



IEA SHC Task 63 Solar Neighborhood Planning

Seminar Wednesday 29.11
Kosmopol, København DK



Subtask D. Case Studies

Solar Neighborhood Planning: lesson learned collection of case studies



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WHAT ARE SOLAR NEIGHBORHOODS?

*“Solar neighborhoods are **communities prioritizing** the exploitation of **solar energy**, with **limited energy management** systems. Buildings’ **morphology** and **relations**, building envelope and material **features** are designed to maximize the efficiency of **passive and active solar strategies**. Solar neighborhoods are characterized by a microclimate that enables **adequate thermal and visual comfort**, and **high life standards**, both **indoors and outdoors**”.*

FROM SOLAR BUILDINGS TO SOLAR NEIGHBORHOODS



SOLAR BUILDINGS

Planning and design process focuses on the **single building**.
A group of buildings implementing solar strategies at **building scale**.

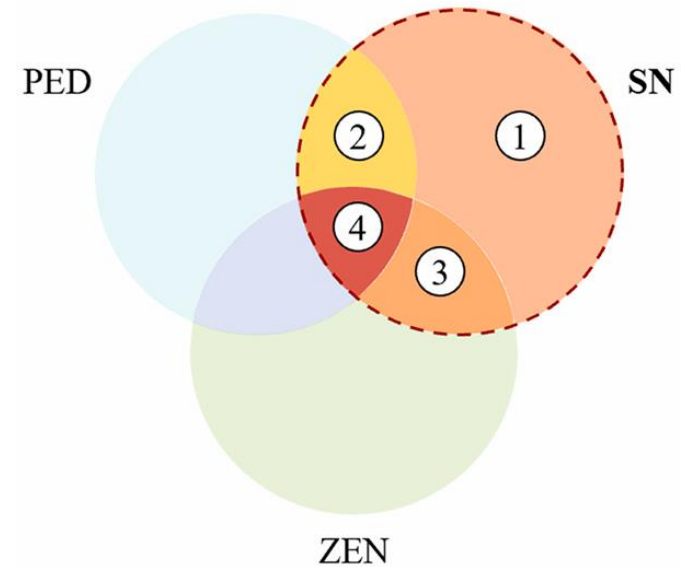


Planning and design process focuses on the **whole neighborhood**.
Solar strategies are implemented at **multiple scales**.

SOLAR NEIGHBORHOODS



FROM SOLAR BUILDINGS TO SOLAR NEIGHBORHOODS



Solar Neighborhood (SN)



Objective: Optimally and fully exploitation of the solar energy potential

SN categories:

1. Pure (or target-free) SN
2. Energy-centered SN
3. Carbon-centered SN
4. Energy- and Carbon-centered SN



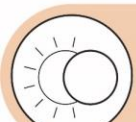
Q1 | What is a solar neighborhood?



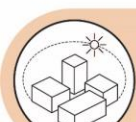
Q2 | What aspects should be considered in the planning and design process of a solar neighborhood?



Q3 | Which are the passive and active solar strategies in solar neighborhoods?



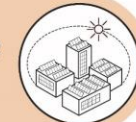
Q4 | How are the passive and active solar strategies applied in solar neighborhoods?



Q5 | What are the challenges of implementing passive solar strategies into solar neighborhoods?



Q6 | What are the challenges of implementing active solar strategies into solar neighborhoods?



Q7 | How can the digitalization of the built environment support the planning of solar neighborhoods?



Q8 | How can the planning strategies and design solutions for solar neighborhoods impact on the “total environment”?



Q9 | What legislative agenda is needed to support solar neighborhoods?



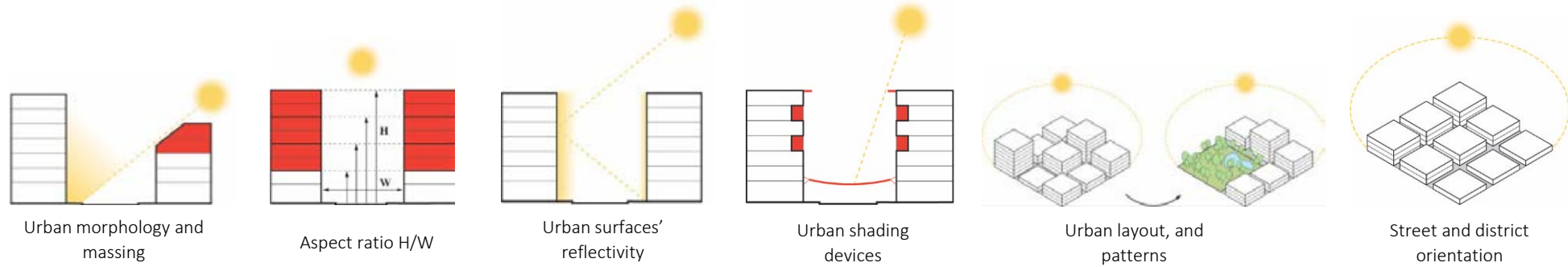
Q10 | What is next in planning and design strategies for solar neighborhoods?



