

# Applying the healthy urban planning concept in a redevelopment project

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### Introduction

Many efforts are currently being carried in the fields of urban planning, public health and environment to search for levers, methods and strategies to practically implement the healthy urban planning (HUP) concept (Grant et al. 2017).

The urban redevelopment project of Maille I -Mercure neighborhoods located in Miramas, France, is the focus of an initiative aiming to do so. The urban project is part of the New National Program for Urban Redevelopment (NPNRU) targeting specific deprived neighborhood and led by the National Agency for Urban Redevelopment (ANRU).

### Hup initiative's objectives

- Better integrate health stakes into the Maille I - Mercure redevelopment project
- Explore light methodologies and tools, distinct from evaluation methodologies, to actuate the topic of health in the process of this kind of urban project
- Contribute to the reciprocal acculturation process between health and urban planning actors.

This initiative is led by CRES and EHESP, and is financed by PACA Regional Health Agency and Métropole Aix-Marseille-Provence with the support of the Municipality of Miramas.

### The existing area

Second to last pictures belong to O. Michel (Municipality of Miramas)

- 2762 inhabitants (Miramas = 25 583 inhab.)
- 20 hectares
- 86 % of social housing
- Presence of two primary schools, a few shops, healthcare and social professionnals, etc.











# Applying the healthy urban planning concept in a redevelopment project

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Definition of the Hup initiative

- prefiguration of the method;

- prefiguration of a HUP working

Meeting w/ local professionals and

Confirmation of financing of Hup initiative

> Choice of 4 thematics as entry

elected rep. Presentation of the

Hup initiative and goals

Hup wg meeting

Hup wg meeting

Hup wg meeting

Hup wg meeting

Deliverables

(June - Aug. 2016)

group (wg)

Fig. I Project timeframe (credit: N. Lemaire) Main steps of the urban Main steps of the Hup redeveloment project initiative Initiation of the projet Since 2013-14 Diagnosis elements Meeting between the various partners Definition of the project's goals Definition of the project's orientations Reflexion on the possible

development of an HIA Aug. 2015 - May 2016 - Meetings CRES - Municipality; - Intervention of an HIA expert from > It is not possible to conduct an HIA as the urban redevelopment project is not detailed enough yet. Jan. 2016 ANRU engagement board Presentation of the project to ANRU which reviews it

Beginning of the Amo's contract Participative workshops by the Amo Citizens are strongly involved in the diagnosis and elaboration of the project through these workshops. Participative workshops by the Amo

Signature of "protocole de préfiguration ANRU" = 1st contractualisation between ANRU, State, Collectivities, Caisse des dépots, ANAH, social housing operators Participative workshops by the Amo

Launch of technical studies Jan. 2017 Hup wg meeting

Participative workshops by the Amo

Delivery of Amo's project

Proposal of deliverables to the Municipality aiming target actors and sub-projects Production of the deliverables for Technical studies' results the Regional Health Agency and the **Municipality** 

ANRU engagement board Jan. 2018 Presentation of the project to ANRU which reviews it

Signature of ANRU agreement = 2<sup>nd</sup> contractualisation between ANRU, State, Collectivities, Caisse des dépots, ANAH, social housing operators

Operational phase starting from 2018 Conception and development of all subprojects (housing renovation, new constructions, public space redesign...) which will involve several other actors such as developper, architects, construction firms etc.

Estimated end of project

# Understanding this urban redevelopment project and setting up a HUP working group

In order to reflect on how to integrate health, it was important to understand:

- the area, the stakes of the project;
- the time-frame and steps of the project (adjacent fig.) including the operationnal planning tools and documents mobilized by such process and the underlying political, financial and legal constrains etc.;
- the actors and their roles (fig. below), the governance.

