

Edible Cities Network Integrating Edible City Solutions for social, resilient & sustainably productive cities



Social cohesion, environmental justice, human health & wellbeing

Our Expertise

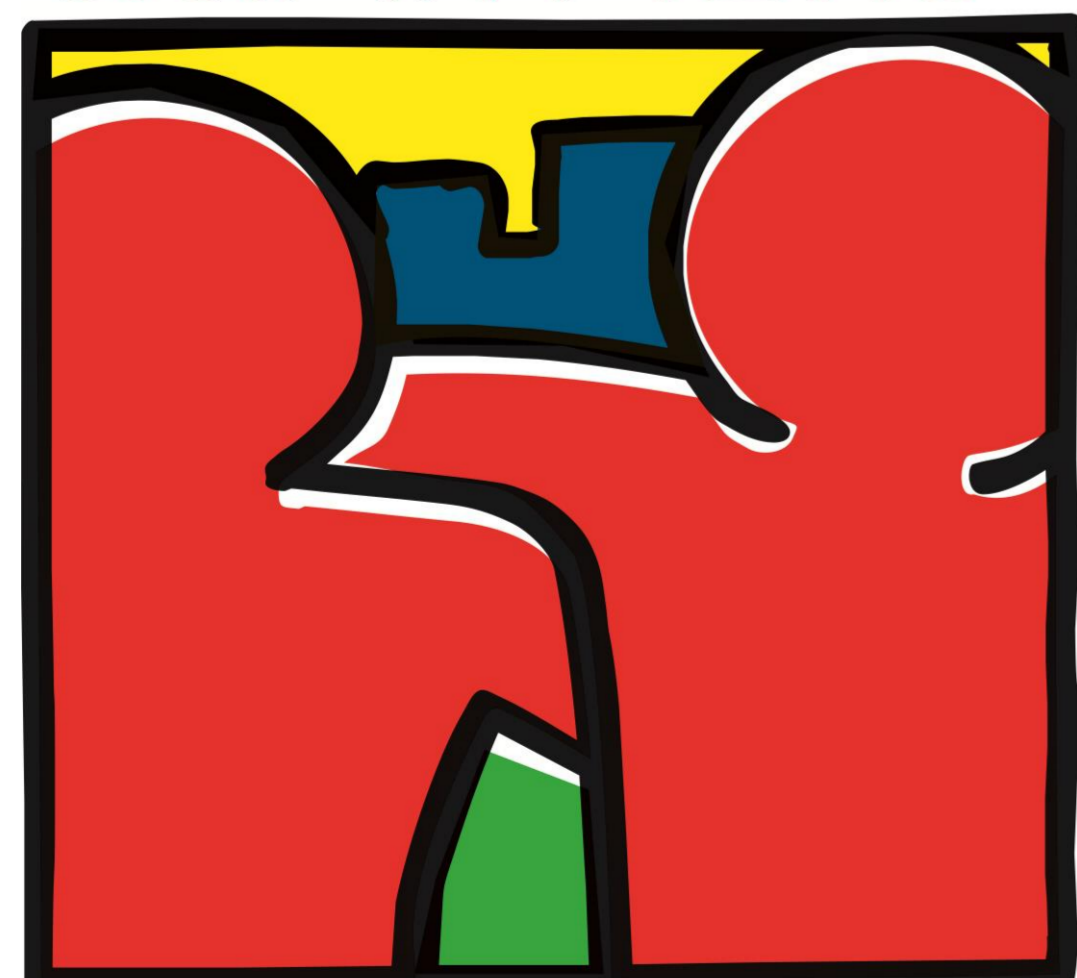
The Senate Department for Urban Development and Housing is the administration on the federal state level responsible for the urban development of Berlin. Berlin with its character as a multi-ethnic and multi-functional city and its 3.75 million inhabitants is a magnet for people and business, a city that is growing and changing. Shaping the future of Berlin as a growing green metropolis is a task that touches social, economic and environmental issues at the same time.



