



Co-designing spaces for the common good



Federal Ministry
for Housing, Urban Development
and Building

The German Federal
Government's guidelines
for Baukultur

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Guideline 1
The Federal Government strengthens Umbaukultur and works to ensure a well-designed, climate-neutral and climate-adapted built environment.

Guideline 2
Baukultur strengthens local characteristics and creates spaces that people can identify with, thus fostering social cohesion.

Guideline 3
Baukultur requires skills that promote innovative processes and spatial design.

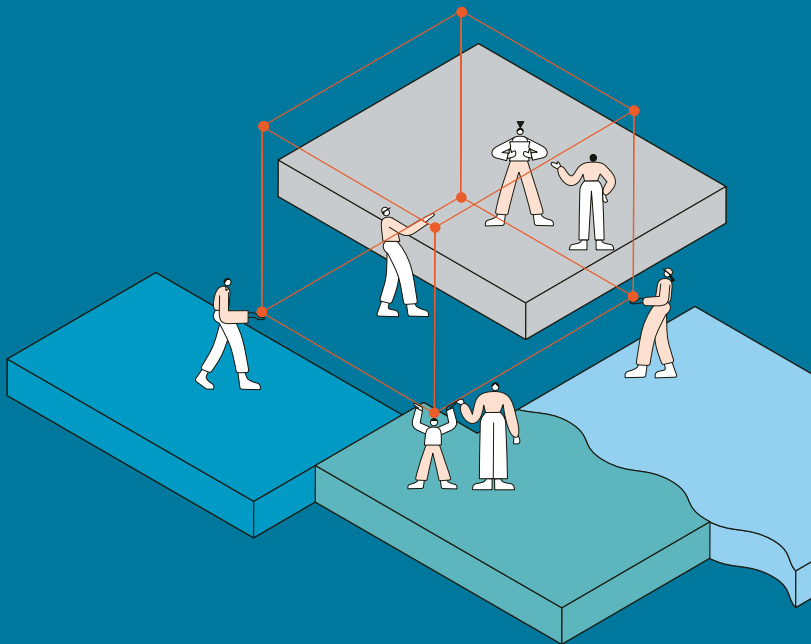
Guideline 4
A responsible land policy minimises the amount of land required for settlement areas and forms the basis for spatial development processes that are geared to the common good.

Guideline 5
The qualification, expansion and networking of green and water areas create healthy living conditions for people and nature.

Guideline 6
Mixed-use, well-designed public spaces in city centres, neighbourhoods and districts promote a healthy life geared to the common good.

Guideline 7
Practice-oriented experimental spaces open up avenues for the Umbaukultur and planning and construction of tomorrow.

Guideline 8
Effective participation processes take into account the needs of people on the ground and facilitate a jointly designed transformation of Baukultur.



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Dear friends and partners of Baukultur,

Whether in federal construction, in competitions or art – in architecture, the Federal Government wants to set a good example as the largest public developer in the Federal Republic of Germany. With the Federal Government's guidelines for *Baukultur*, we now have a compass that shows us the way. "Co-designing spaces for the common good" is our objective here. We want to achieve this with a *Baukultur* and *Umbaukultur* that contribute to the aesthetic, ecological and economic wealth of our country – to promote a built environment in which people of all ages and incomes can lead happy and fulfilling lives together and feel at home, with planning and design processes that bring us closer to this goal.

In our pluralistic democracy, "designing spaces for the common good" is a task for the community that depends on the diversity of those involved. It was with this in mind that, 25 years ago, the Federal Government launched the *Initiative Architektur und Baukultur* together with numerous partners. This was the starting point for a vibrant and diverse debate about *Baukultur* that continues to this day. A strong *Baukultur* network has emerged from this, with the Federal Foundation of *Baukultur* as a key player, in addition to the network of the Conference of Construction Ministers of the *Länder* and a plethora of other "hubs" both large and

small. The Federal Government's guidelines for *Baukultur* are also the result of a joint effort. I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone involved for their constructive participation.

With its guidelines for *Baukultur*, the Federal Government has articulated the aspirations underpinning its own activities. At the same time, we want to invite our partners in *Baukultur* in the *Länder* and municipalities, in business and civil society, to continue on the path towards a sustainable and social *Baukultur* that is geared towards the common good and offers economic added value. In order to get as many people on board as possible, we need to disseminate knowledge of *Baukultur* more widely throughout society than has been the case to date. At the end of the day, we can only design spaces for the common good if we collaborate.

Klara Geywitz, Federal Minister for Housing,
Urban Development and Building



BACHSTRASSE 12

BUCHEREI GUNDELSHEIM



Introduction

What is Baukultur?

Baukultur encompasses the sum total of human activities that continue to change our designed environment. The entire built environment must be understood as an inseparable unit that includes all built and designed goods that are part and parcel of the natural environment. *Baukultur* comprises the entirety of existing buildings, including monuments and other elements of cultural heritage, as well as the planning and design of buildings, infrastructures, public spaces, open spaces in the context of settlements and the design of cultural landscapes.

The built and designed environment informs our everyday lives, surrounding and influencing us each and every day. *Baukultur* is omnipresent: in our homes, at work, in our mobility and leisure time and in our social encounters. It is a testimony to and product of human life and economic activity and includes planning, building, conversion and maintenance work.

Baukultur denotes both constructive details and large-scale transformations and developments that incorporate traditional local knowledge and skills in construction as well as innovative techniques. Among other things, *Baukultur* is expressed in the use of regional, durable and sustainable materials and the context-related design and colour scheme of built spaces. It encompasses activities in the fields of archi-

tecture, engineering and interior design, as well as urban, regional and spatial planning, landscape architecture and landscape planning, in addition to the skilled trades, design and art.

Baukultur pursues an integrated approach and focuses on quality of life, its preservation and the sustainable development of our shared habitat, the Earth. In addition to the needs of people, it also takes into account the needs of flora and fauna and the responsible use of all natural resources.

Baukultur contributes to the changing needs of society and seeks to create an environment that is perceived as healthy and worth living in. The quality of the built environment stems from the interplay between usability, economic efficiency and design, from sustainability in a social, ecological and economic sense and from the processes and procedures that lead to its creation.

A high-quality designed environment enhances social cohesion, resilience and a connection with the place in question. Its economic added value is derived from the creation of higher-quality and durable goods and their protection and cultivation, as well as from the sustainable use of our resources. *Baukultur* is both conservative and innovative. Above all, it is a public good and a task for society as a whole. *Baukultur* concerns us all.

Baukultur heritage in Germany

The Federal Republic of Germany's unique *Baukultur* heritage is characterised by the diverse history of the country, its cities, towns, villages and regions.

Its characteristics are often the result of practical necessities, such as the use of traditional, regional building materials and the application of local building traditions adapted to geographical and climatic conditions. The desire for outward representation on the part of the state, church and business community has, since time immemorial, found its expression in the built and designed environment.

Historic castles, palaces and cathedrals, buildings and infrastructure for production, transport, supply and disposal, as well as the monumental buildings of National Socialism and art in architecture in the public buildings of both German states, social housing constructed with industrial means in both East and West Germany and the designed sites of reunited German history after 1989 are testament to this.

In addition to buildings, coherent cityscapes and an often small-scale, mixed-use settlement structure with vibrant public spaces and short distances between destinations also inform Germany's *Baukultur* heritage.

Baukultur heritage is a living part of our society's collective memory and an important cultural resource. It can help to engender collective identities, foster a sense of belonging within communities and mobilise society. Historic buildings bear witness to architectural traditions and history, as well as symbolise continuity, stability and resilience. They show that the Federal Republic of Germany's *Baukultur* heritage is as diverse as the people who live and work here. This *Baukultur*

heritage is acutely threatened by climate change and its impacts.

UNESCO is therefore highlighting the urgent need to take action and has established a framework of objectives and measures for risk prevention by the national authorities.

Baukultur describes how society deals with the built environment, its quality-oriented use and preservation, planning and further development. Architecture is an essential, formative element in this. *Baukultur* seeks to establish an overall quality of planning, construction and utilisation processes as a perceptible integrative and cultural achievement of society.

Achieving this is not the sole responsibility of the Federal Government. In the Federal Republic of Germany, with its federal system and market economy, the understanding of what constitutes *Baukultur* must be constantly redefined. *Baukultur* is primarily the responsibility of the *Länder*, regions and municipalities and is a task for all levels of government, but also for developers, private investors and citizens.

What is the connection between the designed environment and current social challenges?

Shaping *Baukultur* is a cross-cutting issue that affects all areas of life and is closely bound up with political and social challenges. Against the backdrop of global climate change and the depletion of natural resources, armed conflicts, population growth and the urgent need to create affordable housing, as well as demographic development, economic structural change in connection with the energy, infrastructure and mobility transformation, the digital transformation, as well as questions of migration, education and the inclusion of different groups,

the question arises as to the approach we should take with regard to space, land and existing buildings, particularly in terms of their quality.

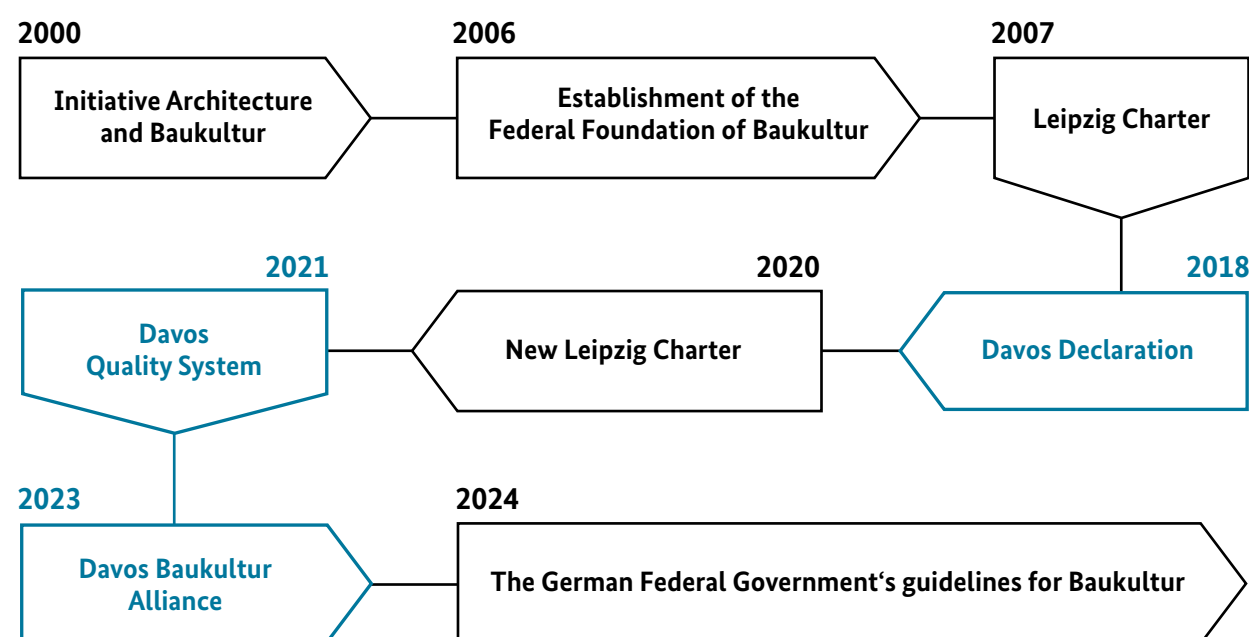
These challenges must therefore also be understood as a task for *Baukultur*. These processes of change and adaptation require acceptance in our society, which can only be achieved through dialogue, awareness-raising and education. The participatory processes required to this end are increasing in prominence in light of the necessary adaptation processes in the field of *Baukultur*.

What was the impetus behind the development of the Federal Government's guidelines for *Baukultur*?

The efforts undertaken in Germany to strengthen *Baukultur* as a social value are based on the Initiative Architektur und *Baukultur*, which was

launched by the Federal Ministry of Transport, Construction and Housing in the year 2000. This initiative was intended to promote a nationwide discourse on *Baukultur*, culminating in the establishment of the Federal Foundation of *Baukultur* in 2006 as a communication platform for knowledge in the field of *Baukultur*.

In 2018, the Federal Government signed the Davos Declaration "Towards a high-quality *Baukultur* for Europe", which emphasises the need to initiate and support Europe-wide alliances promoting a high-quality designed environment. The Declaration describes the cultural importance of Europe's built environment and calls for planning and construction to be geared towards good living conditions for all people and a high quality of life, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Chronology of the *Baukultur* policy in Germany / in Europe

In 2023, the Davos *Baukultur* Alliance was established at the initiative of Switzerland to launch an international dialogue on *Baukultur* and to address solutions to global challenges in the fields of planning and construction, in addition to the construction and real estate industries. It advocates a sustainable and quality-oriented approach to buildings, neighbourhoods and spaces, stating that transformation-oriented processes promise benefits not only for the common good, but also as far as economic added value is concerned. In addition to the Davos Process, other important European initiatives such as the New European Bauhaus, the Urban Agenda for the EU and the expert groups on high-quality architecture and built environment for everyone (2020-2022) and strengthening cultural heritage resilience for climate change (2021-2022) address the objectives of *Baukultur* and raising awareness of a high-quality designed environment.

