

Name of the Case

Nordwärts (“Northbound”)

Abstract

The idea behind the project *Nordwärts* (Northbound) is to draw the public’s attention on the Northern districts of the city of Dortmund and tackle social and economic problems in these areas. The initiators of *Nordwärts* aim at a further development of these districts. Thereby the project’s overall objective is the harmonisation of living conditions in Dortmund by developing and implementing projects in cooperation with Dortmund’s citizen. An advisory committee helps to manage the project. This board of trustees consists of high-level personalities from the fields of politics, economy and science/research. Various scientists from the TU Dortmund University are engaged in the project. *Nordwärts* began in the year 2015 and incorporated many ideas and initiatives, some of which already have been realised.

Website

http://www.dortmund.de/de/leben_in_dortmund/nordwaerts/start_nordwaerts/index.html

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Nordwärts

Objectives

The project *Nordwärts* has the aim to help further developing the Northern parts of the city of Dortmund. It consists of numerous ideas and initiatives that aim at improving the living conditions in these parts.

Clients, audience

The project mainly addresses two different target groups.

The first group consists of the citizens of Dortmund. The project's most important goal is to reach a large degree of participation for the people who live in the area of Dortmund.

The second one is the advisory committee that manages the initiative. Thereby it is planned to attract more personalities from different fields that help to develop and implement ideas within the course of Northbound.

Position along the SI Spiral

Deliver & implement: Those responsible are currently implementing solutions in different fields.

Relationship with HEI(s) (High Education Institutions)

- The project's advisory committee consists of several scientists from different educational fields. The overall objective is to implement solutions with regard to social innovation in order to facilitate a further development in the Northern districts of Dortmund.
- The involved parties have an interest in the improvement of the *Nordwärts* districts. The TU Dortmund University's (TUDOs) Social Research Centre (sfs) is located in the affected part of the city. Furthermore, this project offers a good opportunity to implement strategies with regard to social innovation. At the same time, scientific approaches and representative data are needed to

realise this undertaking.

- The project was developed in collaboration with different scientists and institutions.

Finance model and resources

Financing of *Nordwärts* is provided by the municipal government of the city of Dortmund, the federal government of Germany and the EU.

Financing of single initiatives of *Nordwärts*:

- Max. 3 Million Euro/ year since 2017
- For urban projects („add ons“ to routine tasks, such as intercompany billing)
- For independent sponsors (via allocation decision)
- As subordinate funding
- Other funding options have to be examined in advance
- The coordination unit “Nordwärts” supports this efforts
- E.g. Mediation of foundations
- Mobilization of non-monetary resources, such as contacts, physical spaces, consulting
- Besides that: “Nordwärts” is an incentive for investments, e.g. with regard to building societies

Methodology

Nordwärts is divided in different topic areas. Thematically the project is grouped in city development, social innovation, education, living, infrastructures and integration/participation. The different districts of Northern Dortmund are partially affected by different social and economic problems, so that it is not possible to implement one functioning strategy for all areas. Thereby different approaches are needed.

Products, results

- Implementation of projects
- Development of transferable instruments and methods for different projects
- Investments in the area
- Job creation

