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TERRITORIAL INNOVATION ATLAS. Urban and regional regeneration initiatives for sustainable local development

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(Article begins on next page)

TERRITORIAL INNOVATION ATLAS

Urban and regional regeneration
initiatives for sustainable
local development



Ministry of European Integration
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

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ЗА ТЕБЕ

UNOPS

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EU THE EUROPEAN UNION FOR
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
PRO+

TERRITORIAL INNOVATION ATLAS

Urban and regional regeneration initiatives
for sustainable local development

Turin, March 2023

Authors

Loris A. Servillo
Martijn De Bruijn

Credits

The data, texts, and photos about the reported projects were collected from the following web pages and databases:

- New European Bauhaus Prizes 2021 database
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/all-applications>
- European Network for Rural Development (ENRD) project database
https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/projects-practice_en
- Smart Rural 21 Solutions Database
<https://www.smartrural21.eu/smart-solutions/>

(Date of consultation: March 2023)



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LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
PRO+

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Introduction

Territorial Innovation Atlas

Urban and regional regeneration initiatives for sustainable local development

Over the past decades, the European Union has consistently supported Serbia's socio-economic development through a series of successful Programmes implemented to foster a more balanced development in the country. Most recent of these initiatives, the EU Programme for Local Development (EU PRO Plus), led by the Ministry of European Integration and implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), continues this support.

Launched in January 2021, EU PRO Plus aims to achieve a more balanced socio-economic development in the 99 local self-governments of Šumadija and Western Serbia, and Southern and Eastern Serbia. The Programme focuses on enhancing territorial development management, fostering economic growth, social infrastructure, and social cohesion. One of the key outcomes that the Programme aims to achieve in collaboration with the Ministry of European Integration is the development of an Integrated Sustainable Territorial Development (ISTD) model. EU PRO Plus is also set to assist twelve Serbian pilot territories, including five functional urban areas and seven individual cities, in drafting integrated territorial strategies and implementing integrated pilot projects based on these strategies. In order to inspire stakeholders and support the preparation of these integrated project proposals, EU PRO Plus has prepared this Territorial Innovation Atlas.

The Innovation Atlas is a comprehensive collection of projects aimed at promoting territorial development in urban and territorial areas. It showcases various examples from across Europe, demonstrating initiatives that aim to transform, regenerate, and connect urban and rural areas.

At the heart of these projects lies the concept of urban and territorial regeneration, along with social innovation, as powerful agents of positive and sustainable change. The Atlas highlights how regenerative initiatives have played a crucial role in transforming marginalised or deprived areas, fostering positive development. These initiatives often involve associations and community cooperation, ranging from technical projects focused on network infrastructure and connectivity to socially-oriented endeavours.

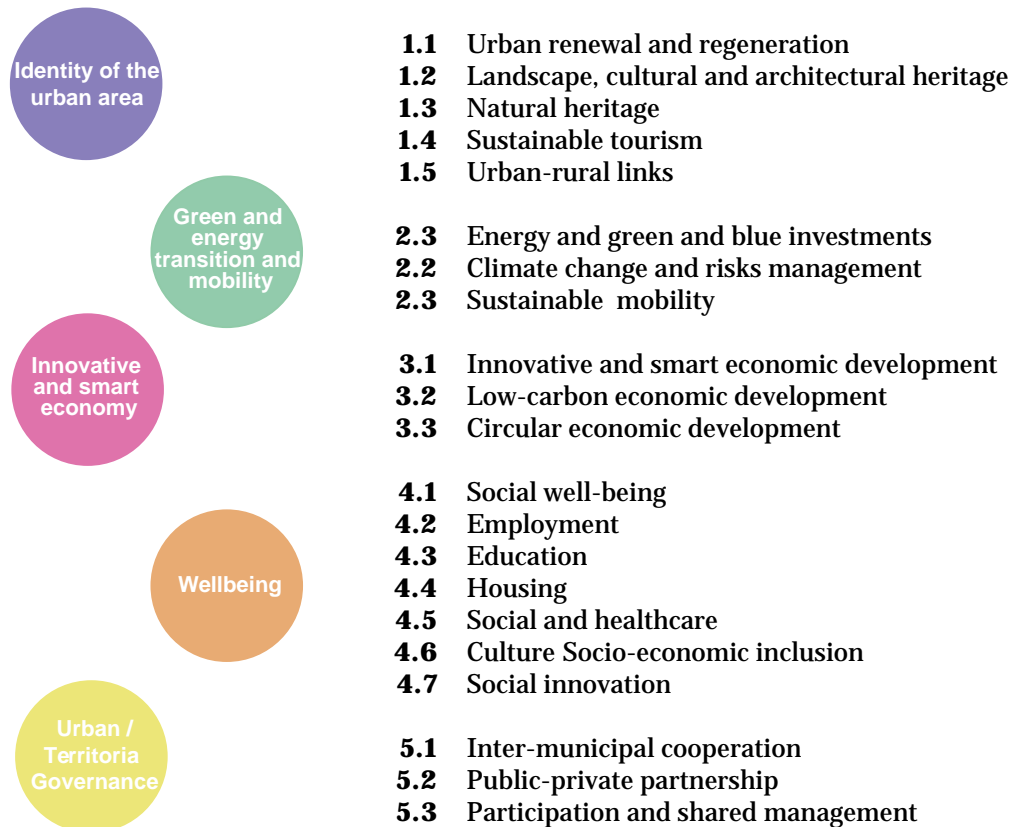
The projects featured in the Innovation Atlas embrace a bottom-up approach, grounded in a place-based perspective. Each project is meticulously designed and tailored to meet the specific needs and characteristics of its intended location. Whether rural or urban, these projects possess adaptability that allows them to thrive in diverse contexts.

Importantly, the Innovation Atlas aligns with the policy objectives of Europe's 2021-2027 cohesion policy. It reflects the vision of a smarter, greener, more connected, social, and citizen-centric Europe. By showcasing projects that contribute to these goals, the Atlas underscores their significance and their potential to bring about positive change in transitioning areas.

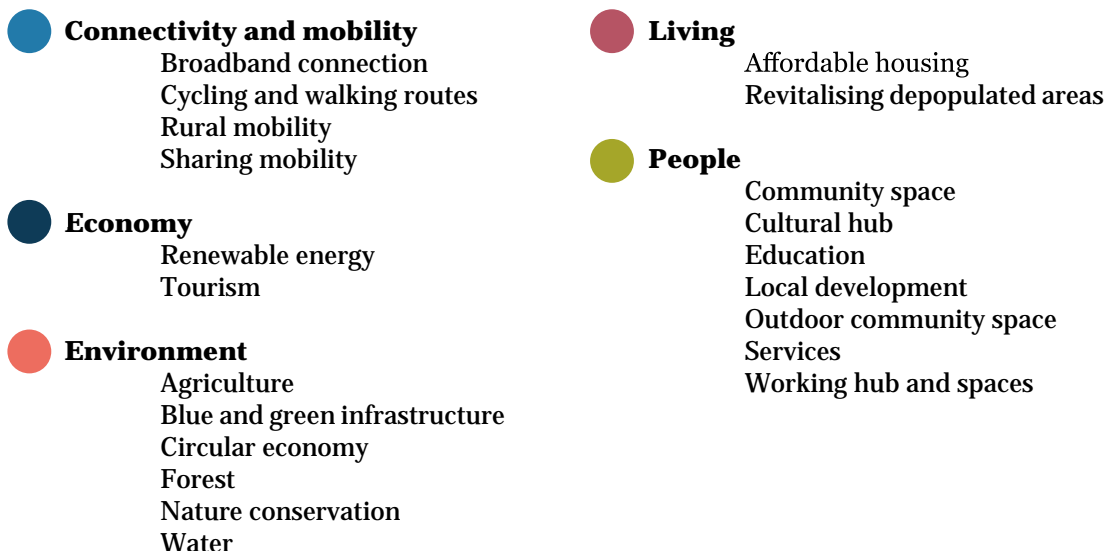
The Atlas presents the projects through a dual-layered structure: firstly, it provides insights using objectives defined in pilot Serbian territorial strategies (identity of urban areas, green and energy transition and mobility, Innovative and smart economy, wellbeing, urban/territorial governance); secondly, it organises the projects according to their main characterising themes (connectivity and mobility, economy, environment, living, people), with further sub-themes.

To enhance accessibility and encourage engagement, the Innovation Atlas features an interactive map. Users can explore projects and access detailed information, including cost specifications, available types of financing, and contact information for project references. This user-friendly interface facilitates connections between stakeholders, potential collaborators, and interested individuals, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing.

Objectives



Theme



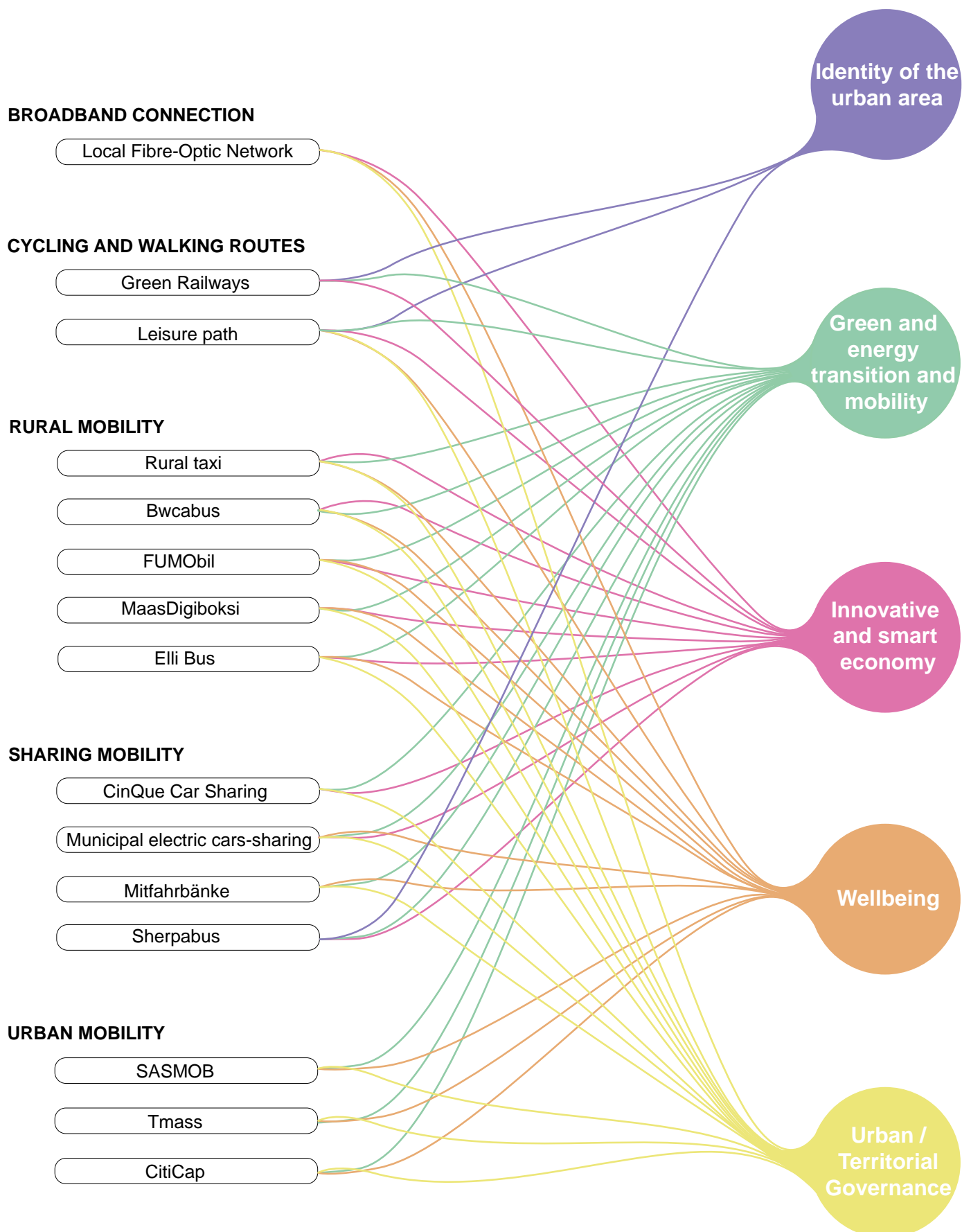
Explore the atlas

by clicking on each project.



1

Connectivity and mobility



1.1

LOCAL FIBRE-OPTIC NETWORK

The creation by villagers of their own fibre-optic network for high-speed data transfer.

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Raudanmaa, Finland

Project duration

2016-2019

Funding

Initial/set-up costs: € 324,160.00

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Mirka Huhtanen

mirka@leona.fi

Website

<https://www.raudanmaa.com/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Connectivity and mobility

Theme

Broadband connection

Swot topics

3.1, 4.2, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Raudanmaa is a developing village in Kangasala, in a beautiful lake landscape close to the biggest inland city of Finland, Tampere. The weakness of telecommunication connections has presented a bottleneck for some companies in terms of business expansion and teleworking.

At the end of 2014, the villagers started to think about creating a fibre optic network through the Raudanmaa Village Association.

The installation of a comprehensive fibre-optic network in a village by engaging local residents in the creation of a local cooperative and applying for funding (for example from LEADER) to pay for the public works required to dig and lay fibre-optic cables. Cooperation and planning with local landowners is essential (for example, to plan around farming schedules) and planned network maps should be checked by external experts. Construction can be undertaken by local volunteers or outsourced to an external company (where funding allows).



1.2

GREEN RAILWAYS

Rehabilitating former railway infrastructure to create a network of hiking and cycling trails



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Valmiera, Latvia

Project duration

2017-2019

Funding

Set up / Investment costs: 47 000 EUR

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Toms Treimanis

toms.treimanis@valmierasnovads.lv

Website

<http://www.vidzeme.com/lv/vidzemes-projekti/green-railway/green-railway.html>

<https://www.dipc.es/es/actualidad/diputaci-n-pone-en-marcha-su-pionero-transporte-rural-con-fines-m-dicos>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Connectivity and mobility

Theme

Cycling and walking routes

Swot topics

1.4, 2.3, 3.3

DESCRIPTION

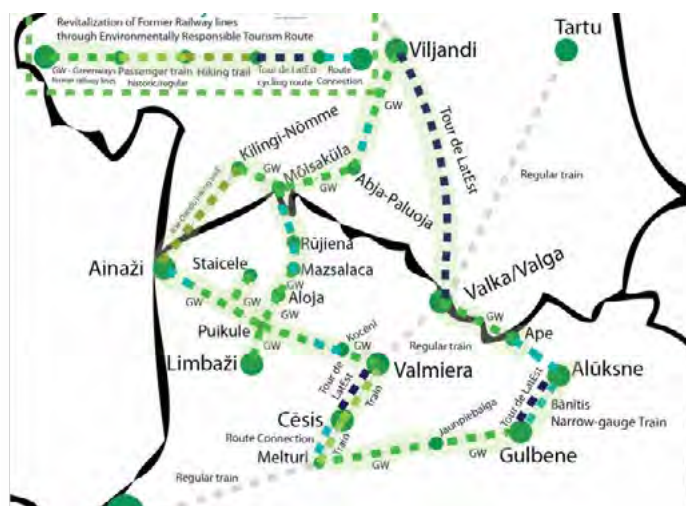
The municipality of Valmiera covers an area of nearly 3 000 square kilometres in the northwestern part of the Vidzeme region in northern Latvia, on the border with Estonia. The municipal capital is 107 km from the capital city Riga.

The green railways initiative renovates and adapts disused railway lines to make them usable by the general public as hiking and cycling routes.

This includes work to ensure that the ground is clear of obstacles, including physical objects (e.g. leftover railway infrastructure) or overgrowing vegetation to ensure it is passable by people walking, cycling or – in winter – cross-country skiing.

It also involves the installation of wooden bridges and railings, as well as route markings along the path to make the former tracks suitable and safe for non-motorised traffic of different kinds.

The basic infrastructure of the routes is complemented by the creation of recreation areas and installation of rest benches and improvement of former railway infrastructure facilities along the path to provide areas to rest and enjoy. The solution also includes the installation of pedestrian and bicycle meters, which count the number of railway visitors.



1.3

LEISURE PATH

Converting an old railway line into a leisure path

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

**Longpré-les-Corps-Saints
and Oisemont, France**

Project duration

2011 – 2012

Funding

Total budget 1 248 075

EAFRD 496 857

National/regional 499 130

Other 252 088

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

François ROUILLARD

**Francois.rouillard@mairieairai-
nes.fr**

tel. +33 322 29 40 84

Website

N.A.

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Connectivity and mobility

Theme

Cycling and walking routes

Swot topics

1.4, 2.3, 3.3, 4.1, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

A group of northern French towns launched a project to transform an old train route into a leisure path for walking, cycling and horse riding. The project renovated 21.4 km of the former track, providing tourism and leisure opportunities. The 19th century railway track was connecting the city of Arras with the coast (Tréport). The railway line was abandoned in 1969 and officially decommissioned in 1993 due to its poor condition. Finally, the tracks were removed in 2005.

The green lane project was co-financed by 3 municipality groups (20% each) and the remaining 80% received support from the Somme Départemental Council, the Picardy Region and EAFRD. The leisure path was officially inaugurated in September 2013. In total, 22km of the ancient railway track were renovated into a path for walking, cycling and riding. The lane is made of synthetic sand/fibre mix and is not allowed to quads, motorbikes or cars. The local police squad of each municipality is responsible for the security of the walkers on its own section.

The project aimed to provide local inhabitants and tourists with new opportunities for leisure and to contribute to economic development of the local area, connecting and promoting local tourist sites.



1.4

RURAL TAXI

A mobility solution to facilitate the access to healthcare and administrative offices.



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Province of Castellon de la Plana

Project duration
from 2018

Funding

Initial budget: € 300.000

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

N.A.

Website

<https://www.jerica.es/index.php/bienestar-social/taxi-rural-con-fines-medicos>

<https://www.dipc.as/es/actualidad/diputaci-n-pone-en-marcha-su-pionero-transporte-rural-con-fines-medicos>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Connectivity and mobility

Theme

Rural mobility

Swot topics

1.5, 2.3, 3.1, 4.1, 4.7, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

In the Province of Castellón, the lack of transport offer challenges the quality of life of local communities and complicates the access to healthcare infrastructures for vulnerable groups (people that do not have the own private vehicle, or suffer from temporary inability to drive, or not having a valid license to drive). To facilitate the access to care services, the Provincial Government of Castellón set up in 2018 the 'Rural Taxi with Medical Purposes'.

By developing an on-demand transport offer dedicated to people with restricted mobility but care needs, the Castellón Province increases the quality of life in the area, in particular for older adults who can more easily live at home if they want to.

The first municipality that activate the service in September 2018 was Tírig, with a budget of 1,075.02 Euros until the end of the year. Given the low budget the local council asked users that only those who really need to make of use the service could request it, since the annual budget availability limits the service. Nowadays, the service is used by 112 municipalities out of the 115 with less than 5,000 inhabitants present in the province of Castellón. These municipalities consider the rural transport system for medical purposes useful to reverse depopulation. Rural taxi means for many municipalities the only one public service (e.g. the Montán municipality with 370 inhabitants has the closest hospital to 60 km. Accordingly, the mayor has recently published the success that this service means for the elder population).



1.5

BWCABUS

An on-demand local bus service, tailored to the needs of rural passengers.

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

West Wales, United Kingdom

Project duration

2015-2016

Funding

Total budget: 691 000 (EUR)

EAFRD: 292 000 (EUR)

National/Regional: 399 000 (EUR)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

MRPhillips@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Website

<https://bwcabus.traveline-cymru.info/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Connectivity and mobility

Theme

Rural mobility

Swot topics

2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.7, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

Bwcabus sought to put in place an affordable and sustainable solution for providing rural communities in west Wales with an efficient local transport network.

It sought thus to provide improved access to jobs and services for local people, benefitting particularly those most at risk.

The service addresses the issue – faced by many villages and small towns in rural areas across Europe – of increasing isolation in cases where ‘uncompetitive’ bus services are cut to save costs. As a result, local people and especially the most vulnerable can find it increasingly difficult to access employment opportunities and the services they need.

In addition to a number of fixed routes, it operates an on demand bus service, which users can pre-book. The bus service is supported by a website that provides passengers with detailed information on the service, including the location of bus stops, fares and how to book. Once they have registered for free, passengers are able to pre-book their journeys using a dedicated telephone booking service. The bus service operates Monday to Saturday from 07:00 to 19:00. Passengers must book before 19:00 for travel the next morning or before 11:30 to travel that afternoon. All Bwcabus buses have low, wide, accessible entrances – wheelchair ramps are available on request.

Whilst most users are asked to meet the bus at their nearest stop, passengers with reduced mobility or those in particularly remote locations can request to be picked up and set down at or near to their home address, providing it is safe and practical to do so.



1.6

FUMOBIL



Developing a regional sustainable transport and mobility scheme through coordinated data analysis, multi-actor engagement and innovative solutions to improve inclusiveness.

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Fuschlsee & Mondsee, Austria

Project duration

2016-2017

Funding

Total budget 196 139.23 (EUR)

EAFRD 76 560.43 (EUR)

National/Regional: 95 663.04 (EUR)

Private: 23 915.76 (EUR)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

office@regionfumo.at

Website

<https://www.regionfumo.at/fumobil/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Connectivity and mobility

Theme

Rural mobility

Swot topics

2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.7, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The public transport offer in Lakes Fuschlsee and Mondsee ("FUMO region") was inadequate. Work and leisure facilities were difficult to access by public transport due to infrequent bus stops and long waiting times for residents. As a result, for reasons of convenience and accessibility, private motorised transport use was increasing thereby contributing to transport emissions and an unsustainable, non-inclusive mobility system.

Over the course of 2016 and 2017, a master plan for a sustainable mobility system was developed for 17 communities around the FUMO region. The plan offers a clear vision for an attractive, integrated and environmentally friendly mobility system for the future. It will enable residents to reach their daily places of work, education and leisure conveniently and cost-effectively while using less individual motorised transport.

This project built an important foundation for further initiatives to implement the plan to improve sustainable regional mobility. The project's stepwise approach demonstrates the need for comprehensive data collection and analysis, financial assessment and public engagement to provide the basic information needed for the development of a tailor-made regional mobility system. This project is also an example of LEADER's leverage effect to trigger further investments, including other EU funds.



1.7

MAASDIGIBOKSI

Mobilising rural awareness in Finland about sustainable transport opportunities

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Finland

Project duration
2018-2021

Funding
Total budget 214 008 (EUR)
EAFRD 89 883 (EUR)
National/Regional 124 125 (EUR)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
heli.siirila@univaasa.fi

Website
<https://projectsites.vtt.fi/sites/maasdigiboksi/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Connectivity and mobility

Theme
Rural mobility

Swot topics
2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Transport in Finland is changing radically. There is an increasing demand for sustainability, economic effectiveness, and digitalisation alongside some significant changes in transport legislation. In this context knowledge transfer is an essential part of developing more efficient and environmentally friendly private and public transport systems for rural areas.

'MaasDigiboksi' is a national knowledge transfer project which aims to equip rural actors to adapt to technology and policy change in the rural transport services sector.

The project was implemented by a university and a research centre. They collected, processed, and disseminated information about changes in the transport and mobility sectors that affect rural areas. Project activities included the production and dissemination of monthly newsletters, articles, and blogs, as well as the hosting of webinars and the presentation of the project at related events and on social media.

Maaseudun kuljetusten ja liikkumisen digiboksi

Vallakunnallisessa tiedotushankkeessa

- kerätään, palautetaan ja levitetään konkreettista tietoa liikenteen ja kuljetusten muutoksesta maaseudun näkökulmasta
- havainnollistetaan, miten liikenteen digitalisointiin ja lakimuutosten myötä voidaan maaseudulla järjestää kuljetus- ja liikkumispalveluita joustavammin

Hankkeena on koko Suomi. Keskeinen kohderyhmä on maaseudun erilaiset pk-yritykset.



MAASEUDUN
KULJETUSTEN
JA LIKKUMISEN
DIGIBOKSI

Hanketiedot

- Toteuttaja Vaasan yliopiston Levin-instituutti yhdessä VTT:n kanssa
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- Hankekausi 1/2018 - 2/2020

Yhteystiedot
Projektipäällikkö Heli Siirilä,
@uva.fi, 029 4498 557

Erikoistutkija Jenni Eckhardt,
@vtt.fi, 040 730 3615

Viestintää käytännönläheisesti ja monikanavaisesti

- koostaan ja julkaisaan asukortti-kuvauksia uusista toimintamalleista, kokouksista ja hankkeista
- järjestetään ajankohtaisia webinaareja
- käsitellään blogiä ja tekstejä eri tiedotusvälineissä

Seuraa hanketta:

- verkkosivut www.vtt.fi/maasdigiboksi
- Twitter @MaasDigiboksi
- keskusteluryhmä Facebookissa (löytyy hankkimalla)
- YouTube-kanava (löytyy hankkimalla)

Mikäli tiedät kuljetuskokemuksia tai palvelun, josta voisimme jakaa tietoa muille, olemme yhteydessä



1.8

ELLI BUS

A non-commercial on-demand shuttle service for rural communities.