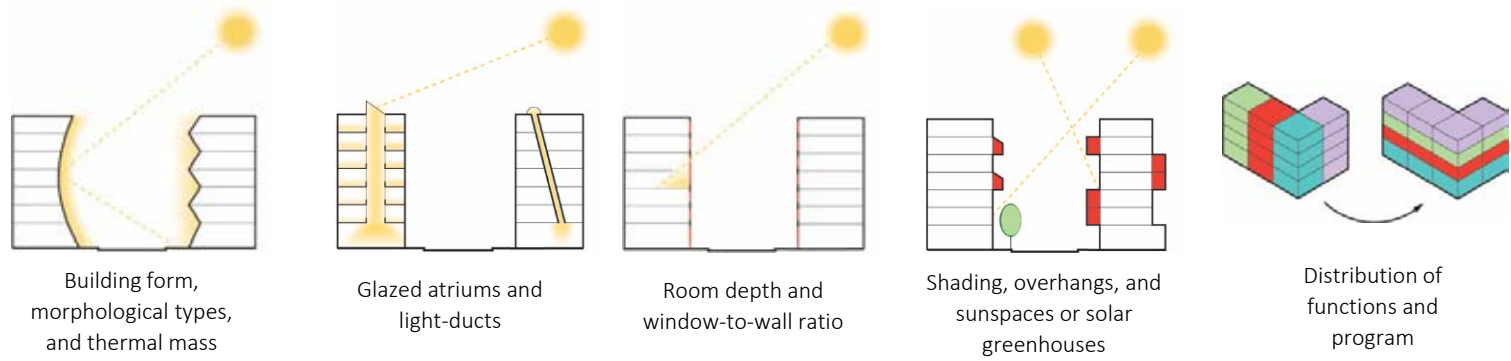
A wide-angle, low-perspective shot of a solar farm. The rows of solar panels are perfectly aligned and recede into the distance, creating a strong sense of depth. The sky is a clear, pale blue, and the overall lighting is bright and even. The solar panels are dark blue with visible grid lines.

EXPLOITING
SUNLIGHT IN SOLAR
NEIGHBORHOODS

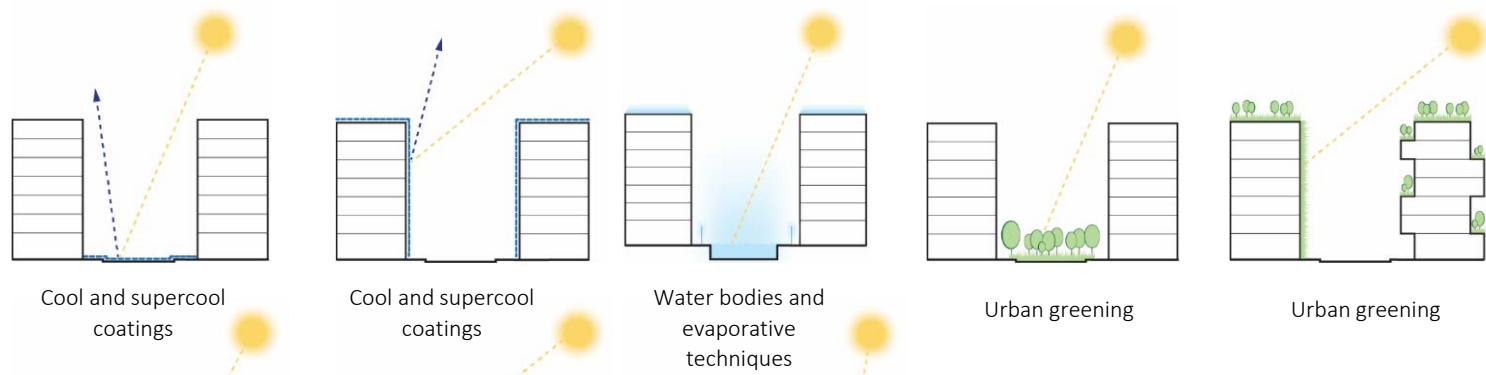
Passive Solar Strategies
Neighborhood scale



