

Living and Sustainability: An Environmental Critique of Design and Building Practices, Locally and Globally

1. Paper / Proposal Title: Assessing sustainability in urban regeneration: insights from a housing association in Northern England

2. Format:

Written paper

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5. Abstract (300 words):

How far do current assessment methods allow to assess thoroughly sustainable urban regeneration? Would it be useful, by approaching the evaluation of environmental and social impacts of housing regeneration schemes, both making hidden pitfalls and potentials explicit, and budgeting costs and benefits in the stakeholders' perspective? The paper aims at answering these questions, by focusing on a case study located in the Manchester area, the City West Housing Trust, a nonprofit housing association. Drawing from an extensive field work and including several interviews with key experts

from this housing association, the paper first attempts to monetize the environmental and social value of 2 extant projects -a high rise housing estate and an environmental-led program. It then discusses whether and how a stakeholder-oriented approach would allow to engage more both current and potential funders in the projects. Findings from both the literature and the empirical data gathered show how in the housing regeneration current process, room for significant improvements in the assessment methods still exist. Findings additionally show that the environmental and social spillovers are largely disregarded because of a gap in the evaluation tools. This may also hinder the potential contribution of further funders in the achievements of higher impacts in terms of sustainability.

6. Author Biography:

Dr. Claudia Trillo is Lecturer in Architecture at the School of Built Environment, University of Salford, UK and holds a PH-D on Urban Design. She has carried out extensive comparative research on urban regeneration, both in Europe (Italy, UK, Spain, Finland and Germany) and in the United States first as Fulbright Senior Researcher, then as Marie Curie researcher on various European granted research projects. She lectured in several countries, including Italy, UK, US, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Iran and authored circa 80 publications in the field of urban regeneration, design and planning.

Kevin Dean is PhD candidate at the School of Built Environment, University of Salford. He has been working for several years at the City West Housing Trust, a not-for-profit housing association that owns and manages over 14,600 homes in the North-West of England. In this role, he has developed extensive experience on managing housing regeneration schemes. His current research focus is on a stakeholder- oriented implementation of the SuROI (Sustainable Return of Investments) methodology.