What are the Federal Government's objectives with its guidelines for *Baukultur*?

The signing of the Davos Declaration by the Federal Republic of Germany, in line with the European *Baukultur* dialogue, gave rise to the commitment to develop an independent German *Baukultur* policy in the form of the Federal Government's guidelines for *Baukultur*.

The Federal Government's guidelines for *Baukultur* address existing social challenges facing the high-quality designed environment and elucidate necessary changes and adaptation processes with a view to promoting a high-quality *Baukultur*. With the help of the guidelines for *Baukultur*, the Federal Government aims to apply the findings from the joint national and European dialogue on *Baukultur* to the work of the Federal Government.

These guidelines present the Federal Government's understanding of *Baukultur*, based on the "New Leipzig Charter – The transformative power of cities for the common good" with respect to sustainable urban development. The guidelines underscore the Federal Government's voluntary commitment to shaping the built environment with a holistic understanding of space with a high quality of design, use and processes in mind.

What are the target groups of the Federal Government's guidelines for *Baukultur*?

The objectives and measures set out in the guidelines apply to all planning and construction tasks falling within the remit of the Federal Government and are geared towards the direct and indirect federal administration. The Federal Government's guidelines for *Baukultur* are intended to be a voluntary commitment for the Federal Government's planning and construction tasks in Germany and are not legally binding.

The Federal Government's voluntary commitment to the objectives of *Baukultur* is reflected in the Federal Construction Guidelines (RBBau). The Federal Government's national security interests and constitutional financial powers remain unaffected by this. All measures are subject to the administrative and financial competence of the Federal Government. Any additional funding requirements for material and human resources, as well as personnel costs, in the context of the Federal Government's competence must be offset financially and in terms of staffing in the respective departmental budgets.

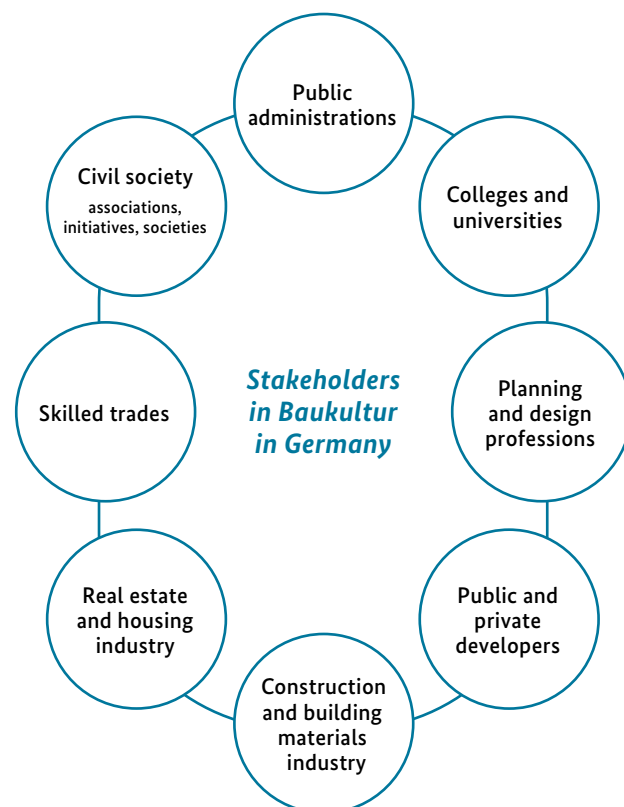
Moreover, these guidelines contain recommendations for the *Länder* and the municipalities. They encourage prudent action as well as the development of independent guidelines for *Baukultur* in the *Länder*, regions, cities and villages.

Partners in the private sector and property owners are invited to work together to make responsible use of the built environment and *Baukultur* as a quality criterion and, to an even greater extent, as the benchmark of their own actions.

Baukultur must be considered as an interministerial issue in all planning and process phases. In order to promote awareness of *Baukultur* in society, education in the field of *Baukultur* should be enshrined in the education system and low-threshold and practice-oriented further and continuing education offered on a broad scale.

What does “the common good” mean?

The Federal Government’s guidelines for *Baukultur*, “Co-designing spaces for the common good”, describe how well-designed spaces can facilitate living together in a healthy and just way,



Instruments of Baukultur in Germany

- Planning competitions
- Art in architecture
- Rules in building and public procurement law, e.g. the Federal Building Code (BauGB), the Spatial Planning Act (ROG), as well as guidelines and decrees
- The Assessment System for Sustainable Building (BNB), the QNG Sustainable Building Certification scheme, DIN
- Raising awareness of Baukultur: Federal Foundation of Baukultur
- Federal Government research into Baukultur
- Promotion of Baukultur in federal and Land programmes
- Federal and Land prizes as well as awards from other partners
- Exhibitions, publications, festivals
- Education with regard to Baukultur in the school, vocational, further and continuing education system
- Design advisory boards
- Concept procedures
- Programmes offered by chambers, societies, initiatives
- Participation and involvement of those affected by the planning and the public

how they are geared to the common good for all people and how this can be safeguarded while taking the limits of our planet into account. The concept of common good underscores people’s responsibility for each other and for their natural, near-natural and designed environment: for clean air and water, low noise and pollutant emissions, low rates of additional land used and sealed, tolerable temperatures, green spaces for recreation and leisure and a diversity of animal and plant species. *Baukultur* plays an active role in this context, strengthening the functions and qualities that are necessary for sustainable, i.e. functional, healthy, resilient spaces that shape

identity. This also includes environmentally friendly forms of mobility.

The equal and timely inclusion of all social groups and their different needs in planning processes facilitates the high-quality design of public spaces, housing, social infrastructure and mobility infrastructure, particularly in disadvantaged and structurally weak urban districts and neighbourhoods, thereby forming the basis for broad acceptance and appreciation of new developments.

The leitmotifs of climate and resource protection and identification

Energy-related emissions accounted for around 84 percent of Germany’s greenhouse gas emissions in 2021. 35 percent of greenhouse gas emissions are attributable to the construction, maintenance and operation of buildings. 50 percent of total raw material extraction in Germany is required for building materials (soil and land, raw materials, water, etc.). Building products are the second-largest user of plastics after packaging. In 2022, 54 percent of the total waste generated in Germany was construction and demolition waste.

The construction and building sector thus plays a key role in helping to achieve Germany’s climate protection and sustainable development goals and has a major influence on resource consumption. Research conducted by the German Environment Agency shows that climate protection and resource conservation must be thought of as two sides of the same coin. *Baukultur* promotes climate protection by seeking to avoid the use of fossil and non-renewable raw materials as well as the use and sealing of further areas, reusing building materials and components in material cycles, making underused areas, infrastructure and buildings

usable again and unsealing sealed areas. The role played by the built environment, by existing buildings, is coming into focus in this context. Where economically viable, existing buildings should be converted for new uses and functions. The dominant value chain of demolition and new construction must be questioned in a critical light.

Our living and working environment plays a crucial role in our sense of identity and our ability to participate in daily life. The designed space reflects cultural, historical and social values of the present and the past and shapes the values of the future. A high-quality designed environment offers orientation and strengthens a sense of belonging.

In order to strengthen social and socio-spatial cohesion, it is becoming increasingly important to involve people in the design and development of spaces from an early stage and in a digital capacity so that they identify with their neighbourhood, district, town or city, village and region.

A successful *Baukultur* policy pursued by the Federal Government is intended to contribute to operating, maintaining, converting and further developing the designed environment in a socially responsible, pollutant-free, space- and resource-saving as well as greenhouse gas-neutral manner and to strengthen identification. A sustainable urban and regional development policy on the part of the Federal Government must be commensurate with the goals of the German Sustainable Development Strategy.



What skills do people and institutions need in order to shape spatial change?

These guidelines focus on the acquisition of the skills needed for necessary changes in planning and building. The professions involved in planning, building, operating and financing buildings are also changing against the backdrop of social challenges and their ecological, social and economic impacts. The professional groups responsible for the planning, construction and operation of buildings are increasingly being called upon to develop innovative solutions that bring a high quality of design into line with the requirements of environmental and climate protection, social cohesion, accessibility, sustainability and process quality.

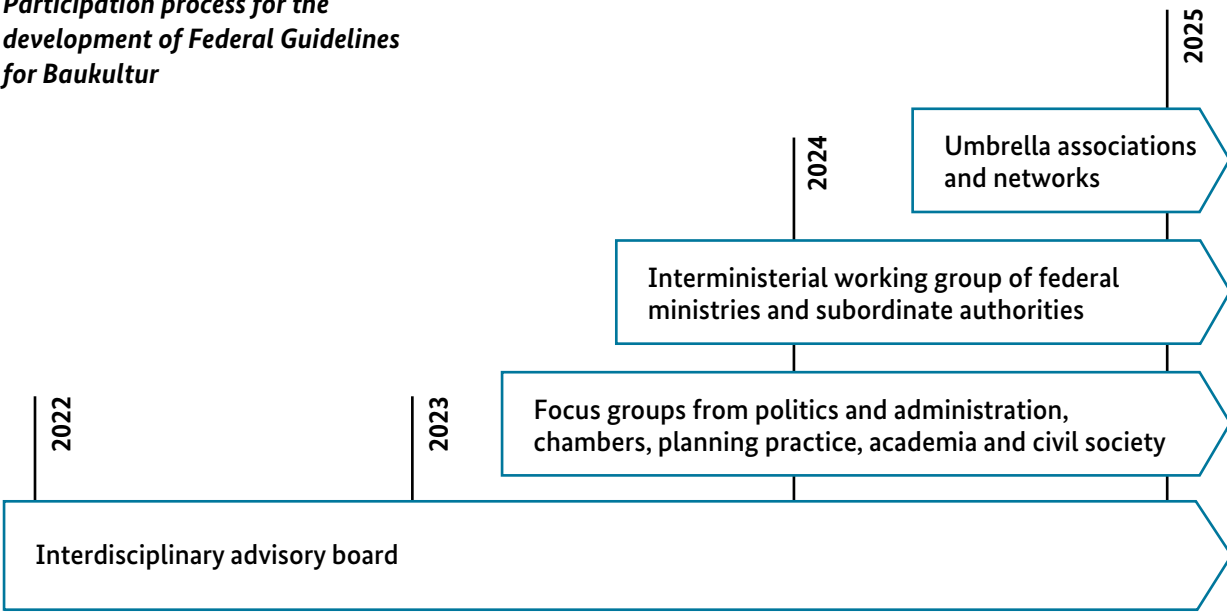
The ability to work in an intersectoral, cooperative and interdisciplinary manner at all spatial levels and a heightened awareness of the diversity of users and their needs are a fundamental prerequisite to this end. These guidelines seek to inspire change with regard to a future vision of the planning and building professions, business community and the skilled trades that is adapted to the tasks at hand. In order to extend the lifespan of buildings, intelligent conversion and further construction, urban infill and the adaptation of use are important keys with respect to *Umbaukultur*.

What message do the Federal Government’s guidelines for Baukultur send to society?

The guidelines for *Baukultur* provide orientation for the adaptation of the built and designed environment, taking into account a high quality of design. The Federal Government acknowledges its role model function as the largest public developer in the Federal Republic of Germany and is committed to using the guidelines for *Baukultur* as a basis for its planning and construction tasks and to incorporating them into requisite funding instruments. Catering to site and space requirements for federal purposes and to the requirements of federal assistance with housing in accordance with the Law on the Institute for Federal Real Estate (BImAG) remain unaffected by this. *Baukultur* in the *Länder* and municipalities is supported by the Federal Government within the framework of federal responsibilities.

The guidelines for *Baukultur* promote the discourse on the design of the built environment. These guidelines are intended to promote knowledge of good design nationwide. They are intended to help adapt the federal legal framework and initiate necessary amendments to European regulations. They aim to initiate new cooperative processes and alliances between the public and private sectors and civil society. Their objective is to promote and further develop knowledge of the importance of high-quality design in urban and rural development.

Participation process for the development of Federal Guidelines for Baukultur





The German Federal Government's guidelines for Baukultur

Co-designing spaces for the common good

The eight guidelines address key action areas in *Baukultur* and define objectives within the responsibility of the Federal Government. They are accompanied by federal measures as well as recommendations for action concerning tasks within the responsibilities of the *Länder*, municipalities and other stakeholders.

