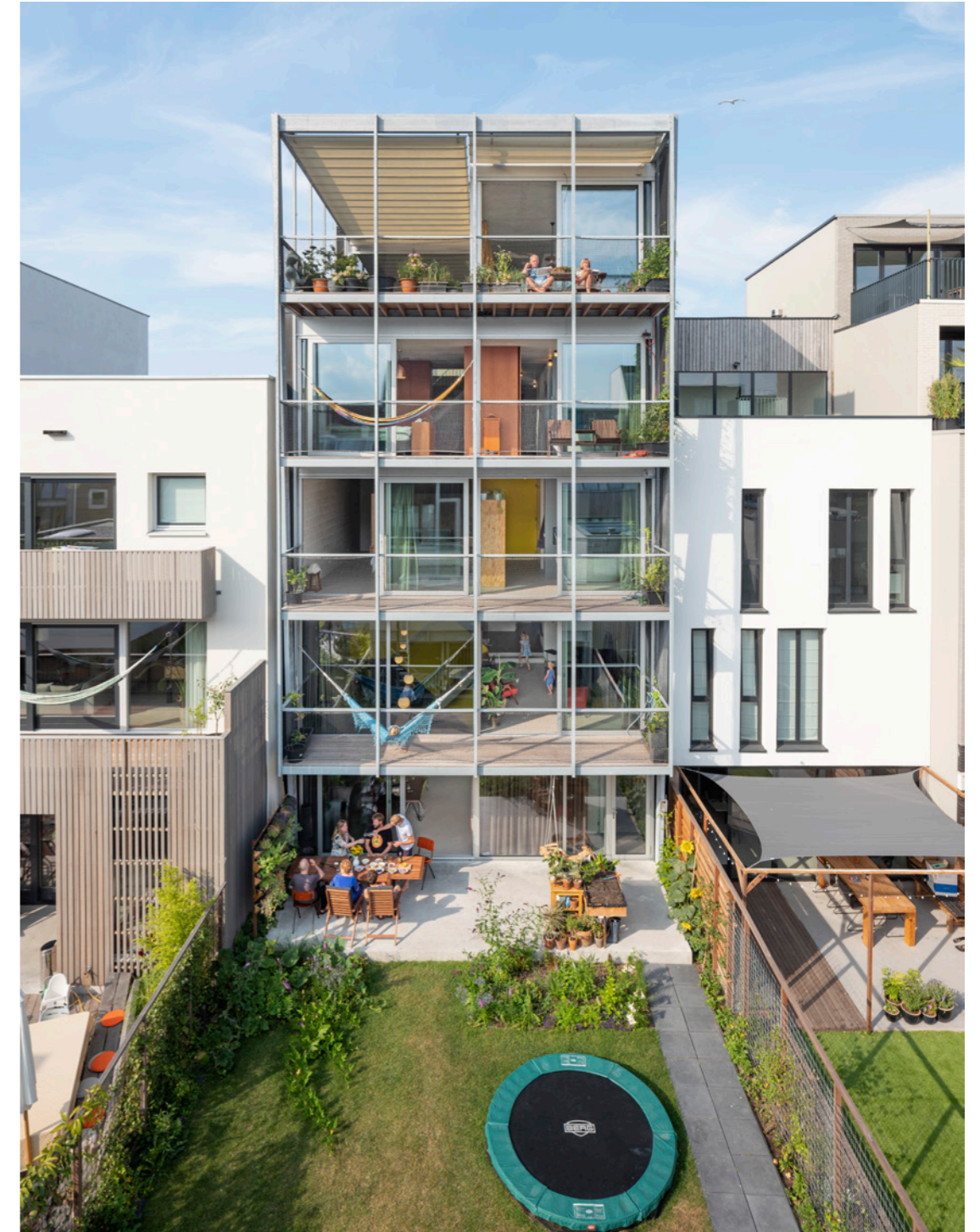


**A three-in-one development for intergenerational living**  
How multigenerational housing can benefit city dwellers—socially and economically.

3 Generation House  
BETA  
Amsterdam, Netherlands  
2018

One of the great advantages of cohabiting in the urban environment is that families reduce their costs of living and get to share household maintenance, chores, and bills. Such projects also create mini communities, where each family benefits from greater sociability and a ready support network for health and child care. Not only do the family members benefit, but there are also fewer demands on local infrastructure. BETA architects' 3 Generation House provides accommodation for three generations of the same family.

The two separate apartments, stacked one above the other, consider not only the immediate needs of their occupants, but also those of the future. The lower apartment has an office and direct access to a garden—ideal for a working family with young children. The upper apartment has uninterrupted, level floors and wider door openings for wheelchair access. The whole building is designed so it can be reconfigured into four apartments, allowing the children to have their own spaces as young adults. Although the 3 Generation House was a private commission, it has inspired its architects to investigate the potential of developing multigenerational housing on a much wider scale.



*Left:* View of the all-black northern facade. Its closed frontage helps to reduce heat loss and prevents noise from reaching inside.

*Right:* The southern facade features glass walls and balconies on each floor. A garden provides space for children's play.