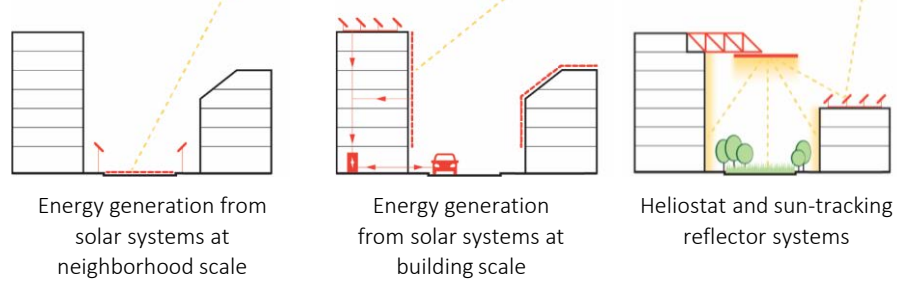
Passive Solar Strategies
Building scale



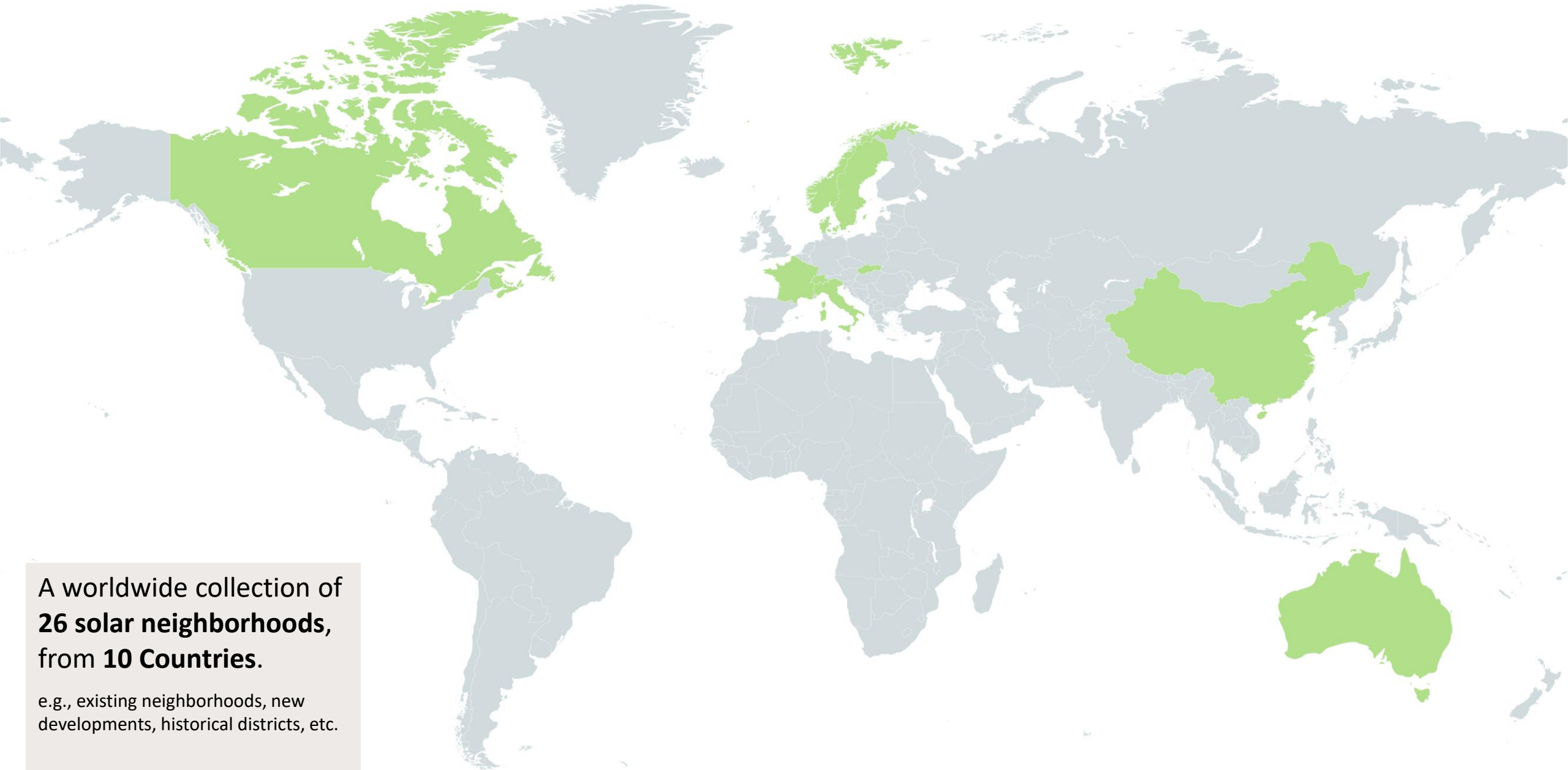
Passive Solar Strategies
Other strategies



Active Solar Strategies
Building and Neighborhood scale



IEA SHC TASK 63 – CASE STUDIES



A worldwide collection of **26 solar neighborhoods**, from **10 Countries**.

e.g., existing neighborhoods, new developments, historical districts, etc.

