

Vindmøllebakken living lab

(Community Housing/Intensional Community)

1. Living Lab Overview

- Nombre: Vindmøllebakken
- Location: Stavanger
- Mission and Vision: To create an environmentally, socially, economically, and architecturally sustainable living environment.
- History: Started as an innovative and sustainable housing concept under the "Gaining by Sharing" model. 40 co-living units, 4 townhouses and 8 apartments

The Vindmøllebakken project qualifies as a living lab due to its focus on social and technological innovation in a real-life context, specifically in the field of sustainable housing. Living labs are platforms for open innovation creation and experimentation, where users and producers co-create innovations in a realistic context. Vindmøllebakken incorporates these principles as follows:

Why is it a Living Lab?

- Co-creation with the Community: Vindmøllebakken actively involves future residents in the design and development process of the community. Through seminars and courses, residents contribute to the planning of common spaces and the adaptation of housing solutions to their needs, reflecting the spirit of co-creation characteristic of living labs.
- Real-Context Experimentation: The project is implemented in a real-life environment where sustainable housing solutions and new community models are put to the test. This makes it possible to evaluate the effectiveness of the concepts of sharing resources and spaces in improving sustainability and quality of life.
- Open Innovation: By integrating multiple stakeholders, including architects, developers, future residents, and local partners, Vindmøllebakken operates as an open innovation space. This approach facilitates the development of innovative solutions that are socially and environmentally sustainable.
- Integration of Technology and Sustainability: The project uses sustainable materials and construction techniques, and is designed to minimize environmental impact, which aligns with the living labs' principles of integrating technology to improve quality of life.

Type of Living Lab

- It is a Living Lab of Urban Sustainability. This type of living lab focuses on experimenting and developing urban solutions that are sustainable and beneficial to the community and the environment. It focuses on creating living spaces that promote environmental sustainability, social cohesion and inclusion, all of which are present at Vindmøllebakken.
- This project demonstrates how a living lab can be used to address contemporary urban and housing challenges, testing and adjusting solutions in real time with the active participation of the local community. In doing so, Vindmøllebakken not only creates a more sustainable and desirable living environment, but also offers valuable insights into how communities can collectively optimize their environmental impact and improve their well-being.

2. Infrastructure and Resources

- Facilities: It has facilities such as multifunctional common areas, workshop, laundry, wine cellar and other recreational areas.
- Collaborators and Partners: Helen & Hard, Indigo Vekst, and Gaia Trondheim.
- Human Resources: Active involvement of future residents and collaborators from the early stages of design.

3. Areas of Focus and Specialization

- Topics of Interest: Sustainable housing, improved quality of life and community design.
- Key Competencies: Sustainable design and construction, active community management.

4. Innovation Methodologies

- Open Innovation Approach: Community participation in the conceptualization and development of the livable space.
- Co-creation Processes: Workshops and courses for future residents who cultivate co-creation and customization of spaces.
- Techniques and Tools: Implementation of eco-friendly and efficient building techniques, use of sustainable materials.

5. Projects and Challenges

- Featured Projects: Implementation and refinement of the "Winning by Sharing" model.
- Impact and Results: Creating a living environment that reduces resource consumption and fosters community.

- Current Challenges: Adaptation to market changes and regulatory conditions, extension of the model to new projects.

6. Impact on the Community and the Territory

- Local Contributions: Innovation in housing that integrates with local architecture and promotes community living.
- Collaboration with Local Entities: Working closely with municipal authorities and other local actors.
- Social and Economic Benefits: Promotion of an integrated and sustainable community, reduction of environmental impact.

7. Publications and Resources

- Documents and Publications: Detailed documentation and analysis of the project, including sustainability studies.
- Multimedia material: Visual and multimedia documentation that shows the development and characteristics of the project.
- Contact & Social Media: Contact information not yet specifically detailed in the document.

Timeline:

2013: The project kicks off with a seminar in April, marking the conceptual launch of the sustainable housing model.

2014: In June, the project received a competition grant, which helped formalize and advance its initial phases.

2016: In April, an informational meeting with potential residents was held at the former Helen & Hard premises in Vindmøllebakken, with 100 people in attendance. In May, those interested are invited to participate in a resident course, focused on preparing future residents for sustainable community living and the shared use of spaces and resources.

2016-2018: During these years, the project faced challenges due to changes in the market and regulation in Stavanger, which impacted the design and planning of the project.

Date not specified: Approval of the project as a "pilotprosjekt" within the framework of "Framtidens bygg" (Buildings of the Future), underlining its innovative nature and alignment with sustainability goals.

2019 the project came to an end...