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## Dortmund: Selection of neighbourhoods

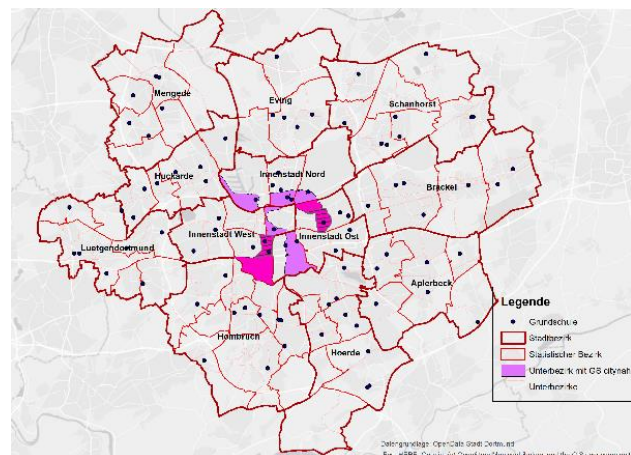
In each of the three cities taking part in this project, two areas were chosen as case studies where we will focus our research. The selection was based on a number of criteria which were defined by the WalkUrban research team at the beginning of the project:

- **Size**, the area should be walkable for its residents.
- **Location**, the area should be within the urban limits of the city, it should be in proximity to public transport links to the city (which should be accessible within 20 minutes) as well as within a max. 10-minute walk of points of interest and/or amenities such as schools, shops, leisure facilities.
- **Population**, there should be at least 5,000 residents in the area.

The similarities between the areas will allow for comparisons within and between them. WalkUrban aims also for a selection of one ‘general middle-class neighbourhood’ in all three cities and, if possible, find a second, more diverse neighbourhood (e.g., regarding demographics, the built environment, infrastructure). Based on an initial selection of 4-5 suitable neighbourhoods by the WalkUrban research team, the final selection of two neighbourhoods was conducted in close collaboration with local stakeholders.

### Selection process

Our two neighbourhoods in Dortmund were chosen using a step-wise selection process based on an analysis of the city’s 171 statistical subdistricts. Since school children are one of the chosen target groups, we pre-selected 74 sub-districts with primary schools. The next criterium was proximity to the city centre and nine subdistricts within a range of 800-1000m to the city centre were selected for further analysis (seen below in pink). Based on statistical data of Dortmund’s subdistricts and following our WalkUrban selection criteria, two neighbourhoods were chosen: Funkenburg and Westfalenhalle. Besides primary schools, they both have more than 5,000 inhabitants and different services and amenities are located within the neighbourhoods. The idea is that the areas should be similar enough to allow for comparisons within and between them, but also different enough to allow for local diversity.



### Westfalahalle (Kreuzviertel)

Westfalahalle is an urban neighbourhood located close to the city centre and in the west of Dortmund. It is characterised by an historic, densely built urban structure with many restaurants, cafés and shops. It is also home to two primary schools. The area is colloquial called Kreuzviertel and is served by several bus lines and two underground and suburban railway stations are within walking distance. In 2019, 7,253 people live in Westfalahalle, of whom 5.1% are children, 12.1% are aged between 65-80 years, and 5.7% are over 80 years. The share of social welfare recipients (SGBII) is 4.2%. The proportion of foreign-born residents is 7.8% whilst 9.2% of the inhabitants are Germans with a migrant background.



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### Funkenburg (Ostfriedhof)

Funkenburg is also an urban neighbourhood but it is located a bit further from the city centre towards the east. It is a mixed neighbourhood with two primary schools, one of which has an international focus. Funkenburg is located close to an old graveyard (Ostfriedhof) which is also used as a local park. It has a tram station and several bus lines, and one suburban railway stop (S-Bahn) is located close by in an adjacent district. The population size and age distributions are quite similar to Westfalenhalle: 7,180 people live in the Funkenburg subdistrict, of whom 7.4% are children, 12.1% are aged between 65-80 years, and 5.2% are over 80 years. The share of residents who receive social welfare (SGBII) is 20.8% and thus significantly higher than in the Westfalenhalle. The proportion of foreign-born residents (27.5%) and Germans with a migration background are significantly higher than in Westfalenhalle (17,4%).



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## Dortmund: Stakeholder involvement

An important part of the Walk Urban project is our cooperation and work with partners in civil society. In Dortmund, in the beginning and planning phases of the project, this has meant different representatives of the municipality of Dortmund; Sustainable Transport Associations (VCD, FUSS e.V.) and the Senior Citizen Offices. Over the previous year we have received help from our stakeholders in different ways, mainly through online meetings. Until June 2022, four official meetings with different stakeholder took place. In Dortmund the selected target groups are school children and elderly and stakeholders were chosen accordingly.

- At the first meeting, the research design and the planned methods were discussed with the City of Dortmund's mobility planning department and the Walking and Cycling Representative. In addition, the selection of target groups and neighbourhoods were addressed.
- The second was held in order to prepare the involvement of school children and we discussed the suitability of our methodological approach. The person, who coordinated the mobility management actions for (primary) schools in Dortmund city's project "mission free city/umsteigern ([https://www.dortmund.de/de/leben\\_in\\_dortmund/verkehr/emissionsfreie\\_innenstadt/index.html](https://www.dortmund.de/de/leben_in_dortmund/verkehr/emissionsfreie_innenstadt/index.html)) gave helpful insights and we received useful tips on how to perform research with school children.
- The third meeting was held with two organisations which support sustainable transport in the city, the VCD e.V. (Environmental Transportation Association <https://nrw.vcd.org/der-vcd-in-nrw/dortmund-unna>) and FUSS e.V. (Organisation for Pedestrian Protection, Germany <https://www.fuss-ev.de/>). The discussion focused on different approaches to involve additional local stakeholders, the planned methods and the selection of neighbourhoods.
- The last meeting was with two persons from the Senior Citizens' Offices, the discussions focused on the needs of the older people, our second target group, and on how to tailor the planned methods accordingly. Help with the acquisition of older people in the selected WalkUrban neighbourhoods was also offered, which was much appreciated.

Further meetings with all stakeholders are planned, e.g., on presentation and discussion of the initial local research results and our analyses and on possible improvements for Dortmund as well as on transferability of WalkUrban findings and its recommendations.

As a part of our data collection, we will carry out a number of 'walkalongs' with people from the special target groups. These will be interviews where the participant(s) and the researchers walk a route in one of the two selected target areas while having a conversation about the experience of walking in the specific neighbourhood. For more information on the methods, we will be using in this project, please go to our website: <https://walkurban.eu>.

We are also searching for more actors to help us with our studies so please get in touch if you or someone you know are interested in being a part of the project.





## Study area: Dortmund



### WalkUrban partners and funding agencies



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