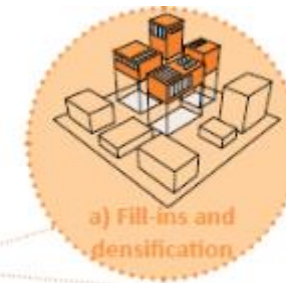
IEA SHC TASK 63 – CASE STUDIES



Existing and heritage Neighborhood

New Neighborhood

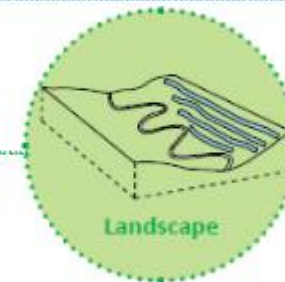
Solar Landscape



a) Fill-ins and densification



b) Existing urban fabric



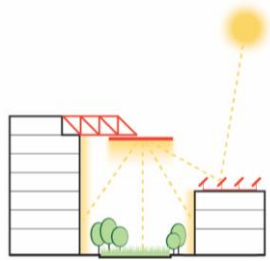
Landscape



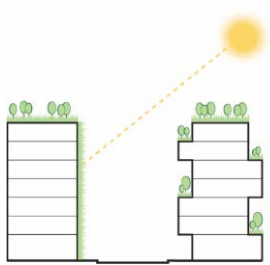
New urban areas

A worldwide collection of **26 solar neighborhoods**, from **10 Countries**.

e.g., existing neighborhoods, new developments, historical districts, etc.



Heliostat and sun-tracking reflector systems



Urban greening



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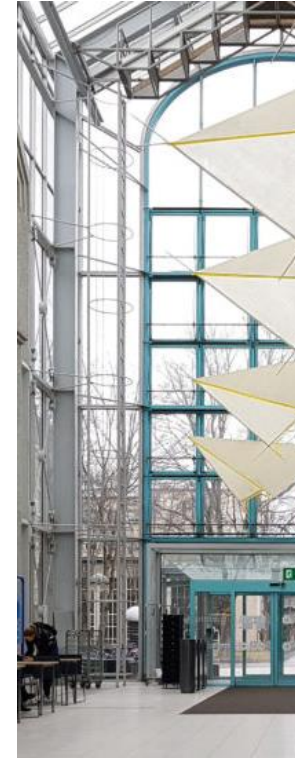
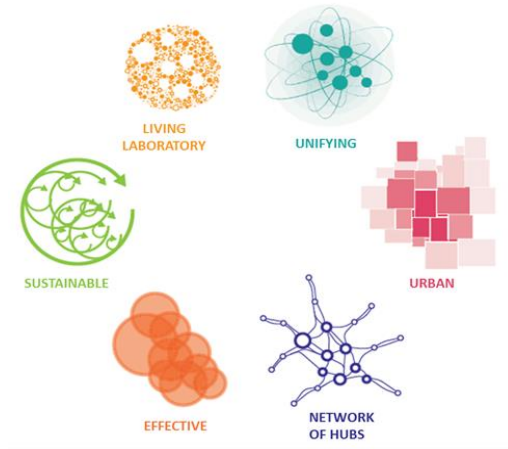


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ONE CENTRAL PARK

Sydney, Australia

New neighborhood



© Wang, 2023



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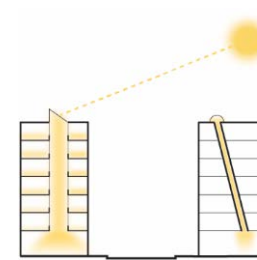
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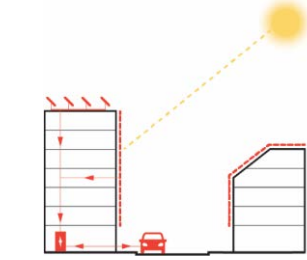
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GLØSHAUGEN CAMPUS Trondheim, Norway

