

MICOLL addresses the difficulties migrants, and especially refugees, face in accessing affordable and quality housing. Through test beds – or pilot implementations and collaborations – in Austria, Sweden and the UK, MICOLL identifies potential and barriers for developing collaborative housing solutions involving migrants/refugees, leading to enhanced knowledge and increased capacity among stakeholders.

For more information on the call and the Urban Migration projects, see [here](#).

MICOLL STUDY VISIT IN SWEDEN

Covid-19 effectively put an end to much of the planned exchange in the MICOLL project. Instead, the interaction shifted to digital media of various kinds. But on 19-20 October 2022, we finally had the opportunity for a physical international interaction when Richard Lang from the Austrian MICOLL consortium took part in a two-day study visit in Western Sweden, organised by the Swedish MICOLL consortium. This activity brought together participants from two projects on collaborative housing for economically disadvantaged groups, the MICOLL project and an innovation project called Housing Innovation from the Bottom Up (for more information on that project, see [here](#)).

A mixed group of around 20 stakeholders from civil society, the public sector and academia visited [Under samma tak](#) (Under the same roof) in Gothenburg; [Skärskälls ekoby](#) (Skärskäll ecovillage) in Gerlesborg; [Hogslätts vänboende](#) (Hogslätt's housing for friends) and [Andreastorpet](#) in Gerlesborg; [Egnahem för alla](#) (Your own home for everybody) in Ellös, Orust; and wrapping up at [Egnahemsfabriken](#) in Tjörn. At Egnahemsfabriken, Erik Berg (Egnahemsfabriken) introduced all activities taking place, Tinna Harling (Egnahemsfabriken) talked about [Vinzirast](#) in Vienna as well as [Grobund](#) and [Friland](#) in Denmark, and Richard Lang presented collaborative housing models in Vienna and their potential for refugee integration. The study visit was concluded with a stakeholder workshop on how municipalities can work with collaborative housing with migrants and others without much economic resources.



Under samma tak in Gothenburg. Photo: Jenny Stenberg

MICOLL – MIGRATION AND HOUSING

Meeting refugees' housing needs through collaborative housing programmes

MICOLL special session at the 2022 ENHR conference

As part of the annual European Network for Housing Research (ENHR) conference held in Barcelona 30 August to 2 September 2022, Richard Lang and Melissa Fernández Arrigoitia convened a session on 'Collaborative Housing and Migration: exploring links, gaps and possibilities'. This session formed part of the wider established Working Group 'Collaborative housing'. Lang and Fernández Arrigoitia presented findings from MICOLL's literature review on collaborative housing with marginalised groups, highlighting some key enablers and challenges for developing the migration-collaborative housing nexus. Ivette Arroyo (Housing Development and Management, Dept. of Architecture and Built Environment, Lund University), Maryam Khatibi (Dept. of Architecture and Urban Studies, DASTU, Milano) and Norma Montesino (School of Social Work, Lund University) then presented a working paper developing the notion of 'unintended consequences' of developing collaborative housing in Zurich and Sweden, focusing particularly on comparative aspects of access, social integration and affordability.



Sällbo in Fredriksdal, Helsingborg, Sweden. Photo: Helsingborgshem.

In the dialogue that ensued through these two session papers (as well as other working group sessions) the following themes emerged as important to MICOLL's own focus:

- The potential of collaborative housing to trigger systemic change in market-driven housing;
- That 'aligning purposes' amongst collaborative housing stakeholders (for example municipalities and starter groups) can be a win-win through a focus on social inclusion;
- There are successful examples of building in social purpose into collaborative housing, as evidenced in two Swedish case studies: 'Orion' in Fruängen, Stockholm (1985-2009) developed between Latin American migrants and Swedes, and 'SällBo', (established 2019 in Helsingborg) where 10 out of 51 apartments are rented to young refugees; and
- The limitations of existing CH when its spatiality is not suitable for large migrant families, thereby excluding them by design.

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PANEL DISCUSSION AT THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING EXHIBITION IBA_VIENNA 2022

The Austrian MICOLL consortium, headed by Richard Lang, organized a panel discussion entitled 'Collaborative Housing Projects as an Engine for Integration?' at the IBA_Vienna 2022 international building exhibition with focus on 'New Social Housing'. Despite the incredibly hot weather, we were lucky to gather a diverse group of experts on the podium and an audience ranging from the fields of urban development to housing and integration, who shed light on the topic from different disciplinary perspectives.

Lang gave an introduction to the international research project MICOLL and outlined some results from the MICOLL-literature review. Johanna Leutgöb, representing the umbrella Initiative Collaborative Building & Living, shared insights from a small study of collaborative housing projects in the Vienna city region and their experiences with hosting refugees. Alejandro Peña works for the City of Vienna and presented a regular survey called Viennese Integration & Diversity Monitor. It illustrates the growing diversity of Vienna's population, and how the city administration deals with an increasingly diverse society. Ulrike Pilgram from the NGO neunerimmo, in her contribution, stressed the importance of social workers to be included in collaborative housing projects with vulnerable groups and refugees. Finally, Manuel Hanke from the planning office and consultancy wohnbund:consult reported on his experiences with the project OASE.inklusiv and how it involved more external facilitation than other collaborative housing developments in Vienna. The discussion was moderated by the architect, mediator and urban researcher Ernst Gruber.



