



EUROPEAN UNION

European Regional Development Fund

Senate Department
for Economics, Energy
and Public Enterprises



EVERYONE IS PITCHING IN TO BUILD THE NEW GARDEN FOR THE “HAUS IN DER KASTANIENALLEE” COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THE “HAUS AN DER KASTANIENALLEE” is an important and well-known neighbourhood centre for the residents in and around Kastanienallee in Hellersdorf, Berlin. Its primary objective is to strengthen the parenting skills of parents and promote the social participation of young families. Aber es gibt hier nicht nur ein Kinder-, Jugend- und Familienzentrum und eine Kita, sondern auch einen Stadtteiltreff, der den Nachbarinnen und Nachbarn ein attraktives Angebot an Beteiligungsmöglichkeiten bietet. Apart from a child centre, youth club, family centre and daycare centre, the “Haus an der Kastanienallee” also offers a neighbourhood meeting place where residents can partake in an attractive range of activities. That is why a multi-purpose garden that can be used for the many different social, cultural and sports activities - and also for the regular neighbourhood summer festivals - is of the utmost importance for the centre. Unfortunately, the garden was dilapidated and could no longer meet visitor requirements. The importance that the “Haus an der Kastanienallee” and its garden have for the entire neighbourhood cannot be stressed enough: in the socially disadvantaged area surrounding Kastanienallee, there are too few places that promote neighbourliness, self-help and civic involvement. Nearby green spaces that can be used for recreational purposes are also scarce.

»THE RENOVATION OF THE OUTDOOR AREA IN KASTANIENALLEE WILL MAKE IT A MEETING PLACE FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY. A PLACE OF NEIGHBOURLINESS, FUN AND GAMES AND RECREATION.«

Andreas Wächter, CEO

THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF) already funded the renovation of the “Haus an der Kastanienallee”, as well as the new building. Now it is also supporting the renovation of the outdoor area of the community centre. The project forms part of Berlin’s Programme on Sustainable Development (BENE Umwelt), which is funded by the ERDF. For the purpose of bringing the neighbourhood together and improving its social infrastructure a near-natural garden is being created. This encourages friendly co-operation in the socially and economically disadvantaged quarter, in which many people are affected by poverty, unemployment and health problems. The ERDF is co-financing the conversion of the garden and outdoor area. This includes the removal of unsafe and unusable elements, as well as the construction of new playgrounds. The construction of a small amphitheatre is also being funded. Parents and residents are participating in the redesign of the compound.

THE PROJECT IS MOVING AHEAD AS PLANNED. The official start of the project was in September 2016. Much has been done in the meantime. Thanks to ERDF funding, the “Haus in der Kastanienallee” community centre can once again become an attractive meeting point in Berlin-Hellersdorf.



THANKS TO THE ERDF, THE PROJECT IS GROWING.

The **redesign of the garden** of the “Haus an der Kastanienallee” is being financed jointly by the ERDF and the State of Berlin, both of whom are contributing € 225,000. Among other things, the ERDF is also funding **the construction of benches, bridges and children’s playgrounds**, as well as the design of a near natural adventure area. The conversion will transform the open garden into a beautifully landscaped, tranquil **meeting place** that all residents benefit from. Of course, the garden will also be used for the activities and projects of the community centre.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A LIVEABLE AND LOVEABLE NEIGHBOURHOOD

The “Haus an der Kastanienallee” has several **social functions**. These include the daycare centre “Die Kastanienknirpse”. But the centre also offers support to **people** in various phases of life. Among other things, the community centre also fosters other projects such as *father and child events*, the daycare “Achterbahn”, the family centre *Familienhaus Kastanie* and a *neighbourhood café* for senior citizens. Seeing that so many **activities take place** here, it is not surprising that **residents of the neighbourhood** strongly supported the project.

THE ERDF IS HAVING AN IMPACT ON BERLIN

This project to revitalise the centre and its green areas, which is funded by the environment programme **BENE Umwelt** of the ERDF, is special because it actively involves and includes the parents and children in the implementation. They were allowed to design the garden themselves, contribute to the concept and work out the details. In this way, they actively take part in determining what the house and garden will look like in the end. Due to the garden being so large and having so much unused potential, the designers must be particularly creative and diligent. Much emphasis is placed on safety: old benches, large pieces of concrete and smutty sandboxes are disposed of, creating plenty of space that can be used to meet the requirements of the various user groups. Thus, the ERDF is funding innovative measures, projects and initiatives that contribute to making Berlin more liveable.

In this way, the ERDF is actively helping...

- to improve the social infrastructure in disadvantaged neighbourhoods and create an environmentally sound recreational space.
- to turn the “Haus an der Kastanienallee” into a meeting place for people of all ages.
- to involve residents in the decision-making processes.
- to revitalise economically underdeveloped neighbourhoods.
- to upgrade the quality of the green areas for all users of the Kastanie family centre by means of replanting.



The new playgrounds are modern and safe



Large lawn areas provide space for activities



A communal garden shed for equipment and tools

FUNDING: CONTACT:

FUNDING PRIORITY 4

Sustainable urban development

FUNDING INSTRUMENT

BENE Umwelt

FUNDING AMOUNT

€ 450,000, 50% ERDF

PROJECT TERM

09/01/2016 – 10/31/2018

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SENATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, TRAFFIC AND CLIMATE PROTECTION

Am Köllnischen Park 3, 10179 Berlin

Contact: Bärbel Glässel

Email:

Baerbel.Glaessel@SenUVK.berlin.de

BEZIRKSAMT MARZAHN-HELLERS-DORF VON BERLIN

Contact: Sven Hanczuch

Email:

Sven.Hanczuch@ba-mh.berlin.de

PAD GGMmbH

Kastanienallee 55, 12627 Berlin

E-Mail: info@pad-berlin.de

Homepage: www.pad-berlin.de

