




# InnovationCity Ruhr I ModelCity Bottrop: Mitmachmodul

Good Practice Example for ICT tool at a district level

-  **Bottrop, Germany**
-  **Ruhr Initiative Group, Innovation City Management GmbH, City of Bottrop**
-  **Since 2010**

## Background

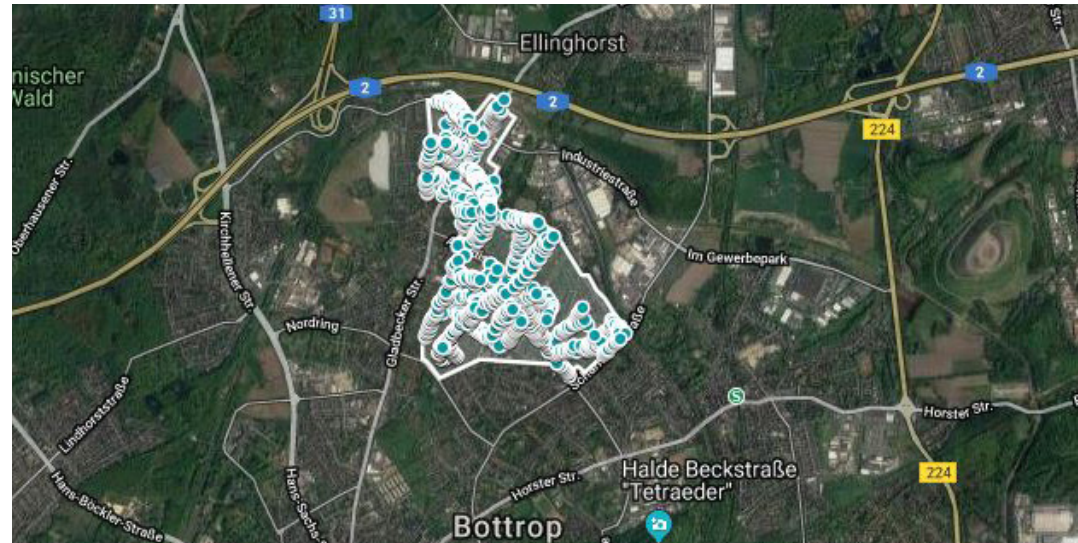
InnovationCity Ruhr I ModelCity Bottrop is a project of the Ruhr Initiative Group, an association of 70 companies from the Ruhr region. In 2010, the Ruhr Initiative Group launched a competition to select a city from the Ruhr region, to serve as a demonstration area and showcase how to foster climate-optimized city development in an existing city district. The competition was won by the City of Bottrop, which turned into a model area for various initiatives promoting reduction of CO2 emissions and more efficient use of resources. Different sub-projects, such as the NachbarschaftsWerk, brought forward the topic of energy transition in Bottrop and in the Ruhr area as a whole.

## Key Challenge

In the last decades, the Ruhr area was severely exploited for the settlement of heavy industries. The existing building stock and production structures are characteristic for the image of the region; yet, the majority of them are in need of renovation. The key challenge was how to renew the urban structures in the region in a sustainable way while preserving the heritage and character of the area.

## Initiative

The NachbarschaftsWerk (neighborhood plant) (implementation timeframe: 2015-2019) in Bottrop aims to establish local heat networks and foster building renovations in a pilot area, characterized by protected historic and valuable houses. In the frame of this sub-project the so called MitMachModul (participation module) was developed and tested. The module is an online communication system tool, which enables building owners and tenants from the area to exchange common interests and needs (e.g. if they plan to replace the heating system, windows or roof of their building or which energy efficiency improvements they consider necessary in the area).



InnovationCity Ruhr I ModelCity Bottrop Neighborhood Network  
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The MitMachModul online tool brings different interests together and makes it possible to find potential synergies and possibilities to start joint activities with mutual benefit. Building owners and tenants can enter their ideas and proposals in the system (after entering their postal address, name and contact details). All submitted proposals are checked by an officer from the City Council, who matches similar ideas by exchanging contact details and providing advice. The interests of the different neighbours are clustered thematically and visualised in an online map. The MitMachModul is part of a bigger online information system, called [ICRIS](#).

## Success Factors

Through the MitMachModul building owners and citizens could be directly involved in the energy planning of their building and neighbourhood. This adds to the technical aspect of planning also a social participative element, giving energy end users a stake in the designing of their direct living environment. The implementation of the NachbarschaftsWerk benefitted from the allocation of direct investment funds for citizens' projects.

## Further Information

See the project website for [InnovationCity Ruhr](#)