Dear Readers,

The time has come; the first building exhibition ever held in Hamburg. IBA Hamburg embarked on its presentation year in 2013. Offering a wide-ranging programme to showcase its 60 projects, IBA Hamburg illustrates ways to effect the changes that 21st-century cities will need to make in terms of energy efficiency, social structures and town planning.

The opening weekend, 23-24 March, heralded the start of an essential year 2013 for IBA. From now until 3 November 2013, IBA Hamburg plans to promote and realise the IBA projects and the seven-year IBA process, choose from any of the numerous events, daily tours and guided visits, exhibitions or professional seminars and workshops.

IBA Hamburg projects were developed to address one or more of three central issues - known as the key themes. Planned after intense study of the project area and exchanges with experts and local residents, these projects present exemplary solutions to some of the issues metropolises now face.

How can our urban communities that are increasingly international realise its full potential? What might transition areas of the metropolis look like in the future? Good educational opportunities and cultural programmes are keys to a stable future coexistence of cultures on the Elbe Islands.

What urban development possibilities are hidden in the border and transition areas of the metropolis? How can the “inner periphery” transform diverse neighbourhoods? New reasons for the city.

How may growth and sustainability be reconciled? What might constitute a climate-friendly future for the metropolis? The Elbe Island as a case study of climate-neutral urban development: the target is a balance between local energy consumption and generation of renewable energy.

Cities and Climate Change

The common thread running through the projects is originally innovative force; IBA projects make life on the Elbe Islands better – the effects will last way beyond 2013. Come and visit Hamburg’s Elbe Islands. Explore IBA. You are warmly welcome.

Uli Hellweg
Managing director IBA Hamburg GmbH