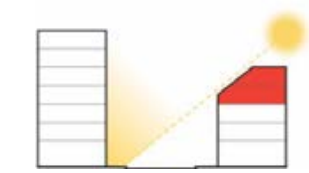
Existing neighborhood



Glazed atriums and light-ducts



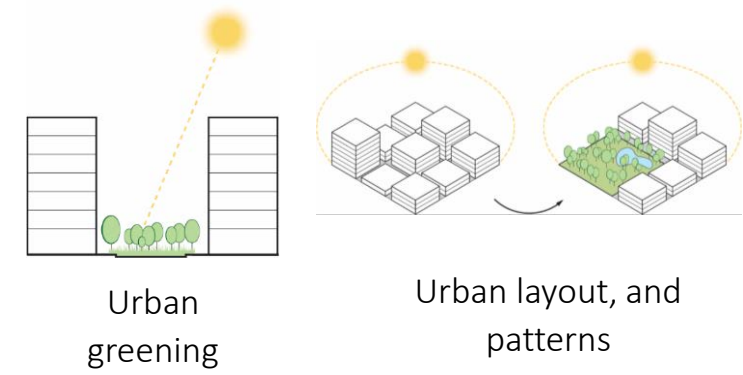
Energy generation from solar systems at building scale



Urban morphology and massing

BLATCHFORD DEVELOPMENT Edmonton, Canada

New neighborhood



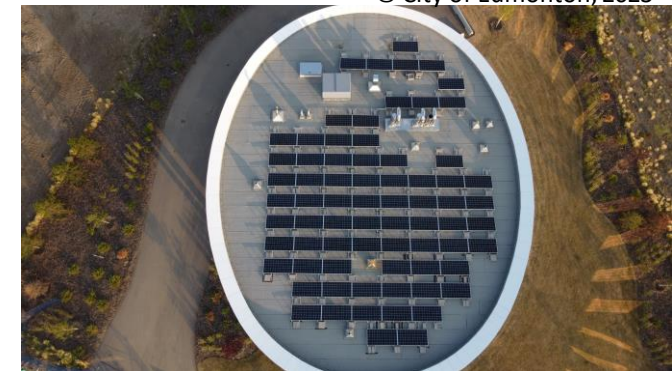
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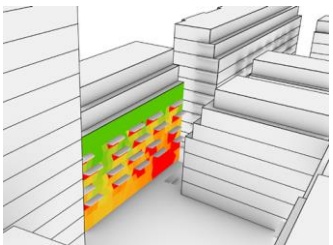
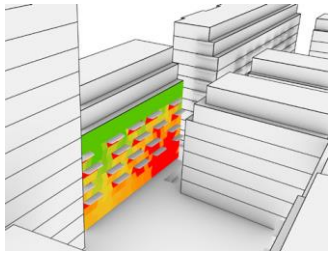
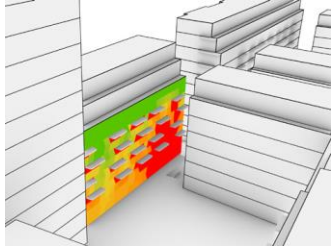


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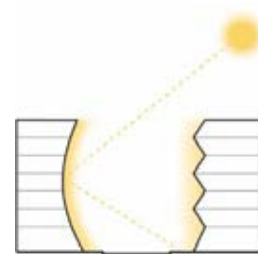
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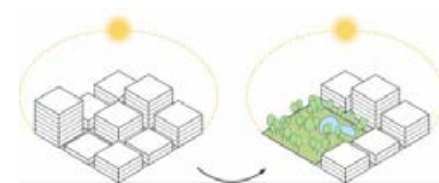
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VEDDESTA 13:1 Stockholm, Sweden

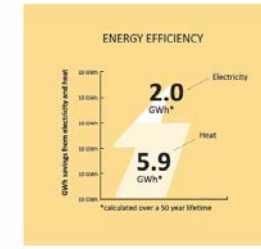
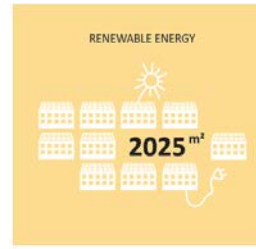
New neighborhood



Building form, morphological types, and thermal mass



Urban layout, and patterns

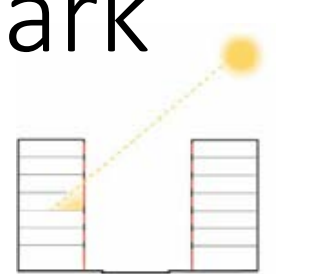


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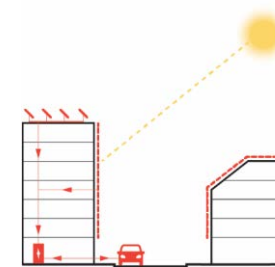
SØNDERHAVEN

