

Energetic District Development in Heidrehmen, Hamburg

Good Practice example for cooperative strategy development

-  **Heidrehmen, Hamburg, Germany**
-  **Housing Association “Bauverein der Elbgemeinden eG” (initiator), Hamburg Energie, MegaWATT, Hamburg Ministry for Environment and Energy**
-  **2017-2021**

Background

The Heidrehmen neighbourhood comprises 800 residential units, which are owned by the Housing Association “Bauverein der Elbgemeinden eG”. To address the need for sewer upgrade works and renewal of the heat network in the district the housing association, the public authority, the local energy company and the utility supplier initiated in 2017 an innovative cooperative approach for energetic district-level development. It aims to reduce heat losses, to make technical renovations economically feasible and to meet the residents’ demands for better living conditions.

Key Challenge

The extensive renewal of aging infrastructure at a district level is disruptive and costly. Restoration works require both availability of funds and readiness for cooperation, which is the key for finding integrated solutions with mutual benefits.

Initiative

The energetic district development in Heidrehmen aims to bundle individual energy measures in order to exploit synergy effects. It aims to upgrade the energy system in the quarter by promoting district production of heat and energy, the use of renewable energies and the combination of energy sectors (power and heat). The concept envisages the construction of a new CHP unit in the district to cover the energy needs, a power-to-heat plant to combine the energy sectors, improved insulation and efficiency of the existing district heat network and renovation of selected buildings.

Once completed, the district will be self-sufficient in its energy supply. The local carbon emissions are expected to reduce by more than 650 tonnes per year. At the same time, residents will benefit from competitive electricity prices as they will be able to sell the generated electricity surplus.



The district Heidrehmen in the west of Hamburg.

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Success Factors

The energetic district development in Heidrehmen illustrates an innovative approach for decentralized energy supply, which combines both economical and ecological benefits. The initiative relies on the openness of the public authority to trial an innovative path for energy planning and the willingness of energy companies, housing associations and local residents to cooperate to achieve a common goal. It demonstrates that housing companies are a main driver to achieve the city’s climate targets.

The single ownership of buildings in the district assisted the acceptance, implementation and integrative planning for the project. The availability of public funds including grants at European and Federal level enabled the financing of the works.

Further Information

Project news releases (in German) available [here](#) and [here](#)