

SoHoLab

This research project starts from the observation that interrelated social and spatial problems in large-scale social estates are generally tackled independently from one another. The overall aim of this project is to develop an integrated approach towards the renovation of the public and collective spaces of such estates.

These approaches will be developed, tested and refined via an evaluation of existing projects in Paris, of an ongoing LivingLab experience in Milan and in new LivingLab projects in Brussels and Paris. In these Labs we examine how social tenants can be effectively involved in renovation processes, but also how such involvement can be aligned with top-down planning processes.



Aim/objective

- Involve residents in conceiving and realizing projects for the regeneration of their housing environment
- Build up a counterhegemonic image of stigmatized neighborhoods
- Align different actors and governance levels around shared interests

Approaches/methods

- On site action and collaborative research in housing estates
- Co-design workshops and pilot projects with residents, researchers and local actors transforming public space
- Comparative research on policies and past collaborative regeneration projects

Expected results and impacts

- Capacity building, personal and community empowerment among residents involved in the collaborative research and pilot projects
- Introduction and dissemination of innovative situated approaches to housing regeneration among local and regional institutions

SoHoLab – The regeneration of large-scale social housing estates through living labs

Duration: 2017–2020

Internet: www.cosmopolis.be/research/soholab

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Involved cities

- **Paris:** Analysis of finished regeneration projects in three peripheral neighborhoods
- **Milan:** Living Lab in an ongoing regeneration project in the San Siro neighborhood
- **Brussels:** Living Lab in a starting regeneration project in the Peterbos neighborhood

About JPI Urban Europe

JPI Urban Europe is a transnational research and innovation programme on urban transition. With the ambition to develop and validate new solutions for sustainable and liveable cities, a cooperation platform and programme is provided to connect urban stakeholders, researchers, cities, business and society

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