Brædstrup, Denmark

New solar settlement



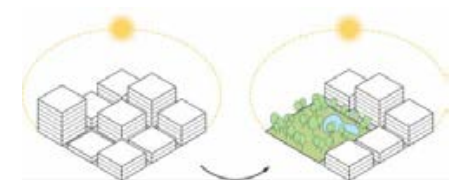
Room depth and window-to-wall ratio



Energy generation from solar systems at building scale



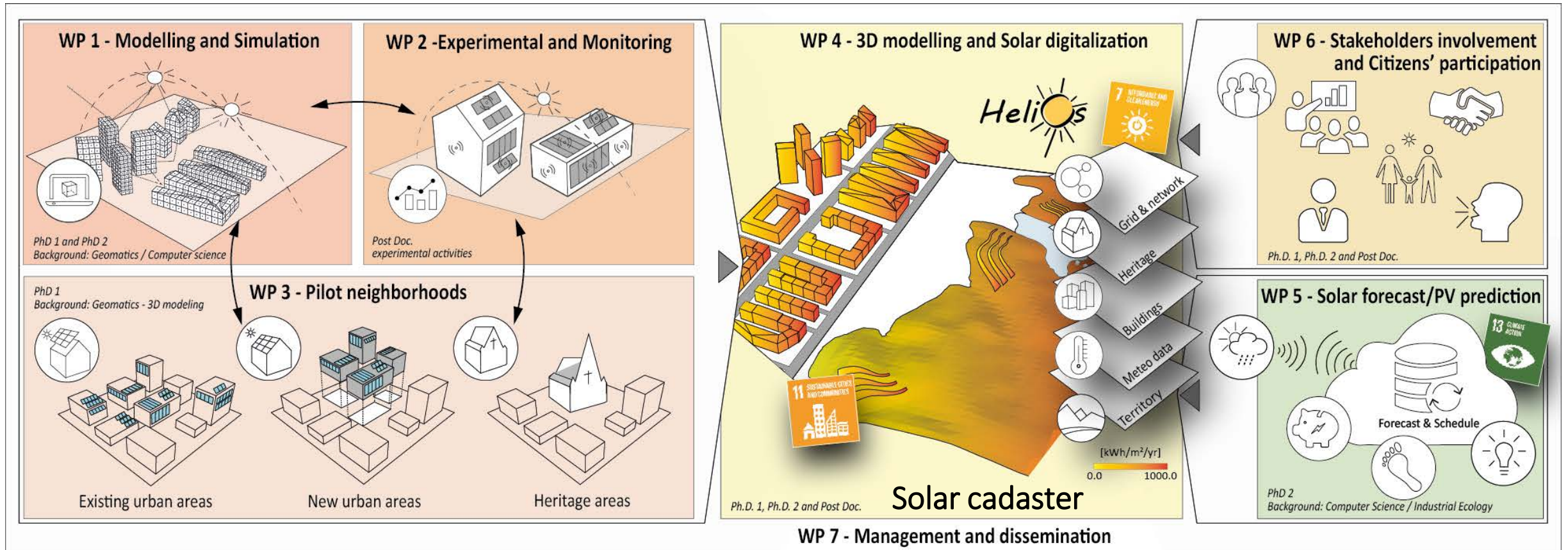
Urban morphology and massing



Urban layout, and patterns

HELIOS, Trondheim, Norway

enHancing optimal ExpLoitatioN of Solar energy in Nordic cities through digitalization of built environment / Dec. 2021 - Apr.2026



Project owner: *NTNU / IV / IBM*

Project manager: *Ass. Prof. Gabriele Lobaccaro*

NTNU Partners: *IDI, IndEcol, MTP, IMA*

National partners: *SINTEF Community, Trondheim Kommune*

International partners:

HEPIA - Geneva School of Eng., Arch. and Landscape – Univ. of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland;

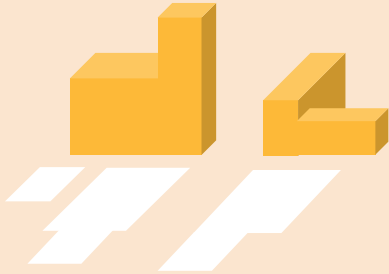
USMB/INES - University Savoie Mont Blanc / National Institute of Solar Energy (France);

UCB Lyon 1/CETHIL - Claude Bernard University / Centre d'énergie et de thermique de Lyon (France).

