ON INTERGENERATIONAL HOUSING

Xavier Iaru
Gilles Heinesch
Ivo Silva
Petra Vankerkom
Dave Lefèvre

Convened by Emmanuel Cornelius
Social Development Officer. Community Administration of Esch-sur-Alzette.

SPEAKERS

CoHabit'age | cohabit-age.lu

XAVIER IARU is currently at the department of public relations development. His primary missions are setting up collaborations and partnerships with the communes, senior clubs and other associations that could be interested in our project. Setting up external promotional actions by assuring the conception and organization of public promotional events and sensibilization campaigns about intergenerational housing.

WeConnect | weconnect.lu

GILLES HEINESCH is 21 years old. He was born and raised in Luxembourg and is now studying to become an airline pilot. Although his passion has always been aviation, he discovered his other passion for entrepreneurship in 2020, when he set up his first company, FrëschKëscht.

IVO SILVA is 21 years old. He was born and raised in Luxembourg, with Portuguese origins. An economics student at the University of Luxembourg, he has also been a footballer since he was a child. Ivo has always dreamed of becoming an entrepreneur and was able to set up his first company, FrëschKëscht, at the age of 18.

CLÉMENTINE OFFNER is a 21-year-old psychology student at the University of Luxembourg. She is of French and Belgian origin but grew up in Luxembourg. In 2020, while taking part in the mini-enterprise competition, she discovered her passion for entrepreneurship, which she has been pursuing ever since.

Intergenerational housing or co-living is a theme in which the City of Esch-sur-Alzette has been implicated at least since it decided to support the project of Mr Moussa Seck, nowadays called Co'Habitage, following the contest of social and solidary economy '123GoSocial in 2013.

The latest project supported by the City is the one of a group of students that created the platform 'WeConnect', which attempts to bring together students and elderly people.

Moreover, the City of Esch also decided to become an actor in the field of intergenerational housing by launching a building project for an intergenerational house, that the architectural office 'coeba' is conceiving.

Short summary of the three projects:

COHABITAGE

Cohabitage contributed to creating 78 intergenerational pairs, building an intergenerational residence including 8 housing units. And is responsible of a shared house with 4 roommates as a part of the social rental management (SRM). Cohabitage aims at promoting the development of intergenerational housing. Their work can be summarized in the 3 following key points :

1) Organising the sharing of housing between a senior and a teenager or student, who seek housing at lower cost. In practice, the elderly person rents one of their chambers to a young student or worker, who, in return, agree on and offer a friendly presence and time-sharing moments. The rent is moderate.

2) Creating intergenerational, non-medicalized residences: it shares the advantages of collective and private housing with also conviviality and privacy. Cohabitage has built its first intergenerational housing at Vianden in 2018. The project, financed by 75% from the Ministry of Housing, as part of the "aide à la pierre" program, fits in the affordable rental scheme.

3) Having the authorization from the Ministry of Housing for the social rental management (SRM)

WECONNECT

Offers intergenerational co-living in Luxembourg. They aim to help students find accommodation by connecting them with landlords and hosts. Real estate prices are constantly rising, making it increasingly difficult for students to find a place to live. On the other hand, there are many people who have space and the desire to help students. In their project, they focus on solidarity, openness, and willingness to assist. They offer an

CULTURES OF ASSEMBLY
Chair of the City of Esch
Prof. Dr. Markus Miessen
University of Luxembourg
www.culturesofassembly.org

24, Rue du Brill
L–4041 Esch-sur-Alzette

Team:
Markus Miessen, César Reyes,
Marija Maric, Francelle Cane,
Hannes Grassegger

Associated with the
Master in Architecture Programme
Department of Geography and
Spatial Planning
University of Luxembourg
www.masterarchitecture.lu

intergenerational co-living concept, where they not only aim to create human relationships, but also bring different generations and cultures closer. Their goal is to propose a new way of cohabitation which is not just about sharing a roof, but also experiencing and learning from each other. They believe that generations have just as much to learn as they have to give. WeConnect acts as intermediaries between the two parties and help them find their most appropriate cohabitant. Students and hosts can register on their platform (or contact them to schedule a meeting) to either offer or seek accommodation. In the next step, they strive to assist these two parties and make the best possible matchmaking based on preferences, living standards, etc., of both the host and the student.

COEBA
Architecture office aiming to develop future-proof, efficient, healthy and attractive buildings. They want to contribute to a transformation of the construction sector in Luxemburg, towards integral sustainability and a stronger focus on people in every building project. The project of intergenerational living in Esch-sur-Alzette is one of these projects currently in conception.



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Coeba | coeba.lu

PETRA VANKERKOM is an architect since 2002 and working at coeba architectes since 2007. She is M.A. Sustainable development cooperation 2023. Her work focuses on implementing integral sustainability at coeba, RSE, PR.

DAVE LEFÈVRE is architect since 2001. He is executive manager of the office since 2004 with 2 partners. His work specializes in all aspects of sustainability in planning and construction