

# Session E

## Housing us all: The Just City and Inclusion in Housing

A **Just City** is one where housing is affordable for all, and where different needs are met. This session showcases a number of collaborative housing projects and explores their commitment to inclusiveness. What successful mechanisms and features are there to support marginalised groups, financially and otherwise?

We will explore the characteristics of projects, including Space-S (Eindhoven), Startblok (Amsterdam) and Mehr Als Wohnen (Zürich) which have all been World Habitat Award winners in recent years - alongside other innovative collaborative housing initiatives, to analyse and discuss how to enable inclusion in housing.

## Speaker

### Mariangela Veronesi, World Habitat



**Mariangela Veronesi** (she/they) has a background in community-led processes to housing and neighbourhood upgrading, and in innovative and sustainable global housing practices. Since 2018, Mariangela has been leading the Global Community-led Housing Programme at World Habitat, which supports ground-breaking collaborative housing projects to address urgent housing needs across the world.

[www.world-habitat.org](http://www.world-habitat.org)



The logo graphic consists of several overlapping, wavy, ribbon-like shapes in various colors including orange, teal, pink, and purple, creating a dynamic, abstract form.

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**Our vision is a world  
where everyone has  
a safe and secure  
home in a successful  
community.**

**We find, support, share and celebrate  
those ideas and actions that have an  
overwhelmingly positive impact on  
individuals, families and communities.**

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# world habitat awards

The logo for World Habitat Awards features the text 'world habitat awards' in a sans-serif font. 'world' and 'habitat' are in black, while 'awards' is in orange. To the right of the text is a colorful, abstract graphic consisting of several overlapping, wavy lines in shades of orange, pink, purple, and teal.

Every year, the World Habitat Awards recognises projects that demonstrate **practical, innovative and sustainable solutions** to current housing challenges; and can be transferred or adapted in other countries across the world





## Housing us all: The Just City and Inclusion in Housing

A Just City is one where housing is affordable for all, and where different needs are met.

**What are some of the mechanisms and features to support the inclusion of lower income and marginalised communities in housing?**

Common factor: **affordability**





Mehr als Wohnen  
Zurich, Switzerland:  
Representation and allocation





# Mehr als Wohnen – Zurich, Switzerland: Representation and allocation

Designed for people from all social strata and of all ages – representative of Zurich's population mix.

All kinds of households: single units, family apartments, cluster apartments with up to 15 rooms.

Actively approached excluded groups, supported them through activities to facilitate integration.

One in ten of all apartments reserved for charities and non-profit foundations that work with people with disabilities, families with immigrant backgrounds and restricted budgets or children in care.

Empowering cooperative structure ensures participation and establishment of social networks





Space-S  
Eindhoven, Netherlands :  
Adapting processes to ensure  
participation in social housing







