Integrated NBS-based Urban Planning Methodology
for Enhancing the Health and Well-being of Citizens

D9.15

Common Action Plan on Clustering Activities

WP09 – Communication, Dissemination and Standardization Activities

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Executive Summary

This document is a deliverable from Work Package (WP) 9 of the euPOLIS project (Communication, Dissemination and Standardization Activities). The objective of this deliverable is to describe the euPOLIS consortium support clustering activities with other projects of the same unit and other relevant research projects funded by the European Union.

The deliverable in the first section presents the clustering concept with the benefits of its activities and synergies for the project participants (Universities, companies, cities, etc.). It presents the EC expected objectives for the improvement of well-being and health[1] in cities among the four (4)co-funded sister projects as a basic strategy for the euPOLIS clustering activities.

It is also presented the way these objectives will be achieved and the necessary tools and actions of the consortium, the methodology for planning a cluster event, the management of these tasks, and the overall strategy to achieve it. All four sister EU H2020 projects to euPOLIS are also presented, along with the H2020 projects in SC1 topic, as well as the NBS related to SC5 topic.

In the Section eight, we present the already achieved activities and communications until month 6 (M6) on clustering field and section nine the future consortium plans on clustering. A collected material that until the current deliverable version is a live content, with almost every month modifications. It should be noted that this deliverable aim is to present the whole architecture of the clustering activities methodologies that the euPOLIS consortium will follow and have as a guideline in next months. New ideas and actions will be inserted, the number of projects will be adapted and evaluated accordingly, using as much as possible the significant opportunity to work under the same umbrella for the EU aims and scope for urban areas. All needed and achieved activities from all partners will be reported in forthcoming deliverables under WP9, following the Description of the Work (DoW).

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List of Acronyms / Abbreviations

Table 1. Acronyms, Abbreviations

Acronyms/Abbreviations	Explanation
COSME	Programme for the competitiveness of enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises
DoW	Description of Work
ECCP	European Cluster Collaboration Platform
GDE&I	Gender, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
NBS	Nature Based Solutions
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
QM	Quality Manager
RDI	Research Development and Innovative
SMCEs	Small Medium Cooperative Enterprises
WP	Work Package
PO	Project Officer
PPPs	Public Private Partnerships
HUAs	Historic Urban Areas
RRI	Response, Research & Innovation
SMSCs	Small and Medium Size Cities
IHW	Inclusive Health and Wellbeing
CELAC	Community of Latin American and Caribbean States
MOOCS	Massive Open Online Courses

Glossary of Terms

Table 2. Glossary of terms

Term	Explanation
DG GROW	Directorate General Grow is the Commission department responsible for EU Policy on the single market, industry, entrepreneurship and small businesses.
OPPLA Platform	EU repository of nature-based solutions

1. Introduction

Clusters are defined as groups of institutions, related economic actors, and companies that have reached a sufficient scale to develop specialised expertise, services, resources, suppliers and skills. Clusters are referred to both as a concept and a real economic phenomenon. Cluster organisations are the legal entities that support the strengthening of collaboration, networking and learning in innovation clusters and act as innovation support providers by providing or channelling specialised and customised business support services to stimulate innovation activities, especially in SMEs. They are usually the actors that facilitate strategic partnering across clusters [2]. Clustering activities present an effort from the project consortium to increase the growth and competitiveness of clusters in its constituency. The most interesting activities that foreseen into innovation gaps, where cluster organisations could play potential roles can be summarized as below:

- Research, limiting interaction between research organisations and involved companies

- Education, limiting interaction between education institutions, academic departments and projects end users

- Capital gap, limiting interaction between companies and education institutions

- Government gap, limiting interaction between public bodies and education institutions

- Company to company gap, limiting interaction among companies

- Global market gap, limiting connections between cluster companies and firms and global markets.

- Global research gap, limiting connectivity and applicability of the research methodologies and results between foreign institutions and academic research departments, sometimes presented as East and West methods in research communities.

The proposed by EU clustering activities try to find a new way to engage the triple helix actors in dialogue and action to strengthen competitiveness, and clusters are among the platforms for such joint efforts. On the other hand, as autonomous communities with some times common aims and goals, these clusters should follow a policy-based route and achieve a common path, in order to increase the effectiveness of their own policies in areas from regional research and development and investment attraction to skill development and innovation, which might be achieved by exchanging ideas and common activities based on their clusters' needs.

Clusters are a major part of the European industrial landscape [3]. They play a crucial role boosting collaboration and connecting enterprises, especially SMEs, and building bridges across Europe's ecosystems, supporting innovation take-up, internationalization and scaling-up of SMEs, setting up transnational partnerships to better help SMEs access global value chains as change agents in the digital and carbon-neutral 'green' transformation.

