



THE FUND: INITIATOR OF INNOVATIVE PROJECTS

The Fund's mission, as its name indicates, is the urbanisation and development of the Kirchberg Plateau.

The history of the urban development of Kirchberg has known various key phases, and these should be considered briefly to make the development of the plateau and the evolution of the Fund's mission understandable:

- 1960: functional viability of the plateau in response to a pressing need: – to house all the European Institutions together in the south of Kirchberg; construction of individual buildings without a planning schedule and incorporating a non-existent infrastructure on the plateau ;
- 1980: change of urban planning focus with the aim of diversifying the existing activities on the plateau and planning the establishment of a mixed urban structure, ending mono-functional zonings and delivering an infrastructure of urban fabric on a smaller scale ;
- 1990: enhancement of the urban planning changes begun in 1980 by transforming the expressway into a city avenue, street-front construction, increased density of the urban fabric, establishment of mixed urban use and creation of central areas for the districts as well as outside spaces which encourage contact between people.

It transpires from this brief history that Kirchberg does not fit a pattern of spontaneous growth but consists of urban sectors designed, created and bearing the stamp of successive urban development directives of the various periods.

Kirchberg is now facing new challenges in trying to achieve the goal of a diversified, desirable area where it is possible to live and work comfortably, both now and in the future.

The Fund's 2014 experiment in developing urban vegetable plots for the district's residents, on the 2 areas of waste ground in the heart of the Grünewald District, constitutes the start of a new approach aimed at enabling the users to influence the evolution of their district.

To strengthen this move towards participation, the Fund added a District Manager to its team in 2015 and installed the "Quartier Stuff", a social innovation laboratory symbolised by the red container in the Grünewald District.

In addition to this call for involvement, the aspirations of projects for a modern city are many and complex.

This increasing complexity and the different scales of projects require the development of integrated projects which take the different time scales and the needs of the users into account.

With the Luxembourg company and C2C expert, +ImpaKT, the Fund has rethought its project development procedure and has installed the co-creation process aiming to bring the skills of the various multi-disciplinary parties involved together from the outset, without a call for competition.

Meanwhile, the regulations governing urban planning, technical and programmatic sectors (environment, transport, energy management, water management, various other functions) which the projects have to adhere to have become increasingly complex and therefore require a different approach.

Together with the architect William McDonough, the Fund has developed visions and goals to establish and define a frame of reference which the projects will try to follow.

Thus, conscious of its role as initiator of innovative projects, the Fund, as the landowner and public body responsible for the development of the 365 hectares of the Kirchberg Plateau, is committed to the promotion and implementation of holistic and comprehensive solutions on its territory in order to answer fully the challenges set by society and to address the consequences for its future as Kirchberg becomes a form of laboratory for urban development.

Thus, the Fund intends to encourage the development of responsible projects with a positive impact both on the site and on those using it. The idea is to do good, as opposed to doing "less bad", and to leave a positive legacy for future generations.

To this end, it has launched a new pilot procedure for three sites under development; a procedure entitled:

"Positively defined co-creation process according to a cradle to cradle approach: Celebrating diversity for long-term healthy growth."