



CONSULTING

NEWSLETTER 2022/4

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Vienna

Pioneering Climate Fit-Buildings



At Vienna’s Aspern Seestadt Lake City a new development has started in 2022: “Aspern Urban Waterfront” with a total of 64,000 m² surface will include two pioneering “climate-fit housing projects” – “Lili am See” and “Pier 05” -with the lowest-possible energy consumption based primarily on locally available renewable energy, natural cooling in summer, reduction of CO₂-emissions during the construction. Both buildings will be subject to continuing scientific evaluation.

For more info see:
<https://soulier-realestate.at> and
<https://www.aspern-seestadt.at>

India

Sunderpur Housing



Based on Balkrishna Doshi's definition of design as "nothing but a humble understanding of materials, a natural instinct of solutions and a respect for nature" Linz (Austria) based company BASEhabitat has been developing a masterplan and related housing projects for Sunderpur Village, a poor agricultural settlement in southern India. Students (mostly postgraduates) of Kunstuniversität Linz, of TU Wien and BOKU Wien in cooperation with NGO Little

Flower designed simple adobe buildings for families of 3 to 10, making use of a locally well-known building technique which can easily be replicated or extended by the local people themselves. Cooperation between BASEhabitat and Sunderpur is expected to continue to give an example of affordable and sustainable settlement development in poor areas. For more info see: <https://www.basehabitat.org/projects/sunderpur-housing>

Europe Decarbonising Concrete?



While the use of concrete in new construction seems unavoidable in the near future CO₂-emissions by concrete building can be significantly reduced says a study carried out by an Austrian research team chaired by Thomas Romm, and including construction company Strabag. RCC-Beton (“Reduced Carbon Concrete”) with only 50 percent cement have the same structural qualities as conventional concrete while resulting in a CO₂ reduction of about 25 percent. At the same time Romm recommends to concentrate efforts on strengthening the circular economy in building by a much higher re-use of recycled building components which lies at some 13 percent in Europe at the moment, with the Netherlands reaching 31 percent. As the amount of grey energy surpasses that of the use of buildings CO₂ neutrality in new urban areas will strongly depend on regenerative construction materials, Room state.

For mor info see:

www.romm.at/projekte/forschen/detail/rcc-reduced-carbon-concrete

KIUBO: Flexible Housing for a Mobile Society

While society has been becoming more individualized, more flexible, and more mobile traditional (housing) construction cannot deliver any more the promising answers to the most urgent questions.

Modular construction systems developed so far have been facing severe conceptual, technical, and/or financial obstacles. Kiubo, founded by a big housing developer in Styria (Austria) is now proposing an innovative, flexible, and sustainable housing construction model which claims to respond to the challenges of a continuously changing society.

Taking up once again Le Corbusier's 1914 (!) Maison Dom-ino project a prototype of KIUBO was presented at the 2021 Venice Biennale of Architecture, and a pioneering model village has since been built and handed over to the tenants at Graz. The particular aspect of this development is that its flexible 25m² modules can be extended, changed for new needs – as barrier free accessibility - or even removed to new locations at minimal extra costs. Of course, serial production of a larger

amount of the basic modules will allow for further cost reduction while simplifying legal procedures. Ongoing evaluation also shows a high degree of acceptance by the tenants.

For more info see:

<https://www.kiubo.eu/module/>



Recommended Reading

IBA_Wien

Stadtführer*in Wo wohnen wir morgen? / IBA Wien Guide: Where will we live tomorrow?

Following IBA-Wien “New Social Housing” Exhibition which is on till November 18, 2022 IBA has now published a useful tool for interested housing experts: a guide book to all the innovative housing areas developed within this several years process. Several routes are suggested to gain an overview about pioneering projects in the fields of ecology, energy standards, citizens´ participation, social mixing, living + working etc. The guidebook comes complete with public transport hints or walking routes to nearby attractions.

IBA_Wien: Stadtführer*in Wo wohnen wir morgen? ISBN 978-3-9034-16-1, Vienna 2022 (German only)