2. Benefits from Clustering Activities and Synergies

The clustering includes invitations by the EU to come together with some other actions and share concepts, ideas and problems, invitation of projects, meetings with project representatives, to cooperate in specific calls and events, and collaboration in common research topics and dissemination activities. These clustering activities will be in particular carried on with other projects funded under the call H2020 SC5-14-2019 and SC1 Health, demographic change and wellbeing. Further clustering actions will be also supported related to our consortium connections, participations, and relationships with partners from other consortiums in order to extend and enhance the euPOLIS impact.

Clusters can benefit from synergies between H2020 projects. Among the specific ways of H2020 of such beneficiary and fruitful outcomes can be the below list.

- o **Exchange technical information between the projects** to contribute for a cross-fertilisation of results leading to a stronger, more accurate vision of the NBS expectations.

- o **Maximise the impact of the communication and dissemination** of results amongst the relevant stakeholders by joining forces, rather than having each project operating individually.

- o **improvement of social capital** as assistance for building networks, clusters and new consortia

- o H2020 project results are used or further developed with subsequent investments **to improve the innovation eco-system in a territory that facilitates follow-up to successful RDI activities,** in order to bring them either higher up on the technology readiness level scale (closer to commercialisation), for instance regarding technology parks, clusters, partnerships between research, education and business, Living-Labs, demonstrators, etc.

- o Give an opportunity **"to explore" the potential for synergies between partners of different consortiums**, but with common research or business activities in local or EU territory.

- o Also important is their **international presentation and cooperation with similar institutions globally**, through the new consortium infrastructures that provide partners globally, by promoting the pan-European Strategic Cluster Partnerships to lead international cluster cooperation in new areas.

- o **Highlight the importance of EU funding programmes** in supporting European Research and Innovation able to stand out in an ever-changing world, where top-notch R&D has become the standard.

- o **Fulfil the European Commission's expectation** of an integrated collaborative approach between the H2020 projects.

euPOLIS action plan aiming to facilitate and achieve access between H2020 projects consortiums and take advantage of better synergies between regional, national and European instruments to support this interregional collaboration. By setting up of an Expert Group in euPOLIS that will discover possible synergies, between the European programmes could be exploited to better support research and innovation. Furthermore, the project exploitations activities, at the end of the project, will get a benefit from these synergies and partners will be able to explore solutions to leverage public-private investments, through European organizations for supporting demonstrations and piloting of new value chains in European industry clusters.

2.1   EC visionary to improve well-being and health in cities between the 4 sister projects

The main areas of cooperation between euPOLIS and similar in topics EU projects in H2020, could be summarized in the following topics and activities (Appendix I, II).

o   **Baseline and Indicators for Wellbeing and Health**, aiming to create an output which will contain a list of joint indicators that will be defined between the clusters and having as a guideline the current NBS Handbook on Indicators and Assessment[1].

   o   A Manifesto with a common narrative on the subsidiarity principle applied to wellbeing and health. How can we define health and wellbeing at the local level? What is "locality" in this respect? Are we considering the whole city, just a district, or a neighbourhood? Could we use GPS coordinates? This Manifesto could complement the work that the OECD[2] is doing on wellbeing at regional level[3].

   o   A joint deliverable based on a list of common indicators (defined together also taking into account the current NBS Handbook on Indicators and Assessment). This list should also include the definition of "bottom-up" and "place-based" indicators resulting from the co-creation process with citizens. When defining these indicators, one could envisage the creation of a matrix for the 4 projects. For instance, such a matrix could be based on the type of solution (not only NBS but also social, digital and cultural ones); general impacts on health; general impacts on wellbeing; place-specific impacts.

   o   One representative per project should participate in the existing Taskforce 2.

o   **Gender, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (GDE & I)**

   The main cooperation outputs could be focused on
   o   Monitoring all co-creation and co-deployment activities. A GDE&I manager from euPOLIS will lead together with the Dissemination Manager the co-creation and co-deployment activities. The GDE&I managers and the leads on co-creation will define common modalities to engage diverse citizens remotely due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. This will allow them to address the digital divide not only in terms of rural/urban cleavage but also in terms of different abilities that citizens have, when using online technologies and tools. The results of these co-creation activities to engage diverse citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic could also be reflected in a joint deliverable on co-creation in order to harvest the richness of process.

   o   A common strategy to define the set of personal characteristics (i.e. sex, age, gender, identity, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, etc.) to be included when engaging diverse citizens. The work carried out in this respect could result in a joint deliverable on GDE&I toolkit for health and wellbeing in cities[4,5]. This toolkit could reflect similar

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[1] https://ec.europa.eu/research/environment/pdf/renaturing/eklipse_report1_nbs-02022017.pdf

[2] http://www.oecd.org/

[3] https://www.oecd.org/statistics/better-life-initiative.htm

[4] https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/1_en_act_part1_v8_0.pdf

work[6] done by other international organisations on GDE&I for the labour market[7].