# Space-S – Eindhoven, Netherlands : **Adapting processes to ensure participation in social housing**

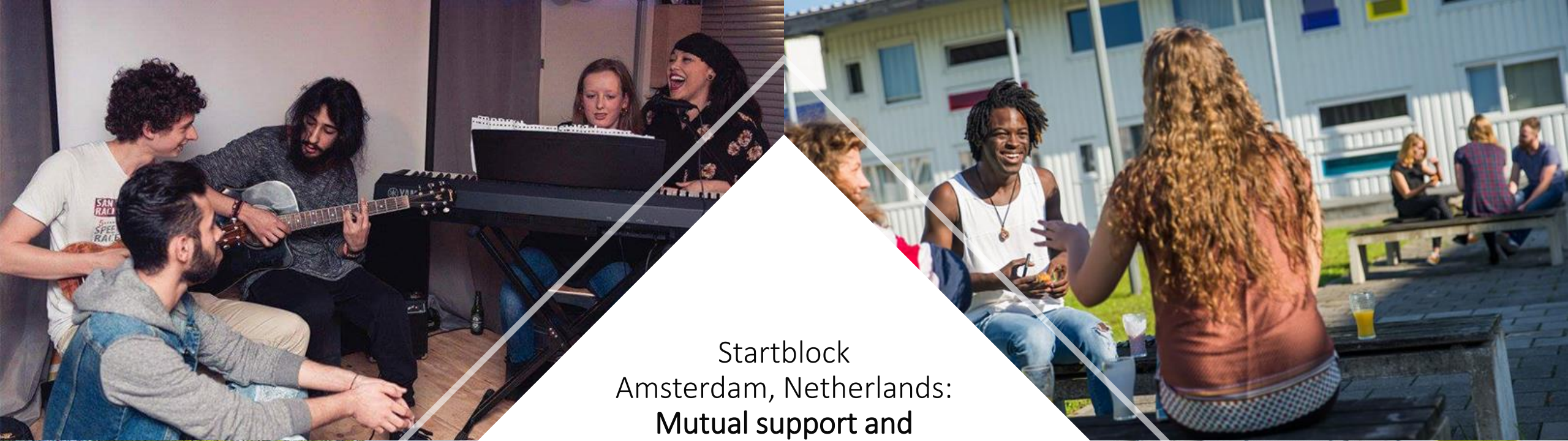
Social housing with community-led elements.

Residents = strong influence over the design of the space and management.

Workshops design processes inclusive and accessible, including to people with disabilities, learning difficulties and autism.

Homes for all ages and needs, including young people with learning difficulties, people with autism and accessible to people using wheelchairs.





Startblock  
Amsterdam, Netherlands:  
Mutual support and  
complementarity of needs and  
assets





# Startblock – Amsterdam, Netherlands: **Mutual support and complementarity of needs and assets**

Home to 550+ people aged between 18 and 27.

Half of the residents are refugees with residence permits.  
Half are young Dutch citizens in need of affordable housing.

Affordable tenancies = Dutch residents to work or study in an otherwise expensive city, while refugees also benefit from friendships and gain knowledge to help build their lives in the Netherlands.

All treated equally and live collaboratively with people with different cultures, languages, customs and cuisines.

Managed by the residents, provided with support and counselling, sport activities, language courses and cultural exchanges funded through their rent.

Two groups with needs that can be addressed together, and they also have a lot to offer each other.





Tonic Housing  
London, United Kingdom  
Intersectionality





# Tonic Housing, London: **Intersectionality**

Intersectional perspective - addressing the needs of people who experience marginalisation due to a combination of factors.

A place where people can thrive and be empowered in their later life.

Driven by the demand of older LGBT+ people for better choices in housing, support and care.

Co-production processes with Community Panel made up of potential future residents.

The panel include a range of voices from across the LGBT+ older persons community in terms of ethnicity, gender, disability and sexuality.

The creation of LGBT+ affirming communities will include training staff and care teams to give appropriate care to LGBT+ older people.



# What makes a city inclusive?

## Word Cloud activity :

- You'll find a link to a 'mentimeter' in the chat function
- Please click on this
- A window will open and it will ask you **What makes a city inclusive?**
- Describe your answer in just one or two words. Insert at least 3 answers
- You can repeat this a few times if you'd like
- Close the window and come back to our session



# Questions for Discussion

- How does **housing inclusion link** to wider discussion about **inclusive cities**?
- What are your **reflections on mechanisms** for inclusion in the case studies?  
e.g. Advantages or shortcomings?
- What **other mechanisms** for inclusion in housing or in cities can you think about?
- Are these ideas presented **adaptable** to your own context?

Mehr als Wohnen – Zurich, Switzerland: **Representation and allocation**

Space-S – Eindhoven, Netherlands : **Adapting processes to ensure participation in social housing**

Startblock – Amsterdam, Netherlands: **Mutual support and complementarity of needs and assets**

Tonic Housing, London: **Intersectionality**

For any follow up, email me at [mariangela.veronesi@world-habitat.org](mailto:mariangela.veronesi@world-habitat.org) or [@MariVeroUK](https://twitter.com/MariVeroUK) on twitter