Source: Film "Quartiersratsmitglieder zu Soziale Stadt und Verstetigung", QM Gropiusstadt

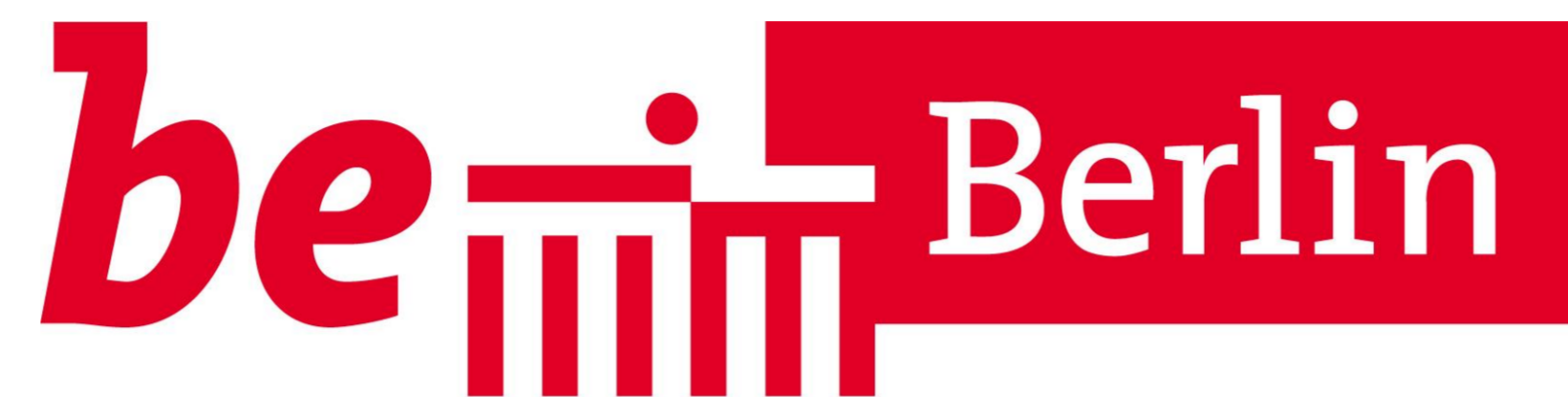
Within the Senate Administration EdiCitNet, with its social focus, is affiliated to the Social Cohesion Programme. The goal of the programme is to stabilise neighbourhoods and strengthen social cohesion within them. This is achieved by the activation and dedicated participation of residents and local stakeholders, combined with investment in the neighbourhood's infrastructure. The intervention is of a limited duration and is designed to create structural changes which will continue to support urban community work after the end of the programme. The principle of consolidation (the creation of self-supporting structures) is therefore applied from the very beginning. Currently 32 inner-city Wilhelminian period neighbourhoods and large-scale housing estates in the suburbs are supported via the Neighbourhood Management process.