- o Investigation for new technologies to monitor progress and bottlenecks in GDE&I (i.e. AI to tackle unconscious bias, AI for emotion recognition, biosensors, etc.). The proposed new technologies could be included in the common co-creation strategy.

- o A joint deliverable/positioning paper on AI and GDE&I (i.e. AI to tackle unconscious bias, AI for emotion recognition, biosensors, etc.). Such a deliverable should also take into account the current debate on AI and discrimination[8].

- o **Joint Communication & Dissemination Activities** that will be analysed further in below document sections. Aiming to create as outputs:

  - o A common glossary (to be consistent both for internal communication between the 4 sister projects and for external communication).

  - o Joint deliverables (i.e. the ones mentioned above)

  - o A timeline for joint events (at least 2/3 conferences/workshops). A calendar with main events for 2021 will be shared on Teams to prepare the joint even of the projects.

  - o Joint publications.

  - o Synergies with the cluster of projects H2020 SC5-20-2019 on transforming historic urban areas into hubs of entrepreneurships and social and cultural integration.

  - o Synergies with the new projects funded under the H2020 SC1 Health, demographic change and wellbeing (ENLIGHTEN ME, URBANOME, RECETAS, EMOTIONAL CITIES, HEART, WELLBASED).

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[5] https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/news/EuropeandBeyond/Pages/green-paper-ageing-2021.aspx?piwik_campaign=WeeklyDigest

[6] http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_NES_DEI4.0_Toolkit_2020.pdf

[7] https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/news/EuropeandBeyond/Pages/green-paper-ageing-2021.aspx?piwik_campaign=WeeklyDigest

[8] https://ainowinstitute.org/discriminatingsystems.pdf

3.   Implementation of Clustering Activities

3.1   Cluster Events

Cluster Events organized within EU funded research and innovation projects have become increasingly popular over the past years. This popularity leads back to stakeholders in industrial sector, research and public authorities in the first place, having recurring topics and scientific challenges. They are events organized by one, or several Horizon 2020 consortia focusing on a specific research topic or area, hence the name *cluster*.

In a nutshell, Cluster Events are a great networking opportunity for an interdisciplinary community and can help boost the dissemination and knowledge exchange for the benefit of all participating parties and their organizations, projects, or research. Typically, they're one-day events and are open to scientists, business people and other interested stakeholder groups. Because Cluster Events serve to exchange knowledge they're usually organized in the second half of a project's duration, when milestones have been reached and knowledge has been acquired.

3.2   What to expect from a Cluster Event

Cluster events go beyond disseminating euPOLIS project results. Their aim is to achieve and implement a platform for innovators in one field to get together to discuss and facilitate the dissemination and exploitation of results beyond the scope of a single project.

The below table can be a key indicator for such a cluster event where participants feedback can be a tool for further achievements, collaborations, research, and exploitations. Through cluster events the consortium can define targeted audiences/stakeholders that will potentially use project results. They can analyse, select, describe and disclose key exploitable project results by appropriate means, including scientific publications, in order to get them used (exploited).

Table 3. EuPOLIS clustering Event results template

Duration	Day 1	Day 2, etc.
Topics covered		
No. of participants		
Keynote speakers		
Format		
Organisers		
Sponsors		
Participant feedback		

It is very important to select and choose relevant tools to disseminate results according to the interests/needs of the defined target audiences during and after the project. Promoting any Open Access result for further exploitation, or be made accessible for verification and re-use from the participants, as test users, increasing the project results impact [4].

These events create a great opportunity in the consortiums to bring the projects/results to the attention of decision makers and funding sources public and private on European, national, and regional level.

3.3 Cluster events for Researchers

Cluster Events can bring together experts from one specific research area. These research areas would not be considered very broad such as urban developments or water manipulation, but instead focus on a specific topic within a large field of research. By achieving a large number of participants through these events organization and advertise this attraction further, through nowadays circumstances that webinars organization can arrange for more than a thousand participants online without region and place restrictions over the web, something that a year before was too costly to be organized and controlled from many aspects, now is an opportunity for the Research community to collaborate and participate in such open discussions and get direct feedback from all the participants, even through the use of a simple online questionnaire.

Having an audience will certainly raise awareness of project results and present exploitation possibilities. Researchers facing issues with their project have the opportunity to discuss them and gather insights to possible solutions and actions from other experts in the same research field. These discussions are also a great networking opportunity which will potentially lead to future collaborations for long-term sustainability of project results and open innovation. Cluster Events give researchers insight into differing viewpoints on their challenges and tangible ways to reach solutions as a community (cluster). The clustering activities aim and goal is to find innovative and new solutions to the problems they're facing.

By communicating with different teams from different consortiums and from many different places in EU, or worldwide, create a collaboration chain that ensures solid and applicable actions with broad support, making research synergies tangible. The research topics of the euPOLIS project will define and establish the criteria for choosing the places and the characteristics of the participants.

