Affordable Densification

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What is it all about?
Affordable Densification explores how the densification of our villages and cities can be combined with the supply of sufficiently affordable housing. The intentions and initiatives of associations and governments working on alternative commissionership and new ownership models are merged in an agenda for the future.

More
In Flanders, more and more apartments are being built in recent years, while the share of land-based newly built homes is falling sharply. The increase in scale of housing construction could be positive in itself because it leads to densification. Nevertheless, the supply on the housing market remains too one-sided, it hardly explores the potential of collective living and the quality of the houses often disappoints. Moreover, the densification is still not selective enough, so that there is a little densification everywhere. In addition, living has become unaffordable for an ever-larger group of people.

We investigate how we can use the need for affordable housing as leverage for quality densification at strategic locations in our cities and villages. New instruments are needed, more specifically to introduce alternative forms of (public or otherwise) commissioning and ownership, such as housing cooperatives, Baugruppen, Community Land Trusts, and so on. In the learning trajectory, we want to link international expertise to local questions and ambitions, bring existing initiatives together and focus on the role and responsibilities of the housing policy at a Flemish and local level.

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