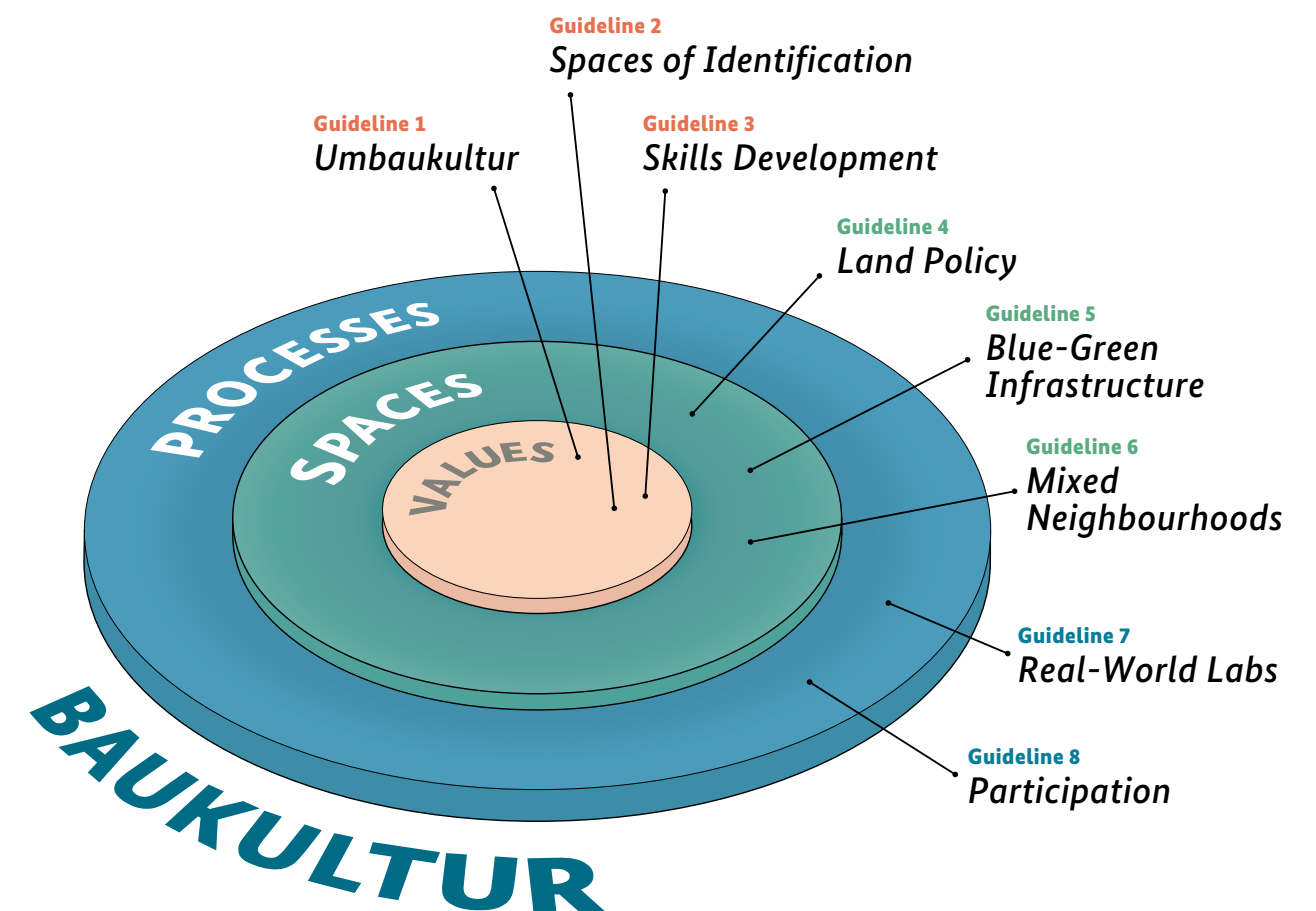
The guidelines provide the thematic and strategic framework for implementing quality in the creation, preservation and maintenance of the built environment. To strengthen *Baukultur* as

a socially relevant value, the measures and recommendations for action outline specific areas of application to achieve the objectives. The guidelines are interconnected through a three-level model:

The inner level (Guidelines 1 to 3) addresses key value-driven action areas.

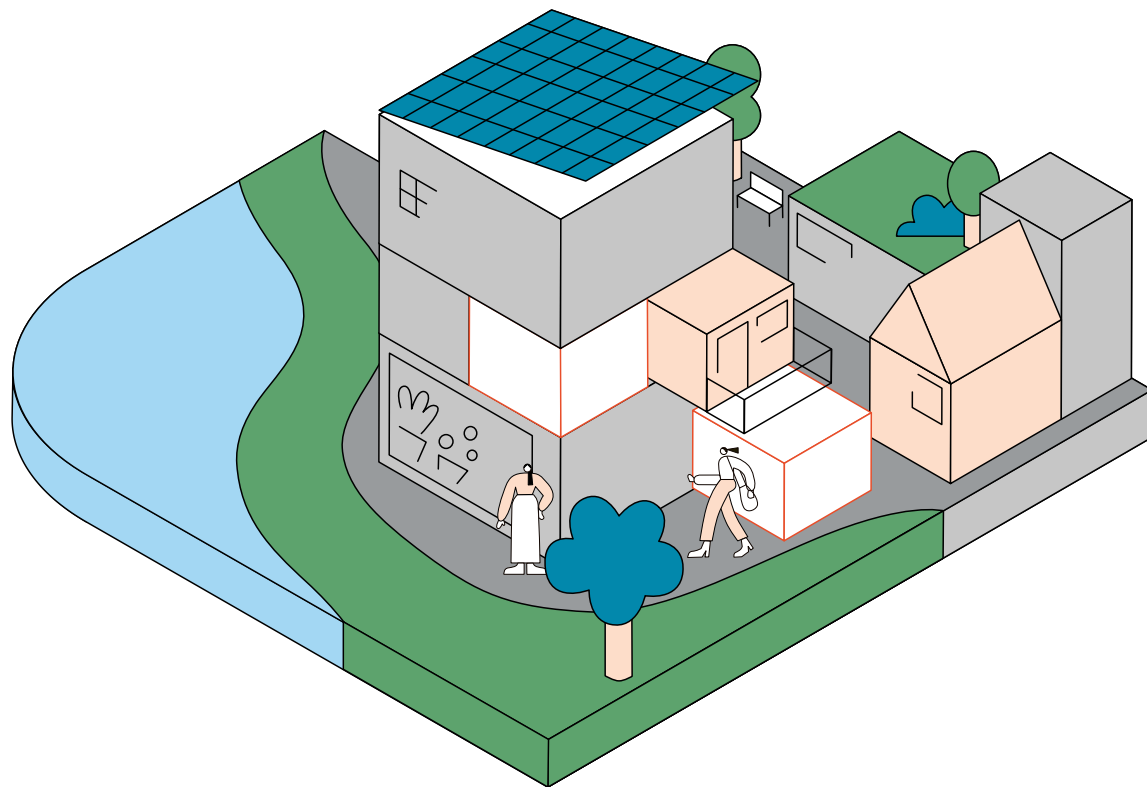
The middle level focuses on spatial fields of action (Guidelines 4 to 6).

The outer level describes the necessary processes (Guidelines 7 and 8).



Guideline 1

The Federal Government strengthens Umbaukultur and works to ensure a well-designed, climate-neutral and climate-adapted built environment.

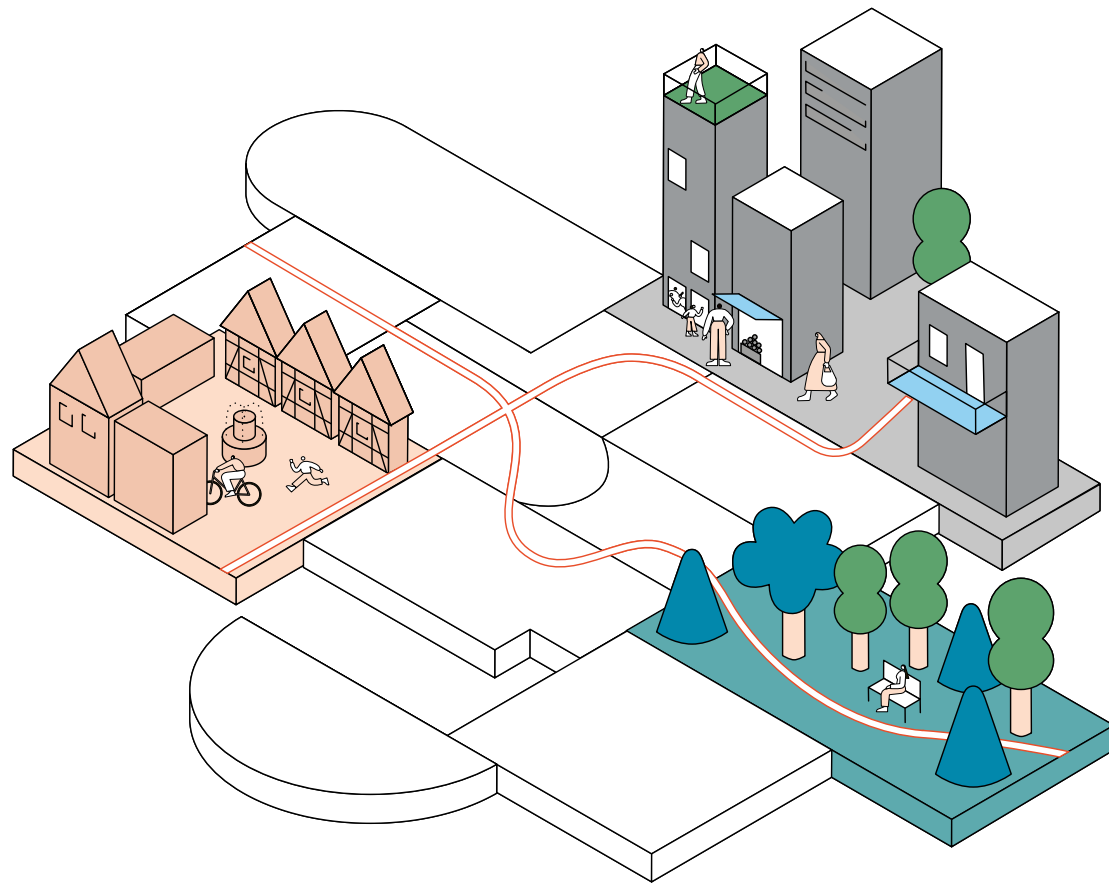


The Federal Government is, to an increasing extent, focusing its activities in the field of *Baukultur* on the adaptation and qualitative development of the built and designed environment. A responsible approach to existing buildings is *Umbaukultur* in action. Maintaining and adapting existing buildings preserves and further develops both spatial and immaterial values. High-quality planning and execution promote the longevity of buildings and public spaces. Strengthening *Umbaukultur* and improving the use of existing buildings was also acknowledged as an objective by the Conference of Construction Ministers of the *Länder*.

Umbaukultur maintains, supplements and designs existing buildings, public spaces and infrastructure with climate and resource protection and climate adaptation in mind. Good accessibility and climate- and environmentally-friendly, barrier-free mobility on the ground are an accepted part of *Umbaukultur*, forming the basis for functioning settlement structures.

The Federal Government is safeguarding *Umbaukultur* in the long term with the circular economy in mind, taking into account ecological, social and economic factors. It is expanding its cooperation with the *Länder* and municipalities to this end. Moreover, it is strengthening the recyclability and reuse of materials as well as the activation of disused buildings and public spaces through new utilisation concepts alongside prioritising the procurement of environmentally friendly products. In accordance with climate protection and adaptation goals, the Federal Government is reducing risks in its own existing buildings as far as possible and is taking the requirements of resource, noise, land and nature protection into account. Emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollutants must be reduced.

Where necessary and appropriate at regional or sectoral level, the Federal Government will promote the expansion and new construction of socially and ecologically sustainable housing in urban districts, as well as functional infrastructure, for example for the purposes of mobility and energy supply through renewable energies. The construction of new buildings, neighbourhoods and infrastructure is geared to the goals of climate protection, resource conservation, biodiversity and land conservation, as well as to climate adaptation and achieves added value for the common good, in particular by creating affordable housing. In addition to consistent inner urban development, new, mixed, green districts and good public transport connections must be developed in accordance with *Baukultur* criteria.



Guideline 2

Baukultur strengthens local characteristics and creates spaces that people can identify which, thus fostering social cohesion.

The Federal Government acknowledges the great importance of good spatial design that pays tribute to the location for people's living together and their attachment to their own spatial environment.