3.4 Cluster events for the companies

Corporate synergy refers to the benefits that two firms are expected to gain when they cooperate and take part in clustering activities. The benefits of such transactions could be marketing synergy by promoting their services and products. Additionally, could be implemented through Information campaigns, common research and development, as well as marketing personnel. Enhancing of their distribution network, improvement in employees motivation, and more opportunities of growing their business. Their cooperation results in cost savings, which will increase the amount of profits for the combined transactions.

Companies that operate established distribution networks in specific geographical locations may enter into a transaction with companies with distribution networks in other geographical markets and countries. This will result in cost savings since with the new entity in another country, it will be able to distribute more products using the existing networks.

3.5 Cluster events for the end users, cities in euPOLIS pilots

Clustering helps cities and counties direct their economic development and recruiting efforts. It also encourages communities to refocus efforts on existing industries. Local communities understand that the best way to expand their own economies and those of the surrounding region is to support a cluster of firms, rather than to try to attract standalone companies one at a time to an area. Chambers of Commerce, business incubators, and some universities work with companies to develop clusters and synergies in business communities, an activity that euPOLIS will support and try to implement through the pilots in four cities.

By encouraging the creation of strong domestic clusters also help attract foreign investment. If clusters are leading centers for their industries, they will attract all the key players from both home and abroad. For small and developing businesses, locating in a cluster near competitors and related

industries may aid the firm in faster growth, recognition, and status within the market. Economies of scale can be gained by group purchasing within the cluster. There can be discussions among cluster members about their unique competitive advantages and future challenges. Linked supply chain networks can naturally be created within a tightly-linked cluster. The events that will be organized in pilot cities will provide needed for their business strategy feedback, through the investigation of the needed requirements from end users of the city-residents. EU related guidelines and summarized criteria for health and city needed infrastructures and services can provide know-how and enhance their provided activities.

3.6   Methodology for planning a Cluster event

euPOLIS consortium already running M6 based on project DoW and has started even from M2 the investigation and research for possible cluster events through the H2020 consortiums. The investigation was performed in two routes, looking for projects that almost have or will finish during in one year and for projects that have almost same duration as euPOLIS. In parallel, the criteria for accessing a project were the programme that belongs to, it topic, and the project objectives. Additionally, it was considered the consortium members with possible common partners, or region partners that will be easier to communicate directly in the same Country. Furthermore, the projects cooperation into clustering events needs to provide effort in the following activities.

- ✓ Plan ahead. Depending on the size of the organized event, the planning needs to be defined early by the consortium.

- ✓ Find a date. Similar events, such as EU information days, or other similar Clustering Events, hosted in the same week as the organized Cluster Event could mean fewer participants, avoiding public holidays. Consortiums should make sure that they have chosen a date which is not only suitable for the one consortium and network but also any interested participants.

- ✓ Define the target audience. When planning the sessions it is important to keep in mind who the target audience is and what the ideal participants would be interested in hearing and seeing

- ✓ Find the correct web platform. Especially nowadays that cities and mobility restrictions for residents are changing week per week, the web accessibility is the only way especially during these pandemic days in EU, for organizing such type of events. The correct web platform and the dedicated to the event links should be advertised and be accessible at least a week before with possible reminders in the organizers and participants in order to not face last time it problems and delays.

- ✓ Find the correct place. Partners with space availability, either in research institutions, or in end users private or public spaces that can be used for such events, they have to provide a needed reservation during the event specific days. Needed equipment and supporting tools also should b considered and be available.

- ✓ Plan costs. Your budget affects the number of potential participants, the type of location and reimbursement structure for speakers (this should be discussed internally before contacting anyone), (applied on the above bullet).

- ✓ Mix it up. A Cluster Event only consisting of presentations won't entertain participants. It should be mixed up with different sessions, such as workshops, and discussion groups, plus with a feedback and comments from the participants. Either through formulated questionnaires or voting mechanisms.

- ✓ Networking. Allowing enough time for participants to talk amongst themselves.

✓ Communication. Clusters should make use of the all the partner's contacts. Creating a small media package all partners can use to promote the event to their existing networks.

✓ Keep the participants interested: Once registered, it is important to keep audiences interested in the event to avoid participants forgetting the event and cancelling on short notice. Possible organization of a second round for the selected topics will be an opportunity for collecting more data and feedback.

✓ Follow-up. Stay in touch with your newly acquired contacts. Send follow-up messages, newsletters and all related dissemination material that the involved project have created to attendees.

3.7 Clustering tools

The tools that the consortium of euPOLIS will use for performing the communication and accelerate possible partner's common activities are presented in the follow subsections.

3.7.1 Web dissemination

The project webpage has a public open access area to everybody. Through this area the euPOLIS consortium will announce possible events and news that would trigger activities with other consortiums. Any news related to the project we be available for the clusters and will be maintained in relationship with possible cluster actions.

