accompany visits to administrations and offices
- provide simple, temporary jobs close to home
- give learning support and vocational guidance to young people





Berlin's Neighborhood Initiative: Experiences

The Thematic Dimension

The aim: reducing segregation by community building and improvement of local services

- reducing segregation is an ongoing challenge for Berlin
- supports the EU 2020 strategy (combating poverty)
- ongoing necessity for the support of deprived neighborhoods,
 although some stabilization has been reached

Extension of the integrated approach

 integrated approach also makes sense in "development areas" to cover new or additional demands



Berlin's Neighborhood Initiative: Experiences

The Spatial Dimension

Setting priorities

- within integrated approach: by spatial, not thematic concentration (full scope is needed)
- anchoring phase is inevitable for those neighborhoods which won't receive further funding

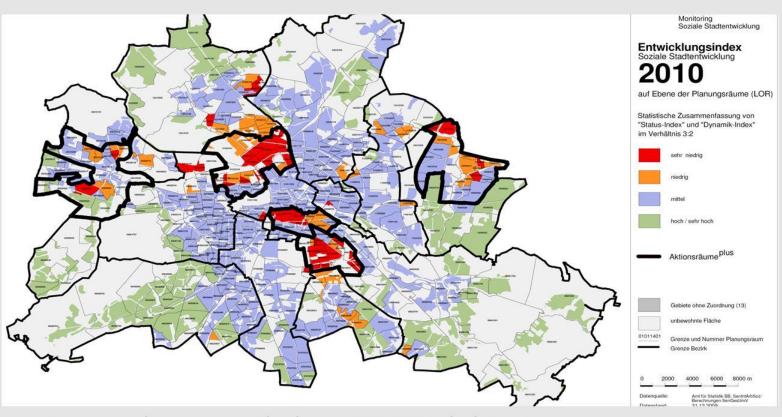
Neighborhoods vs. city-wide activities

- difficult to involve institutions beyond the neighborhood level (for example Chamber of Commerce, Job Center).
- helpful: correspondence with statistical areas (evaluation)
- => add new layer (5 "action areas")



Spatial Concentration

Berlin's "Action Areas"



- 5 action plus areas with about 830.000 inhabitants
- 47 of the 74 neighborhoods which receive special funding (62%) are located in the "Action Areas"



Berlin's Neighborhood Initiative: Experiences

The Process Dimension

Project size

- small projects are vital, but not suitable for EU funding
- EU funding for bigger projects with experienced organizations

Scope

- broad thematic range necessary for an integrated approach
- citizens don't perceive their neighborhood in thematic slices
- OP accordingly needs a flexible structure: an "urban development" priority axis seems to be most suitable for Berlin

Result indicator

needs to be focused on what is actually done in the program



Thank you for your attention!













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