QUARTIERS-



MANAGEMENT

Source: Städtebauförderprogramm Soziale Stadt Berlin

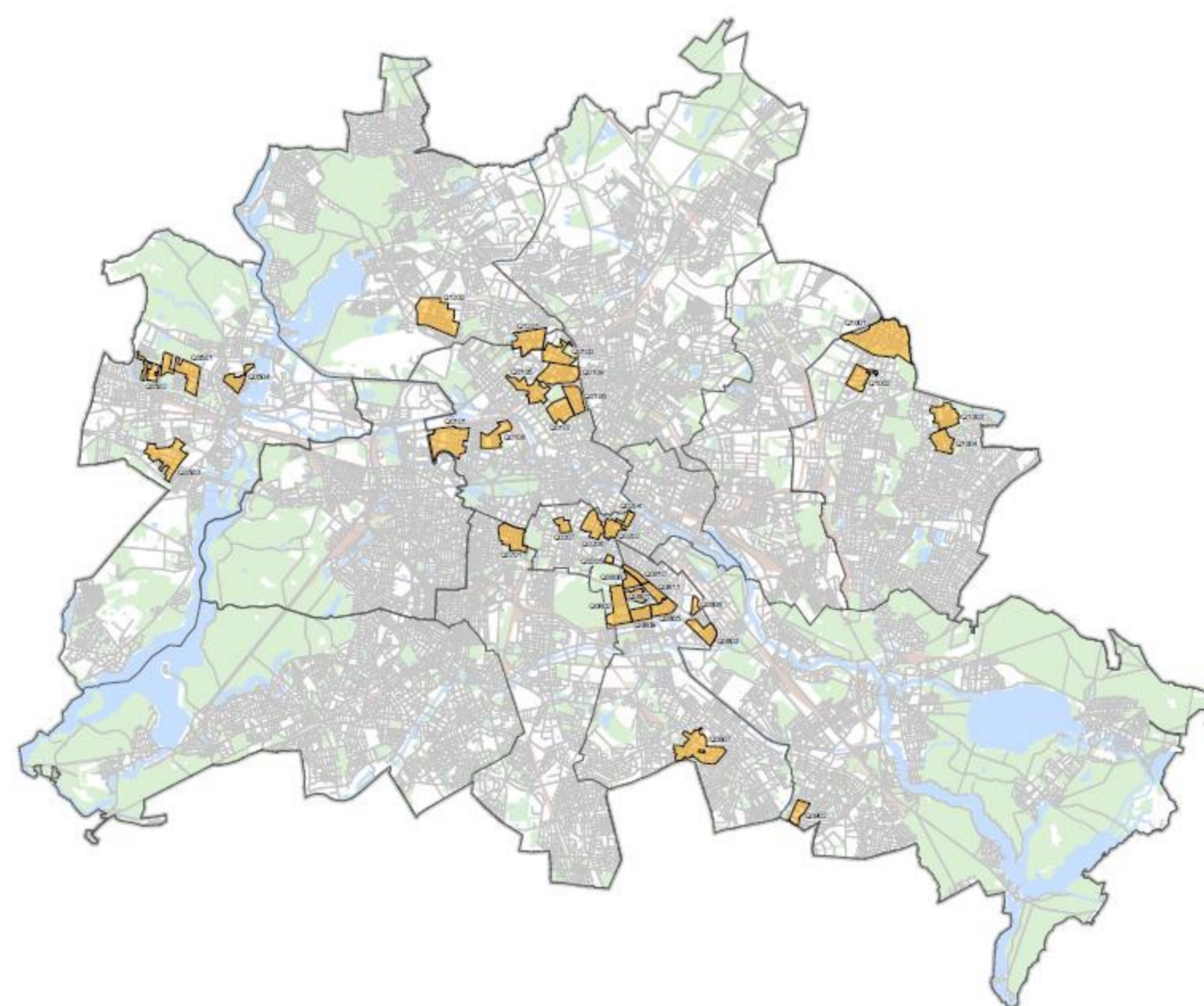


Senate Department
for Urban Development
and Housing

Our Team

The coordinators of the EdiCitNet project for Berlin are Tina Hilbert and Sören Bott supported by a whole group of colleagues responsible for the Social Cohesion Programme.

Local offices and Neighbourhood Management Teams serve as contact points and communication centres in each of the 32 neighbourhoods. To promote community involvement and the use of direct democracy elements there are also 32 Neighbourhood Councils. The councils give local residents a say in what happens in their neighbourhoods, providing a platform for discussion and consultation.



Our Role in the Project

The City of Berlin is one of the Frontrunner Cities and one of the Follower Cities of EdiCitNet. With the local City Team Berlin we will develop a tailor-made strategy to support socially disadvantaged neighbourhoods, to promote social cohesion and to improve the living conditions.

Edible City Solutions (ECS) in Berlin

ECS development in Berlin is mostly a bottom-up movement. There are hundreds of garden communities spread all over the city. Gardens offer spaces for people to meet, zones for biodiversity and venues for extracurricular education. The federal government recognised the valuable contribution that gardens make to increasing the quality of life and therefore Berlin recently decided to become an Edible City.



Source: Project GartenAktiv, gruppe F Landschaftsarchitekten, <https://gruppef.com/gartenaktiv-stadtraume-im-schoneberger-norden-gemeinsam-gestalten/>

As there are hundreds of grassroots ECS initiatives in Berlin it's impossible to present best practice examples. But an online platform for a productive city and community gardens will be developed to provide an overview of the urban gardens. Furthermore a nutrition strategy is almost finished, many ECS projects have already been supported by the Social Cohesion Programme, and civil society shows a high interest in gardening and healthy food. EdiCitNet will take those ongoing processes as a chance, combine them with the ability of Berlin to innovate and its development potential and create efficient ECS which are tackling social challenges within the city.