HELIOS, Trondheim, Norway

enHancing optimal ExpLoitatioN of Solar energy in Nordic cities through digitalization of built environment / Dec. 2021 - Apr.2026

The development and validation of **advanced numerical models for solar radiation analysis** within the built environment enables:



Boosting the transition from 2D solar maps to **3D solar cadastres**



Supporting various stakeholders in the **solar planning** activity



Enhancing **social acceptability** of solar strategies in sensitive urban areas



SHC Task 51

Solar Energy in Urban Planning

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[Publications](#)
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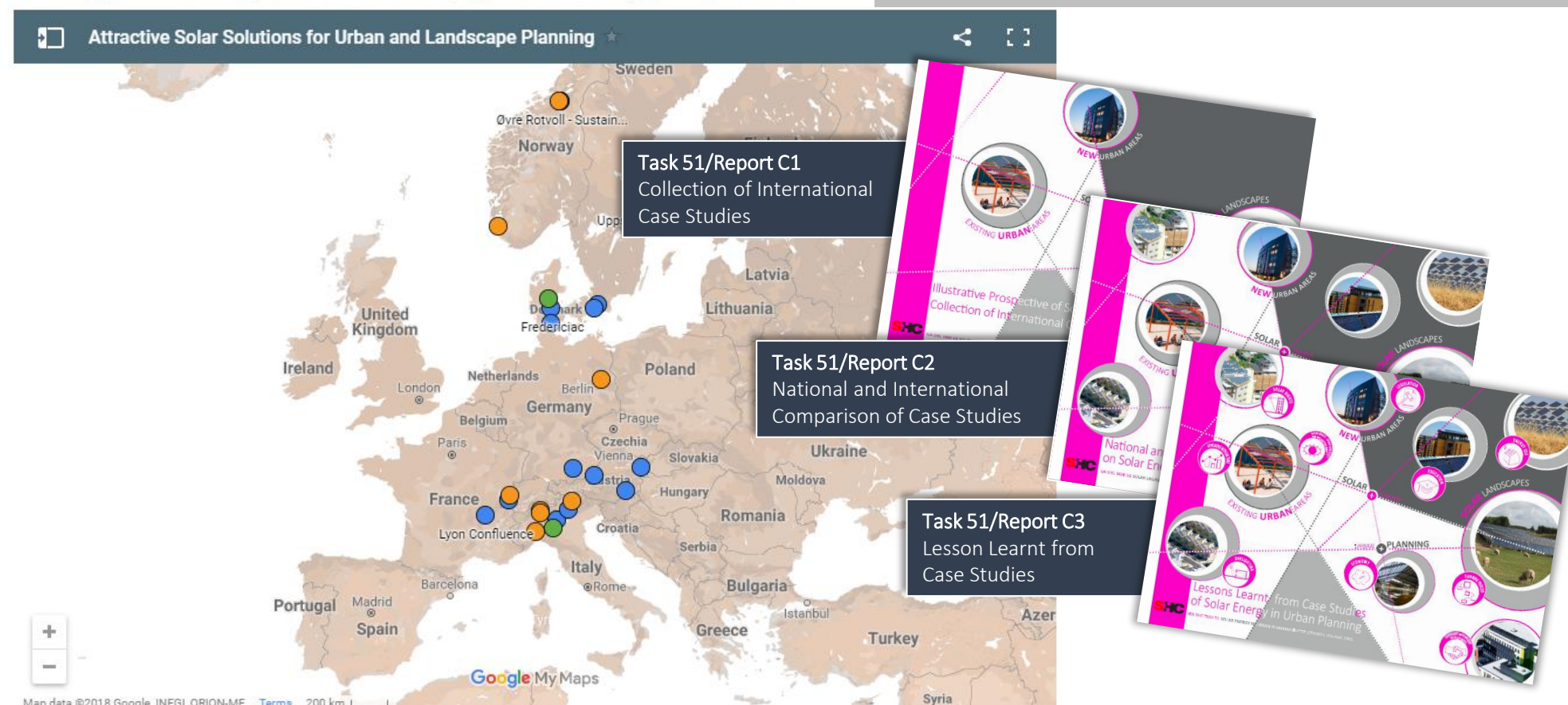
How to Integrate Solar Energy in New or Existing Urban Areas or Landscapes

This map works as a platform for the case studies collection coordinated by Subtask C "Case studies and action research".

In the map all the analyzed case studies are marked according to the different environments (orange for existing urban areas, blue for new urban areas and green for landscapes). For each case study a dedicated brochure (.pdf file) describing the case can be downloaded.

Click on the top left icon for the navigation menu or click on the top right icon to view the map full screen with menu.

On-line Case Studies Map



Attractive Solar Solutions for Urban and Landscape Planning

Task 51/Report C1
Collection of International Case Studies

Task 51/Report C2
National and International Comparison of Case Studies

Task 51/Report C3
Lesson Learnt from Case Studies

Map data ©2018 Google, INEGI, ORION-ME Terms 200 km



Critical aspects

Challenges and opportunities

Social

- Balancing building uses with passive strategies to optimal uses of surfaces.
- Evaluate the tradeoffs between conflicting uses of solar gain and between scales.
- Increase user acceptance and impact of passive solar strategies in highly sensitive/constrained urban areas.

