

## ICP-AGIR Best Practice for Berlin (Germany)

Berlin House of Statistics	
	<b>BERLIN (Germany)</b> <b>House of Statistics</b>
<b>Departments / Institutions involved</b>	<b>Senate Department of Urban Development, Building and Housing Berlin</b>
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<b>Description of the best practice</b>	<p>The House of Statistics in the immediate vicinity of Berlin's Alexanderplatz bears its name because it was the state central administration for statistics during the GDR.</p> <p>Since the reunification of Germany, international investors have been developing Berlin's largest high-rise cluster at the very centrally located Alexanderplatz. This entails the demolition of most of the buildings. The "Haus der Statistik" (House of Statistics), which has been empty for a long time, was also to be completely demolished to make way for a new urban neighbourhood. Despite far-advanced planning, a civil society initiative has managed to get a more sustainable and community-oriented strategy implemented: The city of Berlin bought the building to enable a cooperative development strategy that is attracting international attention. In a resource-saving way, the building stock is largely preserved and refurbished for a very diverse group of users. Even before construction began, civil society projects had already been set up at the site, among them the so-called "House of Materialisation" which is dedicated to the circular economy.</p>
<b>Theme and sub-theme if appropriate</b>	<p>Circular Economy</p> <p><b>A flagship initiative in the House of Statistics is the so-called "Haus der Materialisierung" (House of Materialisation). Here, numerous pioneer uses involved in all aspects of circular economy</b></p>

	<p>are gathered. This creates an anchor / a point of contact for the neighborhood. In addition, the pioneers profit from the possibilities of networking together.</p> <p>The pioneer uses are self-supporting using solidarity-based user fees. They test processes that will be even more relevant later: They serve as models for self-construction and answer the question: How can architectural qualities be achieved with materials, which either are present already or can be generated from the neighborhood?</p> <p>Pioneer uses turn participation into involvement. They create alternative access to complex neighborhood developments for people and groups who otherwise have little access to planning procedures.</p>
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Description of Best practice	
<b>Challenge Addressed</b>	<p>Project</p> <p>The former House of Statistics in Berlin will be the starting point for the development of a resilient urban building block with a special programmatic diversity. In the existing building and through approx. 65,000 m<sup>2</sup> of new construction, space will be created for art, culture, social affairs and education, affordable housing (approx. 300 units) as well as a new city hall for the borough of Berlin-Mitte. In order to test the planned coexistence of the future quarter in a processual way - called pioneer uses - were introduced in the planning phase. The object of the project is the permanent transfer of these public welfare oriented uses by preparing selected existing spaces on the ground floor and adding additional ground floor spaces to the existing ones.</p>
<b>Solution Implemented</b>	<p>Participation</p> <p>Together, the Koop5 partners take responsibility for the aspiration to ensure new co-operations and a broad participation of the urban society. From the beginning, the common good-oriented development of the project has been an open and collaborative process. Since the beginning of 2016, public networking meetings have been held for people interested in the development of the House of Statistics. Since September 2018, the first point of contact for the development of the area has been the on-site Haus der Statistik workshop. A variety of formats for participation take place here: from low-threshold information offers to open planning tables, theme evenings and neighbourhood labs, in which interested people can actively participate in the ongoing neighbourhood development. This is where planners, neighbours and everyday experts come together. Until spring 2019, people were able to participate in the workshop process to find the urban design for the area. As part of pandemic prevention, the participation formats around the House of Statistics converted to</p>

	<p>digital formats in 2020. A first participation series for the future city hall of the Municipality Berlin-Mitte took place from Jan to Mar 2021 using an innovative participation tool via voice messages.</p>
<b>Partnerships</b>	<p>Cooperation partners</p> <p>The cooperation group "Koop5" is jointly and equally responsible for the development of the Haus der Statistik and the neighbourhood:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Senate Department for Urban Development and Housing,</li> <li>- Municipality Berlin-Mitte,</li> <li>- WBM - Wohnungsbaugesellschaft Berlin-Mitte,</li> <li>- BIM - Berliner Immobilienmanagement</li> <li>- ZUsammenKUNFT Berlin eG.</li> </ul>
<b>Lessons Learned</b>	<p>Message</p> <p>The project focuses on the social negotiation processes that result in a specific building of the environment. The long-term transfer of pioneer uses to the ground floors contributes to securing social, cultural, integrative and educational uses in an urban environment characterised by living and working. Through the careful preservation of existing structures and the sensitive addition of new ones, a robust framework will be created for a permanently flexible development of the neighbourhood and a context-specific contribution to building culture.</p>
<b>Main Milestones</b>	<p>The co-production between these partners is created for a different kind of city making. The partners are organised through various multilateral (cooperation and financing) agreements.</p>

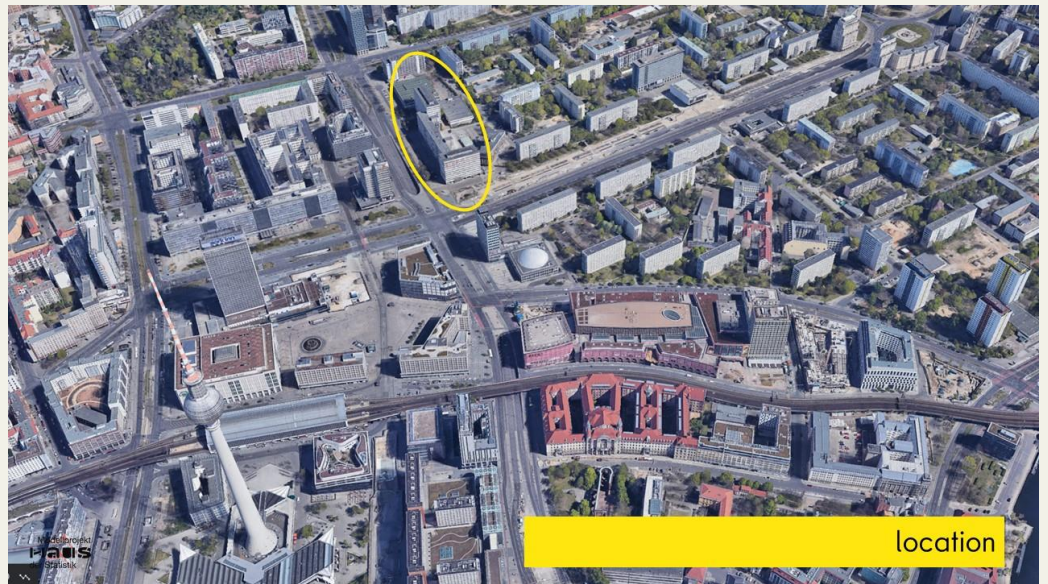
### Materials for promotion

<b>Quote from city representative</b>	<p>The roof is currently adorned with the lettering "Allesandersplatz" ("Alltogether Different Square"), which was added in the course of the pioneering uses. We think it is very fitting for the process in which the building finds itself... in order to create a different quality of city, we have to leave thinking in terms of responsibilities and break new ground together - only through the interplay of different talents, perspectives and frameworks of action can cities once again be diverse, liveable and open. We want to encourage you to take this path, even if it is sometimes bumpy, exhausting and complex.</p>
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**Materials for promotion**

**Graphic Material**

videos, images, documents



### Materials for promotion



<https://mediaserver.htwk-leipzig.de/videos/allesandersplatz-d-2020-53-min-von-isis-rampf-ausschnitt-2/>

<https://hausdermaterialisierung.org/zeit-fur-umsetzung-von-positiver-visionen/>

#### Online links

<https://hausderstatistik.org>

<https://hausdermaterialisierung.org>