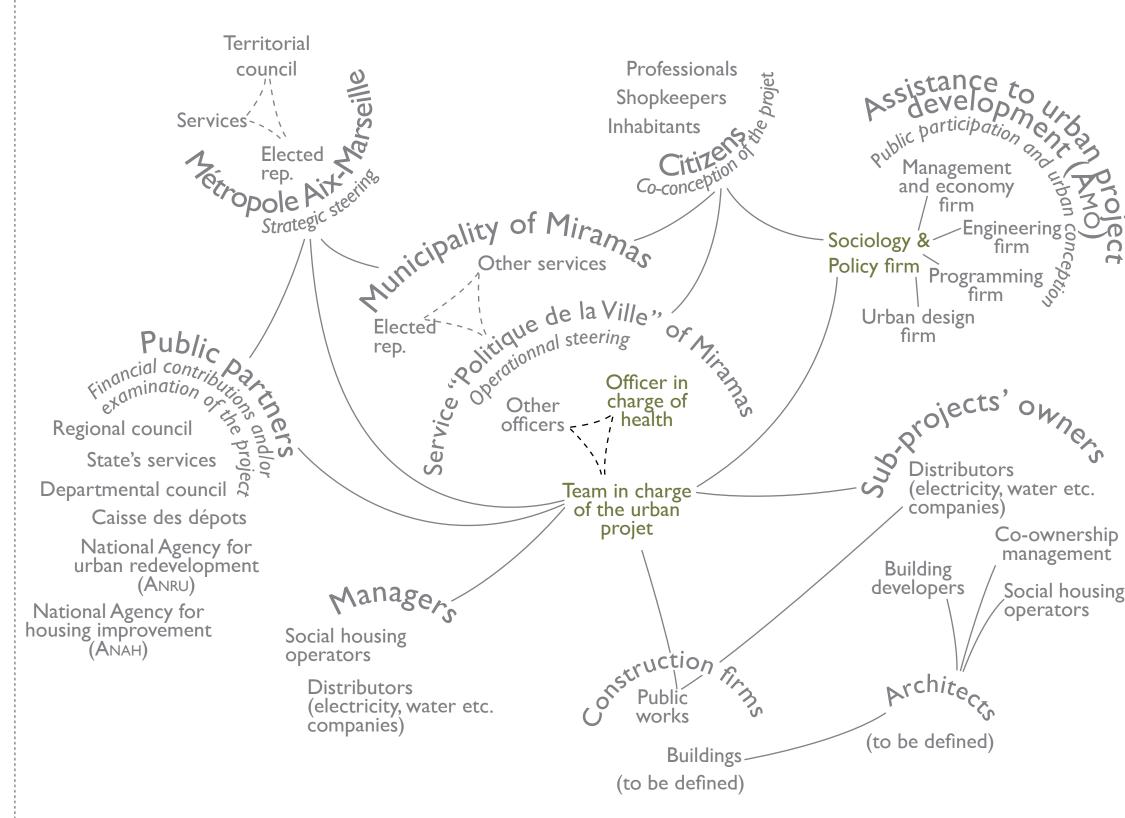


Fig. 2 Cartography of main actors involved in this urban redevelopment project (credit: N. Lemaire)

In green are the members of the HUP working group (WG) along with CRES and EHESP. The Cres-Ehesp team and the WG both gather actors with backgrounds covering the fields of urban planning, health promotion and environmental health.

# How to seize the HUP concept in this urban project?



(source: A. Roué Le Gall et N. Lemaire, 2017)

- WG meetings allowed the members to progress towards a common culture concerning health and urban planning;
- WG agreed on the necessity to adopt a global approach to health;
- But entry points to further the work were needed.
- > Investigation of 4 thematics particularly relevant to the context (physical activity & diet; indoor air; access to healthcare; social cohesion) following this logical path:

Identification of factors generally impacting the thematic, be they related to the build environment or

Confrontation of these factors to the context \_\_\_\_ (WG knowledge of the context, data collected through participative workshop in the frame of the urban project, not (scientific literature and interviews)

Identification of pertinent levers

to activate to

influence these

factors

knowledge from WG)

## **Outcomes** Members of WG said they

developed a "health lens";

• Better consideration of access to healthcare and care services in the project, emergence of a health center sub-project developed with local health professional.

### Possible deliverables

Potential deliverables have been identified by Wg with regards to the urban project timeframe, key documents, actors and governance:

- Hup charter to be included in the ANRU agreement
- Leaflets to several actors and concerning specific sub-projects (social housing operators, concerning housing renovation; building developers concerning new housing, municipality and staff concerning schools and health center)
- Report to PACA Regional Health Agency.

# Conclusion

Two key points are to be highlighted:

- It is important to understand the timeframe, the actors and their relationships, the financial mechanisms, the key documents etc. in order to identify the appropriate levers. A tactical approach, as defined in Harris et al 2014, is therefore required, as the elaboration of an urban project is a complex process and not a rational or linear operation;
- Urban projects are not separated objects from other

policies or projects. As processes in which time and energy is focused on a specific area or subject, they can represent an opportunity to act on other policies or projects in the area. This is particularly true in the case of NPNRU projects, such as this one, in which the urban project is in relation with a social project.

Further research will focus on finding relevant entry points

Bibliography

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which would not compromise the global approach to health. The authors warmly thank the members of the working group for their contribution, as well as the institutional partners.