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Amt Röbel-Müritz, Germany

Project duration

2015 - Ongoing

Funding

Set up/Investment costs: EUR 82 000

Ongoing costs: EUR 25 000 per year

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Udo Onnen-Weber
onnen@komob.de

Website

<https://elli-bus.de/>
<http://komob.de/projekte/elli/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Connectivity and mobility

Theme

Rural mobility

Swot topics

2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The Citizen-run Bus Service is an on-demand transport service, using voluntary local drivers and operated by a non-profit association – called a citizens' bus association - made up of local stakeholders, including local mayors, interested citizens, the district government, and the regional public transport operator. The association purchases the required vehicles – typically including minibus or people-carrier size vehicles to cater for larger groups and also favouring electric vehicles where possible. The association also recruits local drivers, who make themselves available on a voluntary basis and live in the villages so that they can really serve spontaneously when called. Although under no obligation to be available at any given time, the volunteer drivers can still be rewarded financially through an honorary flat rate or sometimes employed in a 'mini-job' scheme. Local people can book a journey using a telephone booking service or through an app. Journeys can be booked for door-to-door trips between any locations in the region as well as for making connections with the standard public transport network – particularly for onward travel to major cities. Many passengers are thus travelling intermodally, as they use both the on-demand service and the main public transport network for their journey. People booking the journey do not have to pay. The costs are born by the citizen bus association. However, it is up to the users to give a voluntary donation for a ride, which some people tend to do.

The service can connect even the most remote villages to the public transport network, or between each other, enabling potentially isolated users to have improved access to good, services and social connections. This includes access to shops, leisure facilities and public services/administration – as well as with friends and relatives living in other villages.



1.9

CINQUE CAR SHARING

A smart and sustainable mobility solution for those who live in places that are difficult to reach by local public transport.

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Piemonte, Italy

Project duration

N.A.

Funding

**Interreg ALCOTRA 2014-2020,
E-TRASPORTI - PITEM CLIP**

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

info@5t.torino.it

Website

<https://www.carsharingcinque.it/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Mobility and connectivity

Theme

Sharing mobility

Swot topics

2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

CinQue car sharing mobility is tailor-made project designed for the municipalities of Paesana, Sanfront and Ostrana (Po Valley) and Ormea, Briga Alta, Caprauna and Alto (Tanaro Valley), both marginal and mountainous territories, with accessibility problems and with a lack of local public transport.

There are many solutions that make up 'car sharing mobility', all brought together in a single car park for each municipality, thanks to which it will be possible to share the cars of the 'CinQue' car sharing service (or in the future also vehicles of private individuals willing to share them), or to share the journey with the car pooling solution, which can also be carried out with the same car sharing vehicles, using the car park as a meeting point. A perfect synthesis of equally important elements such as service, infrastructure and technology which, when integrated with each other, will guarantee citizens modes of use very similar to 'on-demand' services. In the six-month experimental phase, which will end at the beginning of 2023, the stations will be recognisable thanks to a specific logo, useful not only to identify the services but also to convey through the brand the values underlying the project, which, through the active involvement of the population and institutions and with the support of commercial and accommodation activities, may be transformed from experimental into continuous to the benefit of the end user, whether citizen or tourist, with positive repercussions for the entire territory.



1.10

MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC CARS-SHARING



Solving of problems of mobility and access to public services by providing a non-polluting vehicle at an affordable cost

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Villerouge-Termenès, France

Project duration

2018-2021

Funding

Total budget 46 355 (EUR)

EAFRD 29 667 (EUR)

National/Regional (EUR)

Occitania Region 4 040 (EUR)

Department of Aude 2 525 (EUR)

Private/own funds 10 123 (EUR)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

mairie.villerouge@villerouge.fr

Website

<http://www.autopartage.villerouge.fr/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Connectivity and mobility

Theme

Sharing mobility

Swot topics

2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.7, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Villerouge-Termenès is a small village with 140 inhabitants, located in the centre of the Corbières massif. The area has a low population density and no major public services such as medical centres, or large shops. The closest bakery is 10 kilometres away. A significant part of the population had difficulties in getting around, especially the elderly and young people with modest financial resources. Those people felt isolated and needed solutions to increase their mobility. Moreover, a group of local residents were interested in renewing their second family vehicle and wanted to purchase a common ownership electric car. The village also had an electrical charging point, but it was far from being fully used. Given all this, the municipality decided to purchase an electric car that would be available to all for sharing.

This project is an innovative solution that helped improve public, social and solidarity services. It provides a cost-efficient and green alternative transport solution to personal cars. The whole village and the local authority joined in developing the project and creating real added value.

Villagers can use non-polluting transport for trips of up to 80 km, including access to supermarkets, do it yourself (DIY) stores, specialised care and hospitals for tests as well as to visit family and friends. Carpooling and strengthened social ties are encouraged, including with tourists. Municipal services also use the vehicle. This has saved on the purchase of new cars. This project also contributes to ecological transition objectives in saving resources and this cleaner form of transport as it is aligned with the European Green Deal.



1.11

MITFAHRBÄNKE

Equipped ride-sharing benches from where local people can hold up in order to get a free ride from a passing vehicle heading in the same direction.

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Grafring, Germany

Project duration
2017 - Ongoing

Funding
Set up/Investment costs (each bench): EUR 1 000
Ongoing/recurring annual maintenance costs: less than EUR 50

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Beate Eckert
keramik@beate-eckert.de

Website
<https://www.transitiongrafring.de/nahverkehrskonzept-mitfahrbank/>

<https://www.dipc.es/es/actualidad/diputaci-n-pone-en-marcha-su-pionero-transporte-rural-con-fines-m-dicos>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Connectivity and mobility

Theme
Sharing mobility

Swot topics
2.3, 4.1, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Grafring is located in the Upper Bavarian foothills of the Alps, about 32 km southeast of Munich, currently with about 13,800 inhabitants. The town is located in the district of Ebersberg, in one of the economically strongest districts of the Munich area. Grafring has several schools, sports clubs, churches, monuments, shopping facilities, service providers and a wide range of cultural activities such as festivities and events.

The principle of this community-led local transport concept is quite simple: the ride-sharing benches are located in highly visible public spaces. Signs with possible destinations are attached to them. If someone wants a ride, they simply hold up the sign with their desired destination and can then get a ride from a vehicle that stops at the bench and is heading in the same direction. If the destination is not on the signs, ride seekers can also make their own. If someone waiting doesn't want to take a ride with the person who is stopping, they can politely tell them that they are waiting for someone they know.

The ride-sharing benches deliver a self-organised concept of mobility, which conforms neither to the logic of the private, market-based economy, nor to the public, state-based economy. Instead, they can be understood as commons, a concept described by U.S. Nobel laureate Elinor Ostrom, as a social practice of self-management of a resource by a community of users rather than by the state or the market.



1.12

SHERPABUS

Mobility service and luggage transport for trekking



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Valle Maira, Italy

Project duration
2017 - Ongoing

Funding
N.A.

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
sherpabus@libero.it

Website
<https://www.vallemaira.org/servizi/sherpabus/>
<https://corrieredisaluzzo.it/news/21665/2021/4/8/Valle-Maira/%C2%ABNel-2019-ho-trasportato-oltre-15-mila-bagagli%C2%BB>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Connectivity and mobility

Theme
Sharing mobility

Swot topics
1.4, 2.3, 3.1

DESCRIPTION

Sherpabus – The mountain taxi is a private mobility and transport services in Maira Valley, in the province of Cuneo. It is a service that mainly offers luggage transport to all those who visit the area for trekking and hiking activities. In addition, the SHERPABUS also offers transport for hikers who do not feel up to the daily trek, allowing them to rejoin the group on the next stage.

The SHERPABUS also has the possibility of receiving groups directly at airports (MI- TO) and railway stations (TO-CN), and of connecting with neighbouring valleys, and in particular from the Fo Valley to the Stura Valley and the Ubaye Valley (France) to complete stretches of the Great Traverse of the Alps (G.T.A.).

The SHERPABUS operates all year round, and in the winter months it is a valuable support for ski mountaineering or snowshoeing tours.

In 2019, it transported over 15,000 pieces of luggage.



1.13

SASMOB

Smart Alliance for Sustainable Mobility

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Szeged, Hungary

Project duration

2018-2022

Funding

ERDF: EUR 2,607,376.28

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Péter Pázmány

Transportation Expert at the Municipality of Szeged

pazmany.peter@szeged.eu

Zsuzsanna Kravalik

UIA expert

kravalik@gmail.com

Website

<http://sasmob-szeged.eu/en/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Connectivity and mobility

Theme

Urban mobility

Swot topics

2.2, 2.3, 4.1, 5.2

DESCRIPTION

Middle-sized cities across Europe struggle with the financial sustainability of public transport. In Eastern Europe public transport is losing ground in favour of the car – the city of Szeged in Southern Hungary faces a steady decline in public transport usage despite significant infrastructural developments. The SASMOB project builds a data-driven and responsive IT-system through the partnership of public entities, private businesses and transport providers in Szeged to progress towards environmentally friendly urban mobility.

The project will encourage cross-sector cooperation between businesses and the city of Szeged to co-design and tailor sustainable commuting solutions for employees, the biggest car-dependent mobility group. It will be called the SASMOB Pledge.

It will develop a data management process to analyse the complex urban mobility behaviour through data collected by smart phone applications which will be called the SASMOB Response.

Three unique, innovative actions will be implemented during the project: Set a first of its kind governance system in the EU to achieve private sector's commitment for low environmental impact mobility, which we call the Employers Mobility Pledge of SASMOB. It is a strong contractual scheme with measurable performance commitment from employers.

Assemble an overarching toolbox for behavioural change campaigns, by bringing excellent European practices under one umbrella.

Build a cutting-edge mobility tracking system to optimise transport planning, using a patent of Szeged Technical University.

SASMOB aims to offer an integrated, intelligent and responsive solution to promote sustainable urban mobility.





WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Ghent, Belgium

Project duration
2018-2022

Funding
ERDF: EUR 3,464,558.00

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Sophie Gillaerts
Project Manager
Sophie.Gillaerts@stad.gent

Evangelos Mitsakis
UIA Expert
emit@certh.gr

Website
<https://uia-initiative.eu/en/uia-cities/ghent>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Connectivity and mobility

Theme
Urban mobility

Swot topics
2.2, 2.3, 4.1, 5.2, 5.3

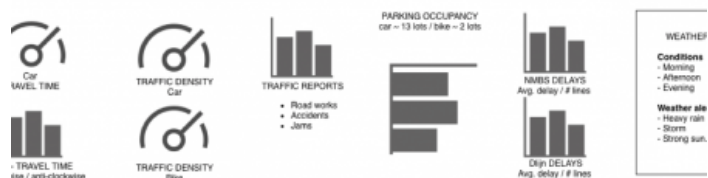
DESCRIPTION

For over 40 years, the city of Ghent has been managing mobility through sustainable urban mobility policies. This resulted amongst other things in further expanding the large pedestrian area in the historic centre. Furthermore, in April 2017 all cross-city traffic arteries were cut to prevent car traffic from passing through the city centre. The city now plans to intensify its focus on multimodal journeys. The realisation of a multimodal traffic centre to inform citizens is a key element of the City of Ghent's latest mobility plan (Strategic Mobility Vision 2030).

A lot of small- to medium-sized cities around the world, like Ghent, want to get a grip on traffic and mobility. Building separate, traditional traffic management centres for all these cities is most likely not the answer. They require huge investments and people watching screens 24/7.

Ghent developed the Traffic Management As a Service (www.TMaaS.eu) concept in order to monitor and manage traffic (for all transport modes). No lengthy investments in hardware installations are needed, the cloud-based platform processes multi-modal mobility information. The city works with world-class partners to collect and process innovative mobility data. The Traffic Management as a Service platform automatically analyzes this information and notifies operators and citizens, strongly reducing the need to watch screens 24/7.

The platform will not be built specifically for Ghent, it will allow any city to connect. Once the TMaaS.eu platform has been established, the goal is that every small- to medium-sized city can subscribe and immediately get insights on mobility, manage traffic and communicate with citizens.



1.15

CITICAP

Citizen's cap-and-trade co-created

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Lahti, Finland

Project duration
2018-2020

Funding
ERDF: EUR 3,799,120.80

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Anna Huttunen
Project Manager
anna.huttunen@lahti.fi

Philip Turner
UIA expert
philipturner.pt@gmail.com

Website
<https://www.lahti.fi/en/housing-and-environment/transportation-and-streets/citicap/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Connectivity and mobility

Theme
Urban mobility

Swot topics
2.2, 2.3, 4.1, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The CitiCAP Project aims to change the attitude and behaviour of citizens towards mobility to promote the shift from private car use to sustainable mobility. The lack of mass-transit options in Lahti, and in many other medium-size European cities, emphasises the need to create smart mobility solutions to reduce traffic CO₂ emissions. Approximately 32% of total CO₂ emissions is contributed by the traffic sector within the city area of Lahti.

The CitiCAP Project focuses on co-creating and implementing a Personal Carbon Trading (PCT) scheme for mobility to reduce traffic emissions in Lahti. This will be a first city-wide pilot of PCT ever performed within the EU. Through the PCT scheme citizens can receive benefits, such as discounted bus tickets or bicycle repair services, in exchange for smart mobility choices. In practice, the personal carbon footprint for mobility will be calculated with a new mobile application based on a transport mode detection solution.

The project seeks to build a new model for the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) process by integrating the traffic and spatial master planning processes into the same co-designed entity. Strategic investments in cycling will be included into the combined planning process to increase the impacts. It will include a smart main cycle route.

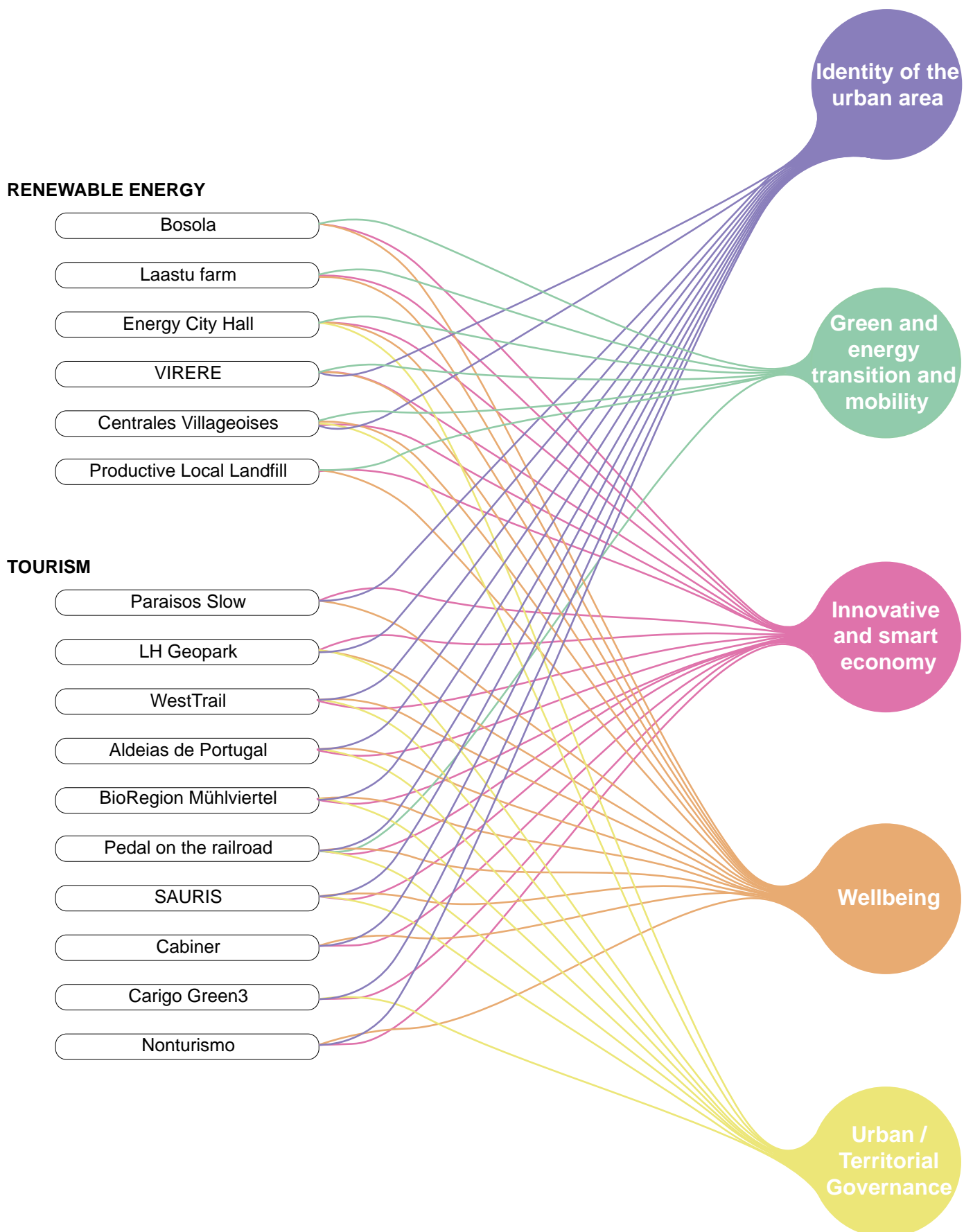
One of the basic requirements of CitiCAP is to collect comprehensive data on people's mobility choices. A light and replicable mobility data platform will be created to implement PCT and to serve as a planning tool for city mobility planners as well as an open access mobility data source for innovators.

Building a new model for the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) process by integrating the traffic and spatial master planning processes into the same co-designed entity.



2

Economy



2.1

BOSOLA

A smart and sustainable mobility solution for those who live in places that are difficult to reach by local public transport.

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Alfaro, la Rioja, Spain

Project duration
2017- 2019.

Funding
Total budget 317 103

EAFRD 123 529

National/Regional 123 529

Private 70 045 (BOSOLA)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
comunidadregal@gmail.com

Website
www.bosola.es

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Economy

Theme
Renewable energy

Swot topics
2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.7

DESCRIPTION

Between 2008 and 2013 the price of electricity for irrigation communities in Spain dramatically increased by 1 250 % (source FENACORE, September 2013). The objective of BOSOLA was to create a renewable and clean energy system for agricultural irrigation that would reduce the dependence on fossil fuels and the high associated costs.

Prior to the project, water was pumped from the main reservoirs that are fed by the Lodosa canal. They irrigated 246 24 hectares of vineyards, which are mostly drip irrigated. The Irrigation Community had high energy costs since it needed water to be supplied 24 hours a day in the months of maximum demand for irrigation. To reduce their energy costs, they opted to develop a hydraulically and electrically isolated hybrid system using photovoltaic panels for energy. After four months of operation, 84 981 m³ of water had been pumped using renewable energy that was approximately 30 of the total annual water consumption. In the same period, the economic savings for the Irrigation Community were also substantial comparing the irrigation data after the project to those of the previous three years, it appears that the installation reduced energy consumption by 50 during the irrigation months and by 18 times during the non irrigation months. This project will improve the competitiveness of many farmers due to reduced energy costs and will encourage new productive investments with a positive environmental impact.



2.2

LAASTU FARM

Generating solar power on a strawberry farm



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Nõrava küla, Estonia

Project duration
2015-2016

Funding
Total budget 166 686

EAFRD 56 443

National/regional 9 960

Private 16 283

Other 84 000

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Mihkel Loorits

mihkelloorits@gmail.com

tel. +372 55653326

Website
www.magusmari.ee/

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Economy

Theme
Renewable energy

Swot topics
2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 4.2, 4.3, 4.7

DESCRIPTION

A family-owned strawberry farm in Estonia needed to develop its own electricity production to become economically sustainable and to expand its activities. The Laatsu farm used the EAFRD funding to construct the solar panels. Strawberry production is a seasonal activity, which made it difficult for the business to run throughout the year. The family decided to expand their activities. One of the possible options was to develop capacities to conserve the strawberries for a long period for the food industry, but it is energy-intensive. The company needed to develop in stages, starting with the creation of its own renewable electricity production. The revenue from the sale of the electricity would provide turnover all year round, making the farm more economically sustainable and at the same time providing year-round employment. The project resulted in a stable monthly turnover and cash flow for the company. They increased sales volumes approximately by 300%, the company's total profits by 100% and created one permanent job. The number of visitors to the farm has increased from 50 per year to over 500 visits. Most visitors are renewable energy enthusiasts, who hope to implement similar projects. In replicating this example, the locations of future solar power plants should be assessed very carefully in terms of natural resources, self-supply capacity and the presence of an electricity network. One should understand the maintenance needs of the solar power plant and the differences in costs of various devices and panels as well as their impact on productivity.



2.3

ENERGY CITY HALL

A model of renewable energy community for villages

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
**Magliano Alpi, Provincia di Cuneo,
Piemonte, Italia**

Project duration
2020- in progress

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
N.A.

Website
<https://cermaglianoalpi.it/>

https://www.eranet-smartenergysystems.eu/Partners/Living_LabsTHEMATICS

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Economy

Theme
Renewable energy

Swot topics
2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 4.4, 4.7, 5.2

DESCRIPTION

It started on April 28, 2020, when the City Council of Magliano Alpi decided to adhere to the “Manifesto of the Energy Communities for an active centrality of the Citizen in the new energy market” which focuses on the centrality of the citizen-prosumer and to offer services to its members and bring socio-economic benefits to the local community. The Municipality of Magliano Alpi is playing an active role as a Public Administration in the development of innovative models for the development of the territory.

The Municipality is therefore proposed as a “Pilot Territory” where new business models and financial products can be effectively tested, according to a “bottom-up” approach that starts from the systematic exploitation of the opportunities offered by this post-pandemic moment in which it is imperative to ride change with courage and determination. The ERC (Renewable Energy Community) “Energy City Hall” project in Magliano Alpi was established at the initiative of the municipality through collaboration with the Energy Center of the Polytechnic University of Turin. It has been provided with 2 photovoltaic systems serving both public and private buildings with a total capacity of 40 kW. The municipality has also purchased smart meters, connected to all PODs participating in the ERC, and the Energy4Com platform has been chosen to analyze energy production and consumption flows. .



2.4

VIRERE

Promoting renewable energy through diversified rural tourism



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Paraje La Venta, Spain

Project duration

2015 – 2017

Funding

Total budget 135 139.00 (EUR)

EAFRD 32 446.91 (EUR)

National/Regional 10 815.64 (EUR)

Private 52 876.45 (EUR)

Other (bank loan) 39 000.00 (EUR)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Juan José Martínez López

virere@proyectovirere.com

Website

<http://www.proyectovirere.com>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Economy

Theme

Renewable energy

Swot topics

1.1, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 4.3, 4.7

DESCRIPTION

The North-West region of Murcia is characterised by numerous construction sites, intensive agriculture and extensive energy use. At the same time, rural tourism in the area was relatively old fashioned with very little diversification. In this context, the idea for this project was born to combine rural and sustainable tourism with theoretical and practical training for all people and ages. The approach would be based on re-valourising indigenous biodiversity and integrating popular knowledge with the new global trends in more environmentally friendly energy, architecture, agriculture, waste recycling, water treatment, ecology and mobility.

The project aimed to create a new type of service combining environmental education and tourism. At first, the project focused on developing the training materials and awareness-raising activities. Training courses on renewable energy were designed and adapted to all ages and knowledge levels. Learning kits were prepared as well. The package of services offered by the centre to the visitor includes accommodation, renting bamboo bicycles as an example of sustainable mobility, and free introductory courses on topics including permaculture, renewable energies and gastronomy using organic local produce and solar-powered oven. After the first year, a turnover of 25.000 EUR was achieved, originating 60% from consultancy and engineering projects, 25% from training courses and 15% from the accommodation and guided visits.



2.5

CENTRALES VILLAGEOISES

Designing together the energy transition in the territories

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
France

Project duration
2010-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://www.centralesvillageoises.fr/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Economy

Theme
Renewable energy

Swot topics
1.1, 2.1, 3.2, 4.8, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

“Centrales Villageoises” are local companies whose shareholders are mainly citizens, local municipalities and local companies. Their aim is to develop renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, at a territorial scale, taking into consideration the local stakes (integration into landscape, economic local development, social link, etc.)

The “Centrales Villageoises” local companies all abide by a charter which relies on the following statements: their governance is mainly driven by citizens; they forge direct links with local municipalities and their activities are consistent with the local public policies; they generate local benefits and contribute to the development of their territory; they use a shared approach with common tools and services, they also share their experience to improve collectively the network’s technical resources; they behave in a supportive way and bring assistance to each other.

