## New and innovative concepts for realizing middle segment rental housing.

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## O1 INTRODUCTION

Problem statement Main research question Conceptual model

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## **Problem statement**



# Current situation

The Netherlands is facing a housing crisis, in which there is a major shortage of affordable housing





#### Regulation

Tension between affordability and profitability

#### Main research question

"To what extent are new and innovative concepts effective in realizing middle segment rental housing, which remain affordable for tenants and financially feasible for project initiators?"

#### **Conceptual model**





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# O2 METHODOLOGY

Theoretical research Empirical research

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## **Theoretical research**



#### Literature review

An explorative approach for shaping the contextual outlines of the research

## 

#### Theoretical research subquestions

#### 1. MIDDLE SEGMENT RENTAL HOUSING

1.1 What is the <u>function</u> of middle segment rental housing?

1.2 Who are the main <u>target groups</u> for middle segment rental housing?

1.3 What does the <u>demand</u> for middle segment rental housing look like in the Netherlands?

1.4 What does the <u>supply</u> for middle segment rental housing look like in the Netherlands?

1.5 What are <u>critical factors</u> for the successful development of middle segment rental housing?

1.6 What <u>regulations</u> have to be taken into account when developing middle segment rental housing?

#### 2. NEW AND INNOVATIVE CONCEPTS

2.1 How could <u>local municipalities</u> support new and innovative concepts for realizing middle segment rental housing?

2.2 What <u>new and innovative concepts</u> are currently utilized by project initiators to realize middle segment rental housing?

## **Empirical research**





#### **Qualitative study**

An in-depth and evaluative approach for acquiring qualitative data on new and innovative concepts

**Case studies** 

case study method

Analyzing 5 different new and

innovative concepts using the

# 

#### Data analysis

**Data collection** 

interviews with concept initiators

Semi-structured in-depth

and municipalities

Empirical research sub-questions supported by several key performance indicators

## **Empirical research sub-questions**



#### **Development process**

Time management Capacity Innovation



#### **Financial feasibility**

Financial structure Risk management Gross initial yield



#### Affordability

Operating period Target group Rent



**Quality** Sustainability Social cohesion

Value for money



#### Quantity

Scalability Reproducibility Realized homes



#### **Governmental role**

Agreements Legislation / regulation Stimulation



3. Effectivity of new and innovative concepts

3.1 What <u>development process</u> is utilized within new and innovative concepts for realizing middle segment rental housing?

3.2 What is the <u>financial feasibility</u> of new and innovative concepts for realizing middle segment rental housing?

3.3 How <u>affordable</u> is middle segment rental housing realized through new and innovative concepts for tenants?

3.4 What are the <u>qualitative and</u> <u>quantitative</u> aspects of middle segment rental housing realized through new and innovative concepts?

3.5 How <u>effective</u> are new and innovative concepts in realizing middle segment rental housing?

#### 4. Governmental role

4.1 What role does the <u>aovernment</u> have within new and innovative concepts for realizing middle segment rental housing?

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# O3 FINDINGS

Case A: Rabo SmartBuilds Case B: OnsHuys Case C: Buurblok Case D: AMST Case E: Woonfonds Rijswijk

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## **Case A: Rabo SmartBuilds**

- Temporary housing: prefabricated, circular, modular
- Financing with equity and loan capital from Rabobank (in-house)
- Temporariness of land positions is the greatest risk
- Rent price: ≤ €1000,-
- Comparable quality to permanent housing
- Backed by large capacity of Rabobank; 12.000 rental homes in upcoming 10 years
- The municipality as an active and transparent partner during the development



rent tenant increase







Construction costs Ground lease costs

Yield Rabo SmartBuilds



Interviewee



Interviewee A1: Manager of Rabo Sma<u>rtBuilds</u>





Housing quality

Home size

#### Interviewees

Interviewee B1: Founder of OnsHuys

Interviewee B2: Founder of OnsHuys



## Case B: OnsHuys

- Collective private commissioning on a small scale in Brabant
- Unique financial structure with bond loans
- High quality and large rental bungalows
- Rent price: ≤ €1250,-
- Attractive for the elderly (65+): free up capital, less maintenance
- Only a dozen of rental homes have been realized due to limited capacity and time



## **Case C: Buurblok**

- Joint venture of BGDD and Wocozon foundation; risks & profits 50/50
- Living as a service by offering housing, energy, mobility and maintenance in one concept
- Buurblok remains owner and operationally leases the homes to housing associations
- Dry Stacking System; optimization of materials, sustainability and circularity
- First pilot project of 10 rental homes in Techum Leeuwarden
- Rent price: €935,-