Baukultur integrates various functions into the built environment, takes people's needs into account and treats the natural environment with care. It strengthens the qualities that are necessary for functional spaces that shape identity and are fit for the future. This includes social, infrastructural, health-promoting, economic and ecological functions.

The Federal Government combines the protection and maintenance of *Baukultur* heritage with its prudent further development through contemporary modernisation measures, as well as through new, converted and supplemental buildings for a wide range of uses with a high quality of design. This combination has a particularly attractive impact on rural areas, improving the quality of life for the local population while also giving rise to an important locational advantage for newcomers.

Construction in both rural and urban areas should be embedded in the special natural structures on the ground, taking into account local craftsmanship traditions and using regional resources. This gives rise to demand-oriented, flexible and aesthetic living, working, cultural and educational spaces, as well as open spaces. Promoting knowledge of *Baukultur* heritage in urban and rural areas generates economic added value for society, for example for tourism, cultural institutions and the local economy.

Technical infrastructure such as transport infrastructure, transit areas, facilities and areas for the energy and water supply and buildings for work and production can also be places that shape identity or can be developed with this in mind. Likewise, open spaces characterised by natural landscapes, urban green and open spaces such as gardens and parks, as well as heritage gardens and not least art in architecture, help to shape to cultural identity.

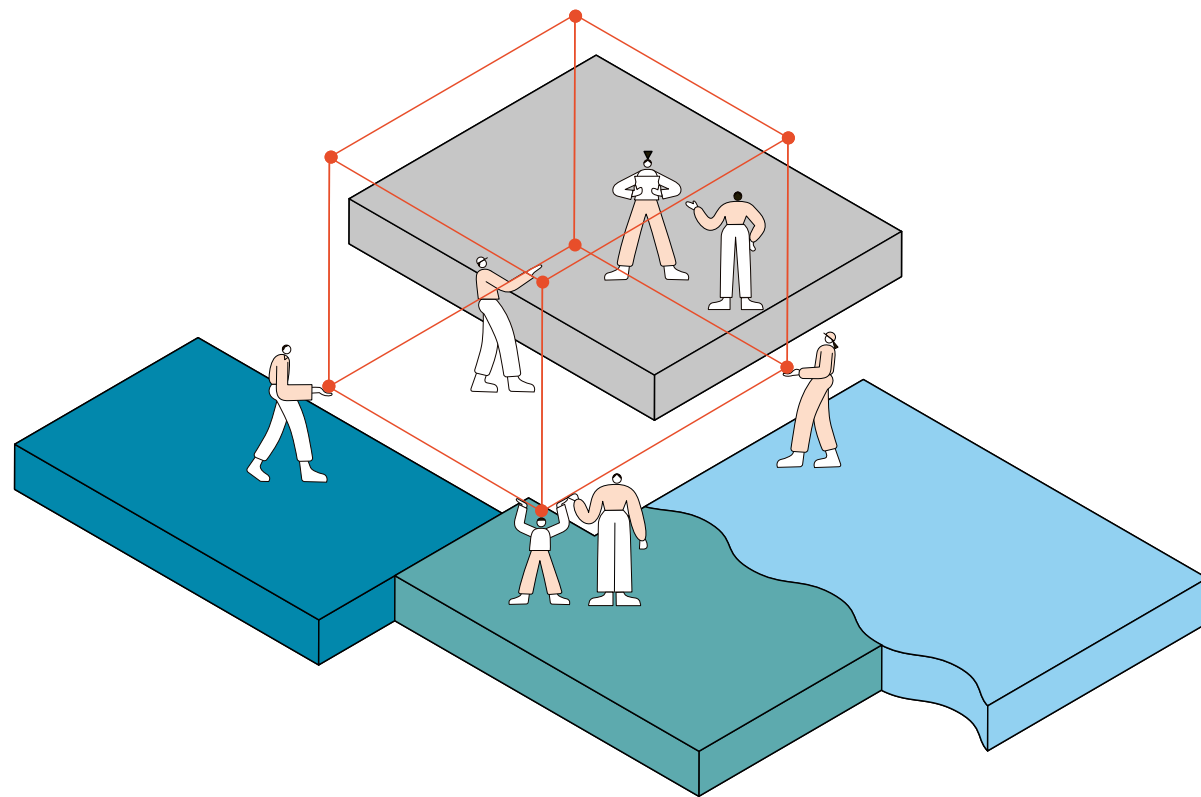


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Guideline 3

Baukultur *requires skills that promote innovative processes and spatial design.*



The Federal Government acknowledges that accelerated processes for adapting the built environment to climate change require interdisciplinary expertise and cooperative skills in all areas of society. Within the scope of its responsibilities, it bases planning and building on a holistic educational concept of *Baukultur* that encompasses imparting knowledge about *Baukultur* and the acquisition of skills, knowledge and abilities.

The scope and quality of *Baukultur* didactics and pedagogy in society should be strengthened. The aim is to create a well-designed and stimulating learning environment.

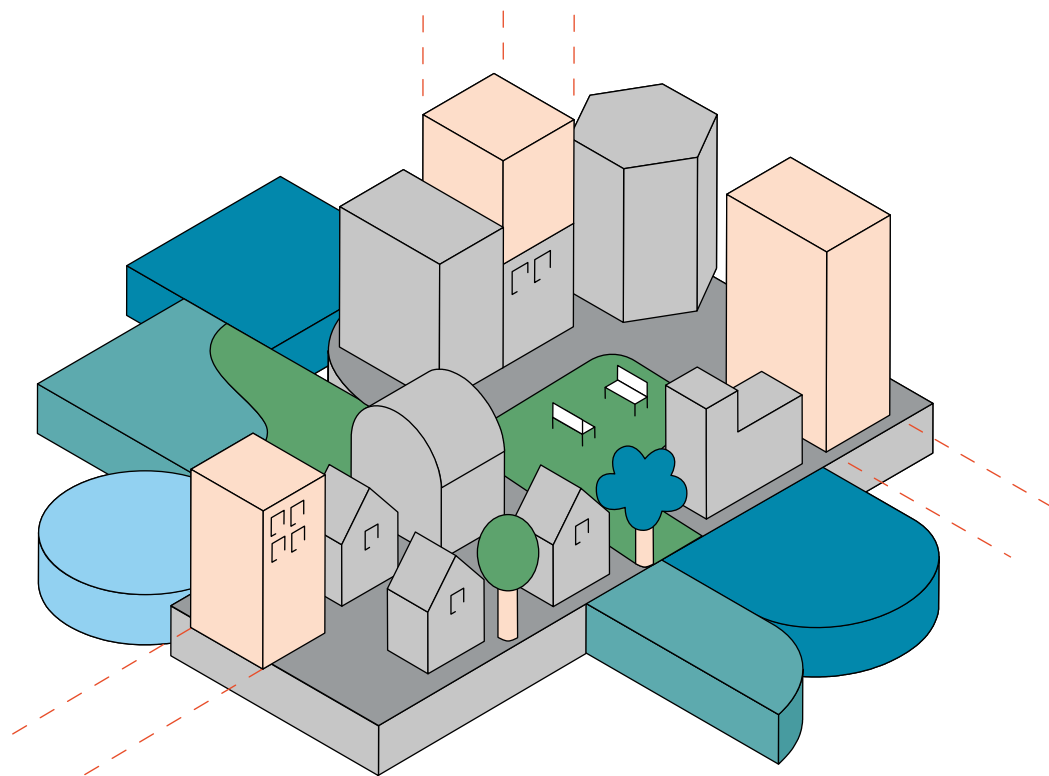
To this end, learners should be sensitised to the built environment, its components and functions with appropriate learning contents. This enables everyone to be involved in planning processes that affect their own living environment and to foster acceptance for the upcoming transformation processes. Research-based and action-oriented learning in schools, vocational training and further education are a vital part of this. The Federal Government is committed to promoting a contemporary general education with respect to *Baukultur* that does justice to the social, ecological and economic aspects of this task.

In order to successfully change the planning and building sector together, the skills and interdisciplinary and intersectoral activities of planners, in addition to the construction, building materials and real estate industries, the skilled trades and public authorities, as well as private developers and civil society, must be strengthened. To achieve this, it is important to build up environmental and climate-related planning and construction expertise in architecture, urban, regional and spatial planning. The same goes for landscape planning, engineering and environmental management, as well as for the construction, building materials and real estate industries. Skilled trades already in training and in continuing education should place a stronger focus on the potential of converting existing buildings.

Planning and approval are bound up with a considerable time lag for many projects. Speeding this up with streamlined specifications and digitised processes will facilitate the cost-effective implementation of *Baukultur* measures.

Guideline 4

A responsible land policy minimises the amount of land required for settlement areas and forms the basis for spatial development processes that are geared to the common good.



The German Sustainable Development Strategy, which aims to reduce the amount of additional land used for settlement and transport purposes to less than 30 hectares per day by 2030, serves as the basis for a responsible, space-saving land policy. With this in mind, the Federal Government is creating framework conditions to ensure that land and buildings are developed in a high-quality, flexible and adaptable manner that conserves resources. This goal must also be taken into consideration in the context of the high level of demand for affordable housing.

Spatial development concepts, land management supported by digital technology and the prioritisation of appropriately dense building typologies have a positive impact on the quality of urban and rural development. This reduces the amount of land used, avoids soil sealing and enables land to be unsealed. The objective is to develop carefully designed, compact and economical settlement areas as places for living, working and leisure with a high functional density and mix, as well as open-space qualities.

Inner city locations, as well as town and village centres and districts, will be developed as a priority before new land is used. Great potential is offered by the outskirts of towns, which have often been subject to monofunctional use to date, for example as purely residential or commercial areas. Further potential areas for settlement development can frequently be found along the ring roads of local public transport systems.

Concepts for adaptation, multiple use and revitalisation will be developed and applied for underused areas such as parking spaces, car parks and industrial or military conversion sites. Triple inner urban development, which aims to integrate structural inner urban development and to safeguard and qualify green and open spaces in connection with sustainable mobility in urban areas, may be an appropriate planning model in this regard.

The development of inter-municipal land use concepts, with which municipalities can work together efficiently and in a space-saving manner for jointly required uses, must be strengthened.



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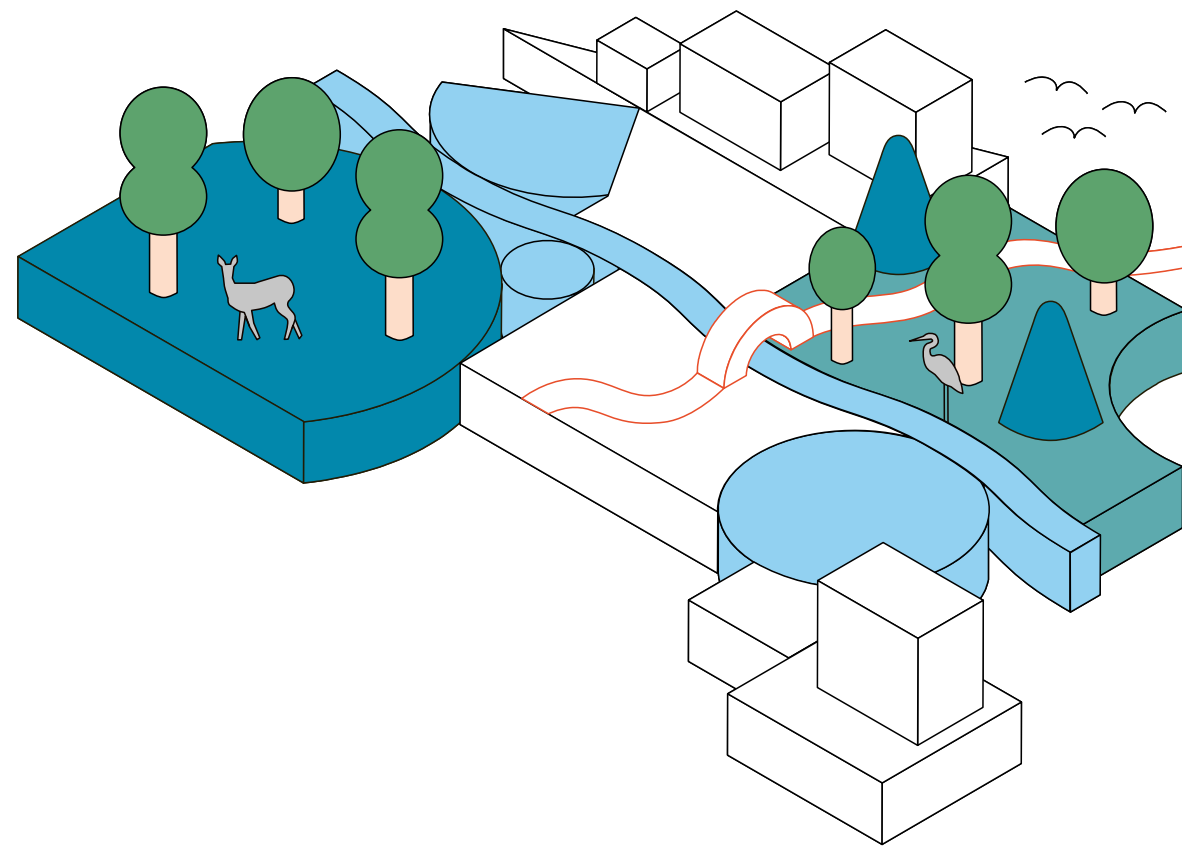
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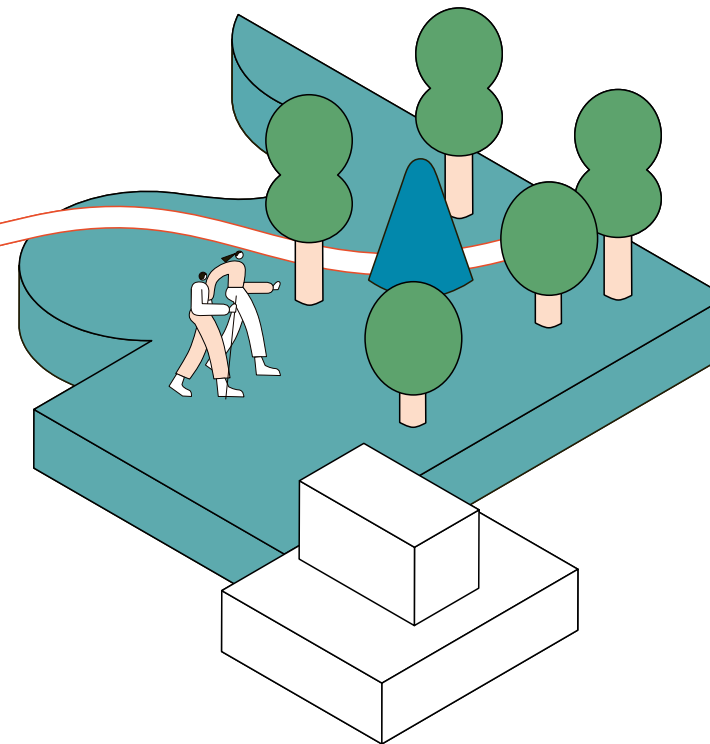
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Guideline 5