The “Centrales Villageoises” concept was born in 2010 and originates from an experimental project which was launched by AURA-EE (regional energy agency in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (AURA)) and 5 natural regional Parks, thanks to European and regional funds. From 2010 to 2014, the experimentation was piloted on 8 pilot sites and progressively led to the elaboration of local citizen-owned companies which developed and financed some first photovoltaic plants. The entire technical and legal framework was then consolidated and enabled the concept to be replicated on other sites. The model of “Centrales Villageoises” quickly spread all over the AURA region but also in other regions



2.6

PRODUCTIVE LOCAL LANDFILL



Decontamination and sustainable management of a village landfill site to generate energy and provide a usable space for community activities.

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Peccioli, Italia

Project duration
1989 – Ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Renzo Macelloni

info@comune.peccioli.pi.it

Website
<https://belvedere.peccioli.net/azienda/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Economy

Theme
Renewable energy

Swot topics
2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 3.3, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

Peccioli is a small rural municipality of under 5000 inhabitants located in the hilly area of Valdera, in the province of Pisa (Tuscany region). It is a popular tourist area, with its countryside and the surrounding historic towns (such as Volterra) as main attractions. Historically, the municipality had a dump used for landfilling the waste of six neighbouring villages, however this was not well managed in terms of local and environmental impact.

The solution involves regeneration of a local landfill site and its surrounding roads in order to avoid negative environmental effects, make use of the waste as a resource for harnessing energy and better integrate the site into the life of the village. Producing energy from the landfill generates financial resources, which can be used for further community initiatives. Once the site has been decontaminated and made more accessible, its potential as a green open space can be harnessed as a space for leisure and cultural activities, such as the creation of a park, installation of artworks or construction of an auditorium – offering new opportunities for local people and for attracting visitors.

The solution is smart because it turns a local challenge into a local asset, creating new revenue streams and new potential for social and cultural activities in the area. Overall, it creates a positive governance of environmental challenges connected to the sensitive topic of managing waste in rural areas, with tangible benefits for the residents and avoiding the potential for conflict with local people.



2.7

PARAISOS SLOW

Poetry-based free tours in rural areas

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Antequera County, Spain

Project duration

2020 – Ongoing

Funding

n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

n/a

Website

<https://www.facebook.com/aein-novacionsocial/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Economy

Theme

Tourism

Swot topics

1.4, 3.1, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

A project aiming to create a poetry-based touristic guide with the direct participation of the local inhabitants and to develop a movement of free tours in rural areas. It builds on the ideas of slow tourism and free tours movements. The poetry-based tour guide will be an interactive multimedia tool, susceptible to be updated, which will show not only what visitors can see but also what they could feel and experience. The tour will be told by the locals themselves through poetry resources. There are participatory workshops taken place in every village to map the local heritage spots and design the trails. Poetry-based activities and dynamics are developed in the workshops to illustrate the guide and to develop a sense of place. Once the workshops are held, and the guide is developed, a person from every village, selected during the workshops, will be in charge of providing the free tours to the visitors. It is based on the idea that developing a sense of place culture based on knowledge of the land, love of the land, and care for the land is essential for tackling depopulation.

The project is still in the initial stages, so the impact is still limited. In any case, it aims to bring 'slow free tours' in rural areas, starting in Antequera by developing a model that could be easily replicated in other areas. It seeks to create a network of collaborators in every village, and generate income in the rural communities, and to nurture a culture of respect and value of the natural heritage in rural areas.



2.8

LH GEOPARK

Sustainable development in Geopark in Finland



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Metsähallitus, Finland

Project duration

2019 – 2021

Funding

Total budget 397 828.00

EAFRD 167 087.76

National/Region. 190 957.24

Other 39 783.00

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

terttu.hermansson@lhgeopark.fi

Website

<https://lhgeopark.fi/en/area/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Economy

Theme

Tourism

Swot topics

1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 3.1, 3.2, 4.2, 5.1, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The Lauhanvuori-Hämeen kangas Geopark area is located in the border region of three provinces and ten (nine in 2021) small municipalities. Geopark preparation brought together three provinces with different identities but similar statuses and operational environments into a new, strong entity. The municipalities have joined their resources and strengthened their operational potential through close cooperation. The objective of the project was to develop the region to reach UNESCO Global Geopark status. This would ensure the region was a sustainable nature tourism destination with an international operational concept based on customer information and cooperation.

The project combined local needs, EU rural development objectives and UNESCO criteria into concrete activities. An operational plan for a nature tourism destination was built in wide cooperation with different actors and stakeholders. Regional tourism companies were particularly actively involved in this work. Activities were built on the UNESCO Global Geopark criteria and on the existing strengths of the area.

The project enabled the Lauhanvuori-Hämeen kangas region to reach UNESCO Global Geopark status in summer 2020. The project has increased and stabilised regional actors' cooperation over provincial, municipal and industry boundaries. Municipalities, Metsähallitus, Natural Resources Institute Finland, companies, associations, educational institutions and individual residents have worked together systematically to develop the region and to construct a sustainable nature tourism destination.



2.9

WESTTRAIL

Creating a digital inventory of walking trails

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Redange, Luxembourg

Project duration

2016 – 2017

Funding

Total budget 19 300

EAFRD 13 703

National/regional 5 597

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

aw@leader.lu

Website

www.westtrail.lu/index.php?lang=en

www.aw.leader.lu

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Economy

Theme

Tourism

Swot topics

1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 3.1, 4.7, 5.1, 5.2, .53

DESCRIPTION

In Luxembourg, the Atert-Wark area is practically unknown and lacks specific offers for attracting outdoors activities and ecotourism, despite its great natural and cultural amenities. No product had been developed for hikers at local level, despite the existence of a tourism grouping for the Western part of Luxembourg, gathering the three valleys of Eisch, Mamer and Attert. After the successful development of cycling tourism through LEADER during the previous programming period, there was a need to expand the tourism offer to hiking trails. Numerous hiking trails exist in the area, but they are insufficiently linked between each other (national hiking trails, thematic trails, circular walks, etc.) and inadequately related to local tourism attractions and cultural assets.

In order to establish hiking tourism in the region in the long term, all already existing walking and hiking trails needed to be documented and referenced. All routes (national hiking trails, circular walks, municipality & syndicate paths, thematic trails) were checked one by one and assessed along common features such as accessibility, signposting, etc. A working group was set up with experts from the 2 LAG areas, ASIVEMA (the Western Luxembourg tourism union), the regional tourism board, the Ministry of Tourism, the national walkers' union, the land registry officers and people in charge of road management at municipal level. A common template was designed for the identification and mapping of the paths. Through several surveys at different seasons, comprehensive mapping (including GPS data) and documentation of all existing routes was developed. The inclusion of tourism attractions and daily commuting were also taken into account in the referencing tasks.



2.10

ALDEIAS DE PORTUGAL

Promoting village tourism in Portugal



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Northern Portugal

Project duration

2012 – 2013

Funding

Total budget 134 964

EAFRD 67 482

National/regional 67 482

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

aldeiasdeportugal@ata.pt

Website

www.aldeiasportugal.pt

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Economy

Theme

Tourism

Swot topics

1.1., 1.2, 1.4, 3.1, 4.2, 4.7, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Facing poverty and a lack of investment or economic development, villages in the North of Portugal invested in initiatives to develop tourism. In parallel, they promoted actions to rejuvenate the population, the development and promotion of local heritage, and to strengthen the territorial identity. A core network evolved of local partnerships involving municipalities, NGO's and LAG's among others, which are currently made up of 83 villages located in the territories of 15 LAGs in the northern part of the country. The project was led by the Associação do Turismo de Aldeia (ATA) network, which consists of 15 local development associations which cover the entire northern region of Portugal. This network aims to jointly promote integrated and sustainable development of the covered territories. The ATA association also functioned as marketing manager and was strongly supported by the LAGs involved in the project.

The main result are that 83 Villages joined the network of villages and several institutions (public and private ones) were involved in the activities, private investment in the villages could be mobilised and a significant number of traditional buildings were recovered.

Overall, the project not only strengthened regional capacities and networks, but the experiences gained within the project and especially through the study on evaluating investment projects, allowed local actors to follow a more strategic approach to village and tourism development.



2.11

BIOREGION MÜHLVIERTEL

Developing an organic brand in rural Austria

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Mühlviertel, Austria

Project duration

2010 – 2014

Funding

Total budget 310 400

RDP support 230 800*

(*total funding EU/Bund/Land)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Daniel Breitenfellner

office@bioregionmuehlviertel.at

Website

www.bioregionmuehlviertel.at

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Economy

Theme

Tourism

Swot topics

1.2, 1.4, 3.1, 3.2, 4.2, 4.3, 4.7, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Mühlviertel is an Austrian region, where organic farming has developed strongly over recent decades, due to the favourable geo-climatic conditions. The area is home to more than half of Upper Austrian organic farmers (around 2,100), as well as a large number of bio-processing companies. The majority of farms are owned by the same families for generations and small structures dominate. The BioRegion Mühlviertel brand was set up in 2010 to promote local food producers, suppliers and tourism.

The BioRegion Mühlviertel initiative was set up between 2010 and 2014 as a Leader project. The brand is actively promoted as a marketing tool for the over 124 existing partners who come not only from the agriculture sector, but also processing, gastronomy and tourism. Organic farmers are supported by bringing them into contact and making their work more visible. Special labels and tourist opportunities were also developed. Bio-Region products are available in Mühlviertler catering and accommodation companies and can also be purchased online.

As a main result the initiative helped locals gain greater appreciation of their region and raised awareness about its producers and products. Organised events have focussed on communicating healthy, holistic lifestyles and the circular economy at regional level. A 'school-on-farm' programme was developed as well as a hiking exhibition. Over 3.000 school children participated.



2.12

PEDAL ON THE RAILROAD!

A new active tourism product in Zilaiskalns



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Valmiera, Latvia

Project duration

2019 - 2020

Funding

Total budget 19 989 (EUR)

EAFRD 12 240 (EUR)

National/Regional 5 760 (EUR)

Private 1 989 (EUR)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Valmiera municipality

inese.berzina@kocenuovads.lv

Website

<https://visit.koceni.lv/atp%C5%ABta-un-izklaide/akt%C4%ABv%C4%81-atp%C5%ABta-un-sports/sl%C5%BEu-velosip%C4%93di-zil%C4%81kaln%C4%81>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Economy

Theme

Tourism

Swot topics

1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.3, 4.6, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

Zilaiskalns or Blue Mountain, is a small village of 742 inhabitants in the north-western part of Latvia. The village is part of the Valmiera municipality, in the territory of the Vidzeme Rural Partnership Brasla LAG. The Zilaiskalns village was established in the 1950s to provide accommodation for people who worked on the nearby peat bog called Zažēni. The peat was transported through the narrow-gauge railway line Valmiera - Ainaži, which was built at the beginning of the 20th century. The process of extracting peat has now been modernised, so the narrow-gauge railway is no longer in use.

The aim of this cultural tourism project was to develop new visitor services that would promote the village and the surrounding area in a way that valorises and conserves the existing industrial heritage while exploiting the potential for local development.

The municipality purchased and installed four bespoke railbikes that were specifically designed and adapted for traveling on the narrow-gauge railway. Each bike carries up to four people and is equipped with an audible alarm and various safety features. The railbikes became part of a new tourism product. They enable visitors to enjoy a four km long journey along the narrow-gauge railway, which connects the Zilaiskalns village with the Zažēni peat bog. This activity complements the broader, complex touristic offer of the newly established Zilaiskalns Local History and Culture Centre. The railbikes proved to be very popular in the 2021 season (May-October), attracting a total of 1500 visitors, mainly the project's target audience of students, young people, and outdoors/active people.



2.13

SAURIS

An alternative model of hospitality where the guests experience with the local community

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Sauris/Zahre, Italy

Project duration
1982 – Ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Fabiana Gorassini

info@sauris.org

Website
<https://www.sauris.org/>

<https://www.albergodiffusosauris.com/en/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Economy

Theme
Tourism

Swot topics
1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 3.1, 4.2, 4.6, 4.8, 5.2

DESCRIPTION

Sauris is a German-speaking enclave in the Carnia mountain area of Friuli Venezia Giulia region in the north-eastern corner of Italy. It is a small community whose isolated mountain location has maintained its particular local heritage and culture. The village has suffered depopulation since the 1960s (when the village was inhabited by more than 1000 residents), with a strong emigration of residents to France, Argentina and Brazil. The local economy is highly dependent on small-scale agricultural production and handicrafts. The local architectural heritage was deteriorating for decades.

The 'scattered hotel' is a solution which turns a range of local housing into accommodation possibilities for tourists. When grouped together under a common marketing strategy and online booking platform, the result is to present a coherent offer: like one hotel, but where the rooms are available across the village.

The solution is smart because it combines broad engagement of the community together with the possibilities offered by online technologies to create a new vision of a hospitable village to tourists, building on local heritage (in terms of both housing and produce). The solution creates a win-win system generating benefits for different categories of residents, from home owners to local business activities and contributing to a wider improvement of local services for everybody in the village. The scattered hotel solution also creates additional opportunities to present a good business case to attract inward investment for regenerating local housing.



2.14

CABINER



Off-grid adventures in beautiful nature reserves: connecting People and Nature so both will flourish

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Elp, the Netherlands

Project duration
n.a.

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://www.cabiner.com>
<https://2021.prizes.new-europe-an-bauhaus.eu/node/268088>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Economy

Theme
Tourism

Swot topics
1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 3.1, 4.2

DESCRIPTION

Cabiner is a network of innovative off-grid cabins and hiking routes across Europe's remote natural areas, connecting people and nature. The small hiking cabins are designed in a spirit of circularity and aesthetics, providing a temporary and adaptable, beautiful and sustainable accommodation (4 people capacity).

The cabins are only accessible on foot and designed to be part of their surroundings. Made from elements such as cardboard and wood, the hiking cabins are circular and blend into the natural landscape. The hike and remote overnight stay, in beautiful wilderness setting, offer visitors a unique off-grid nature experience, going back to the essential and with intuitive contact with the elements: water, earth, fire and light. Through the self-sustained circular design of the cabin, power, water and heat are all generated and controlled by the cabin itself and no trace is left behind. The project approach and experience show the potential of sustainable tourism close to home, in mobile hiking cabins temporarily set in nature. By staying in sustainable cabins, visitors help to protect the nature they enjoy, given a part of revenue is reinvested to protect the local natural environment, by contributing to nature projects protecting the ecosystem and biodiversity, and to planting trees; thereby delivering a positive impact on biodiversity in the nature reserves where the cabins are located. By hiring people in an inclusive way and buying local products and services, Cabiner also supports the local economy in the rural areas around the cabins.

An additional dimension seeks to place temporary hiking cabins in nature reserves covering national cross-border areas so people can make hiking journeys across (national) parks and between EU countries. Thereby blurring borders and connecting Europe's diverse cultures and citizens through the common joy of hiking, staying in sustainable cabin, connecting to nature.



2.15

CARIGO GREEN3

Where technology meets landscape and people

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Gorizia, Italy

Project duration
2018 - 2020

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/267930>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Economy

Theme
Tourism

Swot topics
1.2, 1.4, 3.1, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

CariGO GREEN3 is a territorial development programme of the Gorizia Landscape in the Italian Friuli Venezia Giulia region on the border to Slovenia. The Fondazione Cassa di risparmio di Gorizia is a non-profit organisation working to promote social and economic development in the province of Gorizia and understood the importance of taking responsibility to develop their hosting territory - acting as catalyst to promote a network of targeted interventions.

To build a connected, innovative and green territory they teamed up with the landscape architecture studio LAND and the digital farm IKON. Based on territorial masterplan "Carso 2014+", developed for the Gorizia Province in 2007, they launched the 3 year programme (2018-2020) of CariGO GREEN3, to become greener in three years but with an exponential long-term positive effect for the local heritage, tourism and local development.

The programme consists of three projects which create a productive landscape which enables the visitor to discover the culture of Gorizia throughout the territory, accompanied by free, tailored technology, free of charge. The projects work only with existing infrastructures such as buildings and pathways and provide a completely new experience of the area without carbon footprint. The program gave highest attention to the historical heritage and a sustainable economy and developed an infrastructure of museum/garden, trekking paths and bicycle routes linked with a free smartphone app that provides a digital storytelling experience: audio and video narratives, virtual and augmented reality, related to the territory and explaining the UN SDG links.

The integrated ecosystem of nature, infrastructure and culture shows a common field of action for the public and private sector and is a successful strategy that can be transferred to any other cultural territory that struggles with postpandemic tourism opportunities, loss of commemorative culture and struggling rural agricultural environments.





WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Ussita, Italy

Project duration

2020

Funding

No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website

<https://2021.prizes.new-europe-an-bauhaus.eu/node/268613>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Economy

Theme

Tourism

Swot topics

1.4, 3.1, 4.2, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8,

DESCRIPTION

Nonturismo is a project that focuses on the ecosystem of local communities and promotes responsible tourism through cross-fertilization between art, tourism, and social innovation. By offering non-tourist routes to be explored on foot, the project aims to stimulate seasonally adjusted and conscious tourism, contrasting consumerist tourism approaches. The Nonturismo guides combine practical information, maps, and storytelling from local inhabitants, artists, and designers to provide a unique experience.

The project involves local communities in a bottom-up, inclusive, and participative approach, allowing them to define their collective identity. In Ussita, this led to the local community maintaining and promoting the routes contained in the guide, fostering new initiatives for the promotion and development of the territory.

Nonturismo's innovative methodology combines environmental sustainability, economic sustainability, art, and social innovation. The approach is transferable and adaptable to other contexts, with the key being to build a trusting ecosystem of various stakeholders, including local organizations, artists, digital content platforms, public administration, and experts in various fields.

The project has been successful in promoting inclusive and responsible tourism, while also fostering a sense of collective identity and pride in local communities. The methodology can be replicated in other regions to requalify marginal areas through storytelling and sustainable tourism.



3

Environment

AGRICULTURE

- Terres de Liens
- Pro Ratatouille Project
- Domain Kox
- BlueBees
- Vazapp
- Lubelskie Ziola
- L'Atelier Paysan

AIR QUALITY

- AirQon
- CLAIRO

BLUE AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- Garden in the air
- I prati del ceppo
- Impulse project Stuttgart

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Micro-Biogas Digester
- Wood Phoenix
- Hedgerows
- EYXYLON
- Woola

FOREST

- Mosaico project
- Village Protection Zone
- Tiges chavées
- Restoring forests

URBAN FOREST

- UFIL

NATURE CONSERVATION

- Cooperation in conservation
- Nature conservation

WASTE

- ELWIS
- Inclusive zero waste
- Western Langstraat
- Rainwater Irrigation System
- KCVODE

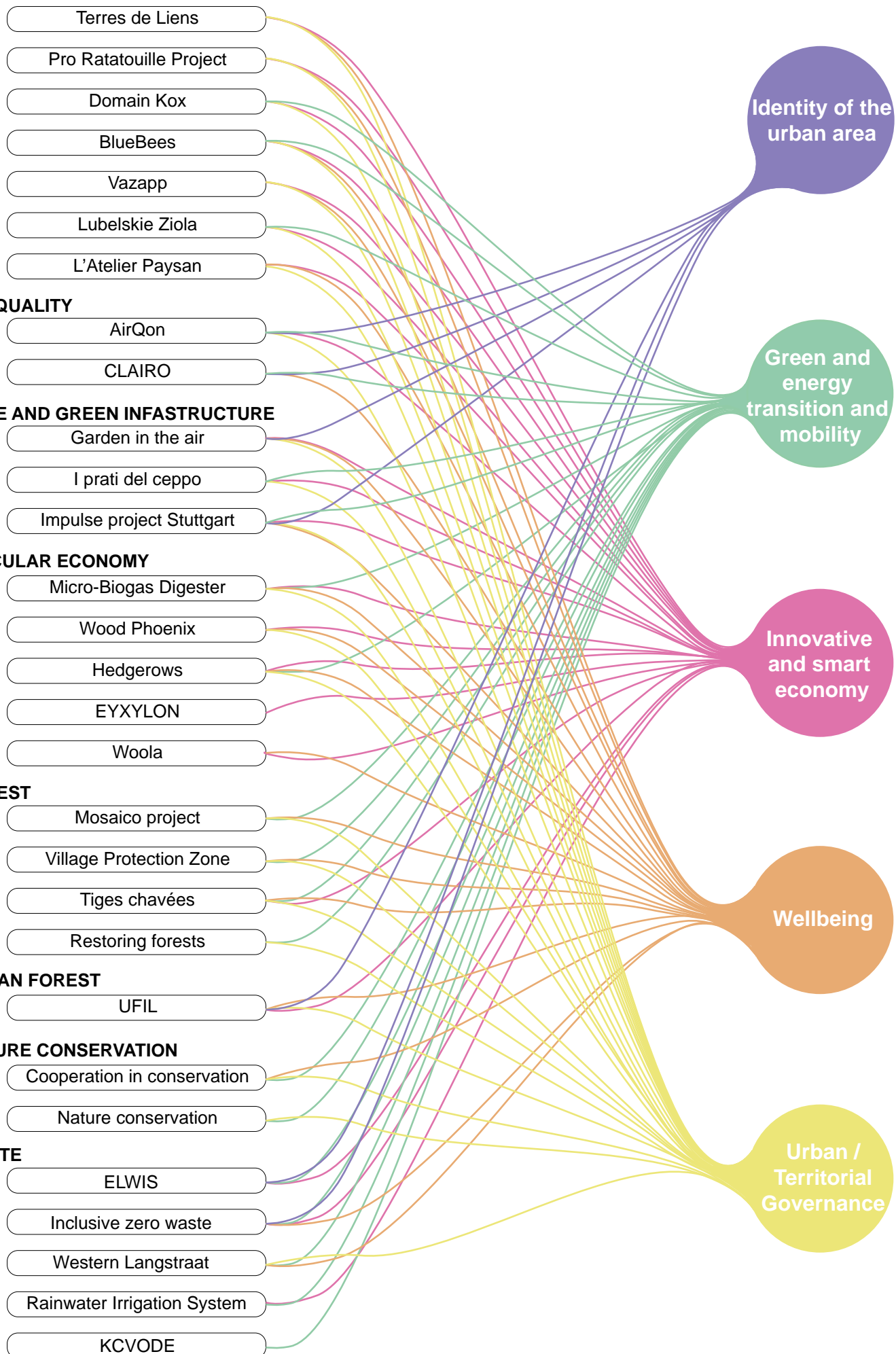
Identity of the urban area

Green and energy transition and mobility

Innovative and smart economy

Wellbeing

Urban / Territorial Governance



3.1

TERRES DE LIENS

Facilitating access to agricultural land for new peasant installations

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
France

Project duration
2003-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
n/a

Website
<https://terredeliens.org/>

THEMATICS

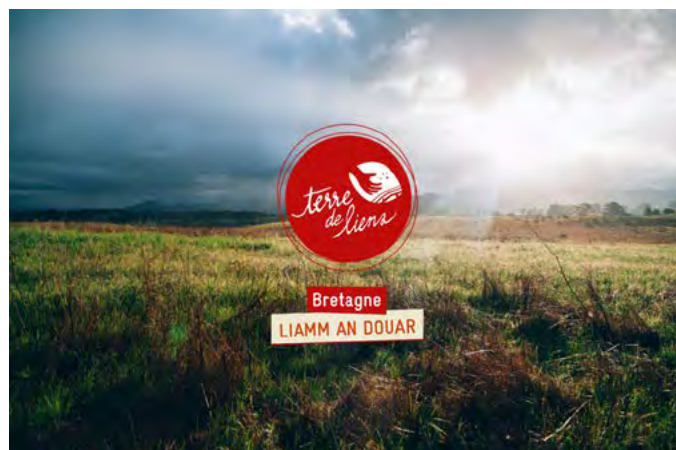
Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Agriculture

Swot topics
1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 3.1, 3.2, 4.3, 4.7, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The initiative is based on the convergence of several movements linking popular education, organic and biodynamic agriculture, ethical finance, solidarity economy and rural development, to enable citizens and peasants to check the disappearance of land and to facilitate access to agricultural land for new peasant installations. This social innovation comprises three pillars: • An associative network (Terre de Liens) (a national association and 19 regional associations) which welcomes and accompanies farmers to their access to land, informs and brings together the public around land and agricultural issues, and anchors the Terre de Liens project. • A solidarity investment company (La Foncière) open to citizens which allows everyone to invest their savings in a project with high social and ecological value. The accumulated capital is used to purchase farms for diversified agri-rural activities. La Foncière leases these farms to peasants engaged in local, biological and human-sized agriculture. • A Foundation of public utility (Terre de Liens) which is entitled to receive donated or legacy farms. It also buys land that risks losing its agricultural use. In all cases, the Foundation guarantees on this land agricultural practices respectful of the environment in the very long term.