Layout

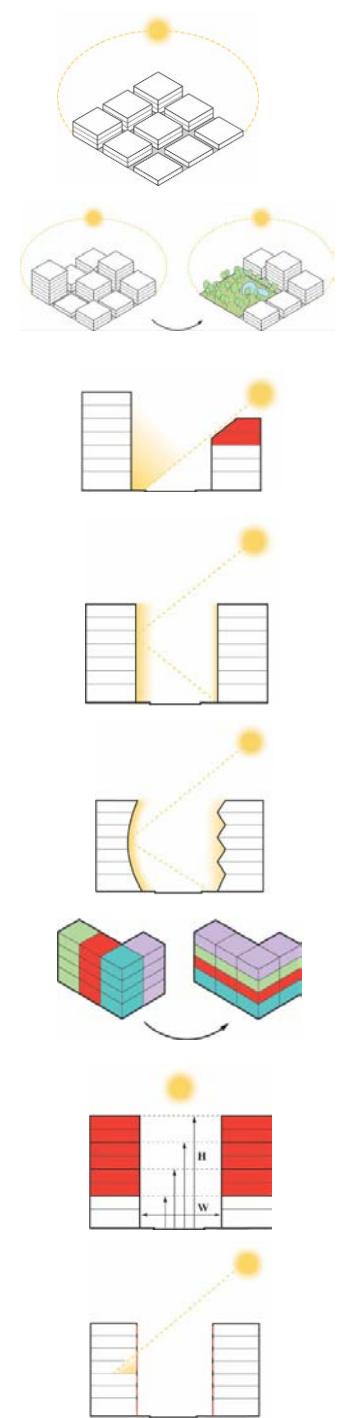
- Guarantee daylight and visual comfort.
- Mitigate UHI effects and inter-building reflections.
- Design effective technological solutions
- Optimize building shape, orientation, interior layout.
- Apply building form and massing to guarantee right-to-light or right-to-shade according to the building uses.

Material

- Improve indoor/outdoor thermal comfort.
- Adoption of new materials to improve visual comfort.

Modeling

- Develop form-finding workflows for solar neighborhoods.
- Reduce computational time for solar energy simulations.
- Model of natural elements (e.g., trees, vegetation).
- Develop digital clones of materials and technologies.

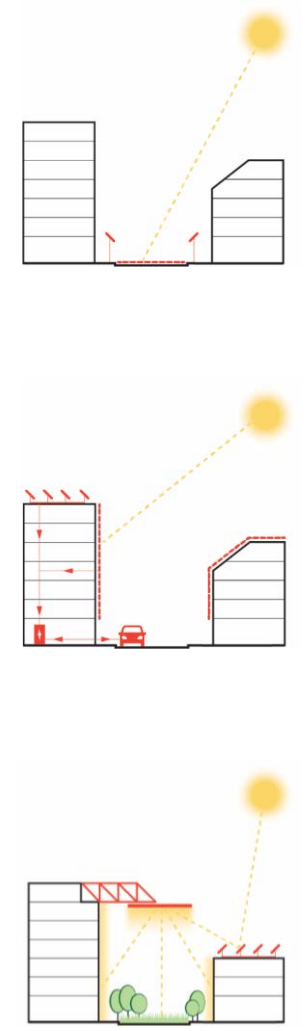


Lesson Learned

What are the challenges of implementing passive solar strategies into solar neighborhoods?



Critical aspects	Challenges and opportunities
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balance the competing uses of surfaces by implementing multi-functional solutions.
Urban planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Couple solar access and urban planning for different interventions. Electrification of heating and cooling systems.
Modeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop approaches to process inter-building reflections. Make data available in the project early-design stages. Develop key performance indicators to visualize and communicate results. Develop urban canopy models to assess impact of BIPV on the urban microclimate.
Architectural integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve high quality of integration through colored panels, layout, and sustainable materials. Adapting urban regulations for heritage protected areas.
Energy management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement peak shaving strategies (e.g., batteries). Increase self-consumption of energy produced on-site.
Social acceptance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase end-user acceptance of active solar strategies through a structured legislative agenda.
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce investment costs for complex solar installations.



Lesson Learned

What are the challenges of implementing active solar strategies into solar neighborhoods?



7 of 10

people will live in cities by
2050, according to the
World Bank Group.

© Glen Musk, Adresseavisen



Average **building height** and
urban density are increasing.
This makes harder for people to
access and exploit **sunlight**.





This can ultimately result into
social injustice.





© Poorly Drawn Lines

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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