

Info-Sheet 7– cooperative housing and planning

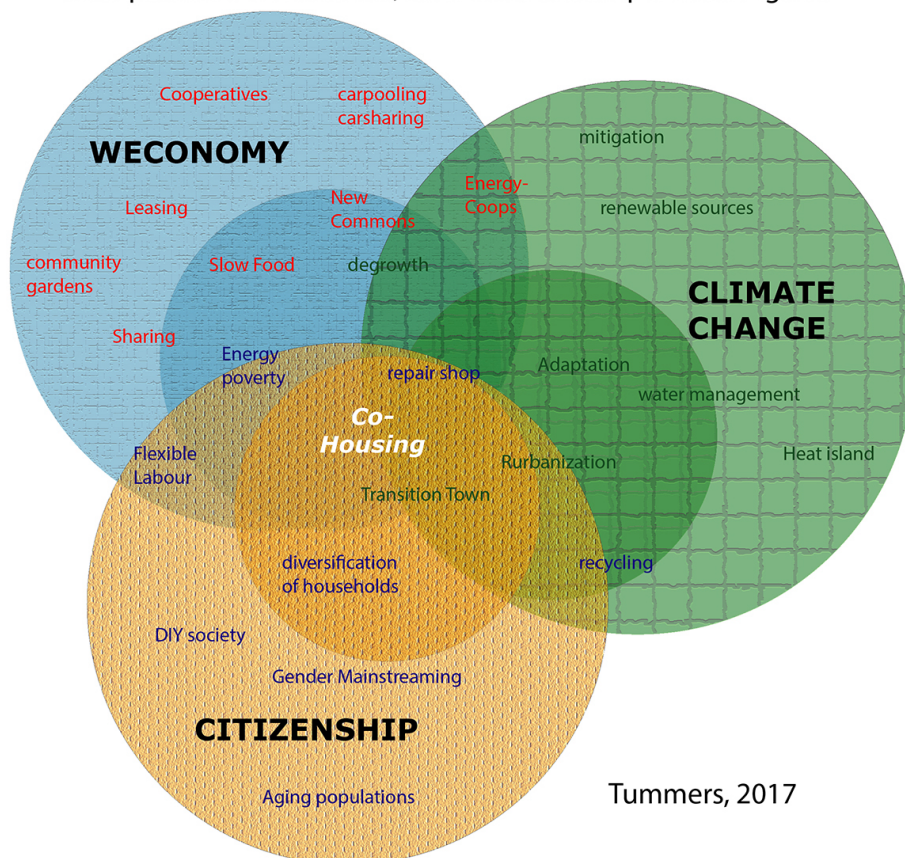
building together for affordable housing, planning together for sustainable regions

In response to inaccessible housing markets or inadequate housing provision, Europa-wide civil initiatives are emerging, to create solutions not only for housing but also addressing Energy issues and the new ,weconomy‘ of sharing and caring. We understand these initiatives as „niche innovators“ that enable us to rethink planning cultures, as well as rural Regional and urban development models. In regions and villages with a low density or even shrinking population the everyday infrastructure and healthcare is failing. Maintain qualitative public space and room for social interaction with shrinking public Budgets is a challenge. Co Housing mobilises new user-groups to create adequate forms of housing; and to adapt the housing stock to low-energy demand and low-impact living.

CORRINA operates as professional ,middle agent‘ to mediate between housing collectives and public entities such as planning and housing departments. Both Wankiewicz and Tummers qualified as process managers for co housing by the German Chamber of Architects (2019) through an excellent course given by Matthias Gutschow, pioneering architect in Tübingen.

We perform feasibility studies and prepare and evaluate design competitions for land allocation (“Konzeptvergabe”). Also, we advise initiatives on how to use the benefit of clustering in low impact technical options such as circular building material, renewable energy, water purification, recycling, heat cascading, and so on.

New practices for inclusive, accessible and responsible regions

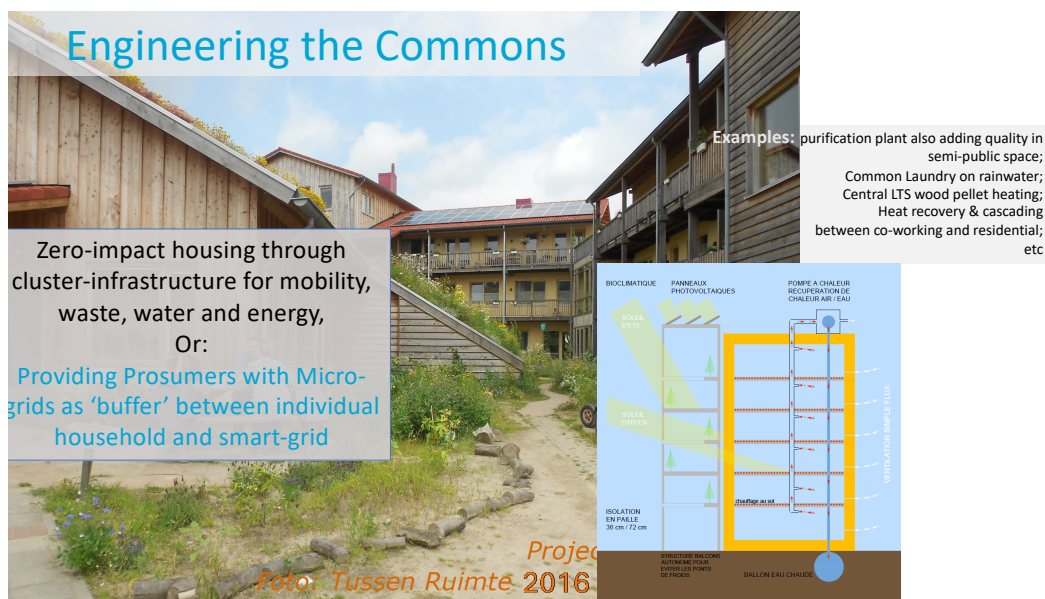


Results & Publications

Our Co-housing expertise was developed together with numerous projects and networks in Europe, and framed by doctoral research OF Lidewij Tummers. Between graduating as building engineer, and starting PhD research, her main occupation was in the practice of sustainable building and participative design. She is particularly interested in working as technical designer with end-users, to optimise the character and functionality of their accommodation at the lowest environmental impact. A second major interest is gender theory in spatial planning and engineering, and the position of women in related professions.

The questions for this thesis rose out of these interests as well as the possibilities for self organisation in housing offered by 'Mensen Wensen Wonen' Memorandum published by the Dutch Senat 2001, containing the outlines of the (then) new housing policies. After the repeated experiences with ambitious self-housing groups finding themselves limited by the 'letter of the law' (c.q. Building Act) rather than enhanced by the intentions of environmental policies, and frustrated by the slow progress of low-impact energy neutral building, she felt the need to explore the structural dynamics surpassing project level.).

With dr Jasmine Palmer we published a special issue of Built Environment on the roles of professionals and planning processes for collaborative housing: Collaborative Housing: Resident and Professional Roles special issue of Built Environment; Vol 45, issue 1 (September 2019).



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Wankiewicz (2015): The Potential of Co-housing for Rural Austria. in: JURP 2015: 46-63 DOI: 10.1080/17535069.2015.1011426

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