3.2

PRO RATATOUILLE PROJECT

Community based agricultural program for disadvantaged people



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén, Hungary

Project duration
2012-2014

Funding
**Ministry of Human Capacities of Hungary
ERSTE Foundation**

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
n/a

Website
<https://www.bffd.hu/pro-rataouille-program/about-pro-ratatouille>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Agriculture

Swot topics
3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 4.7, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The market for sustainably produced, local organic food is growing all across Europe, and the need for these products is also expanding in Hungary. In the most disadvantaged regions of Hungary, unemployment and poverty are on the rise, along with the spreading of social tension among different social and ethnic groups. Pro Ratatouille is a community based organic agricultural program for disadvantaged Roma and non-Roma people, which also aims to spread sustainable developmental models among small village communities. Community based agriculture helps to develop community awareness, lowers unemployment, fights malnourishment and introduces a healthy and sustainable lifestyle. Combined, these effects positively influence the worldview of the participants and show a livable alternative to younger generations. The program also helps to fight the prejudices towards the Roma minority by enabling Roma and non-Roma members of a community to work together towards a common goal. The two main methods used in the program are non-formal adult education and empowerment work. The participants of the program are disadvantaged individuals. Regardless of ethnic identity, employment status, age and gender, anyone can join the program who wishes to acquire the skills needed for organic vegetable production and who wants to support their families with healthy vegetable week after week.



3.3

DOMAIN KOX

Supporting viticulture on steep slopes and terraces

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Remich, Luxembourg

Project duration

2017-2018

Funding

RDP support 6 662

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

kox@pt.lu

Website

www.domainekox.lu

<https://vins-cremants.lu/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Environment

Theme

Agriculture

Swot topics

1.2, 1.3, 2.2, 3.1, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

In numerous areas of Luxembourg, in particular along the Moselle river, winemaking is carried out on hills, steep slopes or terraces with slopes greater than 30%. This type of viticulture is very often carried out on small, family-run vineyards.

The project supported a more environmentally friendly practice for protecting the soil and the landscape. The support provides a basic level of environmental requirements that exceed the minimum of good agricultural practices and also provides additional options to further contribute to environmental objectives such as anti-erosion measures, biodiversity, disuse of herbicides, etc. The advantage of offering a measure with different options allows the winegrower to choose the commitments according to his needs, in compliance with land requirements. In this case, the premium covered a 9,6 ha vineyard and the winegrower, who had stopped using pesticides 25 years ago, is using the premium to test new organic production methods. The premium partly compensates for the increased workload in the steep slopes.

There are no direct quantifiable outputs, but there are obvious results, such as a reduction in the use of synthetic products, a better management of labour protection through safer and more responsible use of products and the regeneration of soil through higher biodiversity in the vineyards.



3.4

BLUEBEES

A participatory finance platform to promote and facilitate the implementation of sustainable agriculture and food projects



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Paris, France

Project duration
2014-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
contact@bluebees.fr

Website
<https://bluebees.fr/fr/about/stats>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Agriculture

Swot topics
1.5, 3.1, 4.2, 4.7, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

BlueBees is a participatory finance platform intended to promote and facilitate the implementation of projects that work for sustainable agriculture and food, that is to say organic, economically viable, a source of employment and social ties in the territories. Recently, we widened the field of action to entrepreneurial projects that revitalize deserted rural areas. BlueBees helps finance projects by facilitating the connection between: initiators of innovative projects, in order to enable them to find the financing and support they need and internet users, by offering them the possibility of participating in the realization of virtuous projects by lending from 50 euros, and giving from 1 euro.

The project aim to connect manufacturers and distributors, bankers and project promoters, the platform thus makes it possible to create business opportunities for project promoters, and creates a good leverage effect to find money elsewhere. It also brings together innovative project leaders and Internet users who want to use their money for useful and virtuous purposes, rural and urban worlds.

The aim of the project is to develop an ecological transition and a new economy, that would be Local (produce for local processing and consumption) Circular (as opposed to the linear economy: extraction, use, rejection) Sober in the extraction of non-renewable resources, Creator of jobs and social ties and Collaborative (sharing, pooling of goods and services, promotion of use rather than possession).



3.5

VAZAPP

A community of young farmers, professionals, researchers, communicators and creatives to relaunch the agricultural sector

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Foggia, Italy

Project duration
2013-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
info@vazapp.it

Website
<https://vazapp.it/>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Agriculture

Swot topics
2.2, 3.1, 4.2, 4.6, 4.7, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Vazapp was born in 2013 from the idea of Don Michele de Paolis, a Salesian priest and Giuseppe Savino, a farmer. The desire that leads to the development of Vazapp is to give something more to young people, to provide them with tools to be able to enhance themselves in the area. This desire is transformed into the idea of creating a rural community that could deal with the real problems of farmers, giving them back their dignity. With this in mind, Vazapp was born and became the first rural hub in Apulia, a place for sharing, training and creating relations in the agricultural world that creates innovation.

A community of young farmers, professionals, researchers, communicators and creatives, which intends to relaunch the agricultural sector through a path of social innovation, fostering relations in agriculture for the development of ideas and entrepreneurial activities, aimed at creating opportunities and giving life to a "Cultivated Chain" (R), i.e. Meetings of people who love their land and want to stay to make it grow.

Vazapp's projects include, for example, the Amphitheatre in Straw, a real custom-built amphitheatre supplied on a turnkey basis, and the Theatres of the Gargano, an initiative aimed at laying the foundations for an economy of happiness, thanks to the daily practice of beauty and cultural regeneration.

Among the proposed activities, of interest are those concerning innovative tools, defined as formats, such as ContaDinner, which are itinerant dinners for farmers and young people who want to get closer to the world of agriculture, or MeloDay, created to celebrate and not forget traditions, and many others.



3.6

LUBELSKIE ZIOLA

An innovative model of production, processing and distribution of herbs in the Zielawa Valley



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Sosnówka, Poland

Project duration
2018-2021

Funding
Total budget 233 185
EAFRD 110 370
National/Regional 63 086
Private 59 729

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
bb.wojtowicz@yahoo.co.uk

Website
<https://lubelskieziola.pl/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Agriculture

Swot topics
1.3, 2.2, 3.1, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The aim of the project is to develop a comprehensive, cost-effective and environmentally friendly herbal production, processing and distribution model that has been implemented and tested in a pilot farm and processing company. The model based on the developed technologies and methods was subjected to multidirectional analysis in real conditions. After the implementation stage, it was disseminated as a good production practice in the agroforestry system 'from farm to fork'.

The main results are that as part of the project, six new cultivation technologies for agroforestry systems were developed and tested on the farm. For the first time in the world, five wild-growing species were introduced to cultivation: cloudberry, forest speedway, turnip, vegetable thistle and lungwort. This contributed to the preservation of biological diversity, including the protection of endangered species in their natural habitats. According to research, the profitability of agricultural production using the 'avenue agroforest system' is at least 60 % higher than through monoculture. In 2020, the Agroforestry Cluster was established as a platform where farmers, entrepreneurs, agricultural organisations, agricultural advisors and other stakeholders can learn from the project results, exchange experiences and form new partnerships to transform agriculture into a sustainable and profitable production system.



3.7

L'ATELIER PAYSAN

Contributing to the autonomy of farmers by appropriating knowledge and know-how around farm tools

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
France

Project duration
2009-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
h.persillet@latelierpaysan.org

Website
<https://www.latelierpaysan.org/>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Agriculture

Swot topics
1.3, 3.1, 3.3, 4.2, 4.7, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Based in the Rhône-Alpes region of south east France and also have a branch in Brittany, l'Atelier Paysan contributes to the autonomy of farmers by appropriating knowledge and know-how around farm tools. Believing that farming skills are common goods which should be freely disseminated and adapted, the technologies and practices developed through farmer-led research and development are freely accessible through articles, designs and tutorials, on the website or in the Self-build guide, a 250 manuscript documenting 16 tools adapted to organic farming.

Based on the principle that farmers are themselves innovators, they have been collaboratively developing methods and practices to reclaim farming skills and achieve self-sufficiency in relation to the tools and machinery used in organic farming. In 2011, they set ourselves up as a staffed organisation working to promote farm-based inventions, collectively develop new technological solutions adapted to small-scale farming, and make these skills and ideas widely available through courses and educational materials. Since 2015, they have also been offering resources and guidance to farmer-driven projects involving the building or renovation of agricultural buildings.

Atelier Paysan is supported by various association from the agricultural sector such as Association Groupement des Agriculteurs Biologique du Finistère, Association Agriculteurs Bio de Cornouaille, Association Vignes Vivantes. It works with a network of partners working on organic farmers (FNAB, FNCIVAM, FADEAR, RENETA)



3.8

GARDEN IN THE AIR

A circular initiative of urban renaturalisation



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Sevilla, Spain

Project duration
2020

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-europe-an-bauhaus.eu/node/269342>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Blue and green infrastructure

Swot topics
1.2, 2.1, 3.3, 4.3, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Seville has a severe climate in the summer season where temperatures reach 45°C for several hours of the day in summer. With a housing stock built in the 1950s, the dwellings in Tres Barrios - Amate do not exceed 50m² of usable surface area. This obsolescence accentuates the proliferation of air conditioning machines on the façades of the buildings that combat the heat inside the homes for hours at a time. The project recycles water from air conditioning machines to make vertical gardens in buildings, which help to cool the environment and mitigate the heat produced on the facades due to solar radiation. A strategy that also enhances urban biodiversity and interspecies coexistence in the urban environment. This is a project by the Seville city council, in cooperation with various artistic and communication companies and a foundation. The local community (inhabitants, youngsters, students) were involved in the workshops that provided different training options in art and science for the creation of the vertical garden and polyphony. The project aims to graft onto the technological circuit of air conditioners a biological and artistic “plug-in” that shades and decorates the built-up park of the neighbourhood. In this way, the air-conditioning machines become, functionally and aesthetically, the triggering element of vertical gardens managed from the windows of the houses.



3.9

I PRATI DEL CEPPO

Nature-based and climate-prone green infrastructure
for the supra-regional flood protection of Lura

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Lomazzo, Italy

Project duration
2019

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/267933>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Blue and green infrastructure

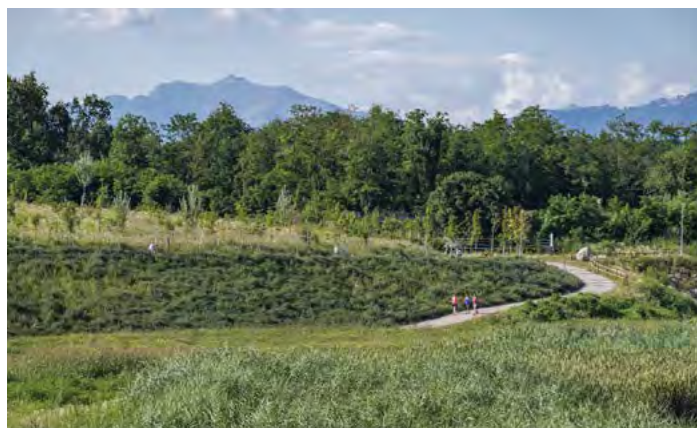
Swot topics
1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The Lura river is part of the River Contract “Olona-Bozzente-Lura”, the first one signed in the Lombardy Region in 2004. The protection and regeneration of the river axis represents an important opportunity for the sustainable development of the metropolitan area of Milan and of the many Municipalities that have settled along the rivers, with their rural and urban fabric. The Lura, as well as the Olona river, represents a physical link for these municipalities, capable to trigger virtuous processes of co-design, supporting the policies and the initiatives aimed at consolidating resilient river communities, in order to remedying and mitigating the pressures due to unregulated urbanisation.

The project Lura River Retention Basins is conceived for the need to contrast the flooding phenomena that occur in the Milan metropolitan area during periods of heavy rainfall, compensating for the massive presence of sealed urban areas and for the increasingly evident and damaging effects of climate change. The project is also part of a supra-regional hydro-geological risk reduction strategy promoted by the Interregional Agency for the Po River (AIPO) and the Lombardy Region.

The project therefore represents an opportunity to highlight the fundamental role of nature in intervening against climate change, in multiple urban and rural contexts. The project area involved a monofunctional agricultural area and wooded strips with low ecological value, located between the municipalities of Lomazzo, Cadorago and Bregnano within the Lura Park.



3.10

IMPULSE PROJECT STUTTGART

A modular showcase for temporary blue-green infrastructure



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Stuttgart, Germany

Project duration
2020

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-europe-an-bauhaus.eu/node/269278>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Blue and green infrastructure

Swot topics
1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.3, 4.4, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Greening cities is one of the major climate adaptation measures aiming to mitigate heat island effects and enhance living conditions in cities. With increasing temperatures and less summer precipitation due to climate change, the management of green spaces and green buildings is essential in regard to resilience and the sustainable use of natural resources. The Impulse Project Stuttgart was implemented within the scope of the research and design project INERESS-I. It creates a multifunctional open space that illustrates integrated blue-green infrastructure on the building scale.

As a temporary intervention in an urban area undergoing fundamental transformation, the project sets an impulse for the future urban development and, more generally for adaptable temporary accommodations. It consists of mobile and re-usable features, the core elements being two standard container frames: one of which contains water storage tanks and is covered by a wooden deck as amenity space, while the other comprises an integrated vertical-flow constructed wetland, as well as a laboratory and control room. The two containers technically and design-wise represent the integrating component of the project, where water treatment and water supply come together in a multifunctional open space. For retaining storm water and storing rain water these elements are complemented by an above ground cistern that doubles as an advertising pillar to communicate the project goals.

The water comes from neighbouring workers' accommodations: Rainwater is collected from the roof and grey water from showers and washing basins. These two alternative water resources are mixed in the irrigation tank and used for watering vertical greening modules that are fixed to scaffolding in front of the workers' accommodation – thus giving back benefits to its inhabitants: Waste water is reused to beautify and cool the living space. Furthermore, rain water is distributed to a nearby urban gardening project.



3.11

MICRO-BIOGAS DIGESTER

A small-scale biogas digester implemented by rural community

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Suderbyn, Sweden

Project duration
2015-2018

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
robert.hall@suderbyn.se

Website
<https://www.suderbyn.se/closed-loop.html>

<https://baltcf.org/project/closed-loop-baltic-clb/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Suderbyn/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Circular economy

Swot topics
2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 4.7, 5.3

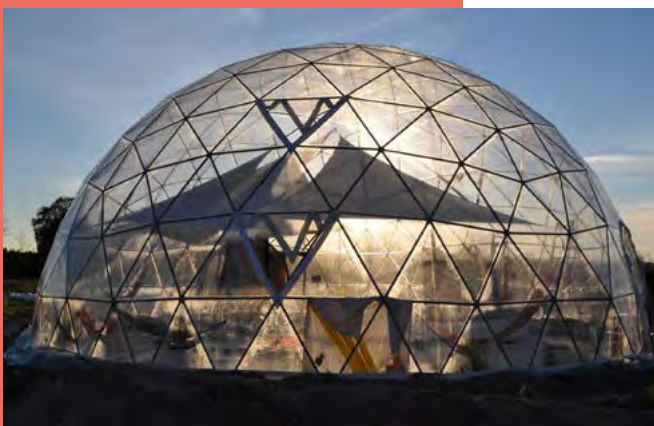
DESCRIPTION

Suderbyn Ecovillage established 2008 is an intentional community of 25 persons from 12 countries seeking to develop and test new ways of sustainable living together. Suderbyn Ecovillage wanted to address nutrient leakage of agriculture into the sea by integrating biogas production and food production in a closed loop. It needed a practical solution that it could implement in a small community and on a limited budget.

The project consist in a small-scale biogas digester that can be built and implemented by any rural community. The micro-biodigester has a simple design that can be made locally out of easy-to-make concrete, using concrete moulds. It has no moving parts, making it is relatively unlikely to have technical problems. The digester can run at variable flows and temperatures. The solution is not only able to enhance hygienic disposal of organic waste products with limited local odour, but it also generates valuable products in terms of fuel and fertiliser (which is also collected through a 'run-off' pipe).

The solution demonstrates the following forms of innovation:

- Social innovation – it suits neighbourly cooperation to feed and operate the digester and utilise its products, helps people understand the concept of “closing the loop”;
- Technological innovation – it makes biogas technology available to everyone at the micro/small scale and with reliable low tech, previously reserved to larger high-tech industrial installations;
- Business innovation – it replaces seasonal farm employment with opportunities for year-round production and employment.



3.12

WOOD PHOENIX

Reducing the wood waste



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Škofja Loka (Slovenia)

Project duration
2019-2021

Funding
Total budget 95 568
EAFRD 54 357
National/regional 13 589
Private 27 622

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
igor@drakulic.eu

Website
<http://www.lesnifeniks.si/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Circular economy

Swot topics
1.3, 2.2, 3.3, 4.3, 4.7, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Wood scraps and used wood represent raw material that in the vast majority of cases ends up in landfill or in domestic and industrial furnaces. Used wood disposal poses an environmental hazard as it can be contaminated due to the use of various coatings. The objective of the project was to protect the environment by reducing the amount of waste generated, increasing the reuse of materials and raising the awareness of local residents about the possibilities for and importance of transitioning to the circular economy.

The project directly involved youth in this process, fostering cooperation between students of the Škofja Loka Secondary School for Wood Technology and the company M Sora d.d., which were partners in the project. In the second phase of the project, the partner M Sora d.d. produced the recycled wooden equipment. It made benches, deckchairs, a diving board and a changing room.

The main results of the project are the cooperation between businesses, the educational institution and the local community integrated the various aspects of the Wood Phoenix project. Its implementation increased the awareness of the local population and the pilot project contributed to the development of learning programmes for student woodworkers and enabled experimentation with reused wood through the design competition.



3.13

HEDGEROWS

A certification label for the sustainable management of hedgerows

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Normandie, Bretagne, Pays de Loire, France

Project duration

2017-2020

Funding

Total budget 439 631

EAFRD 178 459

National/Regional 130 610

Private 130 561

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

cooperation@petrpaysdubocage.fr

Website

<https://labelhaie.fr/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Environment

Theme

Circular economy

Swot topics

1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 3.3, 4.2, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

There are nearly 600.000 km of hedgerows in agricultural areas in France, representing on average 93m³ of wood per km, or nearly 65 million m³ of wood in total. At the same time the use of renewable energy is increasing and biomass boilers are becoming increasingly popular. This attracts new companies to the market who offer to cut down trees, shred and remove the wood at competitive rates. However, this often results in an overuse of the resource as farm managers do not have the necessary tools to ensure its sustainable management. This is harmful for the environment and biodiversity. Three cooperatives from Normandie, Bretagne and the Pays de Loire decided to take action against this situation, which risked significant negative consequences resulting in their areas. They decided to develop a label that certifies the quality and traceability of products that come from the sustainable management of hedgerow trees. This joint work took the form of an interterritorial cooperation project. The are important results, in the economic, environmental, and social fields. In fact, thanks to the label, the sustainable management of hedgerows has been combined with improved economic performance through the increased revenues from being able to participate in public tenders. This wood is also a significant source of renewable energy that will make it possible to reach the new energy efficiency targets set for 2030. The new methodology will allow for greater involvement from farmers. Today, in Normandy, more and more farmers want to join the label and preserve their hedges.



3.14

EYXYLON

Pellet production from wood processing residues



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Grevena, Greece

Project duration
2015-2018

Funding
Total budget 461 627.24
EAFRD 219 272.94
National/Regional 11 540.68
Private 230 813.62

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
eyxylon@otenet.gr

Website
<https://www.globalwood.org/company/mgodetail.asp?id=18105>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Circular economy

Swot topics
2.1, 2.2 , 3.3

DESCRIPTION

The company EYXYLON was established in 2003 and focuses on wood processing. It is based in a mountainous settlement located in Grevena in the Region of Western Macedonia (Northern Greece). Over the years, the company realised that there is significant market potential in processing wood residues (such as sawdust) due to their high calorific value. This investment aimed to diversify the company's production and improve its competitiveness, through the production of renewable energy (producing pellets from wood by-products). The project also boosts the local economy since it covers part of the energy needs of houses and local businesses, thus reducing the need for imports.

The company used support from the LEADER measure to establish a particularly low-cost production line.

As a main result, the project was completed in 2018 and the production plant is in its third year of operation. The manufactured product which amounts between 2 to 2.5 thousand tonnes per year, is marketed in the Region of Western Macedonia. In detail, the manufactured product has several environmental/ ecological benefits including:

- Reduction of exhaust fumes during combustion;
- Low emissions due to their easily controlled combustion and their low moisture content;
- By using pellets as fuel there has been a reduction in emission of 1.12 kilograms of CO2 per kilowatt per hour of energy produced;
- Fewer emissions of other hazardous pollutants (such as suspended microparticles, nitrogen oxides, sulphur compounds, etc.); and
- Reduction in heating costs for household customers



3.15

WOOLA

Replacing plastic bubble wrap by producing packaging out of waste wool

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Paldiski (Estonia)

Project duration

2020-2022

Funding

Total budget 127 428

EAFRD 61 166

National/regional 15 291

Private 50 971

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

moon@woola.io

Website

<https://www.woola.io/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Environment

Theme

Circular economy

Swot topics

3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2, 4.7

DESCRIPTION

Woola, a start-up company, replaces plastic bubble wrap with products made of wool that would otherwise be burned or buried. Produced in the company's factory in Paldiski, these products are better for the environment, better-looking, customisable and scalable to the customer's needs. They came across the fact that there is a huge amount of sheep wool that gets thrown out or gets burned every year. Sheep are grown for other reasons besides their wool, but they still need to be sheared every year. In Estonia, about 90% of all wool is wasted. Furthermore, the project's activities are centred in Paldiski, an area of Estonia where there is a huge lack of jobs, and all the existing jobs require special skills working with heavy machinery and strength.

As a result, Woola has developed a network of 6-7 sheep farms with whom it cooperates and collects waste wool to repurpose. Prior to the project, 90% of the wool went to waste, either being illegally buried or burned due to a lack of a system or infrastructure for reusing it. Woola helped create a digital platform for wool exchange in Estonia to allow other potential customers to communicate with producers and for farmers to communicate with each other. Woola has achieved a high level of sales in the Estonian market to companies and end consumers who want to lower their consumption of single-use plastics.



3.16

MOSAICO PROJECT

Recovering the abandonment of the mountains



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Spain and Portugal

Project duration
2014-2020

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
n/a

Website
<https://proyectoefes.es/project/proyecto-mosaico/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Forest

Swot topics
2.2, 4.8, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

The overall objective of the project is to recover the abandonment of the mountains. Based on the design of a participatory fire prevention strategy through agricultural, livestock and forestry activities that gradually recover a diverse, inhabited and less risky landscape: a mosaic landscape. It is a social entrepreneurship project that emerged after the serious fires that occurred in Sierra de Gata, which have resulted in a movement that emerged around the recovery of the area is already materialized in 147 forestry, agricultural and livestock initiatives that provide for a natural firebreak of 20,000 hectares.

The Sierra de Gata is a hotspot for megafires, wildfires that are over 500ha and often over 5000ha in scale. These occur mostly where the traditional agriculture that led to a mosaic of land uses and habitats has been abandoned for decades. Forest plantation management has been neglected, especially after fires, resulting in the accumulation of dangerous levels of biomass. With most of government funding concentrated on fire extinction (i.e. new helicopters), it is essential to find alternative ways to reduce fire risk by promoting better land management, in cooperation with the local population. This is what the MOSAICO project is aiming to do, by developing productive fire breaks through agroforestry and other land uses to re-establish a mosaic landscape. In addition to the main benefit of fire reduction, this approach is hoped to generate other benefits in these marginal areas of the countryside, such as attract new inhabitants, new investment and economic diversification, thus maintaining or increasing the population and reducing land abandonment.



3.17

VILLAGE PROTECTION ZONE

Unrooting and replacing trees to prevent fires

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Ferraria de São João, Portugal

Project duration
2017-2020

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
associacaofs@gmail.com

Website
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agocLVHRW88>

<https://www.terracruzdesign.com/post/visita-de-projecto-na-ferraria-de-s%C3%A3o-jo%C3%A3o>

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RmlBJTnjD2y_1eno-O8XW2hYWKs-Gvxq3/view

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Forest

Swot topics
1.3, 2.2, 4.8, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

Ferraria de São João is a small village in the municipality of Penela in central Portugal. The whole municipality is characterised by its rurality, with low population density, ageing and demographic decline. It has extensive forestry areas and strong values in the primary sector. However, it lacks an entrepreneurial culture and has low levels of education and qualification. The rural area has unsatisfactory access to social services, as well as other factors which have been hampering suitable and effective development processes. This scenario is aggravated by the problematic situation related to forest fires, which occur frequently and often with great intensity and devastation.

The creation of a Village Protection Zone (VPZ) involves the establishment of a strip around the village of about 100-meters wide, in which highly flammable trees (pine, eucalyptus) are uprooted and replaced with autochthonous trees more resistant to fire, such as Chestnuts (*Castanea sativa*), Cork oaks (*Quercus suber*), European oaks (*Quercus robur*) and Cherry Trees (*Prunus avium*).





WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Assesse - Gesves – Ohey, Belgium

Project duration

2016-2020

Funding

Total budget 203 550

EAFRD 73 278

National/Regional 109 917

Private 20 355

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

xavier.sohet@tigeschavees.be

Website

<https://www.tiges-chavees.be/project/forets-filiere-bois/>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Environment

Theme

Forest

Swot topics

1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 3.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2

DESCRIPTION

Private forests in Wallonia cover an area of 290 000 hectares and constitute 53% of the total forested area in the region. These forests are owned by some 100 000 private owners. A very large percentage of them have only one small, or very small plot, usually acquired through inheritance. The project 'Tiges chavées' aims to support the sustainable management of the private forests of the territory, by offering training, tailored advice and awareness raising for forest owners and by promoting the collective management of small private forests. The project also aims to create a social enterprise for construction work using local wood. With this objective in mind, the LAG is developing links with training enterprises that are active in the forestry sector. As a main results, this project mobilised 55 forest owners, 45 of which received a visit to assess the short-term needs on their plot. Twenty-seven service agreements were established between owners and forestry experts, to organise the marking of trees for harvest, a common sales catalogue for 2650 m³ of local woodland was also established. The project supported the sale of 25 lots of 2270 m³ of firewood, softwood and hardwood lumber (for a total of 76 000 EUR), and the afforestation of two plots (1.6 ha). Two municipalities agreed to use local wood in their building projects. The bench-making competition culminated in an exhibition event at a popular provincial recreation site and also were trained four forest guides to welcome visitors to the territory.



3.19

RESTORING FORESTS

Restoring forests damaged by natural disasters and improving the viability of forests

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Nationwide, Slovenia

Project duration
2016-2020

Funding
Total budget 7 345 293
EAFRD 4 647 741
National/Regional 1 549 247
Private/own funds 1 148 305

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
oze.mori@zgs.si
andrej.breznikar@zgs.si
zgs.tajnistvo@zgs.si

Website
<https://skp.si/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Forest

Swot topics
1.2, 1.3, 2.2, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

In catastrophic glaze ice in 2014, bark beetles between 2015 and 2019 and wind damage in 2017 and 2018, over 60 per cent of Slovenian forests have been badly damaged and 37,000 ha require complete restoration due to natural disasters as a consequence of climate change. Most forests are being restored naturally, while 5 to 10% must be restored by planting forest tree saplings. The project is an example of successful cooperation between the public forestry service (the Slovenia Forest Service – ZGS) and over 800 forest owners. ZGS purchased saplings and materials to protect young trees against game, while forest owners carried out the work. The restoration process was designed using the principles of sustainable forest management. This meant ensuring the genetic origin of planting material, reducing the carbon footprint of forest production and supporting local production by using locally grown indigenous tree sapling varieties from registered nurseries.

As a result, Over 1,100 ha of damaged forests were restored and more than three million saplings of 19 forest tree varieties planted. Almost 60 kilometres of fences protect 130,000 saplings against game in a rejuvenated area of 1,750 ha. A further 2,000 ha of rejuvenated forests were also maintained. Removing fallen trees produced 36,000 m³ of damaged wood, which facilitated faster restoration of the forests. In addition to the direct effects, the project accelerated the development of forest tree nurseries. Nurseries grew saplings in substrate, increasing the production of local variety saplings from 0.5 million in 2013 to almost two million in 2020.



3.20

COOPERATION IN CONSERVATION

Cooperation in Nature conservation with bottom-up processes



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Schleswig-Holstein, Germany

Project duration
2020-2022

Funding
Total budget 127 428
EAFRD 61 166
National/regional 15 291
Private 50 971

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Berthold.pechan@melur.landsh.de

Website
https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/projects-practice/cooperation-nature-conservation_en

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Nature conservation

Swot topics
1.2, 1.3, 2.2, 4.1, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Co-financed by the of Schleswig-Holstein rural development programme, 'Local Actions' were set-up to bring local people from nature conservation, agriculture, tourism, business and society together to drawup management plans for Natura 2000 areas. Local Actions aim to develop Natura 2000 management plans in a transparent "bottom-up" process giving the people living and working in the region the opportunity to contribute to the protection of nature in their environment. Local people can help find amicable solutions that balance European nature conservation and competing land use claims. The overall objective of the Local Actions is to contribute to the conservation, restoration and development of biological diversity, especially in Natura 2000 sites. Local actions are based on a supporting association which describes the social situation in a region. The task of the local actions is to enable the implementation of nature conservation measures, in addition to the existing official and NGO structures through locally agreed concepts. Local actions act as a service provider for the organization and coordination of nature conservation measures. In no case should they be a substitute of the authorities.

The main result of the project is that Local Actions have taken over the management planning for 59 Natura 2000 sites covering around 42.000 hectares which is around 25 % of the total Natura 2000 land area in Schleswig-Holstein (157.000 ha).



3.21

NATURE CONSERVATION

Nature conservation in the Austrian Rural Development Programme

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Tyrol and Salzburg, Austria

Project duration

2015-2020

Funding

Total budget 261 mil

EAFRD 133 mil

National/Regional 128 mil

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

lukas.weber@bmlrt.gv.at

Website

<https://www.bml.gv.at/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Environment

Theme

Nature conservation

Swot topics

1.3, 2.2, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

In Austria, between 1998 and 2018, the FBI showed a 40% loss of the farmland bird population. This decrease appears to have stabilised between 2014 and 2018. As a result of this development, the populations of many ground breeding birds are now highly endangered. For all these reasons, result-oriented, focused interventions (particularly political ones) were needed to stabilise these populations (at least in targeted areas) and to secure agricultural habitats extensively utilised by ground breeding birds. Therefore, a programme was created by the Federal Provinces of Tyrol and Salzburg, through Operation M10.1.19, to specifically adapt the management of agricultural land to the needs of ground breeding birds. Expert-based, contractual nature conservation measures, based on the cooperation between farmers, ecologists and the departments of nature conservation of the Federal Provinces, provide accurate solutions towards the conservation, restoration and enhancement of biodiversity. The application of expert knowledge results in a high degree of transparency, efficiency, and impact orientation of nature conservation measures. This approach further enhanced the development of biotope networks in important areas for birds of cultural landscapes (strategic priority areas). The project help to understand that highly targeted and regional nature protection measures were able to mitigate and stop the decline of specific plants and species in the affected agricultural areas in Austria

3.22

ELWIS

Smart Waste Management



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Košeca, Slovakia

Project duration
2019-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
marek.kurinec@koseca.sk

Website
<https://www.koseca.sk/>

<https://www.menajodpadu.sk/elwis/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Waste

Swot topics
2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3

DESCRIPTION

Košeca is a village located in the Trenčín Region of north-western Slovakia. Waste management has been an area of increasing interest for the municipality, which, until 2008, had no recycling scheme and no financial incentives to motivate citizens to manage their waste more sustainably. At that time, 45% of residual household waste was collected in large containers/skips, costing Sk 2,069,000 (€68,700 per year) with income from fees covering only 50% of the cost. The project intent to create a smart data monitoring system (digital tracing system) encourages waste separation and incentivises recycling by reducing waste-collection fees. Stickers with unique QR codes are used for recycling bags, whilst waste bins are fitted with an electronic chip, which is scanned by refuse collectors using a smart watch during waste collection.

In this way, the municipal office keeps track of the amount of waste produced by every household and business entity, and the level of recycling and offers scaled reductions on local waste management bills per person according to the proportion of household waste recycled.

The main result are that the people pay only for the waste they produce, the less residual waste they produce the lower their annual payment creating importance incentives for improved household waste management. From 2018 to 2020, the level of residual waste collected decreased by more than 20%, decreasing the amount of residual waste going to landfill and reducing the costs of residual waste collection.



3.23

CIRCULAR CITY

Regenerating a disadvantaged city towards an inclusive zero waste and circular city

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Roubaix, France

Project duration
2014 - ongoing

Funding
Interreg 2 seas (partly)

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-europe-an-bauhaus.eu/node/267856>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Waste

Swot topics
2.2, 3.1, 3.3, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Roubaix is a multicultural, young and the poorest french city. For 20 years, the city has tried to regenerate its territory by innovative and participative methods. With a resilient approach, the city works at urban, social, artistic and ecological scales with a transversal vision.

For 7 years, the Zero waste and Circular Economy Project has accelerated the city's transformation by maintaining this innovative and participative DNA. It's based on a large mobilisation of thousands of citizens, all schools, hundred of merchants, social - sport and cultural actors, and a circular network of hundreds of entrepreneurs and big companies. It creates new local jobs, citizens pride, economic attractiveness, health and ecological benefits, social relationships and lots of beautiful stories.

Roubaix began in 2014 with citizens mobilisation : one hundred families involved in the Zero Waste Family Challenge, managed by the City. The objective was to start a territorial dynamic by showing "Another consumption is possible" and creating our first ambassadors. And it worked ! Every six months, the city engaged new stakeholders : merchants with the "ZW merchant label", the schools (4, then 10 and finally 70), cultural actors (museum, public library, artists, etc.), the sports actors (from neighborhood NGOs to future olympic sites), social world (senior residences, care NGOs,...), etc. This energy attracts circular business creators and convinces big companies to change their practice towards circular and zero waste economy.

A sustainable future is a desirable future. It means opened, beautiful and accessible. Maybe more than anywhere else, a disadvantaged territory needs high quality. We works with designers, artists, young architects, ... to create new solutions and attractive concepts.



3.24

WESTERN LANGSTRAAT

Water management for nature reserve in Western Langstraat



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Western Langstraat, Netherlands

Project duration
2017-2021

Funding
Total budget 9 975 356 (EUR)
EAFRD 4 460 000 (EUR)
National/Regional 4 460 000 (EUR)
Private 1 055 356 (EUR)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
westelijkelangstraat@brabant.nl

Website
<http://www.brabant.nl/subsites/westelijke-langstraat>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Water

Swot topics
1.3, 2.2, 4.3, 4.7, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

The Western Langstraat is one of 21 protected areas in North Brabant province. Its rivers and long, narrow parcels of land are home to around 50 threatened species. This is why it has been included in the Natura 2000 network and the Nature Network Brabant (NNB). North Brabant also suffers from an excess of nitrogen. This is predominantly caused by agricultural activities, industry, and transport. The project makes adjustments to water management in the area and carry out remedial measures to preserve the existing NNB and prepare new parcels to be included. The project partners (Brabantse Delta Water Board, Municipality of Waalwijk, Staatsbosbeheer, North Brabant provincial government) work closely with local residents and interest groups. Consultations have been held to understand stakeholders' views on nature, living, working and recreation in the area. As a result, has been included in the Nature Network Brabant of approximately 250 ha of agricultural parcels bordering the Natura 2000 network site, it was an implementation of restoration measures to reduce nitrogen levels, and an important dissemination of information about the project's activities through a website and newsletter.



3.25

RAINWATER IRRIGATION SYSTEM

A local irrigation system that involves the collection and filtering of rainwater pumped to agricultural land using solar and wind-powered pumps

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Tomaszyn, Poland

Project duration
2019-2021

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Piotr.ostaszewski@ostojanatury.pl

Website
<https://www.smartrural21.eu/smart-solution/rainwater-irrigation-system/#1>

<https://ostojanatury.pl/refuge-of-nature/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Water

Swot topics
2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3

DESCRIPTION

Tomaszyn is a small village of around ten households located in Warmia and Mazury, part of a region known as the 'Green Lungs' of Poland – and area which has the lowest population density in the country. The village had been a relatively prosperous farming village for many centuries, but over time the population shrank – reaching the lowest point in 2017, with only four farms and some second homes. For this reason, the Cooperative Ostoja Natury was formed in Tomaszyn aiming to introduce the 'agricultural ecosystem of tomorrow', including a closed circuit organic farm in which waste is used as fuel, producing energy and enabling year-round food production.

The irrigation system involves the collection of rainwater and runoff water from the land, which is filtered and stored in storage tanks. Solar and wind power is harnessed and stored in order to power the filtration and pumping system, with the water distributed according to need to agricultural fields and greenhouses in the village. The solution is smart because it uses modern technologies to make full use of renewable sources of both water and energy in order to provide for more resilient agricultural activity.

The irrigation system has been set-up and is fully functional. It collects rainwater as well as runoff from roofs and grey water, filters it and distributes it in the irrigation system to the 2 hectare pilot plot of productive agricultural land using a solar-powered pump.



3.26

KCVOICE

Construction of the water supply network of the settlement of Reka and Starigrad



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Reka and Starigrad, Croatia

Project duration

20171

Funding

Total budget 88 906.94 (EUR)

EAFRD 71 831.81(EUR)

National/Regional 12 676.20 (EUR)

Private 4 398.93 (EUR)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

sonja.lovrencic@kcvoice.hr

Website

<http://www.kcvoice.hr/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Environment

Theme

Water

Swot topics

2.1, 2.2

DESCRIPTION

The project aimed to improve the standard of living of the inhabitants of the suburban settlements of Koprivnica, by improving the water supply situation in the village of Reka. There the water supply network was not fully built and it was not connected to the existing mains network.

The project sought to solve the problem of insufficient water supply in the villages of Reka and Starigrad. This included extending the existing water network to part of Reka that was not connected to the network.

The project supported the construction of a water supply network in the village of Reka. This first involved connecting the network in nearby Starigrad to the existing system in Reka. In the second part of the project, another branch of the water supply pipeline in Fran Galović street was connected to the existing water supply system.

The project financed the construction of 2.3 km of new water pipeline. All residents of the peripheral settlements of Reka are now connected to the public water supply network and 50 new users were able to connect to the mains network. Completing the water pipeline allowed the reconstruction of the road connecting Starigrad and Reka.



3.27

AIRQON

Air Quality through EV Battery Connectivity

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Breda, Netherlands

Project duration
2019-2022

Funding
ERDF: EUR 2,544,876.12

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Tom Rozendal
Project Manager
t.rozendal@breda.nl

Francisco Javier Leiva Rojo
UIA Expert
javier.leiva.uia@gmail.com

Website
<http://www.airqon.eu/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Air quality

Swot topics
1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 5.2

DESCRIPTION

Breda (NL) is a vibrant festival city and features numerous emission hotspots because of that. Nearly 200 events yearly put particular environmental strain on the city's air quality, as events are mostly powered through diesel generators. It is estimated that on a yearly basis 180,000 litres of diesel are being used, emitting 0,6 tons of PM10 and 4,7 tons of NOx.

The AirQon project will tackle technical and social challenges to replace diesel generators at festivals. The main solution is that visitors park their electric vehicle behind the stage of an event and supply energy to power up an entire podium or cool drinks with energy from the battery. Numerous challenges will be addressed in order to do so:

Software development: a digital platform to connect visitors to events, communication between individual hardware components and a viable method to calculate total amount of necessary cars to power up the event.

Learn about the incentives of car owners to cooperate with AirQon. Is a simple parking space enough to convince visitors, or should there be more? Ticket discount, valet taxi "back home" and free drinks come into mind beforehand.

AirQon is a project that addresses a blind spot in air quality regulations. Diesel generators have limited emission standards, which results in limited knowledge on actual emissions and effect in public space. AirQon will deliver insights in dispersion, public opinion and suggestions how to improve or prevent use of diesel generators.



3.28

CLAIRO

CLear AIR and Climate Adaptation in Ostrava
and other cities



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Ostrava, Czech Republic

Project duration

2018-2022

Funding

ERDF: EUR 2,073,503.96

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Lucie Kudelova

Project manager

lucie.kudelova@ostrava.cz

Tamás Kristóf Kallay

UIA Expert

kallayt@gmail.com

Website

<https://clair.ostrava.cz/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Environment

Theme

Air quality

Swot topics

1.3, 2.2, 4.1

DESCRIPTION

Following the establishment of the first ironworks in 1828, Ostrava grew to become one of the largest Czech industrial centers. Despite the restructuring of the city's industrial base and numerous effective measures that have been taken to improve the air quality in Ostrava (resulting in an almost 90% decrease in pollution), air pollution remains one of the city's biggest environmental problems.

The CLAIRO project principally proposes to reduce air pollution via a living vegetation lab with a verified positive impact on air quality. The project does not address the elimination of pollutant sources. European cities have already understood the necessity and the irreplaceable role of vegetation in urban areas and have begun to invest in urban greenery. Nevertheless, they very often do not take into account all aspects which influence pollution (such as effects on particular pollutants in relation to the composition of the greenery), and they often do not exploit all existing natural conditions (e.g. airflow or the opportunities presented by increased plant resistance) to maximize the positive impacts of the vegetation.

The objective of the project is to apply and disseminate a comprehensive methodology maximizing the positive impact of urban greenery on air quality, exploiting innovative solutions (including new solutions identified in other countries). The new solutions will comply fully with European legislation related to genetically modified plants.



3.29

UFIL

Urban Forest Innovation Lab, Jobs and skills in the local economy

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Cuenca, Spain

Project duration
2018-2021

Funding
ERDF: EUR 3,943,741.92

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Mariano Aragón
Project Manager – Development Unit
maragon@cuenca.es

Rossella Soldi
UIA Expert
rsoldi@progresscons.com

Website
<https://uiacuenca.es/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Environment

Theme
Urban forest

Swot topics
1.1, 1.5, 3.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.2

DESCRIPTION

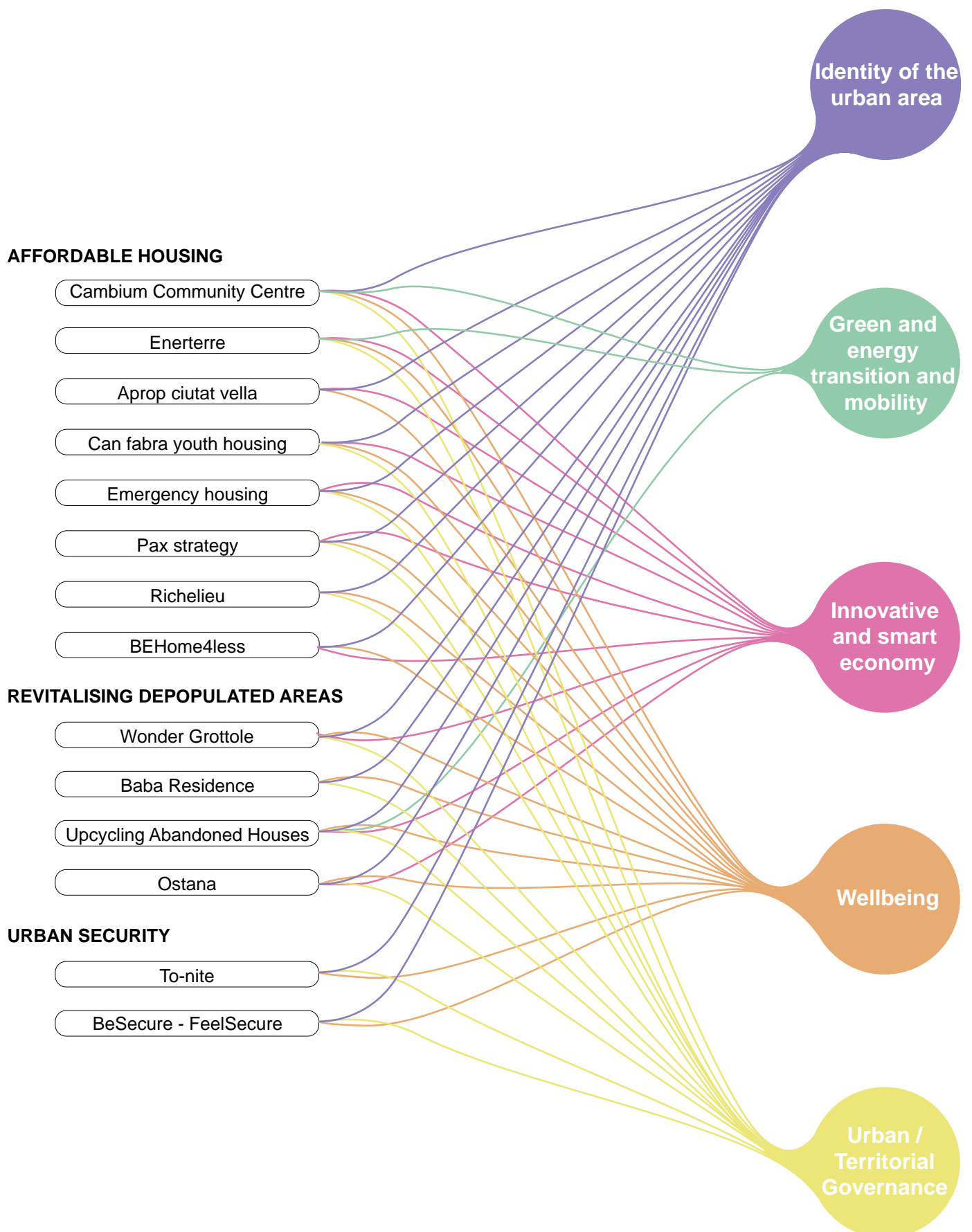
Cuenca is the EU city with the vastest forest area (53.000,00 has.) with unique species of autochthonous fauna and flora. However, Cuenca's forest is underexploited, weakening the economic and businesses creation capacity associated to it. There is a lack of educational programs focusing on forest or bioeconomy in Cuenca, as they are mostly located in other cities of the region with smaller forest extensions. This hampers the ability of the city to retain and attract talented people, worsening the already existing issue of ageing and declining population. The challenge for the city of Cuenca is to take advantage of the important economic, social and environmental benefits of sustainable forest exploitation, through the development of an innovative forest business industry. This will allow for a broadening of the local economy beyond public services, heritage and culture tourism, and will ensure a better forest management, fire prevention system and the creation of GHG sink.

URBAN FOREST INNOVATION LAB (UFIL) aims at fostering local economic development, through the promotion of innovative means of forest exploitation that include a rural-urban perspective. Those means are: an innovative training model aiming at design-based business creation in the field of forest bioeconomy, incubation and acceleration, knowledge development, consolidation of forest bioeconomy.



4

Living



4.1

CAMBIUM COMMUNITY CENTER

A former military barrack built in 1960 transformed in a sustainable community center

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Fehring, Austria

Project duration
n/a

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
info@cambium.at

Website
<https://houseful.eu/demos/cambium-community-center/>

<https://www.cambium.at/en/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Affordable housing

Swot topics
1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The community of residents Cambium was founded in 2014 with the aim to build up an economic, social and ecological sustainable village. In 2017 the Cambium Community Project rented the former military barrack Hadik in Fehring (close to Graz, Austria) and began to transform it into a suitable living and working area with residential units, co-working spaces, studios and a seminar facility. In May 2019, Cambium bought the property with an “asset pool”, a direct credit campaign, with over 250 investors. The goal is to build an eco-village with minimal environmental impact and therefore to implement sustainable agriculture techniques and circular building technologies.

Wastewater from bathrooms, toilets and the communal kitchen will be separated and transformed into usable resources together with other organic waste. Organic solid waste will be converted into biogas, to be used within the building. The liquid organic-waste component will be processed by a vertical plant-treatment unit, producing valuable fertilizer for agricultural use.



4.2

ENERTERRE

Ecological and solidarity renovation of housing



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Manche, France

Project duration
2013-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
lbouyer@enerterre.fr

Website
<https://www.enerterre.fr/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Affordable housing

Swot topics
2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.3, 4.2, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Since 2013, the Enerterre association has been carrying out ecological and sustainable renovation actions in the Cotentin and Bessin regions. The mutual aid and support system set up by Enerterre is above all a response to precariousness and discomfort in housing. In a rural and isolated area, participatory worksites are an opportunity to create social ties and meet neighbors. Face to the complexity of buildings, they encourage residents to better understand and control their housing by making them actors in the renovation. The work carried out with the support of the association combines local materials, natural and techniques adapted to the built heritage of the territory and environmentally friendly.

The association offers residents a mutual aid and support solution for the rehabilitation of their housing. She assists them in their renovation project and in the organization of participatory workcamps led by professionals. The inhabitants intervene on their homes and train in the chosen techniques in the company of volunteers.

As part of the Enerterre shipyards, raw earth is in the spotlight. Historically, it is a privileged material of the local built heritage. It is also a Material with low environmental impact and whose hygrometric capacities make it possible to improve comfort in the home. To meet the need on the territory, Enerterre transforms and sells raw earth dedicated to construction and renovation. On an Enerterre participatory construction site, only motivation and the desire to share are required. Sunday mason, experienced or simply curious, everyone finds his places and contributes to the renovation project.



4.3

APROP CIUTAT VELLA

Proximity Temporary Affordable Housing

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Barcelona, Spain

Project duration

n/a

Funding

No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website

<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/269392>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Living

Theme

Affordable housing

Swot topics

1.1, 4.1, 3.1, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

APROP (an acronym for Proximity Temporary Affordable Housing, also meaning “nearby” in Catalan), is a new municipal programme providing evicted households with emergency accommodation in their own neighbourhood. Promoted by the Barcelona City Council’s Department of Social Rights, the programme aims to prevent gentrification by providing temporary accommodation while more permanent but slower housing solutions develop. APROP buildings will be distributed across the ten city districts in empty sites awaiting public facilities or permanent housing projects. The first one is already in operation in the Ciutat Vella central district and it includes 12 dwellings.