The qualification, expansion and networking of green and water areas create healthy living conditions for people and nature.



The further development and maintenance of green and blue infrastructures in cities and municipalities, as well as the renaturation of previously grey infrastructure areas, make an important contribution to an active and healthy life in the face of climate change, protection against extreme weather events and social cohesion. The Federal Government welcomes an adequate supply of vital, biodiverse green and open spaces that are beneficial to the urban climate and supports their high-quality use and design. It is creating framework conditions that enable open spaces to fulfil their ecological functions for climate protection, climate adaptation and biodiversity, as well as their social and health-related significance.

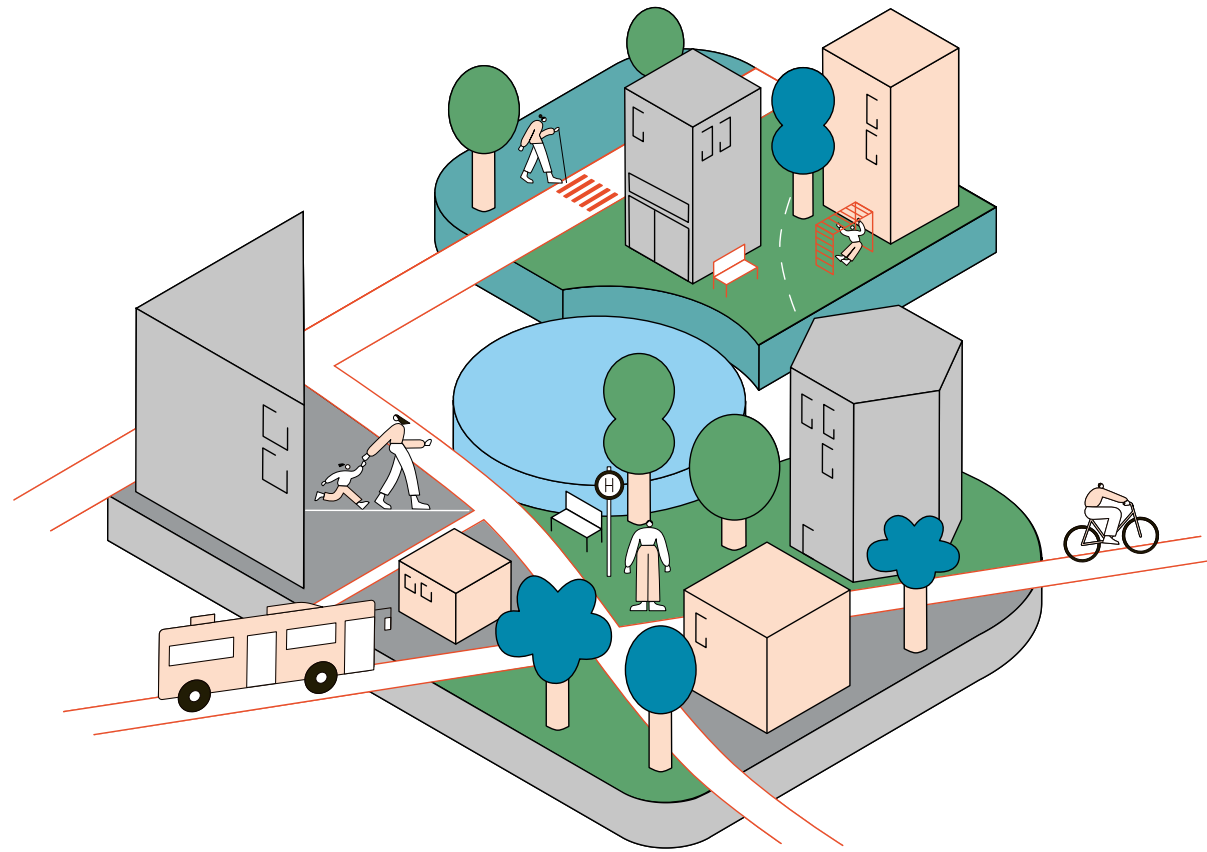


If green and open spaces that offer a high-quality experience, attractive and accessible connecting paths and opportunities to experience nature are available to a sufficient extent and their overuse is avoided, then this has a positive impact on the population's physical and mental health and recreation as well as on social cohesion.

Furthermore, climate-resilient green and open spaces have a positive impact on the hydrological system; this applies to both flood and low-water risk management and heavy rainfall, as well as to the appreciation of water as a resource and to quality of life.

Within the scope of its competence, the Federal Government is committed to ensuring that blue-green infrastructure in cities, towns and municipalities is evenly distributed and easily accessible. It promotes the expansion of this infrastructure and creates connections, including with natural habitats in the vicinity of settlements. The Federal Government is supporting the *Länder* and municipalities in the targeted quantitative and qualitative development and expansion of blue-green infrastructure on the basis of existing strategies.

The maintenance of public green spaces and the expansion of blue-green infrastructure are essential building blocks for protecting *Baukultur* and heritage gardens from droughts and flooding and for increasing the well-being of the population.



Guideline 6

Mixed-use, well-designed public spaces in city centres, neighbourhoods and districts promote a healthy life geared to the common good.

The Federal Government strengthens existing urban and regional development instruments in order to ensure that healthy and just living conditions are maintained and strengthened in all settlement areas. It promotes the development of a cities with short distances and prioritises mixed-use areas in view of the character of the respective area.

Cities, towns and villages must be further developed as places to live and work. These socially and functionally mixed and creatively adapted structures offering public services are resilient to disasters such as the impacts of pandemics as well as to medium- to long-term challenges such as climate change.

Public space is a symbol of our settlements. As a common good, public spaces facilitate social encounters and exchange, democratic participation in opinion-forming and negotiation, individual social participation. Last but not least, they help to forge a sense of local identity and support orientation. They raise the profile of diversity in a pluralistic society and open up opportunities for direct or indirect exchange.

In order to make the diversity of society more tangible, public spaces must be adaptable, inclusive and accessible. Democratic participation on an equal footing and co-creative collaboration in the development of public spaces are indispensable and must be strengthened through gender-sensitive and dialogue-oriented participatory processes.

Public spaces are well designed and maintained with triple inner urban development in mind while their clear layout and orientation are maintained and access to semi-public spaces is promoted. Mixed-use spatial concepts with permeable pathways increase the frequency of use and offer opportunities for affordable living, working, education, culture and commerce, as well as for encounters, recreation and sports. This enhances safe local forms of mobility and counteracts spatial segregation.

Public spaces must therefore also be designed to be attractive for climate- and environmentally-friendly mobility that is compatible with urban life. Vibrant and healthy structures that are geared to the common good are thus facilitated.



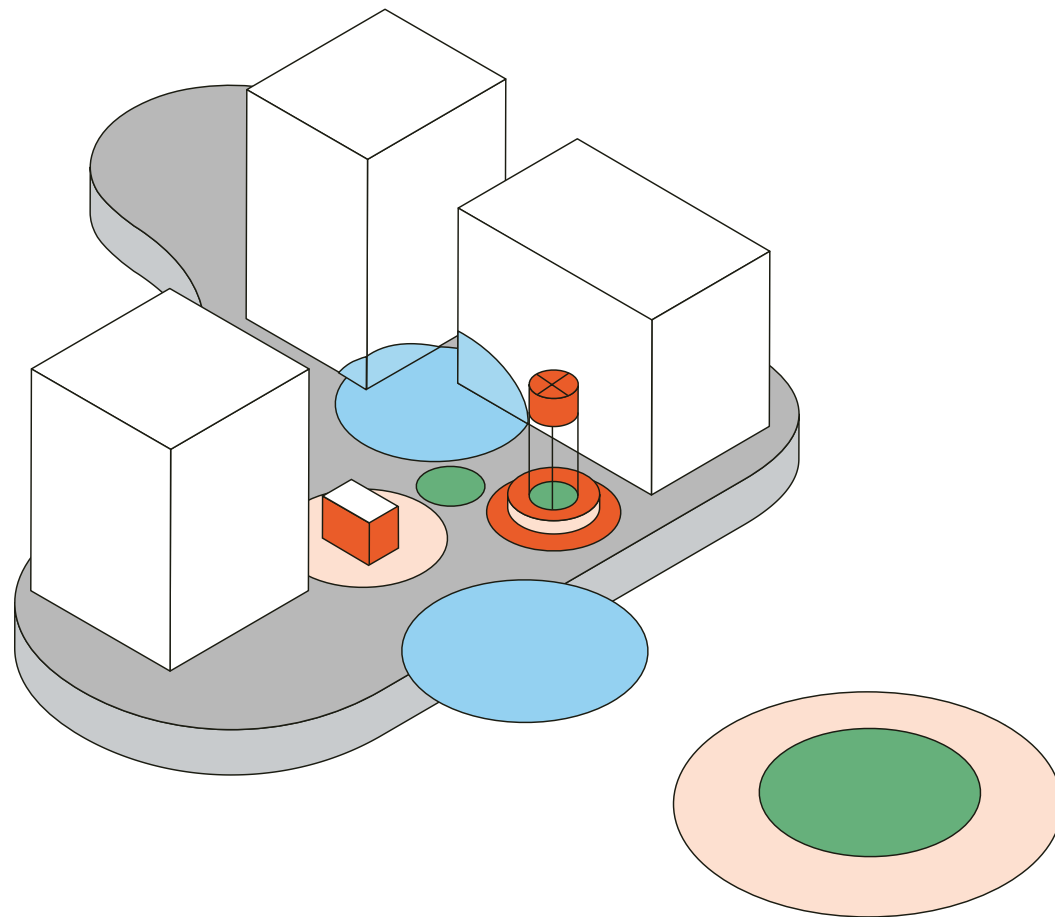
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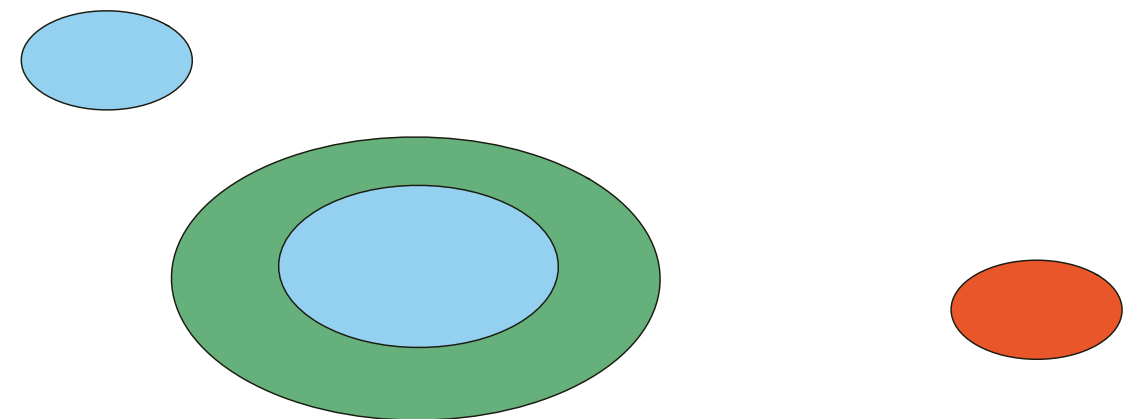


Guideline 7

Practice-oriented experimental spaces open up avenues for the Umbaukultur and planning and construction of tomorrow.