3.7.2 Social media

For external communication of project outcomes and euPOLIS news and events and for sharing them with general public, journalists, scientists and policy makers, the project uses the following social media:

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/eupolis/

Twitter: https://twitter.com/eu_polis

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/eupolis2020/

3.7.3 E-newsletter

An e-newsletter will advertise the related clustering events. Interested users can register on the public website to receive the euPOLIS e-newsletter, by filling in a registration form, where they can record their e-mails addresses.

3.7.4 Workshops and Scientific Events

The opportunity during euPOLIS participation in Conferences and any organization of workshops and scientific events will have in parallel support from the euPOLIS partners, either to cooperate and create publications and presentations with other projects in same scientific and research topics, or during the conference meetings to exchange ideas and solutions on project objectives and tasks.

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3.7.5   Webinars

A nice web tool for common participations and direct dialogues is the usage of webinars creation, as euPOLIS consortium can use tools like Microsoft Teams, WebEx, etc. for organizing such digital events.

3.7.6   Cities scenarios participation and cooperation

The pilots in euPOLIS cities and the participation of the end users from different fields of expertise and business sectors provide an ideal tool for collecting useful information and requirements for project design of tools and algorithms, plus for their implementations. This cooperation with similar cities scenarios and fields of research in different Countries, than euPOLIS partners, creates a significant benefit that is supported from the common clustering activities.

3.7.7   Communication page on New European Bauhaus

The New European Bauhaus[5][6] proposes to focus on conversations related to the resident's places they inhabit and on their relationship with natural environments, beyond the built space. It is a practical approach to discover beautiful, sustainable and inclusive ways of living and to use them to inspire their way forward. Basic aims is to create and interdisciplinary movement in the making and euPOLIS could possible participate. It's a platform for experimentation and connection, fostering collaboration across thinkers and doers who want to design the future ways of living together. It's a bridge between the world of science and technology and the world of art and culture. It's an invitation to change perspective and to look at green and digital challenges as opportunities to transform resident's lives for the better. Also they are searching for innovative solutions to complex societal problems together through co-creation. The initiative aims to shape thinking, behaviours, and markets around new ways of living and building, including by influencing public procurement. Although it is a tool for dissemination activities, euPOLIS will monitor its session's results, for further research and collaboration activities with its cluster partners.

The euPOLIS consortium already participated in the organized event during the period 15-26 February 2021 [Appendix IV, Appendix V]. The below figures provide euPOLIS participation in these discussions.
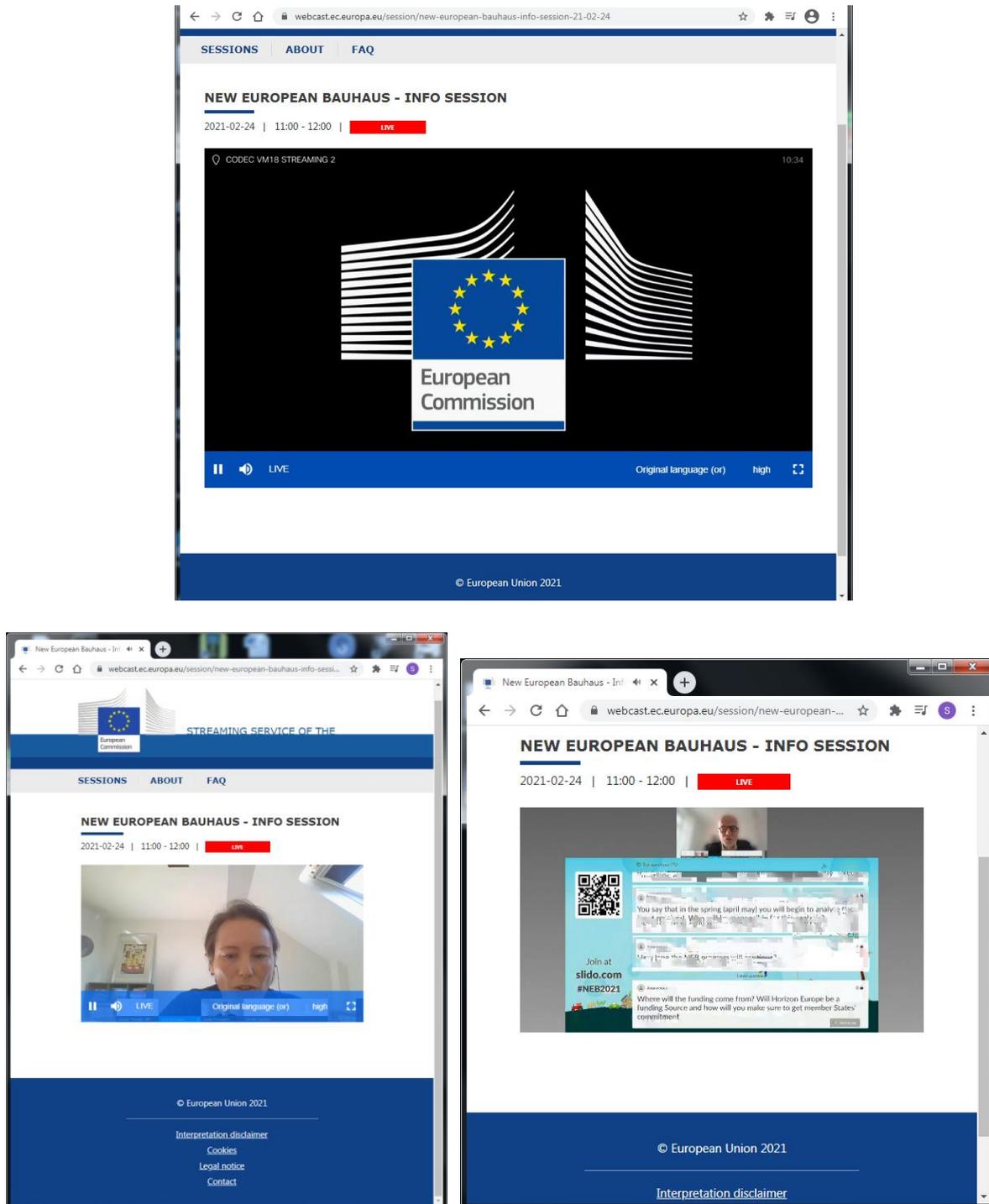
Figure 1: Bauhaus live sessions