Every building in the programme is the result of an open competition demanding the implementation of a lightweight, dry and modular construction system based on reused shipping containers. This system comes from the research led by the authors of the first pilot test built in Ciutat Vella and has been specially conceived to achieve high rates of economic and ecological efficiency as well as excellent architectural standards. The use of shipping containers significantly reduces environmental impacts while shortening construction times. The system is perfectly dismountable, transportable and adaptable to further locations. This allows to close the circular construction cycle, drastically reducing energy expenditure and waste.

APROP Ciutat Vella is a compact, 5-storey corner volume on a 186m² plot. It hosts the extension of a health facility on the ground floor and 12 dwellings on the four upper floors. All the housing units feature a living room with an open kitchen and fully accessible bathrooms. The smaller ones, 30m², have a double bedroom, while the bigger ones, 60m², include two bedrooms. The outdoor facades fully respect the landscape of the old city centre.

4.4

CAN FABRA YOUTH HOUSING

Recycling obsolete industrial facilities, creating sustainable, mixed, and diverse communities in the process.



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Barcelona, Spain

Project duration
n/a

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/268276>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Affordable housing

Swot topics
1.1, 1.2, 3.1, 3.3, 4.1, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

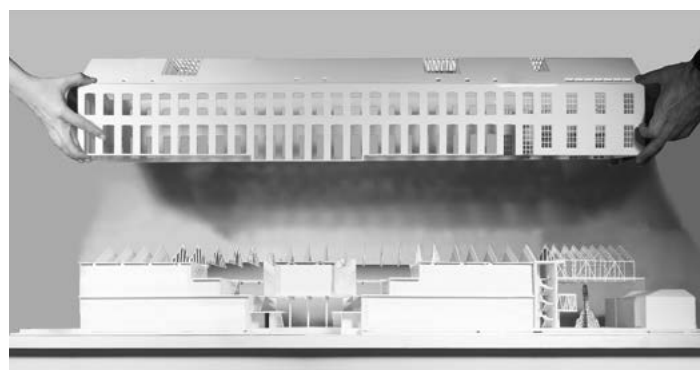
DESCRIPTION

Can Fabra is a project that transformed a former industrial complex into affordable rental housing for young people aged 18-35, with a focus on sustainability, aesthetics, inclusion, and innovation. The project consists of 44 two-bedroom and 2 one-bedroom units, with an average surface of 64m². Five apartments are managed by the Barcelona Institute of Culture as residencies for artists working at the Creative Factory.

Designed by Roldán+Berengué, the building preserves the original façades and roof while using wood-based interior construction and other low-impact materials. The project has an energy performance certificate “A” thanks to aerothermal systems, solar protection, and proper ventilation.

Sustainability objectives are met by using nature-based recyclable materials, refurbishing 54% of the total surface area, and applying energy-efficient techniques. Aesthetically, the building’s structure, façade, and roof from its industrial past were preserved and transformed to create an efficient and visually appealing living space. Inclusion objectives were met by providing housing opportunities for young individuals from middle- and low-income households, fostering social inclusion, and enhancing physical connectivity within the neighborhood.

Innovative aspects of the project include the combination of heritage preservation, sustainable materials, and social use, while maintaining a low carbon footprint. The project demonstrates how urban recycling can address social and environmental challenges and contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda, and the European Green Deal.



4.5

EMERGENCY HOUSING

Re-use of empty buildings for ephemeral living spaces
in cities

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Toulouse, France

Project duration

n/a

Funding

No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website

<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/268731>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Living

Theme

Affordable housing

Swot topics

1.1, 3.3, 4.1, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The concentration of jobs and resources in cities is amplifying the housing crisis. The demand for dwellings is still growing in cities, while land is becoming scarce and its cost is constantly increasing, making difficult to build new affordable housing. People's mobility is changing our lifestyles and requesting new forms of housing, more flexible, adaptable and affordable. The need for emergency accommodation due to migration and increasing poverty is also an issue.

Our current development model is literally wasting all our resources, available land and excluding more and more vulnerable people. The current real estate development, where buildings are just real estate products, generates a significant structural real estate vacancy. Indeed, in 2018 in France, the INSEE counts more than 3 million vacant dwellings and the service sector in France counts 5 million square meters of available space (source: ORIE). Many of these buildings remain empty for months or even years before finding new occupants or being demolished or renovated.

The project's main objective is to provide eco-friendly, low-cost housing by renovating and repurposing abandoned buildings, while minimizing waste and promoting social inclusion. Over 600 people have been accommodated in the renovated spaces, where community-building is facilitated through shared resources and common areas. The buildings' aesthetics are improved through artistic projects and resident involvement, while inclusivity is fostered by prioritizing families and engaging local voluntary associations. The project's cost-effectiveness allows for greater social support and faster transitions to other housing solutions. The success of this innovative approach to temporary emergency accommodation demonstrates the potential for large-scale adoption and utilization of existing empty buildings for housing needs. Public authorities can lead the way by mobilizing their own buildings and fostering community involvement.



4.6

PAX STRATEGY

PAX-Patios de la Axerquía: Urban Regeneration and Social Innovation in a Heritage Context



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Córdoba, Spain

Project duration
n/a

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/269613>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Affordable housing

Swot topics
1.1, 1.2, 3.3, 4.1, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Following a decades-long real estate bubble involving a culture of indiscriminate ownership and occupation of land, PAX—Patios de la Axerquía is proposing an innovative system of governance in the city of Córdoba in Spain that fosters a new urban model consistent with the aims of the New Urban Agenda and a Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive City: from a culture of speculation to one of rehabilitation. A system of multilevel co-management and social economy provides the basis for the acquisition and cooperative use of empty houses as a model of urban regeneration through social innovation in a heritage context. The rehabilitation of the patio-houses in Axerquía, which have been threatened by gentrification, aims to restore the environmental values of the Mediterranean city and upgrade its historical characteristics in a contemporary way together with the citizenship: from its architectural value as a World Heritage site to its anthropological value as Intangible Heritage of Humanity, as recognised by UNESCO in 2012. The interaction between innovative mechanisms of sustainable urban development opens up a pathway of virtuous policies for the densification of the existing city by the local population, generation of microemployment, and support for collective projects that incorporate refugees and migrants in a system of solidarity. Updating the urban, environmental, social, and economic values of the traditional city is a step toward understanding the Mediterranean city as an undeniable reminder of our past and, at the same time, providing an essential tool for the future development of a smart, sustainable, and inclusive Europe.



4.7

RICHELIEU

Construction of 18 social housing units and 70 emergency accommodation places in an old church

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Villeurbanne, France

Project duration
2012 - 2017

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-europe-an-bauhaus.eu/node/268325>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Affordable housing

Swot topics
1.1, 1.2, 4.1, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2

DESCRIPTION

The “Richelieu” project transformed an old 19th century church in the heart of the Lyon Metropolis into a housing project combining: - 18 social housing units for families - A Accommodation and Social Reintegration Center (CHRS) “Cléberg” composed of: 0 22 rooms for isolated people, 0 10 SAVDH apartments (Support Service Towards and Into the Habitat) for families and shared common areas to accommodate a total of 70 people who have experienced hardship in their life. The site has a history with a strong social vocation around the tradition of hospitality. The history of the site dates back to the middle of the 16th century with the construction of the Château de la Ferrandière. From 1819, the estate was gradually bought by the “Dames du Sacré-Cœur”, on which a school for the poor was erected in 1820, then the church in 1938. During the war, these new premises were requisitioned by a hospital. Then, after the war, the site welcomes the wards of the Nation. The social landlord Est Métropole Habitat bought the Church in 2012 of the Immaculate Heart of Mary put up for sale by the Diocese of Lyon. Completed in September 2017, the project focused on preserving the memory of the place. The main door and its pediment, the floor of the nave, as well as the walls of the church have been preserved and restored. They bring an additional soul to the project through the succession of architectural eras that mark the facade. The particularly qualitative and sober treatment of the spaces gives a real dignity and a peaceful environment to the people who are accommodated there. The old nave of the building has been transformed into an outdoor space where the various users of the residence can meet.



4.8

BEHOME4LESS

Building modular flats for homeless people in vacant spaces



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Brussels, Belgium

Project duration
2018

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-europe-an-bauhaus.eu/node/268484>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Affordable housing

Swot topics
1.1, 3.1, 4.1, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

In 2018, Bruss'help, coordinator for the homeless sector in the Brussels Region, counted 4187 homeless people in Brussels. In 2020, 5313 were counted. At the same time, the number of empty buildings in the city is growing and affordable housing is lacking. Innovative housing solutions are critically needed. The project HOME4LESS aims at creating modular structures that can rehabilitate a temporarily unoccupied building and turn it into housing for those who do not yet have access to housing on the renting market.

In practical terms, Home4Less occupies empty spaces not intended for housing and we build modular structures (easily dismantled and reassembled). It creates studio appartements and shared living spaces. The occupants sign a temporary occupation permit (TOP), pay for water and electricity, and can save money each month on an account of the project aimed at building a rental guarantee for a future permanent housing. The project started in 2017, with a research conducted by architecture students from La Cambre Horta (Université Libre de Bruxelles), on the idea of a 'box-in-the-box'. Multiple collaborations with construction companies (engaging in socio-professional integration) then enabled to implement the project.

The modular studio flats have now been occupied for a few months and are planned to be occupied for about a year. There are located on two sites: one for women, one for men. A housing-related social support is provided, as well as assistance in finding permanent housing.



4.9

WONDER GROTTOLE

A village regeneration and reactivation of historic centre the attraction of new energies in connection and exchange with the local community.

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Grottole, Italy

Project duration
2018-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
info@wondergrottole.it

Website
<https://www.wondergrottole.it/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Revitalising depopulated areas

Swot topics
1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 3.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Wonder Grottole is a social enterprise that works to revive the historic center of the village of Grottole (30 km from Matera), through the regeneration of abandoned houses and the creation of a new community. Its historic center has only 300 inhabitants and has 629 abandoned houses. During the last sixty years its inhabitants have sought work in larger cities or abroad, giving rise to a rapid depopulation of the town, especially its historical centre.

Wonder Grottole aims to experience the possibility of recovering the memories of this territory and repopulate the village of Grottole through the creation of a new community in harmony with the resident population. Wonder Grottole wants to experiment a new tourism model, the 4.0 one, an evolution of the previous ones because it is able to systematize the recovery of the territory, favor an urban regeneration and create a new tourist market. The tourist no longer lives the territory passively, nor does he live by the simple experiences offered by the locals, but becomes himself a protagonist because he brings and exchanges skills, values with the territory and his people.

The impact of this type of tourism is very positive as it increases the quality of life as well as encouraging and generating new economies.



4.10

BABA RESIDENCE

Bringing together urban youth and elderly people in low-density and remote villages in Bulgaria



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Bulgaria

Project duration
2005-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
info@ideasfactorybg.org

Website
<https://ideasfactorybg.org/ba-ba-residence/?lang=en>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Revitalising depopulated areas

Swot topics
1.2, 1.5, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Baba Residence (baba – grandmother in Bulgarian) is an initiative bringing together urban youth and elderly people in low-density and remote villages in Bulgaria. Participants spend one month living and learning in a mountain village, with the purpose to create a meeting point between the entrepreneurial spirit of young people and traditional culture of elderly people from the Rhodopes mountains in Bulgaria.

Every year, since 2015, a group of 20 young people (up to 35-years-old) has the opportunity to participate in the Baba Residence project. The group is composed of students or recently graduated (within the past two years) and still unemployed young people, that have previously applied to participate into the Baba Residence initiative.

Selected candidates go through two specific training programmes: Design Thinking and on-site ethnological research. Firstly, they undergo a training with Ideas Factory (a Bulgarian networking platform for entrepreneurs) during several months. Secondly, they spend 4 to 6 weeks in the households of elderly in remote and sparsely populated Bulgarian villages. Participants receive some private financial support, from Ideas Factory, for travel and living expenses.

During their participation, the residents live the daily life of their hosting community. Their goal is to develop an innovative idea for a product, service or event that will attract greater interest in the village. Together with developing their concept and skills in local crafts, the young people are supported by the household in which they live.



4.11

UPCYCLING ABANDONED HOUSES

A resident-led process of taking desolate/abandoned rural housing and upcycling it into new houses in suitable village locations

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Rautajärvi, Finland

Project duration

2019-ongoing

Funding

**Rautajärven Torppakylä :
15,000 €**

**Local bank foundation 9,000
€**

**Social enterprise's own resources
2,500 €**

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Kirsi.oes@visitkukkia.fi

Website

**[https://torppakyla.yhdistysavain.
fi/](https://torppakyla.yhdistysavain.fi/)**

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Living

Theme

Revitalising depopulated areas

Swot topics

1.2, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Rautajärvi is located in the Pirkanmaa region of southern Finland (capital city Tampere). Until the 1960s, it used to be the biggest village in the Luopioinen municipality, largely due agriculture and forestry. However, it has seen a steady decline in population ever since. In the period 2013-2018 alone it lost 9% of its registered inhabitants. Nearly every year, the municipality has suggested closing the village school, library, service centres, daycares, units in old people's home and health centre. Rautajärvi faces a continual struggle to keep its vital services running – often taking a lot of effort and volunteer workers.

The solution is a resident and volunteer-led process of identifying and then deconstructing desolate and abandoned houses in the local area in order to provide traditional local materials for the construction of new, modern houses in appropriate village locations. The solution includes the engagement of an architect to design houses making use of the traditional materials in harmony with the local area.

Together with the other housing projects, the solution contributes to creating a positive narrative and village brand for Rautajärvi which can be invaluable for turning around its fortunes and attracting more young people and families to live in the village and creating virtuous circles in support of local services. More specifically, the creation of new, modern housing using traditional materials aims to meet the housing needs of a new generation of potential residents. The solution has also fostered and encouraged volunteering and community engagement around the long-term sustainability of the village, both in terms of its housing and environmentally. This can enhance long-term community engagement and social cohesion.



4.12

OSTANA

Living Laboratory and Leading Model for Alpine
Regeneration



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Ostana, Italy

Project duration

2013-ongoing

Funding

Set up / Investment costs: EUR 1 010 000

Ongoing costs: EUR 95 229

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

laura.cantarella@visoaviso.it

Website

<https://www.comune.ostana.cn.it/>

<https://www.visoaviso.it/>

<https://2021.prizes.new-europe-an-bauhaus.eu/node/268416>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Living

Theme

Revitalising depopulated areas

Swot topics

1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 3.1, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Ostana. Smart Rural Innovation Hub Ostana is an Italian mountain village that was almost completely abandoned. It has reversed the process of depopulation and today there are nearly 100 residents living in Ostana all year long, while in the summer and high season the number grows to more than 500 tourists and second-home owners overall.

The rebirth of the village began in the late 1980s, when a bunch of former Ostana inhabitants (at the time living in Turin) took the decision to come back to the village with the idea of starting a process of high-quality architectural renovation based on very strict rules, and the protection and promotion of alpine landscape and culture. In collaboration with the Politecnico of Turin, they created the conditions for a better quality of life in the village. These were based on architectural renovation, providing services to the inhabitants, developing both traditional and contemporary cultural projects, and taking care of the deployment of renewable energy, agriculture and forest management. Over the years, Ostana identitarian buildings were restored and opened for the community and guests: Lou Pourtoun - a cultural center, a foresteria, a guesthouse for overnight stays, an ethnographic museum, a shelter, a number of BnBs, a wellness center.



4.13

TO-NITE

Community-based urban security

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Turin, Italy

Project duration
2019-2022

Funding
ERDF: 4,643,903.28

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Fabrizio Barbiero
Project Manager
fabrizio.barbiero@comune.torino.it

Valeria Ferraris
UIA Expert
valeria.ferraris@unito.it

Website
<https://tonite.eu/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Urban security

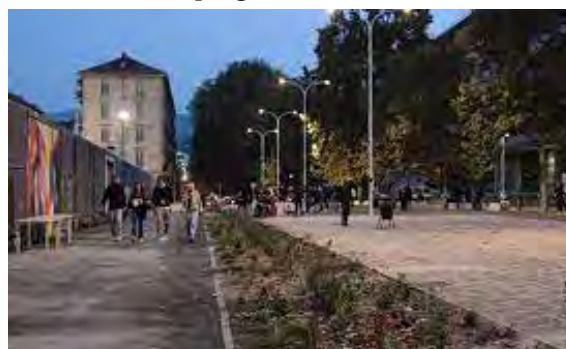
Swot topics
1.1, 4.1, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Enhancing the perception of urban safety through collaborative policies based on social empowerment and active participation of residents and stakeholders is the main objective of To-Nite. Urban services and public spaces are designed mainly for being used during the daytime, while recent lifestyle trends show how these spaces and services are becoming increasingly attractive during the night, for the creation of new cultural, economic and civic opportunities.

TO-Nite aims to deliver community-based urban security through community activation, empowerment and technology-based social sensing. This will allow the City to face the challenge by implementing multidisciplinary and co-designed solutions with communities aimed at improving the livability of public spaces and the perceived security of our communities.

To achieve such objectives, the project intends to: conduct ethnographic and social enquiry activities in target neighborhoods and engage key stakeholders to understand the current culture of security; define the enabling role of infrastructure technology that could be placed in those areas, and elaborate a baseline and a model in support to City's policy and services; develop an improved and integrated technology infrastructure (i.e. platform, beacons, geofences) to understand, analyse urban insecurity phenomena (security sensing) and to provide open intelligence (data as urban commons) to improve citizens' awareness regarding their culture and perception of security; co-design with communities opportunities for urban regeneration and services aimed at improving social cohesion and protection in the use of public spaces at night/evening time. Impact oriented and sustainable co-defined solutions will be supported by dedicated acceleration programmes.



4.14

BESECURE - FEELSECURE

Holistic Urban Security Governance Framework for Monitoring, Assessing and Forecasting the Efficiency, Sustainability and Resilience of Piraeus



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Piraeus, Greece

Project duration

2020-2022

Funding

ERDF: 3,973,140.00

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Project Manager – Head of IT Department
mmpour@piraeus.gov.gr

Edna Peza Ramirez

UIA Expert

edna.peza@gmail.com

Website

<https://www.bsfs-piraeus.eu/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Living

Theme

Urban security

Swot topics

1.1, 4.1, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Piraeus is the largest & busiest port in Greece, among the biggest European ports and the main hub connecting Europe, Asia and Africa, as well as among the most densely populated cities in Europe (15.065 citizens/km²).

The urban threat landscape in Piraeus is mainly comprised by small scale crime (i.e. pickpockets, thieves), night crime activities, drug & cigarettes smuggling and immigrants' trafficking. These events are hardly reported to the authorities due to the lack of transparency, cross-sectoral cooperation and exploitation of cyber-physical flaws. The project targeted areas are characterized by an urban landscape with the following urban crime factors: Low social cohesion; High population density; Sense of degradation; Fear of crime (citizens believe that urban insecurity is in the top 3 city problems according to a recent local poll); Environmental degradation & urban design; Weak collaboration among the critical information systems of the urban authority, the police and other key stakeholders is associated to the almost non-existent interoperability, entailing information losses and hampering timely reaction of the first responders.

The Be Secure-Feel Secure (BSFS) proposed solution aims to provide a holistic framework against urban security threats, focusing on crime prevention and improvement of the actual and perceived security. This can be achieved via efficient collaboration of key urban entities, infrastructures and the citizens, entailing seamless information sharing and increased social cohesion. In this line, BSFS will be implemented in three layers (governance, cyber and social & spatial actions). The project results will comprise a set of best practices, which will be communicated outside the local boundaries, so that they can be adoptable by other Greek and European cities.



5

People

COMMUNITY SPACE

- My Place
- Casino of Navía
- Il Quartiere
- New kera - smart urban platform
- Sport hall de roomley

CULTURAL HUB

- C-mine
- Farm Cultural Park
- Can Guineu
- Cresce solo se sogna
- FABER
- La fàbrica de toda la vida

EDUCATION

- Fire Protection for Kids
- Energy Visitor Centre
- Tasuleasa Social
- Toys Museum in Rhodes Island

LOCAL DEVELOPEMENT

- Projecto Querencia
- Recartografías
- Pueblos Vivos
- Integra Todos - Costurizate
- From donut to krapfen

OUTDOORS COMMUNITY SPACE

- Garden of memory
- Xifre's rooftop
- The rivers of Sofia

SERVICES

- Proximity healthcare
- 1000 Cafés
- Mallu-auto
- Incl: aging well
- Tools & Talent App

WORKING HUB AND SPACES

- NATworking
- Rural Hub
- The Ludgate Hub
- De Hoorn

URBAN POVERTY

- MAC -Monteruscello Agro City
- 5Bridges

Identity of the urban area

Green and energy transition and mobility

Innovative and smart economy

Wellbeing

Urban / Territorial Governance

5.1

MY PLACE

A youth and community facility and recreational centre

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Midleton, Ireland

Project duration
2015-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
reception@myplacemidleton.ie

Website
<https://www.myplacemidleton.ie/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Community space

Swot topics
4.1, 4.3, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

MY Place was set up by a group of seven local citizens who came together with the sole purpose of filling a gap in the community for the youth of our town. Efforts had been made prior to this and some years back, research was carried out among Transition Year students in the Midleton area. Situated at the Old Fire Station on the Mill Road, it consists of a dedicated youth space in the form of a youth café / drop-in centre incorporating a café, recreation area, music room and arts space. It is open to all teens with an emphasis on youth health awareness, support and information. It is staffed by trained youth workers and a dedicated counselling room is also available.

My Place opened its doors as a Youth and Community Centre in 2015. Activities are varied, catering in particular for teens. There is an emphasis on physical and psychological health and education with a free counselling service offered to young people and adults. The community part of the Centre has a weekly footfall of 1,000 + with upwards of forty groups offering a wide variety of services for the benefit of all age groups. These include recreational and educational events as well as a venue for services of benefit to the wider community e.g. Citizens Information weekly sessions. Staff at My Place is currently comprised of a fulltime manager, two fulltime employees and three CE and Tus personnel. Both Centres rely also on a committed group of volunteers without whom we could not offer the range of services we do.



5.2

CASINO OF NAVÍA

Conversion a historical building into a cultural centre with multiple social, economic, and cultural benefits



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Navía, Spain

Project duration

2021

Funding

Total budget 284 588.60 (EUR)

EAFRD 161 350.40 (EUR)

National/Regional 40 337.60 (EUR)

Private 82 900.59 (EUR)

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

Gonzalo.asenjopalmerola@ayto-navia.es

Website

<https://www.facebook.com/Ayto-Navia>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

People

Theme

Community space

Swot topics

1.1, 3.1, 3.3, 4.6, 4.7, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The Western Asturias region is covered by the Navia-Porcía Development Centre's Local Development Strategy (LDS). Two of the principal aims of this LDS are to tackle the progressive abandonment of cultural heritage assets and to address the lack of local leisure and culture facilities. One of the priority issues needing to be addressed in the LDS was identified as the progressive abandonment of cultural heritage assets and a lack of local leisure and cultural spaces. In the case of the Casino de Navía building (a listed cultural heritage site at risk of abandonment) this conservation and renovation project has managed to address both issues at the same time.

An example of late 19th and early 20th century 'indiano' architectural heritage, the Casino de Navía was built according to a style developed by a then-prospering merchant class on their return from Latin America. It was used as a centre for social gatherings and cultural events, and, following a period of collective management by a 'Society of Friends' (1919 – 2012) it was donated to the City Council with the aim of continuing its existence as a cultural centre and preventing its abandonment. It is one of the largest cultural complexes in the region.

The Casino de Navía is now a major piece of public infrastructure which can host a variety of cultural and social events. It also attracts people from other municipalities and regions, which brings important economic and social benefits to the local area, including job creation



5.3

IL QUARTIERE

An old military barracks transformed into a socio-cultural center and the home of participation

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Saluzzo, Italy

Project duration
Ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
daniela.rebuffo@comune.saluzzo.cn.it
info@fondazionebertoni.it

Website
<https://www.facebook.com/ilquartieresaluzzo/>
<https://fondazionebertoni.it/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Community space

Swot topics
1.1, 1.2, 1.5, 3.3, 4.1, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The City of Saluzzo has worked in recent years into the transformation of a former military barracks into a socio-cultural hub, 'Il Quartiere' - a real social and cultural territorial hub.

Saluzzo's 'Mario Musso' Barracks were active for military purposes from the mid-16th century until 1991, when the Municipality of Saluzzo acquired ownership. Thanks to gradual recovery campaigns that began with the Alcotra 'Young Territory and Future Communities' project, it now permanently houses the Soleri Bertoni Higher Education Institute, the Saluzzo 'Lidia Beccaria Rolfi' Civic Library and the Amleto Bertoni Foundation. The complex also hosts various spaces shared by different city entities, including the Family Centre, the youth space with a renovated and available rehearsal room, the Alpine Association and several other associations.