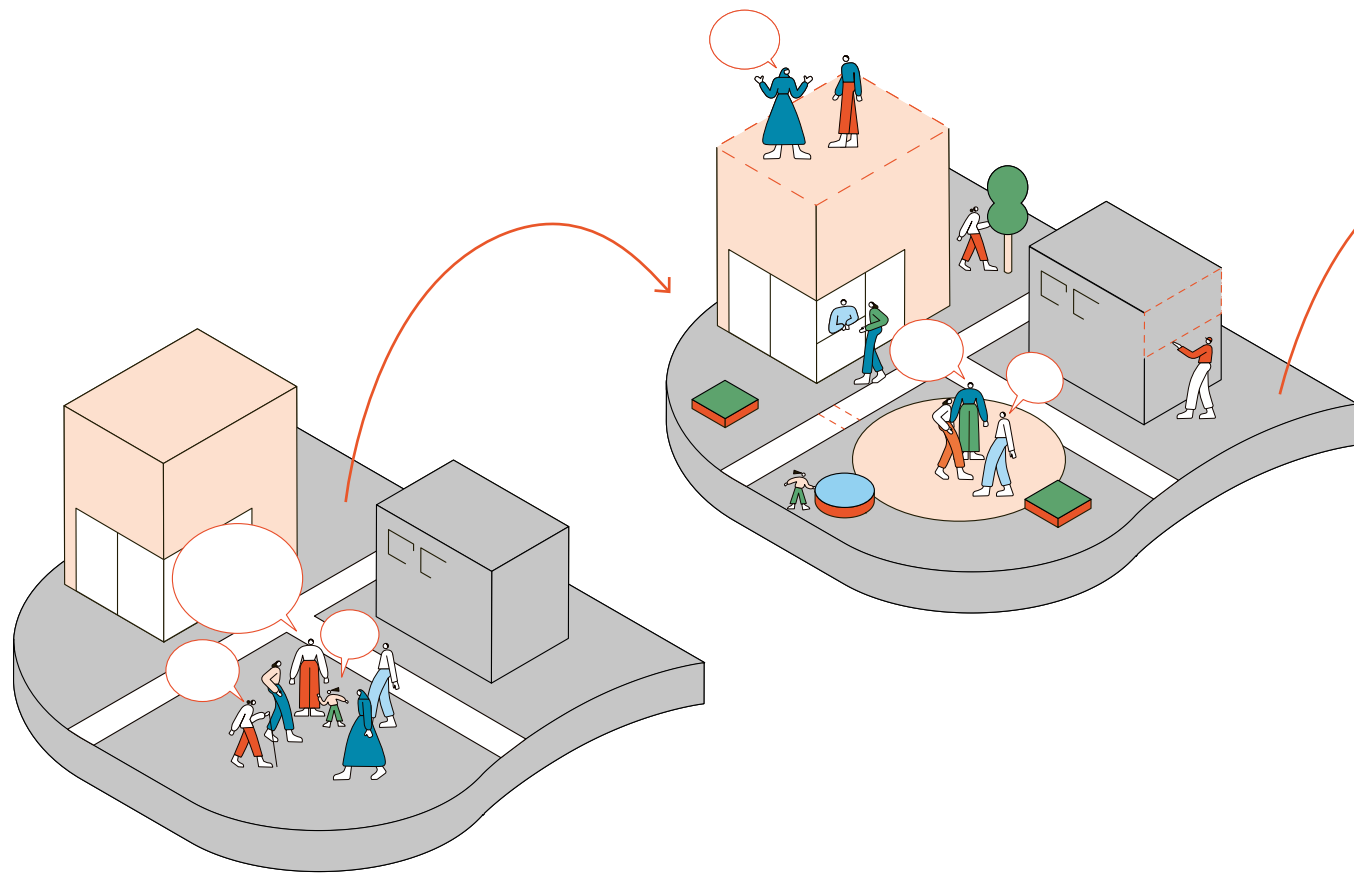
The Federal Government lends its support to experimental spaces and real-world laboratories in which effective development paths for the ecological, social, health-promoting, technological and economic transformation of the built environment of urban societies, science, business and administrations are jointly sought, formulated and pursued on the ground.

It promotes innovative approaches by strengthening accompanying public-private partnerships. Such approaches help to strengthen the acceptance of experiments in planning and building as well as the achievement of the Federal Government's sustainability goals, which take their lead from the UN Sustainable Development Goals, while also bearing local characteristics in mind.



Guideline 8

Effective participation processes take into account the needs of people on the ground and facilitate a jointly designed transformation of Baukultur.

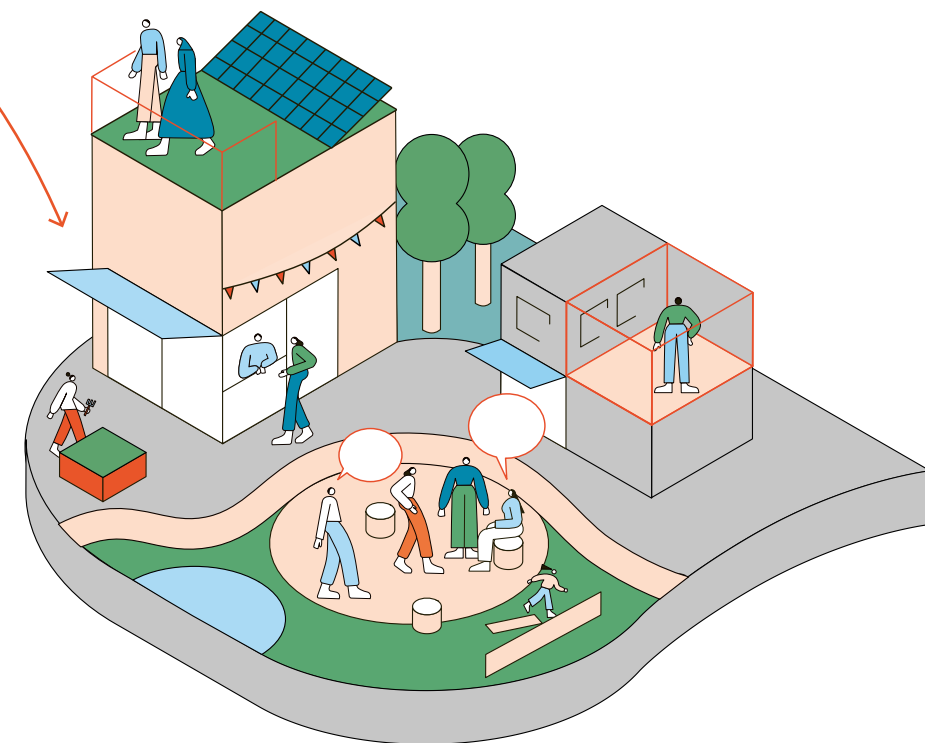


The Federal Government supports inclusive and effective participation processes with a view to developing viable solutions for local measures together with civil society, administrations and the scientific and business community while taking into account the goal of accelerating planning. Among other things, this involves enabling residents and local businesses to be involved in a low-threshold and effective manner, with their different perspectives and needs, in order to safeguard and strengthen local and regional acceptance of comprehensive changes and conversions.

New civil society formations, frequently in the form of informal initiatives, are becoming involved in both urban and rural areas. In order to promote integrated spatial development, it is essential to support the involvement of civil society, administrations and the private sector on the ground and to actively involve neighbourhood initiatives in this process.

Participatory research involves practitioners and citizens who bring their knowledge to bear in the design of processes and solutions in a scientifically sound manner. This opens up an opportunity to expand the knowledge base through everyday and acquired knowledge, to share knowledge and to develop socially viable and practical solutions.

The acceptance of these solutions varies among the different groups of stakeholders. Cooperative planning processes, which are based on close collaboration between different stakeholders and interest groups, can help to bridge top-down and bottom-up approaches in spatial planning practice in order to qualify the results and increase the acceptance of decisions.



Amt für Ideen



Measures and fields of action

The eight Guidelines for Baukultur are accompanied by measures at the federal level as well as recommendations for fields of action within the responsibilities of the states, municipalities and other stakeholders.

Guideline 1

The Federal Government strengthens Umbaukultur and works to ensure a well-designed, climate-neutral and climate-adapted built environment.

Key measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government is committed to reviewing and simplifying **European and national procurement regulations**, e.g. with regard to threshold values, procurement run times, the preferred use of low-greenhouse gas and pollutant-free products, circular and recycled materials and the avoidance of the use of fossil raw materials.
- The Federal Government facilitates the **regulatory framework**, such as building planning law, for planning and construction projects in existing buildings while complying with protection requirements for people, the climate, the environment and nature and promotes efforts to strengthen nature-based solutions.
- The Federal Government updates the **guidelines for design competitions** (*Richtlinie für Planungswettbewerbe*, RPW) and adapts them to current requirements in order to strengthen and ensure a high level of design quality in the construction industry, to involve the public and to provide equal opportunities for newly established planning offices to participate in this process.

- The Federal Government reforms the **ordinance on fees for services rendered by architects and engineers** (*Honorarordnung für Architekten und Ingenieure – HOAI*).

- The Federal Government conducts **design competitions** for suitable construction projects and promotes **art in architecture**.

Measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government is committed to **recording and limiting greenhouse gas emissions** that affect the climate over the life cycle of buildings and is introducing a **Digital Building Resource Passport**.
- The Federal Government is committed to the **legally secure reuse** of used building materials, building products and components.
- The Federal Government provides incentives for **climate-friendly and energy-efficient renovation, modernisation and the continued use of existing buildings**, taking into account design and functional qualities and promoting preventive structural adaptation to the impacts of climate change, such as increasing heavy rainfall, storms and hail as well as heat waves.
- The Federal Government continues to develop **quality criteria** such as the Assessment System for Sustainable Building (BNB) and the QNG Sustainable Building Certification scheme.
- The Federal Government procures **environmentally friendly products, services and building products** in accordance with the General Administrative Regulation on the Procurement of Climate-Friendly Services (AVV Klima) and the Federal Government's programme of sustainability measures.

- The Federal Government is committed to acting as a **role model in the area of emission efficiency** and is further developing the energy efficiency specifications for federal buildings (*Energieeffizienzfestlegungen Bundesgebäude, EEFB*) with this in mind.
 - The Federal Government takes **Baukultur criteria into account when planning** construction projects (new buildings or conversions) and when awarding contracts.
 - The Federal Government draws attention to its exemplary role by **awarding federal prizes for outstanding examples of high-quality Baukultur**.
 - The Federal Government promotes **research, development, testing and the dissemination of forward-looking, technological, ecological and social innovations** as an important basis for a sustainable *Baukultur*.
 - The Federal Government lends its assistance to contractual partners in planning and construction in reaching agreement on **simple, innovative and cost-effective solutions** (Building Type E). The guideline for Building Type E provides information and assistance for reaching agreement on deviations from recognised technological rules in planning and construction contracts in accordance with the German Civil Code.
 - The Federal Government further develops existing **funding programmes and financial assistance for the Länder** with a view to strengthening *Umbaukultur* and to promote climate protection and adaptation measures, as well as to support the integration of blue-green infrastructure.
 - The Federal Government encourages the *Länder* to **accelerate approval procedures** for innovative construction techniques and digital solutions, as well as for new, more sustainable building products.
 - The Federal Government encourages the *Länder* to establish a **uniform legal assessment of high-quality construction** and to harmonise their respective building regulations.
 - The Federal Government creates suitable **infrastructures for internal and external development** in new and existing buildings, in particular for pedestrians and cyclists (moving and stationary traffic).
 - The Federal Government supports the *Länder* and municipalities in implementing the **National Cycling Plan**, which provides for the development of comprehensive, attractive and safe cycling and pedestrian networks in urban and rural areas as well as the implementation of projects with a spillover effects.
- Recommendations for Länder, municipalities and other stakeholders**
- Necessary **construction work** will be designed to conserve resources, protect the climate, nature and land as well as minimise noise pollution. Such work will be digitally documented and meet high *Baukultur* standards. This also applies to serial, modular and systemic construction methods and renovations.
 - The *Länder* and municipalities are encouraged to create suitable **infrastructure** for internal and external access on foot and by bicycle (moving and stationary traffic).