3.7.8   Communication page on European Cluster Collaboration Platform

The European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP – https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/) is an action of the cluster Internationalisation Programme for SMEs funded under COSME launched by DG GROW of the European Commission in 2016. The ECCP provides networking and information support for clusters and their members aiming to improve their performance and increase their competitiveness through transnational and international cooperation. The ECCP addresses primarily the needs of cluster managements but its rich content is useful for both the SME cluster members

and for the cluster policy makers at regional, national or international level.

euPOLIS will evaluate this platform benefits and decide its usage as an extra tool for further dissemination and exploitation activities.

3.8   Administration

Assessing the effectiveness of NBS actions is a complex process requiring the engagement of a range of different actors including academics, practitioners and businesses. It needs a range of disciplines and transdisciplinary working, and the employment of a variety of different indicators and methods, in order that the clustering activities to be successfully implemented.

The euPOLIS will lead these activities through with NTUA leading the strategy and general methodology, evaluating the results and be supported with all the partners, and be present in Taskforce 2 team with representatives from the other projects. Having as middleware the Dissemination manager for controlling the particular actions under different contexts, the clustering activities will be discussed and included as an extra task in Managerial per week project meetings, where needed activities and evaluation of current implemented ones will be analysed and planned. This task has been assigned from the EU after first kick off meeting and beyond the project budget. The euPOLIS consortium, with the cooperation of the PO, will manipulate and apply related effort from the WP9 on dissemination activities, for fulfilling needed efforts and budget analogous to the partner tasks and already assigned effort in WP9. Consideration will be given in designing actions which will cost effective and give rise to a range of social and environmental benefits.

3.9   Action Plan

The action plan for the clustering activities is presented in below diagram including the three related deliverables. The starting point for events on common clustering activities with projects started on M1 and will continue until the end of the project.


Figure 2: Clustering Action Plan

In the first line is presented the duration of the clustering meetings. The second line shows the deadlines for the deliverables and simultaneously milestones of clustering activities, and in the last line the duration of the needed effort for events that the consortium should organize with the clusters.

3.10   Clustering strategy

The euPOLIS Coordinator already has analysed and provide to the consortium the list of possible participations for clustering common activities with other EU projects. In cooperation with Technical and Dissemination managers has started implementing the clustering strategy following the below steps

a) Focus based on criteria such as scientific topics, project objectives and consortium participants, location, etc. a list with the clustering projects.

b) Communicate with the project's coordinators for finding possible common tasks and actions during the project lifecycle.

c) Creation of a 'dynamic' time plan per case with common activities

d) Open communication channel for exchanging ideas and organizing next clustering activities.

e) Presentation of the above activities to EU and external involved partners and end users.

The selected list of clustering projects although it seems large in next sections of the deliverable, practically will become very short as clustering management and cooperation, either in scientific, or in dissemination level needs a lot of effort and internal communication that bypass project effort and assigned budget. However, the euPOLIS partners already have decided to cooperate and continuously produce the necessary links with these projects representatives, in order to achieve the proposed objectives and have fruitful results through the project time plan.