#### Interviewees



Interviewee C1: Product developer Bouwgroep Dijkstra Draisma

Interviewee C2: Consultant location development and sales from the municipality of Leeuwarden



#### Interviewees

AA

Interviewee D1: Developer of MRP

Interviewee D2: Project leader from municipality of Amsterdam

Interviewee D3: Project manager from municipality of Amsterdam



#### Case D: AMST

- Tender project from the municipality of Amsterdam
- Goal: Larger medium-priced rental homes for families in the city
- Tender challenges market parties to come up with new and innovative strategies
- MRP winner of the tender contract: 252 apartments, 198 intended for the middle rental segment
- Financing by Rabobank, after completion everything is purchased by a German institutional investor
- Commercial plinth compensates for lower returns on rental properties
- Average rent price: €1000,-

## Case E: Woonfonds Rijswijk

- Problem: Inactive attitude of market parties towards development of middle segment rental housing
- Municipality of Rijswijk actively explores its own options
- Application of a housing fund concept to an ongoing area development in RijswijkBuiten: called Woonfonds Rijswijk
- Municipality earns its returns from the fund in the long term







Interviewee E1: Developer RijswijkBuiten

Interviewee E2: Alderman from municipality of Rijswijk



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# O4 CONCLUSION

## Answering the main research question

## Answering the main research question

"To what extent are new and innovative concepts effective in realizing middle segment rental housing, which remain affordable for tenants and financially feasible for project initiators?"



Effectiveness is ...

difficult to measure





Affordability is ...

ambiguous

x-	
× ×	

Financial feasibility is ...

hard to compare

## Answering the main research question

"To what extent are new and innovative concepts effective in realizing middle segment rental housing, which remain affordable for tenants and financially feasible for project initiators?"



Development process



Financial feasibility

#### SOLUTION



Affordability



Quality



Quantity

## Answering the main research question

"To what extent are new and innovative concepts effective in realizing middle segment rental housing, which remain affordable for tenants and financially feasible for project initiators?"

#### ANSWER

New and innovative concepts are to a very high extend effective in realizing middle segment rental housing



Unique financial structures, allowing to guarantee the affordability for tenants



Contribution to other social challenges, such as the energy transition, skewed housing and an aging population



The government influences new and innovative concepts by steering with legislations and regulations

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# **COMMENDATIONS**

# 12 Recommendations for market12 Recommendations for government

#### **Recommendations for market**



Development process

Avoid simply following the standard permit procedures and explore stimulating legislations and regulations.

Financial feasibility



Approach Rabobank for financing.

Discover whether there is a role for private investors in the concept regarding (partial) financing.

Look for innovation in the field of the construction method, financial structure and/or positioning.

Aim for a gross initial yield between 4% and 5% in the business case.

#### Affordability

#### **Recommendations for market**



Focus on complementing the social segment.



Qualitative aspects

Focus on creating qualitatively and financially attractive homes for the 65+ target group.



3



Aim for a monthly rent of less than €1000, with a price of approximately €12 per square meter as a guideline.

Cooperate with parties that organize energy concepts.



Incorporate social cohesion by: collective private commissioning, communal areas, shared cars and organizing evaluations with the neighborhood.

#### **Recommendations for market**

Quantitative aspects



Bundle capacity with housing associations to make a larger quantitative impact and achieve benefits in the fields of mixed neighborhoods and less expensive construction procurement.

Pursue modularity and circularity, as it is accompanied by flexibility, and thus reproducibility.





#### **Legislation and Recommendations for** regulation government 0.0 Awareness of legislations and **Agreements** regulations. Operating period. Awareness of effect government resources and market disruption Maximum monthly rent price and Focus primarily on accelerated and annual rent increases. simplified procedures when setting up the new Environmental Act. Intended target group and Implement a rent regulation in the middle rental segment. allocation criteria.

#### **Recommendations for government**





Stimulate acceleration in the development process.

Keep an eye on the rent price quality ratio during tenders. Do not request too many additional sustainability requirements.

Develop a separate land price policy for middle segment rental housing.

Apply new and innovative concepts to existing area developments.

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# 06 REFLECTION




## Reflection

#### Methodology

Case studies for qualitative data Planning & elaborating interviews Iterative interview process



#### Time

Unrealized concepts Half an academic year Dynamic housing market

#### Findings

Initial purpose still stands Validity Rabo and OnsHuys Theoretical approach Rabo & Rijswijk Hard to compare with existing literature



#### Personal development

Open minded to new insights Application of theory Practical lessons

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