PRESENTATION AT THE CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION RESEARCH IN AUSTRIA

Richard Lang also presented results from MICOLL's research activities at the 7th biennial Conference on Migration Research in Austria that took place at the Danube University Krems on 26 September 2022. The main theme of the conference was 'Globalisation of Borders - Borders of Globalisation: Migration between global crises and local dynamics'. Lang participated in the panel on 'Housing for People with Refugee Background in Vienna'. This was a great opportunity to exchange experiences and future perspectives for innovative refugee housing models with representatives from other JPI Urban Europe Migration projects, such as LoReMi and House-In.

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SWEDISH STUDY VISIT TO SONNWEENDVIERTEL, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

A group of Swedish housing scholars and practitioners visited Vienna in April 2022 to study bottom-up housing innovation. This enabled an interesting exchange between Austrian and Swedish MICOLL partners regarding the implementation of social sustainability criteria in subsidised housing construction in both countries. In addition, MICOLL partners Tinna Harling (Egnahemsfabriken Centre for Collaborative Housing) and Richard Lang (Bertha von Suttner Private University & Aschauer Corporate Governance Forschungs GmbH) joined a guided walking tour through the Sonnwendviertel. It is a large urban development area at Vienna Central Station where about 5 000 apartments have been built since 2009, including more than 2 000 subsidised housing units. The tour took us to different collaborative housing projects in the area, such as 'Gleis 21' and 'Bikes and Railes' (both of these have been hosting refugees) as well as to 'Grätzelmixer' and to 'Grüner Markt' where the project founder showed various common rooms in the building and provided insights into the history of the project and the challenges involved in co-designing and co-financing this bottom-up housing project.



Roof garden of Baugruppe "Grüner Markt". Photo: Kerstin Kärnekull.

Under this [link](#) you will find an excellent overview of the walking tour in the Sonnwendviertel in Vienna and information about the different housing projects.

A MICOLL VIDEO OF THE OASE.INKLUSIV BEST PRACTICE BUILDING GROUP

The OASE.inklusive is a building group project located in Vienna's Donaustadt. The project is built on three main foundations:

INCLUSIVE - COMMUNAL - AFFORDABLE.

As part of the MICOLL project, OASE.inklusive is described as an Austrian best practice example through this [Youtube video](#).



MICOLL – MIGRATION AND HOUSING

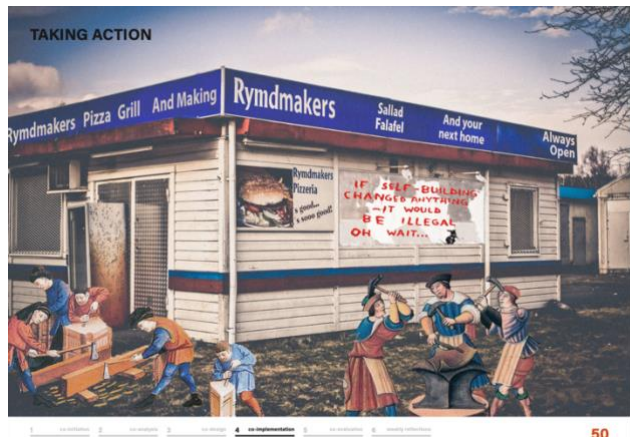
Meeting refugees' housing needs through collaborative housing programmes

MICOLL AND THE AUSTRIAN INITIATIVE GEMEINSAM BAUEN & WOHNEN

MICOLL partnered with the Austrian housing umbrella body Initiative Collaborative Building & Living to conduct a survey among selected collaborative housing projects in the Vienna region to explore their experiences with hosting refugees and derive some recommendations for policy and practice. A brief report summarizing the key results can be found [here](#) (presently only available in German). This survey marks a first step towards more systematic analysis of the role of collaborative housing projects for the integration of refugees in Austria.

COLLABORATION WITH MASTER STUDENTS AT CHALMERS, SWEDEN

During 2022, MICOLL collaborated with the master course Social Inclusion, within the master program Architecture and planning beyond sustainability at Chalmers University of Technology. Three students in architecture, Naïna Dion-Barbin, Phileas Schulhoff and Pia Palo, have for three months carried out studies in Bergsjön, Gothenburg. They started exploring new ways of housing and living at the test bed in Bergsjön, but after workshops with inhabitants they found out that the formation of 'commons' (common areas for diversified use) would fill urgent needs of families living in too small apartments. In the long run, such commons might contribute to increased engagement in collaborative housing, by bringing people together talking about living conditions and needs.



Architect students working with the test bed in Bergsjön, Sweden. Picture: Dion-Barbin, Schulhoff and Palo

As the students explain, “our project has taken a turn towards exploring how the public space in Bergsjön, and specifically the proposed plot of land by the Rymdgrillen, could become an extension of every resident’s home, by offering common spaces that could alleviate some of the pressure off of the overcrowded apartments. Possible uses include places to study, to hang out, to gather the greater family or friends for a birthday party, and so on.” Based on their experience, they have designed a toolbox (a real physical box filled with various dialogue tools) that can be used for dialogue and consultation in neighbourhoods. For more information, see [this link](#).

PROJECT FUNDING AND MORE INFORMATION

MICOLL is funded through the call Urban Migration by JPI Urban Europe. For more information, see <http://micoll.org> and also:

Jaan-Henrik Kain (overall project coordinator and national coordinator Sweden),
Gothenburg Research Institute, University of Gothenburg jaan-henrik.kain@gu.se

Richard Lang (national coordinator Austria), Bertha von Suttner Private University
& Aschauer Corporate Governance Forschungs GmbH, Richard.Lang@suttneruni.at

Melissa Fernández Arrigoitia (national coordinator UK), Lancaster University,
m.fernandeza@lancaster.ac.uk