5.4

NEW KERA

From an industrial district to a testbed for sustainable, circular and regenerative solutions



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Espoo, Finland

Project duration
2019 - ongoing

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/268172>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Community space

Swot topics
1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 3.2, 3.3, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

In 2019 the city initiated the new Kera project to transform Kera into a collaborative platform promoting new, creative, sustainable, circular, regenerative and digital solutions. Kera is an old industrial district in the city of Espoo, one of the four municipalities that make up the Helsinki metropolitan area. Espoo is a growing city that is at the forefront of smart solutions and innovation in Finland and has set ambitious goals for being carbon neutral by 2030. Developing Kera into a circular carbon neutral district is one of the main goals of the Espoo city strategy.

First and foremost, Kera is a testbed and a platform that is open to all and developed by methods of co-creation. This includes dialogue between stakeholders and actors, workshops, round table discussions, out of the box thinking, innovation, scaling up, hosting events, creating art and all the time doing things with carbon neutral, circular and regenerative values in mind. Experimenting and dialogue are at the core of the project's role in paving the way to a sustainable future and regenerative urban environments. Unlike many other new developments, the land in Kera area is mostly not owned by the city. When the city's role has been mainly to provide the platform whilst enabling and facilitating co-operation, Kera-kollektiivi has carried out several projects in the area ranging from urban art exhibitions to urban farming and events. Together we've aimed to transform the area into an urban oasis of experimentation, co-creation and shared experiences.

The area will go through further transformations in the 2020's growing into a residential area of 14 000 new inhabitants and 10 000 new jobs. However, the heart of Kera will not change – the aim is to create a pleasant, safe and clean district based on co-creation and circular economy. Kera will feature, for example, new energy solutions, modes of transport and urban food production as part of a vibrant urban environment.



5.5

SPORT HALL DE ROOMLEY

Sustainable transition of sports hall the Roomley

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Udenhout, The Netherlands

Project duration
2020

Funding
Interreg North-West Europe

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/269001>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Community space

Swot topics
1.1, 4.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

Sports hall the Roomley was an old fashioned and outdated building built in the late 70's and it didn't fit the current needs of a modern sports building. It's main characteristic was introvert and the building was full of long, narrow and dark hallways giving its users an uncanny feeling. It's need of a more energy efficient façade has led up to a complete metamorphosis of the sports hall into a modern and transparent building that opens up to its surroundings and welcomes people in. While kept in use, it was possible to transform the Roomley into an easy to read, open space layout that offers its user a warm welcome and has turned the building into an example for many other outdated sports buildings in the Netherlands. The Roomley has been turned into a gas-free energy+ building making more energy than it and all its sporters use year-round. It has been transformed with circular and biobased materials making it healthy for all people that use it. It has been set up for maximum accessibility making sports available for everyone in society. It has offered local artists chances of enhancing the interior enhancing its regional bonding. It has given more space for greenery in its surroundings with use of native plants for biodiversity gains. Its waterretention system (wadi) houses a playing space for local children and helps in climate adaptation stresses. And last but not least the Roomley has given after-isolation with straw a modern and progressive face in being the largest building in Europe to be isolated with prefabricated units filled with strawfibres.



5.6

C-MINE

An industrial heritage transformed into creative hotspot for artistic talent



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Genk, Belgium

Project duration
2005-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
c-mine@genk.be

Website
<https://www.c-mine.be/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Cultural hub

Swot topics
1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 3.3, 4.3, 4.6, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

This former coal mine, deactivated in the 1980s, has been turned into an art campus rooted in the historical industrial heritage of the city of Genk. C-mine is a hybrid, creative site where students, artists, entrepreneurs and visitors cross paths every day. It houses a university college for the arts, several theatre halls and exhibition spaces, art in public space, office buildings for, among others, creative industries, several restaurants, and an underground architectural experience that takes visitors back to the mining past on an atypical manner. With its year-round programme consisting of high-end exhibitions, projects and presentations, C-mine attracts visitors from all over the world.

C-mine has been developed to repurpose the old coal mining site and turn it into a creative hub rooted in the city's industrial heritage. The hub is a lively cultural and innovation centre that attracts businesses and creatives to the city and diversifies its economy. In the process of redevelopment, the historic coal mining buildings were renovated by 51N4E into a complex of multipurpose spaces. Nowadays, a multitude of associations, businesses, and artists is present on-site, along with the Luca School of Arts, the Genk FabLab, a movie theatre and several restaurants. There is also a business incubator, as well as several co-working and art installation spaces to facilitate workshops, promote heritage education and offer space for creativity and innovation. C-mine also created a museum, where visitors can get a glimpse of life in the mines through a Virtual Reality experience.



5.7

FARM CULTURAL PARK

An independent cultural centre in the historic center of a small town in Sicily

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Favara, Italy

Project duration
2011-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
info@farm-culturalpark.com

Website
<https://www.farmculturalpark.com/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Cultural hub

Swot topics
1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6

DESCRIPTION

To preserve several collapsed buildings in the semi-abandoned town of Favara, a young couple bought several derelict buildings in the area and renovated them into a culture centre, with some support from technicians, architects, artists and volunteers. It's a totally bottom-up initiative with an aim to promote the cultural and tourist development of Favara through the recovery of its historic centre by renovation and art. It includes the renovation of a range of historic buildings to create a modern art gallery and a children's museum, commercial spaces with cafes, as well as office space for local businesses, and coworking spaces. Over the years, Farm Cultural Park has become an Independent cultural centre that hosts a series of art exhibitions as well as cultural and educational events, turning the area and the city into a popular tourist attraction.

Farm Cultural Park was born with the aim of recovering the semi-abandoned historic center of Favara and transforming it into the second tourist attraction in the province of Agrigento (in Italy) through cultural and artistic innovation. They do this by renovating a range of historic buildings to create a modern art gallery and a children's museum, commercial spaces with cafes, as well as an office space for local businesses, coworking space, with a shared kitchen and a garden.



5.8

CAN GUINEU

Ephemeral Architecture for Sustainable Community
Building Through Arts and Culture



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Sant Sadurní, Spain

Project duration
n7a

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/269017>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Cultural hub

Swot topics
1.1, 4.1, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

CAN GUINEU (CG) is an ephemeral architecture project to enable sustainable community building through arts and culture. Through this temporary intervention, a relevant local heritage site is made accessible to citizens for the first time since its public acquisition. Supporting artistic events, cultural performances and social gatherings, CG becomes a local hub to bring communities together, fostering social cohesion and prompting a sense of belonging and of shared ownership of the place.

CG was promoted by Sant Sadurní City Hall to house events that trigger social cohesion through arts, culture and solidarity. It was designed and built by a multidisciplinary team of faculty and students from ELISAVA Barcelona School of Design and Engineering, supported by local associations and NGOs working on solidarity and cooperation projects.

CG creatively transforms a stately manor house through a simple, effective and inexpensive temporary intervention. The heritage house, located in the centre of a town of 12,000 inhabitants, had been unused since 2000. It was purchased by the public administration in 2018 in a state of disrepair, with the intention of turning it into a public facility. CG is the first step towards a collective and citizen-participated decision on this relevant heritage's the future role in community-building and public life. The project is composed of four main moves: clearing rubble and overgrowth to make the patio of the manor house accessible; installing large-scale textile flags to identify the intervention; building two-level stages to facilitate its use for arts and culture; and introducing a large number of potted plants to enhance the environmental quality of the place.



5.9

CRESCERE SOLO SE SOGNA

It grows if you dream it. To imagine a community

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Cesena, Italy

Project duration
March – June 2020

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/269004>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Cultural hub

Swot topics
1.1, 1.4, 4.1, 4.3, 4.6, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The project Crescere solo se sognata activates a path of revitalization of the section of the historic center between Palazzo Guidi and Porta Santi (about 300 mt) of the city of Cesena. Desiring to create an instrument of knowledge, the project implements actions aimed at regenerating the territory by leveraging a sense of identity and belonging.

The project worked in two directions. The first concerned the creation of visual and graphic installations related to the theme of the door and the threshold. Since the project started in the midst of the pandemic, our desire was to transform into images the sense of community that characterizes this area, that allowed residents to feel less alone during moments of confinement. It thus involved 10 young Italian illustrators who interpreted and gave visual identity to dialect texts by Cesena poets. The art installations were placed in the street in March, where they remained until June.

The second part of the project focuses on the activation of two multi-sensory paths (one for children and one dedicated to young people and adults): starting from Palazzo Guidi, using the Cesena Crescere app created specifically for the project and downloadable for free, it is possible to follow the landmarks of a road made up of words, images and sounds. A way to safely discover, with a smartphone and together with loved ones, the territory and the community: thanks to historical information, memories of residents, video tutorials and narratives, the app becomes a tool capable of involving and fascinating the user.

By exploring the area subject to intervention, it is possible to learn to appreciate its peculiarities: it will be everyone's concern to take care of it and enhance its potential and livability. Through shared management with the residents and the District Council, the organizers are confident that they have started a good practice of resilience that will persuade all citizens to take charge of the public heritage



5.10

FABER

The Capacity Building



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Timișoara, Romania

Project duration
2017 - 2018

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-europe-an-bauhaus.eu/node/269612>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Cultural hub

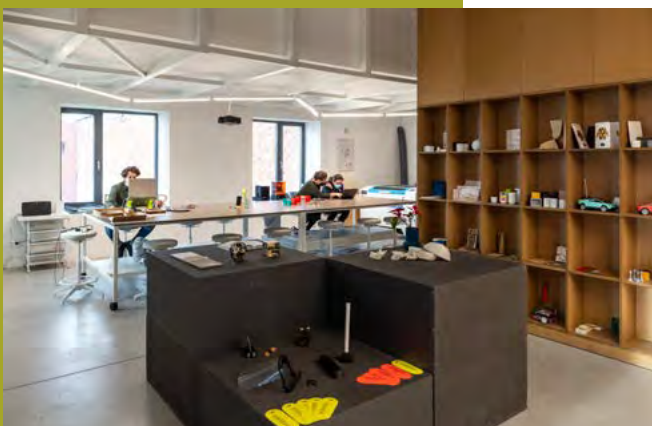
Swot topics
1.1, 3.1, 4.2, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

The FABER project started in 2017, when a group of people who have been important actors in Timișoara's cultural, civic and business community for more than a decade, decided to bring all their resources together for an ambitious goal: to build something that will favour the positive development of their community and city on the long run.

The FABER building is part of a former important industrial site, in the fabric district of Timișoara, on the banks of the Bega river. A paint factory was founded here in the 19th century, and after the communist regime returned to the family that initiated it, the Farber family. Currently, the former industrial platform houses a long list of small entrepreneurs and artists, since there was no industrial activity here for more than half a century.

Although there are various debates about how this complex could be developed, the FABER building is the first to be rehabilitated. The building has a built area of approximately 840 square meters, situated on a plot of almost 2500sqm, and distributed almost equally on two levels. The ground floor accommodates a large event room, a foyer, bathrooms, a bistro area and a passage way that provides direct access into the courtyard. The first floor accommodates the cowork and makerspace area, along with 2 medium sized meeting rooms and another 2, smaller meeting rooms. The vertical circulation is speculated in the form of a complex device, composed of stairs and generous platforms that ensure both access to the upstairs spaces and the possibility for various outdoor activities, overlooking the generous, multifunctional courtyard.



5.11

LA FÀBRIKA DE TODA LA VIDA

La Fábrika, a factory for dreams

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Los Santos de Maimona, Spain

Project duration

2009 - ongoing

Funding

Interreg

FIND OUT MORE

Website

<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/269817>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

People

Theme

Cultural hub

Swot topics

1.1, 1.2, 3.3, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

La Fábrika has always been the name of the old cement factory of Los Santos. It was built in the 1950's in a small municipality in the rural region of Extremadura, south-west of Spain. After being abandoned for years, La Fábrika is now a collaborative space for free culture. It is also a community that has been committed to regenerating the space for the last ten years. After recovering most of the main building by different collective processes and methodologies, La Fábrika has become a landmark for an open network of creators, thinkers and social agents throughout the territory.

La Fábrika is an initiative focused on repurposing an abandoned factory by incorporating creative solutions, sustainable economic approaches, and environmentally friendly practices. The project emphasizes the reuse of materials, restoration of contaminated soil, and community engagement. The organization is self-funded through crowdfunding and grants, and it provides a space for cultural and artistic expression. Inclusion and accessibility are key components of La Fábrika's projects, creating opportunities for growth and community-building. The project has impacted over 3,000 people and serves as an example of successful heritage regeneration. La Fábrika's innovative character lies in its cooperative, experimental, and sustainable approach to addressing local challenges. The organization is part of international networks and actively shares its experiences and learnings with others.



5.12

FIRE PROTECTION FOR KIDS

Fire safety learning centre for kids



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Heidesee, Germany

Project duration
2013-2014

Funding
Total budget 649 895
EAFRD 389 937
National/Regional 97 484
Private 162 474

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
info@frauensee.de

Website
www.frauensee.de/

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Education

Swot topics
1.1, 4.3, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

The “Fire Protection for Kids” project aims to help children learn how fire works and how to handle it safely. It teaches them to understand what fire is used for and what sources of danger are associated with it. Based on this knowledge, children are trained about the effective control of a dangerous situation such as a fire or an accident. Furthermore the project strengthens the enthusiasm of children for the youth fire brigade and their work by, among other things, learning how diverse and responsible their work is. The goal is also to motivate children to participate in the youth fire brigade.

Three disused buildings in the KiEZ Frauensee in Heidesee, Spreewald were converted into a Floriansdorf with EAFRD assistance, resulting in an interactive, educational meeting place promoting fire and safety education for children aged between three and 12 years. Constructional measures were implemented, as well as conceptual works and exhibitions. The result is a fire academy with an exhibition, a house of dangers and a children’s fire guard on a total of 240 m2.

The project “Fire Protection for Kids” successfully teaches children how to deal with fire. The children know after visiting the Floriansdorf in Heidesee how useful fire is and how it works, but also what dangers are connected with fire. In 2016 alone, 436 children took part in a three-day project trip and 1193 children’s participated in day programs with modules of the program.



5.13

ENERGY VISITOR CENTRE

Setting up a renewable energy visitor centre
in Feldheim

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Feldheim, Germany

Project duration
2013-2015

Funding
Total budget 1 968 147
EAFRD 1.177.577
National/Regional 294.669
Private 495.901

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
info@neue-energie-forumfeldheim.de

Website
www.neue-energien-forumfeldheim.de

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Living

Theme
Education

Swot topics
1.1, 1.4, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2, 4.3

DESCRIPTION

Feldheim is a village dominated by agriculture in Treuenbrietzen, Brandenburg and at the same time it is the first energy-self-sustaining site in Germany. Since 2010, the 130-inhabitant village has become an internationally recognised place of renewable energies. Feldheim attracts a growing number of visitors - especially politicians and media as well as those interested in the energy sector. So the residents wanted to give a focus to the constant stream of visitors and share their own experiences. Furthermore, it is important to raise awareness of renewable energies as much as possible, and to showcase new technologies that bring innovative energy generation closer to citizens.

To provide comprehensive information to the many visitors to Feldheim, and to cope with the crowds, the "New Energy Forum Feldheim e.V." was founded. The main task of the association was to renovate a former inn and rebuild it into a visitor and information centre - the so-called "New Energy Forum Feldheim" (NEF). The NEF information and advisory centre was housed in a four-sided courtyard dating from the turn of the century, which for a long time was the village restaurant and was then empty. The courtyard was converted into an information and advisory centre.

As a main results hundreds of visitors, whether from the region, from Europe or Japan, South Africa or New Zealand, testify to being inspired by the new technologies. Interest in innovative, environmentally sound and regenerative energy generation is strengthened so that the use of renewable energies can be expanded in the future. Approximately 3.500 visitors per year use the different information experiences on offer.



5.14

TASULEASA SOCIAL

Social campaigns to change the mentalities involving social issues



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Bistrita County, Romania

Project duration
2001-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
n/a

Website
<https://www.tasuleasasocial.ro/en>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Education

Swot topics
1.2, 4.1, 4.3, 4.7, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

The Tasuleasa Social association was established in 2001 in Bistrita-Nasaud County by a small number of people who wished to change the mentalities of those around them and to prove that young people were willing to get involved in solving social issues. The headquarters were set at the foot of the Tasuleasa Mountain. The members of the association, helped by volunteers, built a campus at the top of the Bargaului Mountain, in Pasul Tihuta, and they created a place where they could bring young people in order to train them and teach them what being a volunteer meant and why it was important to care about the environment. Their goal is to change the mentalities of the people and to reveal the fact that young people really wish to get involved in solving social issues. All the youngsters who get involved in the association's activities are trained to develop similar projects on their own and to carry on social campaigns. Over time, they have been working with teenagers who were confronted with several problems: prisoners from juvenile prisons, children from socially disadvantaged areas, students dropping out of school and deaf children. For the Tasuleasa Social Association, the most important values are volunteering, respect for nature, educating young people through practical examples and developing civic courage among young people through their involvement in social and environmental issues. So, the association works in three fields: - Social community issues and solidarity - Environment conservation, developing actions in several directions: afforestation, selective waste collection, and tourist routes. - Creating a culture of caring for the environment and the community



5.15

TOYS MUSEUM

Setting up a toy museum in a small island village to provide children with access to cultural activities and to stimulate the local economy

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Rhodes Island, Greece

Project duration

2012-2017

Funding

RDP support 257 862.98

EAFRD 219 183.53

National/Regional 38 679.45

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

info@toymuseum.gr

Website

https://toymuseum.gr/

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

People

Theme

Education

Swot topics

1.2, 1.4, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7

DESCRIPTION

The island of Rhodes is located in the southeast Aegean Sea and is a well-known tourist destination. Children in the island's villages grow up surrounded by nature but they were lacking access to other activities that are available in urban areas, such as cultural, technological and interactive games.

In order to address this need, a toy museum was set up presenting a collection of Greek games dating back to 1930. This museum also organises various gaming activities and events. The toy museum was established in a two-storey stone building in the village of Archipolis and it contains a multifunctional space for various interactive activities and events. The building is also self-sufficient in terms of energy consumption, thanks to a photovoltaic solar system that provides heating and cooling year-round. In 2017 and 2018, the museum, which is also a cultural centre, hosted approximately 30 000 visitors, 2 000 of whom were children visiting the museum with their school.

Many events have already taken place in the cultural centre, such as puppetry, theatrical and musical performances, as well as retro games and much more.

There has been a significant increase of tourists visiting surrounding villages for food, or to buy souvenirs after they have visited the museum. This has a positive effect on the local economy and has created new job opportunities.





WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Loulé, Portugal

Project duration
2010-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
geral@projectoquerenca.com

Website
<https://projectoquerenca.com/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Local development

Swot topics
1.5, 3.1, 4.2, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Querença is located in the extreme south of Portugal, in the municipality of Loulé, in the Algarve region of Barrocal and due to small-scale farming economy, the village suffers depopulation, aggravated by the rural exodus of young people, the aging of the members of the community and a low birth rate, reaching in 2011 a population of 700 inhabitants, of these, 151 people living in isolated. To reverse this process, teachers at the University of the Algarve, technicians and residents of the region, have developed a proposal called “Project Querença” (PQ) in order to revive the territory of the village of Querença, currently in a critical situation as a result of the rural exodus and the decline of its social, cultural, economic and natural assets.

The Querença Project is oriented towards low density rural areas, villages, groups of villages or even municipalities, of variable geometry and according to an analysis of the relevance of existing, potential and available resources. This has a fundamental purpose, that is, to broaden the field of possibilities of these territories in critical condition and, at the same time, to promote the employment of young graduates in a precarious professional situation, using, for this purpose, an innovative territorial approach, dynamic creativity that aims to fix in the interior that newly graduated university population. The project was delineated at the end of 2010 with the aim of boosting the interior of the Algarve region, in a different approach of intervention, and supporting the employability of young graduates, through the search for sustainable solutions to boost endogenous resources and the creation of employment opportunities. Organic farming, ecotourism, sustainable gardening, use of new technologies, creativity, are just some of the methodologies and techniques in use to generate ideas that, in the end, can derive from economically viable projects.



5.17

RECARTOGRAFÍAS

Multidisciplinary figures making research on new territorial, urban practices and environmental from the point of view of ecology

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

San Agustín, Teruel, Spain

Project duration

2013-ongoing

Funding

n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

entretodos.asociacion@outlook.com

Website

<https://asociacionentretodos.org/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

People

Theme

Local development

Swot topics

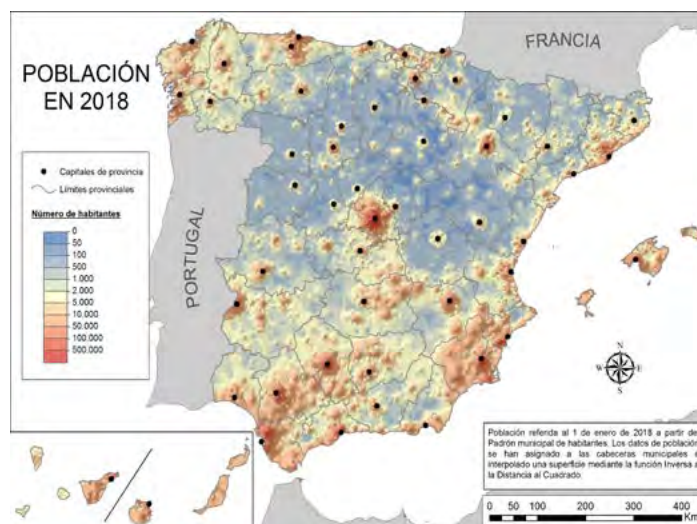
1.2, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

Recartografías (re-mapping in Spanish) is a land stewardship non-profit association and a research group. Now you are in the page of our Research Group.

They are therefore an action – research group registered at the Ministry of Home Affairs (nº 606916) and formed by researchers and professors from the field of geography, environmental science, environmental law and political science that make research on new territorial, urban practices and environmental from the point of view of ecological economics and political ecology. Check here the profile of our members. At the moment, their key project is “Mas Blanco” consisting in the restoration of abandoned rural equipment in San Agustín in an ecological and sustainable way. Their objectives are to restore the main municipal buildings of the neighbourhood to set up an eco-village and a technical school focused on traditional knowledge (Universidad Libre de Las Masías).

The objective of the project aims to develop in the long term an autonomous eco-village and a technical school that could foster environmental awareness in its proximity. Several seminars, visit the rural buildings, and outdoor activities have already been organised in Mas Blanco.



5.18

PUEBLOS VIVOS

A project to address depopulation and attract new settlers in rural areas of the Aragon region



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Spain

Project duration
2016-2019

Funding
Total budget 100 063
EAFRD 64 041
National/Regional 16 011
Private 19 911

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
palomafabregas@cedersomontano.com

Website
www.cedersomontano.com
http://pueblosvivosaragon.com/

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Local development

Swot topics
1.1, 3.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

The territory of Somontano de Barbastro is located in Aragon, Spain. The Centre for Integral Development of Somontano (CEDER) brings together organisations and associations that are committed to the sustainable development of the territory. Currently, it is supported by 46 public and private entities, which represent social, economic and cultural sectors.

They are dedicated to designing action programs, adapted to the needs and potentialities of the region, and requests public subsidies to carry them out. Once obtained funding, they directly manage the programs: they inform the population and the organizations of the territory, help define specific projects, offer personalized accompaniment to those who want to carry out projects, they decide in an agile way the actions that are subsidized, they monitor the actions financed, and directly promote actions of general interest or innovative (training courses, tourism promotion,...), etc. With the programs that are developed and managed from CEDER Somontano CEDER seeks to promote economic activities, diversify them, create employment, improve the quality of life of the population and facilitate that it remains in the territory.

The impact of these programs is observed in the territory through numerous and diverse actions and projects: from the creation and modernization of small businesses (accommodation and restaurants in the tourism sector, agri-food industries, proximity services in small villages,...), through the rehabilitation of heritage elements, tourism promotion campaigns or training courses for entrepreneurs and workers.



5.19

INTEGRA TODOS - COSTURIZATE

Local association promoting local development

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
France

Project duration
2009-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
entretodos.asociacion@outlook.com

Website
<https://asociacionentretodos.org/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Local development

Swot topics
3.1, 4.2, 4.7

DESCRIPTION

Integra Todos is an insertion company created by a local association promoting local development. The company dedicates to start productive activities while training people at risk of social exclusion to develop general social and labour skills. Costurizate is the first productive project started and it is oriented to train women in dressmaking skills. The project was designed and set up by a local association with consultancy and collaboration from other actors of the area (associations, enterprises, NGOS, LAG group), and it was selected by a programme of national awards granted by one of the biggest banks in the Country, which means it had to be formally planned and well-structured in order to be presented.

The objectives of the project are to join forces, promote the socio-labor integration of the most vulnerable people or in situations of economic and social disadvantage and promote the economic and social development of the region.