The clustering activities will be provided and presented in forthcoming deliverables ordered by submission date:

- D9.16 "Policy report on Clustering activities", Type: Report, 31 Dec. 2022 (M27)

- D9.14 "Report on Clustering Activities", Type: Demonstrator, 31 Aug. 2024 (M48)

- D9.17 "Final Clustering Report", Type: Report, 31 Aug. 2024 (M48)

4. The clustering action plan with the euPOLIS Sister Projects

4.1 IN-HABIT INclusive Health And wellBeing In small and medium size ciTies

Fostering health and wellbeing: strengthening bonds in medium and small cities

Access to health and wellbeing may be difficult for people due to their gender, disabilities or minority status, and especially if they live in a peripheral small town or city. To solve this problem, modern approaches are needed to integrate communities and achieve inclusive health and well-being. With this in mind, the EU-funded IN-HABIT project aims to design integrative actions that will be shaped according to the needs of local vulnerable groups in four cities: Cordoba (Spain), Riga (Latvia), Lucca (Italy), and Nitra (Slovakia). They will be based on culture, food, art and bonds with nature and animals combined with technological and digital means. IN-HABIT will be supported by the city of Bogotá's (Columbia) former experiences.

4.1.1 Objective

Four peripheral small and medium size cities (SMSCs) - Cordoba (Spain), Riga (Latvia), Lucca (Italy) and Nitra (Slovakia) – will take the leadership to test visionary and integrated solutions to foster Inclusive Health and Wellbeing (IHW) in SMSCs with a focus on gender and diversity. IN-HABIT visionary approach consists on the innovative mobilization of existing undervalued resources (culture, food, human-animal bonds and environment) to increase IHW. The integrated approach is based on the combination of technological, digital, nature based, cultural, and social innovations in selected urban public spaces. These solutions will be co-designed, co-deployed and co-managed with and by local stakeholders. The effects on mental health, wellbeing and healthier lifestyles of these solutions will be evaluated and a sound scalable evidence-base and monitoring framework delivered. A systemic urban planning framework will be developed based on innovative gender and diversity approaches to boost IHW that will represent a unique reference for SMSCs. IN-HABIT will base its actions on underserved areas and vulnerable target groups existing in each city (such as, children, elders, women, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities), and on the integration of 'hard' and 'soft' visionary solutions articulated around heritage and culture (as a nexus for inclusive societies), food (nurturing daily healthier lifestyles), animals (human-animal bonds as new relational urban goods) and art and environment (to connect places and people). Bogotá city will share know-how and replicate experiences. These actions have attracted the interest to be replicated by other twin-cities and networks of cities, that have shown their interest in establishing synergies with IN-HABIT and replicating actions. IN-HABIT is an ambitious but achievable project in the 5 years lifetime proposed.

Topics: SC5-14-2019 - Visionary and integrated solutions to improve well-being and health in cities
End Date: 31 Aug. 2025

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/869227, https://www.inhabit-h2020.eu/

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4.1.2 Possible participations

euPOLIS has already invited IN-HABIT collaborators in an online kick-off meeting at 16th of September, where was presented to each other the projects. In euPOLIS clustering strategy belong further activities with this project, in order to continue the cooperation in common scientific and dissemination subjects.

4.2 VARCITIES VISIONARY NATURE BASED ACTIONS FOR HEATH, WELLBEING & RESILIENCE IN CITIES (VARCITIES)

A vision for human-centred future cities

In an increasingly urbanised world, governments are focussing on boosting cities' productivity and improving citizens' living conditions and quality of life. Despite efforts to transform the challenges facing cities into

opportunities, problems such as overburdened social services and health facilities, air pollution and exacerbated heat create a bleak outlook. With these challenges in mind, the EU-funded VARCITIES project aims to create a vision for future cities with the citizen and the so-called human community at the centre. It will therefore implement innovative ideas and add value by creating sustainable models for improving the health and well-being of citizens facing diverse climatic conditions and challenges around Europe. This will be achieved through shared public spaces that make cities liveable and welcoming.

4.2.1 Objective

In an increasingly urbanising world, governments and international corporations strive to increase productivity of cities, recognized as economy growth hubs, as well as ensuring better quality of life and living conditions to citizens. Although significant effort is performed by international organisations, researchers, etc. to transform the challenges of Cities into opportunities, the visions of our urban future are trending towards bleak. Social services and health facilities are significantly affected in negative ways owed to the increase in urban populations (70% by 2050). Air pollution and urban heat islands is exacerbating. Nature will struggle to compensate in the future City, as rural land is predicted to shrink by 30% affecting liveability. VARCITIES puts the citizen and the "human community" in the eye of the future cities' vision. Future cities should evolve to be human centred cities. The vision of VARCITIES is to implement real, visionary ideas and add value by establishing sustainable models for increasing H&WB of citizens (children, young people, middle age, elderly) that are exposed to diverse climatic conditions and challenges around Europe (e.g. from harsh winters in Skelleftea-SE to hot summers in Chania-GR, from deprived areas in Novo mesto-SI to increased pollution in Malta) through shared public spaces that make cities liveable and welcoming.