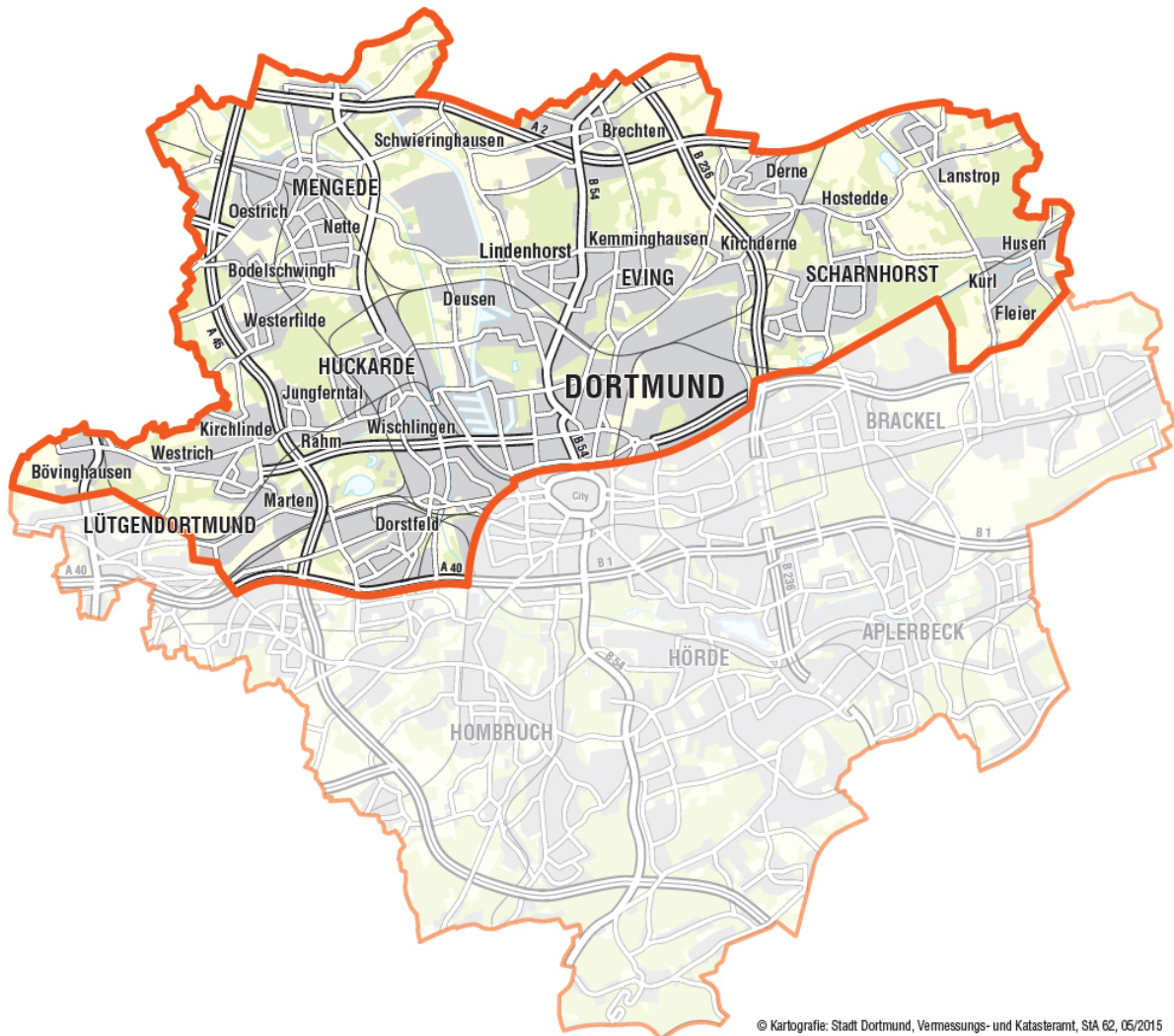
Impact and results

Since its emergence in the year 2015, different individual projects are already implemented within the framework of *Nordwärts*. Development chances of the different districts are presented in 2018. The plan is to finish all the individual projects and to present the results of *Nordwärts* in the year 2025.

Overall impact

The project serves as a prime example of a far-reaching initiative that aims at tackling social and economic problems in the context of structural change in the Ruhr region. It thereby underlines the meaning of social innovation as a driving and necessary force for the improvement of living conditions in those areas.

Images



Source image: <http://nordstadtblogger.de/jetzt-zur-premiere-des-nordwaerts-praesentationsjahres-2018-anmelden/>

Other resources

<https://www.lokalkompass.de/dortmund-city/politik/nordwaerts-linke-und-piraten-hegen-zweifel-an-finanzierung-d543680.html>

https://www.focus.de/regional/dortmund/dortmund-stadt-dortmund-projekt-nordwaerts-hat-einen-neuen-info-flyer_id_6948309.html



social innovation
through knowledge
exchange



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union