5.20

FROM DONUT TO KRAPFEN

How to bring a town centre back to life. The case of Trofaiach



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Trofaiach, Austria

Project duration
n/a

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/269689>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Local development

Swot topics
1.1, 4.3, 4.7, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

In 2015 Trofaiach was only one of many small European towns affected by the Donut-effect leading to deserted historical centres: urban sprawl, peripheric shops re-location, a car-dependent lifestyle and migration to bigger cities. It faced the economic challenge of many disused old buildings and the existential question of how to attract future generations. Despite a Development Framework setting a clear position against this, not much was happening. When the last bank moved out of the centre the administration changed approach and appointed nonconform as a process designer and facilitator with extensive expertise, to 'lead by accompanying' it towards the definition and implementation of an alternative strategy.

First, to create motivation, the administration visited three similar successful examples. A nonconform ideenwerkstatt followed. This is a participatory process where the community, stakeholders and local experts explore ideas, agree a vision and identify short- and long-term measures of implementation. Various events were then organized turning the main street into a meeting/celebration space to make this vision and its qualities tangible to all concerned - and maintain momentum towards its implementation.

Implementation was also holistic, involving the local administration, politicians, the community at large and any player that could influence specific decisions and initiatives. A key role was played by the "Kümmerer" coached and assisted by nonconform. This newly defined full-time position activates at all steps the right persons in the complex network of actors involved, keeps the process open and inclusive, makes the necessary information and expertise accessible, and ensures that all that is required to achieve the masterplan gets done.

Today Trofaiach is a best practice example in urban strategies for a future that is environmentally, socially and economically sustainable. It has its future in its own hands and its heart back in place: the centre



5.21

GARDEN OF MEMORY

The Garden of Memory recycled with debris from a demolished monastery at Vinaroz

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Vinaroz, Spain

Project duration
n/a

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/269563>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Outdoor community space

Swot topics
1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 4.1, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The Convent of San Francisco de Vinaroz (Castellón, Spain), built in 1653, was confiscated in 1837 and was used successively as a prison, courthouse, police headquarters, office for social services and maternity hospital. Despite its significance, in 2001 the complex was torn down to make way for apartments, and only part of the north outer wall and the indoor church flooring were left standing. The scandal generated by its destruction caused such a stir that the local administration halted this real estate operation. The resulting lot was asphalted and used as a parking space, and over the years the remains of the outer wall and flooring greatly deteriorated due to natural causes and vandalism.

After 15 years, the Town Council of Vinaroz, owner of the land, eventually commissioned the authors to design the construction of a garden on the ruins of the convent to evoke the former presence of the missing building and establish a dialogue with the existing ruins.

After unveiling the archaeological remains of the convent under the asphalt, the garden seats were designed, creatively upcycling the debris found during the excavation in order to evoke the missing convent. A hardy lawn was planted in the green area surrounding the former convent, the existing palm trees were preserved and new palm trees and large trees were added for shade, following a study of the solar radiation in the garden. The wall remains built up with upcycled debris, slab and pebble paving from the convent found on the ground and the new pavement with grass-covered open joints interact with the vegetation of the garden, blending into it.

Through these choices nature and artifice are merged smoothly, perfectly incorporating garden and architecture as a new harmonious whole, as was once the case with the church and orchards. The garden retrieves the memory of what seemed lost, restoring dignity to the site and returning it to the local community



5.22

XIFRÈ'S ROOFTOP

Heritage building rooftop renovation focused on self-sufficiency, social interaction & biodiversity



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Barcelona, Spain

Project duration
2019

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-europe-an-bauhaus.eu/node/267524>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Outdoor community space

Swot topics
1.2, 4.1, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

In 2017, when the Barcelona City Council launched the green roofs open competition Sergio Carratalá, the founder of MataAlta Studio, saw an opportunity to use his structural engineering expertise to develop innovations in this relatively new design discipline. He understood how to reintroduce nature in the middle of this densely built Mediterranean city, using a strategic combination of engineering know-how and sustainable technologies.

In winning the city council competition MataAlta Studio was able to realise a rooftop garden that met exceptional standards in green roof design, while paying respect to the history of the site by giving equal weight to architectural heritage and local ecology. Els Terrats d'en Xifré is a renovation project across the top of an early 19th-century block of ten buildings in the old town of Barcelona. The building houses restaurants on the ground floor, and many residential apartments and tech company offices. MataAlta Studio's design prioritises the spirit of circularity in the way it recycles resources such as water, energy and carbon. The vision for the rooftop is a highly accessible community space that promotes social interaction, discovery through play and people's physical and mental wellbeing.

MataAlta Studio runs a programme of workshops and family activities over the seasons, providing educational opportunities for residents to learn from nature. The Xifré rooftop is different from the usually understood concept of green roof design because of its focus on boosting urban biodiversity, strengthening social networks and respecting heritage.



5.23

THE RIVERS OF SOFIA

Connecting the rivers to the city and its people

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Sofia, Bulgaria

Project duration
2020

Funding
No EU funding

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/268053>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Outdoor community space

Swot topics
1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The Rivers of Sofia Festival took place in Sep 2020 at three locations on two rivers crossing Sofia's centre. The riverbanks have been inaccessible for decades, but they have potential to develop as green public spaces or linear parks. These ideas were proposed in the report *Sofia: Public spaces and social life* by Jan Gehl in 2017. However, people are not used to seeing the rivers as public space, and no civic actions have been directed towards that goal so far. The Rivers of Sofia project used light, temporary structures to transform spaces in a sustainable and inclusive way. The intervention consisted of assembling and disassembling temporary structures like stairs, stages, pavilions, and tents for reuse. Local artists, performers, and small businesses helped create the event, which had a focus on aesthetics, quality of experience, and inclusion.

The project showcased the potential for urban revitalization using minimal resources and strong community involvement. It has led to continued engagement with authorities, partnerships with NGOs and educational institutions, and public support for revitalizing abandoned spaces in the city. Citizens benefited from the project through participation, reclaiming public spaces, and involvement in decision-making about the city.

The innovative aspect of the project lies in using temporary, tactical architectural interventions to spark lasting change. The approach can be applied in other cities, especially those with low public involvement. The Rivers of Sofia project demonstrates the power of community building, aesthetic impact, and the combination of architectural, social, and artistic elements for citymaking.



5.24

PROXIMITY HEALTHCARE

Family and community healthcare for marginal territories



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Basso Sangro-Trigno, Italy

Project duration

Ongoing

Funding

n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

n/a

Website

<http://salute.bassosangrotrigno.it/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

People

Theme

Services

Swot topics

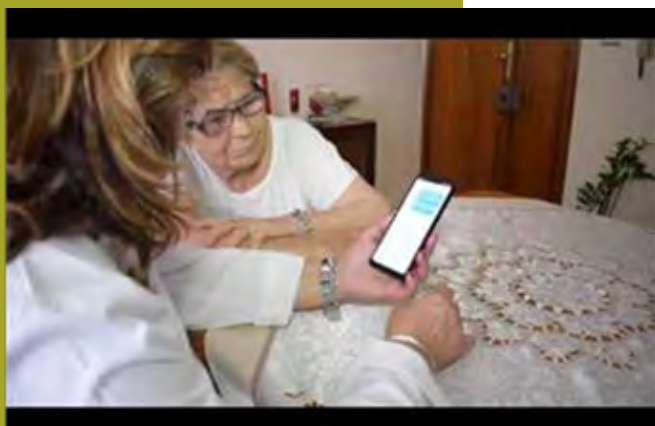
4.5, 4.7, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

The Basso Sangro-Trigno area is innovating healthcare services to improve habitability in rural and marginal territories with several actions, such as family and community nurse and midwife, home telehealth, community hospital.

The family and community nurse, an innovative and central figure in community-based care, is committed to improving the health of patients by taking charge, i.e. knowing the needs and condition of the individual and helping to manage the care pathway to avoid flare-ups of chronic diseases and hospital admissions.

In line with the reform of primary care and the adoption of the 'Chronic Care Model', the Home Telehealth Service represents a way of applying communication and information technologies to bring care into the home environment. It is a service in support of the Nursing Outpatient Clinic: new technologies and telemedicine and teleassistance programmes useful for the integrated management between hospital and territory of certain clinical conditions, including heart failure, chronic broncho-pneumopathies and diabetes.



5.25

1000 CAFÉS

Reinventing the village cafés into community and services spaces

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
France

Project duration
Ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
contact@1000cafes.org

Website
<https://www.1000cafes.org/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Services

Swot topics
1.4, 3.1, 4.1, 4.2, 4.5, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

The campaign, called 1000 Cafés, is run by the Groupe SOS charity. It has received funds from the French government to save and support cafés and commercial and social spaces in small towns. A website was recently launched where mayors of small towns can submit an application to open a café in their town.

The criterion is simple: the town must have less than 3500 inhabitants and/or must not have a café or have one at risk of closure. If there is no café in the town, the mayor and the community must be able to identify a suitable space in which to open one. Groupe SOS will take into account all the costs necessary to open and improve the café, as well as the salaries of the staff.

These spaces will also offer products and services that are no longer available in the city, such as postal services, and will also be able to expand as co-working spaces, art centres or shops of all kinds, offering common foodstuffs such as bread, milk or cheese.



5.26

MALLU-AUTO

Providing an easy-to-access medical service to people in rural areas of Finland using the Mallu bus



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Finland

Project duration
2011-ongoing

Funding
**Total budget 112 000 (EUR);
EAFRD 48 000 (EUR).**

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Saara.Raudasoja@eksote.fi

Website
**[https://www.ekhva.fi/asiakkaalle/
toimipisteet/liikkuvat-palvelut/
mallu-auto/](https://www.ekhva.fi/asiakkaalle/toimipisteet/liikkuvat-palvelut/mallu-auto/)**

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Services

Swot topics
4.1, 4.5, 4.7, 4.8, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

Introduced in 2010 by Eksote, the project activities centred on converting a mobile caravan and fitting it out as the mobile healthcare centre.

Project actions centred on converting a mobile caravan and fitting it out as the mobile healthcare centre. Nurses provide a carefully coordinated set of medical services from the mobile unit.

On-board computer and broadband equipment connect the nurses to centralised patient information systems. These bring all the health district's databases to the vehicle and the technology can be used for real-time consulting with more specialised medical staff if needed.

Planning ensures a fixed route around a catchment area of eight municipalities

Patients can book appointments online or by telephone and the Mallu bus has also been used to carry out specialised themed services, such as diabetes awareness campaigns.

The service covers an area with at least 100 000 potential patients.

The Mallu bus project has been especially good for supporting the independent living of elderly residents and has helped to prevent illness.

This mobile approach to rural healthcare aids cost-effectiveness for patients and health services because the nurses only recommend patients to a doctor if they really need an appointment. This enables the doctors to concentrate better on their own tasks and therefore improves the efficiency of regional health centres.



5.27

INCL: AGING WELL

Improve the social and health approach in a medium and high mountain area.

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Italy and France

Project duration

Ongoing

Funding

Total budget: 1 647 059 €

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

j.honore@ccserreponcon.com

Website

<https://www.interreg-alcotra.eu/it/terres-monviso-incl-invecchiare-bene>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme

People

Theme

Services

Swot topics

4.1, 4.5, 4.7, 5.1

DESCRIPTION

The thematic project Terres Monviso - Incl: Aging Well represents an opportunity offered by the ALCOTRA Programme to improve the socio-healthcare approach on a medium and high mountain territory.

The project develops activities around three main themes: health prevention, integrated socio-healthcare interventions and telemedicine.

In the field of health prevention, various networks of actors from the health, social and socio-medical worlds are developed in order to enable, at different levels, the coordination of actions, in particular those being tested, to compare good practices, to raise awareness of the medical-social organisational innovation at the heart of the project as well as to train on all aspects of the tested experiments

The plan of activities envisages integrated socio-healthcare interventions to test services with a view to encouraging the maintenance of autonomy for frail elderly people. The results of these experiments will be shared by all partners.

The sphere of telemedicine is developed around two main activities: the first envisages the carrying out of a comparative study on the use of tele-health surveillance tools, which will make it possible to monitor the degree of adherence of patients in terms of acceptability and of health professionals, make it possible to analyse the effectiveness of this type of solution and record incidents and dysfunctions. It is also planned to equip mountain doctors' surgeries with telemedicine tools and to train medical personnel in order to enable them to provide the interventions that are specific to them: such as first aid and health specificities (medication, injections, infusions, etc.).



5.28

TOOLS & TALENT APP

Smartphone application that provides villagers with access to a bank of local resources and local skills



WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Torup, Denmark

Project duration

2021- Ongoing

Funding

Set up / Investment costs: EUR 45,000

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

peter@roejle.dk

Website

<https://minlandsby.dk/>

<https://www.torupting.dk/>

<https://tingogtalenter.dk>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

People

Theme

Services

Swot topics

2.2, 3.1, 4.1, 4.7, 4.8

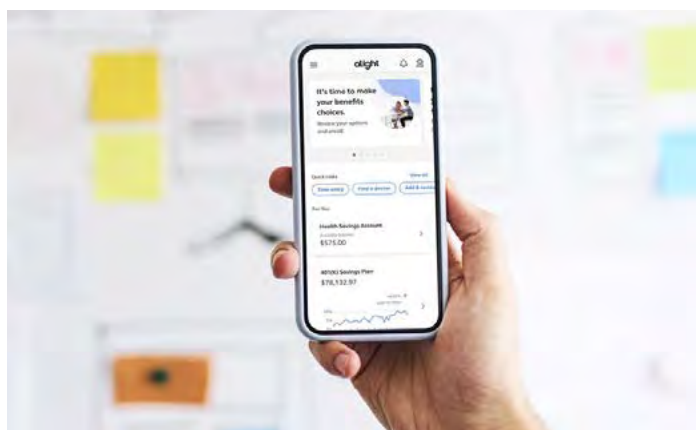
DESCRIPTION

The small village of Torup is situated on a peninsula between the sea and a fjord, 60 km to the northwest of Copenhagen. The village won the 2019 National Village of the Year award, largely based on the strong local tradition of self-organisation amongst the inhabitants. A group of motivated people who moved in 30 years ago to form a community based on organic principles were instrumental to some of these developments.. Over the years, this part of the village has turned into a highly attractive enclave and the most recent plans include an ambitious initiative to construct an additional 100 new eco-homes in the village and a Torup-wide smart and sustainable heating system based on solar-power.

The Tools&Talent App is a smartphone application that provides villagers with access to a bank of local resources and local skills (people) that they can book according to their needs. The development of the app goes hand-in-hand with the development of a physical tool bank, where shared tools and equipment can be stored in a physical location in the village – such as a barn. This can include small hand tools as well as bigger machinery needed, for example, in construction works. Relevant materials and equipment such as tables, benches and tents can also be made available. A professional caretaker or volunteers are needed to manage the shared tools and ensure that they are kept in good condition for ongoing use. The caretaker oversees the maintenance and handing out / receiving back of all tools and equipment.



As a response, the village organisation 'Torup Ting' initiated the development of a smartphone app – the Tools & Talent App.



5.29

NATWORKING

A network of spaces dedicated to work and study surrounded by nature

WHERE AND WHEN

Location

Piemonte, Valle d'Aosta and Liguria, Italy

Project duration

2020-ongoing

Funding

n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact

info@natworking.eu

Website

<https://www.natworking.eu/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme

Living

Theme

Working hub and spaces

Swot topics

1.4, 1.5, 3.1, 4.1, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

NATworking is an association that promotes local development and soft tourism in non-urban areas, networking a community of people who want to improve their living, working and leisure conditions, enriching individual relationships.

The project revolves around three pillars: NATworking: the creation of a network of spaces where people can work/study remotely in a natural environment; NETworking: the establishment of a community of users that enhances sharing experiences; NOTworking: access to quality leisure time and incentives for the prevention of work-related stress.

NATworking makes it possible to carry out one's professional activity in an environment surrounded by nature, bringing benefits not only in terms of work and study performance, but also contributing to psychophysical well-being, helping to prevent work-related stress symptoms, one of the great evils of our society.

On the natworking.eu website, it is possible to book your own study and workstation in facilities located in out-of-town areas in Piedmont, Valle d'Aosta and Liguria. All facilities are equipped with internet connection, electrical outlets and spaces dedicated to team work.

Through the online platform, it will also be possible to get in touch with professionals who wish to share knowledge and experiences of sustainable living, as well as to get to know the leisure time activities available in the host territories.



5.30

RURAL HUB

An incubator for agriculture-based initiatives



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Napoli, Italy

Project duration
2013-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Francesco Martusciello
francesco@ruralhub.it

Website
<http://www.ruralhub.it/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
Governance

Theme
Working hub and spaces

Swot topics
3.1, 4.2, 4.7, 5.3

DESCRIPTION

Rural Hub is the main node of a network of researchers, activists, scholars and managers interested in identifying new models of economic development to find solutions to the social and market needs emerging from the world of new rural enterprises.

It was born as a research collective to foster the connection between new innovative realities, investors and related trade associations observing the lack of a business incubator that could really offer services to trigger an entrepreneurial, technological and sustainable renewal also in the agri-food sector.

The project is the first Italian hackerspace that connects and enables the exchange and sharing between people, ideas, technologies and projects of social innovation applied to rurality.

It is an “Incubator” and provides project financing for rural start-ups. The idea behind this project is to promote rural social innovations, by revitalizing traditional knowledge with innovative technologies. Rural Hub is: a shared place for living (coliving) and working (coworking), a permanent study and research centre on social innovation applied to rurality, a local and global venue for widespread events, an incubator, mentoring and project financing for Rural Start-ups, a connector between rural innovators and change makers, a workshop on new formal and non-formal agri-food entrepreneurial and community realities, and a task force for rural community activation projects.



5.31

THE LUDGATE HUB

Revitalising rural areas through digitisation

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Skibbereen, Ireland

Project duration
2015-ongoing

Funding
n/a

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
info@ludgate.ie

Website
<https://www.ludgate.ie/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Working hub and spaces

Swot topics
1.1, 1.5, 3.1, 4.2, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

The Ludgate Hub is in Skibbereen, in the periphery Cork in the South West of Ireland. Skibbereen was selected as a pilot town by SIRO, a joint venture company between ESB and Vodafone to deliver a 100% fibre-to-the-building broadband network, to install for the first time in an Irish rural town 1GB of internet connectivity. With a 1000MB connection the Ludgate Hub utilises the digital age for job creation and innovation. Before the project Skibbereen had very low-level broadband and some areas had no fibre connection. Skibbereen was also the only town in West Cork that does not have an e-centre or enterprise park and has limited opportunities to facilitate incoming mobile workers.

The hub was initiated by a board of eleven local people operating on a pro-bono basis. The Hub building was once a cinema from 1941-1981, then a bakery, and in the mid-90s was left unoccupied. Board member John Field made the Bakery Building available to the initiative. The hub which is in the centre of Skibbereen town is now a beacon of innovation and has already started to encourage fringe enterprises as a spin off.

The Ludgate Board is determined to achieve all ambitious goals, ultimately resulting in a return of the diaspora, creating an ecosystem of creativity and innovation, and progressing the facilitation of job growth via digital technology. The long-term vision is to make Skibbereen a hotspot for technology start-ups and multinationals to locate and prosper.



5.32

DE HOORN

Adaptive reuse of the iconic former brewery De Hoorn into a creative hotspot and public hub



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Leuven, Belgium

Project duration
2012

Funding
ERDF (partly)

FIND OUT MORE

Website
<https://2021.prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/node/268379>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Working hub and spaces

Swot topics
1.1, 4.1, 4.2, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8

DESCRIPTION

Not so long ago, De Hoorn was an abandoned and seemingly commercially undevelopable building. It was and still is, however, an iconic site. It includes the former Artois brewery that was built in 1923 and became in 1926 the birthplace of Stella Artois, today a world renowned brand and a source of pride in Leuven. Additional brewery lines were added after WWII, but eventually the activities moved to a modern factory nearby and during many years the place was deserted. It became an officially recognized heritage monument, but closed to the public and neglected. Today, De Hoorn is a vibrant and multifunctional creative hub with workspace for 500 people in a new type of working environment that offers tailor-made solutions, and opportunities for networking and learning, a bar and restaurant, meeting and event facilities as well as co-housing apartments for short-stay renting. It is in fact a omni-use complex where people can live, work, relax and play in the same seamless connected environment.

The emblematic spot came to life thanks to the efforts of young local entrepreneurs, who managed to buy the space in 2007 and transform it into a viable project with respect for the very diverse historical spaces. The 2007 financial crisis forced the initiators to split the project in two phases. This setback actually allowed to learn from the experiences gained between the start of the operations in 2012 and the start of the construction of phase 2 in 2018. Co-creative workshops and surveys with the users transformed the construction programme for the expansion, that was finalised in early 2020. In the spirit of the New European Bauhaus the past was reshaped into something future-oriented. De Hoorn integrates sustainable techniques with a lot of attention to art and aesthetics. Numerous local craftsmen and artists were involved in the interior design to beautify the building. The project received several awards to recognise the outstanding heritage conservation initiative.



5.33

MAC - MONTERUSCELLO AGRO CITY

Reducing urban poverty

WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Pozzuoli, Italy

Project duration
2017-2020

Funding
ERDF: EUR 3,999,996.68

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Roberto Gerundo
City Assessor in charge of Urban
Planning
ass.gerundo@comune.pozzuoli.na.it

Pietro Elisei
UIA expert
dr.pietro.elisei@gmail.com

Website
<https://macpozzuoli.eu/>

THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Urban poverty

Swot topics
1.1, 4.1, 4.3, 4.7, 4.8, 5.2

DESCRIPTION

The MAC project seeks to reduce urban poverty in the neighborhood of Monteruscello, where poverty is understood in the social and economic sense and within the physical environment. The proposal is designed to trigger a process of economic, entrepreneurial, and social development, together with the improving of the urban environment.

Monteruscello is a new large public housing district with 20,000 residents with low-income, a high level of unemployment, and characterised by large unused spaces. Problematic social conditions are combined with a difficult urban environment, in particular for the character of emptiness, anonymity, and decay of the common spaces.

30 hectares of Municipal open areas will be transformed into farmland, developed with the innovative techniques of permaculture in order to spearhead an economic process and urban growth as a means to combat poverty. The project will have three pillars: implementation of agriculture through innovative permaculture; improvement of the urban environment; and encouragement of entrepreneurship and employment.

The goal of the proposal is to focus on the following issues: a) residents' poor economic conditions - low income and unemployment; b) poor economy - lack of business activities; c) large abandoned green areas (a series of areas within the district for a total of 50 hectares) and unused public buildings; d) lack of activities, exchange and relationship; e) lack of quality relationships and trust between the citizens and the administration. From here the need to create work opportunities, enhance the economy and improve the environment.



5.34

5BRIDGES

Creating bridges between homeless and local communities



WHERE AND WHEN

Location
Nantes, France

Project duration
2017-2020

Funding
ERDF: EUR 4,953,297.32

FIND OUT MORE

Contact
Clarie Moureau
Project Coordinator
clarie.moureau@mairie-nantes.fr

Frederik Spinnewijn
UIA expert
Freek.spinnewijn@feantsa.org

Website
<https://5pontos-nantes.eu/>



THEMATICS

Macrotheme
People

Theme
Urban poverty

Swot topics
1.1, 4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.8, 5.2

DESCRIPTION

Homelessness is one of the key challenges for cities in their fight against urban poverty. Nantes' global aim is to be a green, innovative and liveable city FOR ALL. Social cohesion is at the heart of all its public policies. Today, the more complex way of living of socially disconnected people - including longer periods of homelessness and insecurity - requires new types of answers. Meanwhile, socially excluded groups feel socially stigmatized due to their difference. Here are some targeted local issues: 2337 persons have never been accommodated in 2014 in Nantes; Lack of coordinated social support services 24/24 and 7/7; Existing structures do not always properly match social/healthcare/housing offers with the users' needs, and their geographic dispersal creates an "organized wandering" throughout the city; Lack of low-threshold job integration programs. Why «5 Bridges»? Because it will bring solutions to tackle urban poverty in 5 main dimensions: jobs, housing, health, inclusion, and empowerment through involvement.

Indeed, the aim of the 5Bridges project is to experiment an innovative way to tackle the interconnectedness of the major factors of urban poverty, and to break the circle of social and spatial polarization by: Promoting an innovative approach of support and conceiving the project from the ground: based on the users' choice model and their empowerment through an active involvement to define the needed services; Creating an innovative social urban equipment: a building operating as a One-stop Shop interconnecting different social groups, providing work opportunities (through a neighborhood restaurant, a collective urban farm, a solidarity store), as well as solidarity-based housing, low threshold health care, and a high level of integration of tailored social services opened 24/24 and 7/7; Locating the social equipment at the heart of a new central multi-functional district, already including health clusters, social solidarity businesses, private and social housing; Opening the project to the people living/working in the area, through neighborhood dialogue and involvement of civil society.



