

W104 - Open Building Implementation

From TG to WC

What was formerly one of CIB's most active Task Groups is now the latest Working Commission - TG26 has been transformed into W104 - Open Building Implementation.

The CIB Programme Committee took this decision at its recent meeting where it had the benefit of a detailed review on achievements to date by the Joint Coordinator Stephen Kendall.

The previous issue of INFORMATION (4.99) **reported** on these including the six projects which members endorsed at their meeting in Brighton, United Kingdom in September last.

The international state-of-the-art review has now been published, (by E & FN Spon).

In his submission for the CIB Programme Committee Stephen Kendall noted that the Website and Listserv in operation www.decco.nl/obi which includes information about member activities and meetings is being redesigned and will soon include many papers and projects from the members. Karel Dekker is its manager.

He also outlined the general meeting plan of the Commission which is to hold one international conference on Open Building each year, organized by a member and a member institute. In addition Commission members are encouraged to assist local organizations in regions with which they are familiar, to organize conferences or workshops to which W104 members are invited to take part. This is distinguished from the international conference in that these "local implementation" meetings are not official W104 meetings but are nonetheless focused on implementation of the general principles of open building at the local level.

There is a consensus among the membership that in the future the scope of the conferences and discussions can take in both residential and other building functions, including offices, health care and other non-residential functions as well as mixed use buildings.

Further, the scope can include the level of the urban tissue.

It would be useful to reproduce the latest version of the Objectives and Scope of W104 as they appear in the CIB Compendium.

W104 Objectives and Scope

Open Building provides strategies for consumer oriented and sustainable buildings and neighbourhoods, based on specific principles and methods in programming, design, production planning, construction and facility management. Open Building uses the concept of levels. Examples of levels are the "support" or "base building" level and the "infill" or "fit-out" level represents physical elements subject to the decisions of individual users. Open Building enables built environments to adjust, meeting changing social and technical requirements. This is accomplished by organising physical elements at any scale (building product to urban tissue) in such a way as to minimise their mutual interference.

Open Building's most important goal is to combine the freedom and dignity of individuals in their work places and dwellings with the coherence and permanence of buildings and urban neighbourhoods.

The Working Commission has three basic objectives:

- To increase awareness of the principles of Open Building among professionals who shape the built environment, and among the people who live in that built environment.
- To support initiatives at national, regional and local levels which improve the efficiency of building construction and facility adaptation following Open Building methods.
- To be a platform for research and information dissemination among professionals committed to improving Open Building practices and methods.

Change in Leadership Too!

Along with the change in status comes a new Joint Coordinator, Ms. Ulpu Tiuri to succeed Karel Dekker. This was in fact announced in INFORMATION 4.99 where also tribute was paid to Karel's distinguished service.



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Introducing the New Coordinator Ulpu Tiuri



Prof. Ulpu Tiuri is Head of the Open Building Research and Development Unit at the Department of Architecture in the Helsinki University of Technology.

She has practised as an Architect in the field of housing design since 1980 and has taught this topic at the University over the past few years.

She has also been engaged in Research and Development work in housing and projects (some of which are on-going) and these have included:

- A cost efficient housing-project commissioned by the Helsinki City Housing Production Office (with architect Eero Valjakka)
- Milieu 2000 preliminary study for the development of housing construction commissioned by the City of Helsinki, Ministry of the Environment and Technology Development Centre of Finland (together with architects Jaakko Laapotti, Eero Valjakka , Pertti Solla, Lotta-Kari Pasonen and Aarno Passoja)
- A Development Project "Home for all phases of life with renovation", Helsinki City Housing Production Office, Technical Research Centre of Finland (VTT) and Architect Office Ulpu Tiuri in collaboration with the construction company NCC Finland and 13 manufacturers
- A Development Programme for an Open Building Technology Competition for Housing in Arabianranta commissioned by the City of Helsinki, Helsinki University of

Among Ms. Ulpu Tiuri's realized design projects are to mention only a few:
(together with architect Eero Valjakka)

- Kotitorpantie 7 terraced housing in Helsinki Housing Exhibition 1981
- Kurkisuontie 12 housing blocks in Helsinki 1985
- Liljapiha housing block in Vantaa 1987

and (together with architects Eero Valjakka and Lotta Kari-Pasonen)

- Lummetie housing blocks in Vantaa 1984

Professor Tiuri was awarded the second prize with architect Ulla Saarinen in an open competition for the design of the Espoo - Vantaa Institute of Technology in Leppävaara in 1985.

Clearly she brings to W104 a wealth of experience that is of direct relevance to the Commission's work.