- There should be a greater focus on **bicycle traffic** in regional planning, in the building regulations of the *Länder* and in municipal planning.
- The **inner urban development** of municipalities is a priority. In particular, preference should be given to construction projects in existing buildings, where possible, rather than to new buildings. The potential for creating affordable housing and commercial space will also be exploited in mixed-use buildings through urban infill, adding storeys, renovation, conversion and increasing the flexibility of use.
- Municipal contracting authorities should avail themselves of existing options under **public procurement law** with regard to the use of resource-conserving, climate-friendly, regional materials and products, avoiding the use of fossil raw materials and using recycled materials.
- The **reuse** of used building materials and components by public and private building developers is considered to be a priority, as is the use of building products with a high level of recycled content.
- **New buildings** constructed by public and private developers are also geared towards the goals of climate and health, resource, emissions, nature and land protection, as well as adaptation to climate change and aim to create added value for the common good in the area of *Baukultur*, in particular with a view to creating affordable housing and producing buildings as long-lasting economic goods.
- When planning new buildings and conversions, a climate and environmentally friendly and economical approach to the **use of space, materials and energy** should be a basic principle of requirements planning. Steps must be taken to avoid emissions of noise and pollutants.

Guideline 2

Baukultur strengthens local characteristics and creates spaces that people can identify with, thus fostering social cohesion.

Key measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government promotes **inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary concepts** (e.g. integrated urban development concepts as part of urban development funding and village development concepts as part of integrated rural development) that emphasise the site-specific further development of village centres, districts, quarters and centres with a high level of design quality as well as support the renovation and operation of existing buildings and the preservation, enhancement and further development of site-specific multifunctional green and open spaces and their networking.
- The Federal Government strengthens **local democracy and social cohesion**, particularly in small communities and advocating the preservation or creation of third places, such as advisory services and art, sports and educational programmes, as spaces that promote encounters, inclusion and integration.
- The Federal Government fosters **cooperative regional development and the exchange of knowledge between small towns and communities in Germany**, thereby strengthening the equality of living conditions and social cohesion.

- The Federal Government is committed to taking into account **Baukultur heritage in all its diversity as a resource that shapes the identity of places**, is able to respond to changing conditions, acts as a driver of sustainable, integrative and green urban development and is considered to be a cross-cutting task of urban development.

Recommendations for Länder, municipalities and other stakeholders

- Municipalities are encouraged to use **integrated conceptual approaches** for the conversion, further development, operation and maintenance of areas, existing buildings and open spaces (e.g. via concept procedures), to formulate design qualities to this end and to enable the public to get involved.
- Municipalities and private developers are recommended to design **commercially used areas**, wherever possible in a way that maintains urban order with additional functions, such as affordable housing and institutions promoting the common good, to create neighbourhoods with good infrastructure connections and to avoid conflicts of use, such as the displacement of local businesses.
- Municipalities and private housing companies are recommended to supplement **monofunctional residential areas** with compatible uses from the service, trade and skilled trade sectors in order to increase diversity of use, enhance the resilience of neighbourhoods and support their climate-friendly transformation.
- With **social infrastructure facilities**, municipalities create physical places for encounters with a high level of appeal and a positive image (known as third places), which improve the
- quality of experience in neighbourhoods and districts, as well as revitalise or develop neighbourhood or town centres.
- **Providers of technical infrastructure** take this into consideration in the context of spaces, areas and cultural landscapes. They are committed to ensuring that projects take these aspects into account and that they are well designed and developed in a user-friendly and sustainable way.
- The *Länder*, municipalities and private individuals are encouraged to maintain and preserve the local **Baukultur heritage**, traditions of rural and urban construction and structures of architectural and heritage gardens insofar as this appears economically viable and is expedient from a construction point of view, also when converting or extending buildings.
- The *Länder* and municipalities are encouraged to take up and promote *Baukultur* as part of their overarching or municipal **tourism development**.
- Local and regional **design advisory boards** can make a valuable contribution to *Baukultur* in municipalities, both in new constructions and in the development of existing buildings and neighbourhoods and should be involved in planning processes.

Guideline 3

Baukultur requires skills that promote innovative processes and spatial design.

Key measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government promotes the nationwide and international **exchange of experience and dialogue, networking and knowledge transfer** in the field of *Baukultur* with a view to ensuring cooperative and collaborative planning and conversion processes. Exemplary processes, solutions and successful examples are publicised as next or best practices.
- The Federal Government is committed, in cooperation with the *Länder*, to **strengthening education in the field of Baukultur** in the school and training system, in the higher education system and in further education and supports the development of independent *Baukultur* didactics, pedagogy and research that is geared towards ecological, social and economic sustainability.
- The Federal Government cooperates with the *Länder* and municipalities to **promote further education and training opportunities** with respect to content and issues pertaining to *Baukultur*.
- The Federal Government strengthens *Baukultur* by **accelerating planning and approval processes**, particularly in connection with urban development measures.

Measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government promotes **inter-municipal, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary cooperation** to achieve a greater design quality, innovation and a low-threshold culture of involvement.
- The Federal Government supports the integration of conversion work and the approach to regional *Baukulturen* and the requirements of climate protection and adaptation in **training and teaching** for planning professions, for occupations in the construction and real estate industry and in the skilled trades.
- The Federal Government works to strengthen **cooperation between federal ministries** with links to planning and construction as well as the **interministerial dialogue** on sustainable urban and settlement development.

Recommendations for Länder, municipalities and other stakeholders

- The quality and effectiveness of **formal and informal participatory processes** at the municipal level should be strengthened with the targeted and gender-sensitive inclusion of previously marginalised social groups and their diverse needs. Opportunities for getting involved should be easily accessible to this end.
- On the basis of their cultural sovereignty, the *Länder* are recommended to advocate the **compulsory teaching of Baukultur** at kindergartens, schools, vocational schools, universities and colleges, as well as in further and continuing education, including for planning, teaching and craft occupations.

- The *Länder* and municipalities should use appropriate **funding programmes** to support children and young people in developing a conscious relationship with the built environment and in perceiving it as designed, but also as capable of being designed. From early childhood onwards, they should be empowered to participate in processes that affect their own living environment.
- Educational institutions should receive assistance in entering into long-term **cooperative partnerships in the field of *Baukultur* education**, for example with professional mediators in the field of *Baukultur* from *Land* chambers of architects and *Baukultur* initiatives.
- **Educational buildings** should be planned on the basis of procedures focused on quality, such as competitions in accordance with the guidelines for design competitions and on the basis of the latest pedagogical school building concepts. Cost-saving planning and construction and the highest standards of design and quality of experience, including accessibility, are not contradictions in terms when it comes to safeguarding the educational experience and success of children and young people. On the contrary, they are the basis for social progress through inclusion, economic prosperity and a stable democracy.
- Traditional **building and craftsmanship techniques** and the **use of regional materials**, as well as colour schemes depending on the context, should be taken more strongly into account in construction projects. Colleges, universities, technical colleges and companies providing training offer the necessary qualifications in vocational and further training in the planning and construction professions.

- In addition to specialised teaching and training for planning professions, colleges and universities should also teach **social skills for mediation and the design of processes**.

Guideline 4

A responsible land policy minimises the amount of land required for settlement areas and forms the basis for spatial development processes that are geared to the common good.

Key measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government strengthens the framework for the **triple inner urban development** of municipalities with an appropriate land policy that promotes strong municipal centres within the framework of the Federal Building Code (e.g. by closing gaps, subsequent, temporary and interim use, adding storeys and further development).
- The Federal Government supports local authorities, particularly municipalities, by **selling properties through municipal first-right-of-purchase**. Additionally, it provides subsidies for public uses that serve the common good. In this way, it contributes to promoting high quality in design and environmental standards.
- The Federal Government is committed to the more intensive **use of existing instruments serving the common good and those concerning heritable building rights** by making the

necessary knowledge available to this end, as well as to the sparing use of land.

- The Federal Government lends its support to municipalities in identifying **potential development sites**.
- The Federal Government supports, in appropriate cases, the **allocation and development of sites in concept procedures** for mixed-use developments geared to the common good, efforts to strengthen the local economy, enhanced design quality, as well as innovation and a culture of participation, while taking into account the goal of accelerating planning and approval.
- The Federal Government promotes the **sustainable use of resources** through the development of brownfield sites and buildings through revitalisation.

Recommendations for Länder, municipalities and other stakeholders

- Municipalities should continue to advance urban and settlement development as well as underlying urban land-use planning with the objective of **triple inner urban development** with a view to saving space and costs for infrastructural connections to and the supply of outlying areas and to strengthen town centres in functional terms.
- Municipalities should develop former **industrial and military sites as well as traffic areas that are no longer required** in accordance with aspects of *Baukultur*, ecology and the common good. In so doing, they should envisage areas for residential construction, for community facilities as well as for trade, production and services.

- **Interim uses** may be taken into consideration pending a decision on the final use of the land and offer opportunities for use geared towards the common good in dialogue with civil society.
- The **development of inter-municipal land use concepts**, with which municipalities can work together efficiently and in a space-saving manner with joint forms of use in mind, must be strengthened as a basis for coordinated land use plans. The basis for this are uniformly structured expert reports for brownfield sites within the scope of development plans. This conserves land, revitalises existing buildings and creates synergies for public spaces.
- **Binding qualitative requirements for land use**, such as the creation of retention areas, the avoidance of soil sealing and direct compensatory measures to restore soil functions following sealing, as well as the promotion of efforts to unseal areas that have been sealed unnecessarily, can enhance the effectiveness of climate adaptation measures.
- The amount of land used for transport infrastructure should be reduced by **transforming space-intensive traffic areas** into attractive blue-green areas and public spaces that can be accessed with ecomobility.
- **Urban municipal social infrastructure sites and those for small businesses and skilled trades** should be safeguarded and redeveloped if necessary. Such sites help to preserve cultural and functional diversity.

Guideline 5

The qualification, expansion and networking of green and water areas create healthy living conditions for people and nature.

Key measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government develops existing **strategies and programmes for the expansion and further development of green-blue infrastructures** with a view to taking aspects of *Baukultur* into account. This includes protecting and preserving the cultural and natural heritage from the impacts of advancing climate change.
- The Federal Government safeguards its **green and blue infrastructures** and renaturating and qualifying them so that they can continue to provide their diverse services in the context of climate protection and adaptation, health, social cohesion, biodiversity and the urban and rural landscape.

Measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government communicates **best and next practices for strengthening, qualifying and networking public open spaces and green systems** with natural green and water areas at all levels, from districts and neighbourhoods to urban regions.
- The Federal Government supports the *Länder* and municipalities in **clearing the backlog of renovation and maintenance work on public green and water areas**, for example with the

Federal programme on the adaptation of urban and rural areas to climate change (*Anpassung urbaner und ländlicher Räume an den Klimawandel*).

Recommendations for Länder, municipalities and other stakeholders

- **Public green and open spaces** must be commensurate with needs. They must be distributed as evenly as possible, demonstrate a high level of quality with respect to *Baukultur* and be bio-diverse and ecologically resilient as well as multi-functional in order to facilitate a wide range of uses and the preservation of biodiversity.
- The **adaptation of settlements** to heavy rain-fall, heat and drought should preferably be achieved through nature-based measures that take local conditions into account. In this context, particular priority must be given to settlement areas that have special requirements with respect to adapting to climate change, based on climate risk analyses of their geographical and topographical location and their settlement or population structure and also as far as climate justice is concerned.
- **Green and water areas** should be further developed as recreational areas, as **climate compensation areas** and as **places for experiencing nature**, for the health, well-being and quality of life of people and for biodiversity.
- Open spaces should be adaptable and should also facilitate extensive use. **Open space concepts** should therefore take into account different intensities of use and create ecological retreats in addition to intensively used areas.

- The **sustainable design of traffic areas** as climate-resilient green corridors can make an important contribution to sustainable, water-sensitive settlement development. Existing green spaces must be enhanced in ecological and creative terms.

- **Paved or sealed outdoor and surface areas**, such as streets and parking spaces, as well as roofs and facades, should be expanded to include climatic and socio-cultural functions with the greening of buildings and green elements such as urban and roadside trees, depending on their location and suitability and taking into account the costs that this incurs.

- **Cooperation between municipalities and the Länder** in the development of green and blue infrastructures should be intensified.

Guideline 6

Mixed-use, well-designed public spaces in city centres, neighbourhoods and districts promote a healthy life geared to the common good.

Key measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government seeks, in coordination with the *Länder*, to ensure that qualities of *Baukultur* are taken more strongly into account in suitable funding programmes for **investments in buildings, infrastructure and public green and open spaces**, particularly in disadvantaged urban and suburban districts and those impacted by structural change.

- The Federal Government promotes **dialogue on the equal development and gender-sensitive design of urban spaces** as part of the National Urban Development Policy in order to take into consideration the particular needs of different user groups, including with respect to visibility, adaptability, mobility and short distances, safety and social control, accessibility and the quality of facilities, well-being and the need for rest and to strengthen participation in public spaces.

- The Federal Government maintains **significant funding of urban development**, strengthening integrated rural development in the **Joint Task for the Improvement of Agricultural Structures and Coastal Protection** and **other programmes for designing public spaces as a common good and places where people can meet**.

Measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government supports the transformation to “**cities with short distances**”.
- The Federal Government supports the **high-quality and water-sensitive design and networking of streetscapes**.
- The Federal Government ensures that new and converted federal buildings are of a **high quality, including in their surroundings**, with, for example, safe and barrier-free accessibility, adequate illumination and high-quality bicycle parking facilities.
- The Federal Government supports appropriate **public mobility options** in both urban and rural areas. It is committed to sustainable public transport with a view to ensuring that a good local transport service is available that includes new mobility concepts.

- The Federal Government promotes the **creation and further development of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans** (SUMP) as an integrated basis for planning ecological, economically efficient and socially balanced mobility.

Recommendations for Länder, municipalities and other stakeholders

- The **guiding principle of “cities with short distances”** and the **development of sustainable mobility** should be taken as the basis for planning wherever possible.
- The *Länder* stipulate in their respective **building regulations** that new buildings must have **easily accessible and high-quality bicycle parking facilities**. The municipalities may stipulate details, in accordance with local conditions, by means of statutes.
- Municipalities should facilitate equal use and the mindful living together of different functions with stringent aesthetic and accessibility standards with the **high-quality design of public spaces in urban and local districts** and facilitate the creation of accessible and well-organised spaces.
- **User- and gender-sensitive and cooperative planning** at the municipal level should take into account the different needs of the various population groups when it comes to appropriating public spaces and should also be reflected in the training of the planning and construction professions.
- Providers of **social and technical infrastructures** should pay greater attention to the quality of *Baukultur* and climate resilience, as well as to accessibility.
- The planning model of triple inner urban development, which aims to achieve the improved

integration of inner urban development and to safeguard and qualify blue, green, open and quiet spaces in conjunction with sustainable mobility, should also be applied to **public and accessible spaces**, taking into account **protection against noise emissions**. Site-specific requirements in conjunction with qualitative standards may be stipulated in statutes.

Guideline 7

Practice-oriented experimental spaces open up avenues for the Umbaukultur and planning and construction of tomorrow.

Key measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government strengthens **exchange on experimental formats in programmes**, in the work of federal foundations and in its own dialogue formats and draws on the opportunities offered by digitalisation to this end. The aim is to achieve greater clarity in existing formats, platforms and experimental spaces.

Measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government continues to develop its **expertise in the areas of transformative and transdisciplinary research and funding**, including in the Experimental Housing and Urban Development (ExWoSt) and the Future Building and Real-World Laboratories network programmes and also gears this expertise to the field of *Umbaukultur*.
- The Federal Government promotes **networks for the location-specific exchange of ideas**

between stakeholders in experimental spaces at national and international level (e.g. the Davos *Baukultur* Alliance, the quality offensive for International Building Exhibitions (IBA), the New European *Bauhaus* and centres of excellence).

- The Federal Government promotes **innovations in real-world laboratories** and experimentation clauses for sustainable, environmentally friendly, climate-friendly and climate-adapted, biodiversity-promoting, innovative and socially integrative urban development and mobility, as well as in the construction industry, e.g. through International Building Exhibitions and in the Smart Cities model projects. It also lends its scientific support to these initiatives and developing knowledge transfer guidelines.

Recommendations for Länder, municipalities and other stakeholders

- The **framework conditions for experimental spaces and real-world laboratories, as well as special formats of urban and regional development** in the *Länder* and municipalities that strengthen *Baukultur*, in addition to international projects, should be reviewed and improved (e.g. International Building Exhibitions, New European *Bauhaus* projects, regional garden shows, etc.).

Guideline 8

Effective participation processes take into account the needs of people on the ground and facilitate a jointly designed transformation of Baukultur.

Key measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government promotes **effective participatory processes** for those affected by the planning and construction tasks that it finances and supports.

Measures of the Federal Government

- The Federal Government strengthens conversion and adaptation processes in the *Länder* and municipalities by means of **supportive dialogues** on the ground.
- The Federal Government promotes **interministerial cooperation** in the federal administration and associated authorities and institutions with regard to questions of *Baukultur*.
- The Federal Government supports the **implementation of digital planning tools** within the framework of public participation.
- The Federal Government supports the **implementation of accessible forms of participation**, for example by promoting best-practice examples.
- The Federal Government enables all affected groups to be involved in environmental and health-related decisions on an equal footing through **low-threshold participatory processes**.

Recommendations for Länder, municipalities and other stakeholders

- Municipalities and private developers should avail themselves of necessary adaptation processes with regard to **climate protection and adaptation as an opportunity for dialogue with civil society** in order to develop local strategies for climate-adapted urban development that is geared to the common good.

- **Participatory processes for target groups that are difficult to reach**, such as children, young people, people with disabilities and migrants, should be facilitated with outreach measures.
- The establishment of **communication and advice centres** at the municipal and *Land* level to promote *Baukultur* and as points of contact

for questions relating to *Baukultur* should be examined.

- **Local and regional partnerships** should receive effective support for the implementation of participatory processes in *Baukultur* on the ground.

Further information

Digital, barrier-free version
of this publication in English
www.bmwsb.bund.de

Digital, barrier-free version
of this publication in German
www.bmwsb.bund.de

Davos declaration
davosdeclaration2018.ch/en

Davos alliance founding act
www.davosalliance.org

New Leipzig Charter
www.nationale-stadtentwicklungspolitik.de

UN Goals for sustainable development
unric.org/en

Federal Foundation for Baukultur
(only in German)
www.bundesstiftung-baukultur.de

Strategy for a national circular economy
(only in German)
www.bmuv.de

Assessment system for sustainable
building (BNB)
www.bnb-nachhaltigesbauen.de/en

Quality certification sustainable
building (QNG)
www.nachhaltigesbauen.de/en

Energy efficiency regulations for
federal buildings (EEFB) (only in German)
www.bbsr.bund.de

Building type E (only in German)
www.bmwsb.bund.de

Guidelines for planning competitions (RPW)
(only in German)
www.bmwsb.bund.de



Glossary

Integrated urban development

Integrated urban development describes a cross-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach to urban planning, emphasising the need for holistic rather than sectoral planning processes. This involves considering urban development concerns in an interconnected manner. The prerequisite is purposeful and collaborative action by politics, administration, planning and civil society.

Triple inner urban development

The guiding principle of triple inner development aims to integrate the three areas of existing building stock, green and open spaces and mobility into a cohesive planning strategy. This includes utilising the potential of existing inner-city spaces constructively, preserving, connecting and enhancing open spaces and conserving land and (grey) resources. The goal is to achieve a high quality of life for all.

Blue-green infrastructure

A blue-green infrastructure comprises green spaces (such as parks, plazas, natural areas, vertical gardens and rooftop gardens) and all types of water bodies as part of a network. This infrastructure makes a significant contribution to sustainable and healthy development by capturing CO₂, improving air quality, storing water, preventing flooding and reducing urban heat islands.

Living labs

A living lab is a temporally, spatially and thematically defined testing environment where innovative spatial concepts, processes, technologies or business models are tested under real-world conditions. Through a “temporary state of exception”, such as the use of special clauses, living labs can provide key insights into viable and future-oriented projects and necessary further developments.

City of short distances

The “city of short distances” is a concept in urban planning aimed at reducing the need for transportation and prioritising walking, cycling and public transport over private motorized vehicles. This requires short spatial distances between places of work, living, education, leisure and services or their accessibility on foot or via public transportation.

Land conservation goals and land policy

and conservation involves reducing the use of land for settlements and transport while preserving fertile, water-retaining soils and sensitive natural areas. The Federal Government pursues land-use policies as part of its National Sustainability Strategy, aiming to reduce new land use to under 30 hectares per day by 2030.

Resilience

Resilience refers to the ability of an individual, system, community or society to resist, adapt to, and recover from the impacts of hazards in a timely, efficient and sustainable manner. The preservation and restoration of their basic structures and functions through risk management are essential. Resilience-oriented urban development seeks to reduce the vulnerability of cities and their built infrastructures while building the capacity to face future challenges such as extreme weather events or pandemics.

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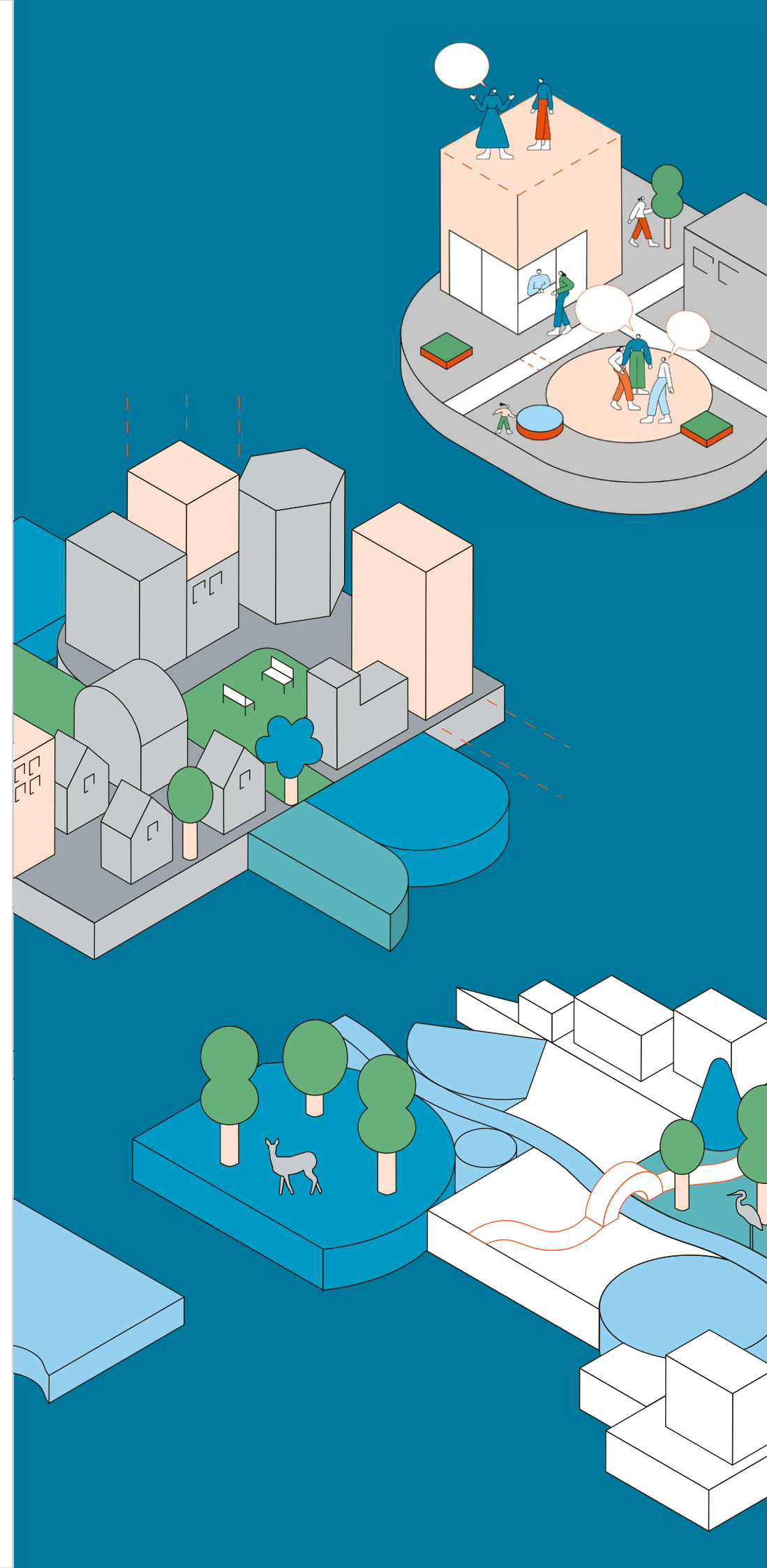
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