Topic(s): SC5-14-2019 - Visionary and integrated solutions to improve well-being and health in cities

End Date: 28 February 2025

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4.2.2 Possible participations

We have already invited VARCITIES consortium in the online kick-off meeting that took place at 16th of September, where we presented to each other the projects, and on 25th November.

Furthermore, all project partners, in particular the National Technical University of Athens and the Technical University of Crete being both coordinators of the "sister" projects may cooperate and participate in common dissemination events as clustering activities.

4.3 GO GREEN ROUTES, GO GREEN: Resilient Optimal Urban natural, Technological and Environmental Solutions

A natural way to foster urban mental health and well-being

How can nature-based solutions contribute to health? The EU-funded GoGreenRoutes project will answer this question. Its transdisciplinary consortium will pioneer a unique approach to nature-based solutions by creating green corridors and cultivating a positive human-nature relationship. The project's goal is to position European citizens as world ambassadors of urban sustainability. Advancing mental health and well-being, the project's components will focus on nature-based enterprise, sustainable physical activity and digital, cultural and knowledge innovation. A knowledge ecosystem with urban communities will raise awareness about links between human and environmental health.

4.3.1 Objective

The objective of GoGreenRoutes is to position European cities as world ambassadors of urban sustainability.

Our inspirational approach shifts the focus of NBS towards the co-benefits to multidimensional health-termed 360-Health. GoGreenRoutes transdisciplinary consortium will pioneer a unique approach augmenting NBS, urban design with the goal of fostering a positive human-nature relationship, flourishing nature connectedness and promoting citizen engagement through digital, educational and behavioural innovation. GoGreenRoutes components focus on nature-based enterprise (GROW), sustainable physical activity (MOVE), digital, cultural (FEEL) and knowledge innovation (KNOW). GoGreenRoutes fosters mental health and well-being by optimising human-nature interactions for all citizens. These innovations will increase the uptake and acceptability of NBS across "Cultivating Cities" (Burgas, Lahti, Limerick, Tallinn, Umea & Versailles), "Seed Cities" (Munich, Murcia region & Malta) and a "Cross-Pollination Network: (Beijing, Mexico, & Tbilisi). An urban well-being lab, based on the living lab methodology will couple participatory approaches with the Big Data analyses. To advance knowledge, best practice and dissemination GOGREEN ROUTES will cluster with H2020 projects including those involving our partners (e.g., proGIreg, bluehealth2020, Connecting Nature). In addition, linking all open-sourced data to the OPPLA[9] and Think Nature Hubs, delivering online resource (e.g. Urban 360-Health Toolkit, MOOC's) and empowering citizens in an iterative process of co-creation will ensure perpetuation beyond the end of the project. This novel approach, coupled with the high capacity of the consortium, makes GoGreenRoutes an exciting prospect.

Topic(s): SC5-14-2019 - Visionary and integrated solutions to improve well-being and health in cities

End date: 31 Aug. 2024

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/869764, https://www.ul.ie/covid/news-centre/news/go-green-ul-leads-%E2%82%AC105-eu-project-transform-environmental-and-human-health

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4.3.2   Possible participations

There was no available information during the period of this document writing, as GoGreenRoutes project web site has not created yet. As a first stage in euPOLIS clustering strategy, the GoGreenRoutes project was invited on the euPOLIS kick-off meeting at 16th of September, where they presented to each other the projects objectives. Additionally, an invitation from project coordinator was provided on 19th of January 2021 for further collaborations.

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[9] https://connectingnature.eu/oppla-resources

5. Clustering activities with H2020 SC1 projects (Health)

The clustering activities for these projects is formulated and based according to the EU document (Appendix III), which sets out the decisions taken with regards to the implementation of the 'European Urban Health Cluster' of the 6 projects resulting from the Horizon 2020 topic SC1-BHC-29-2020 "Innovative actions for improving urban health and wellbeing-addressing environment, climate and socioeconomic factors". The cluster will be active from 1 March 2021 until 28 February 2025.

Basic activities for euPOLIS under this clustering framework could be:

- ○ Organisation of cluster meetings with the six projects.
- ○ Common dissemination and communication activities.
- ○ Cooperation with the Established by the six projects Advisory Board for the cluster.
- ○ Participation in thematic workshops/working groups/training on issues of common interest (e.g., science-policy interface, ethics, health determinants and urban interventions, data analysis and management).

The following sections are presenting these projects with included participation's activities.

5.1 URBANOME Urban Observatory for Multi-participatory Enhancement of Health and Wellbeing

5.1.1 Objective

URBANOME aims at building a common EU Framework for evaluating comprehensively multi-sector policies in urban settings supporting the "Health in all Policies" approach of WHO. In this light the overall objective of URBANOME is to promote urban health, wellbeing and liveability, through systematically integrating health concerns in urban policies and the activities of urban citizens, on the basis of detailed and comprehensive evidence on environmental health determinants, the spatial distribution of these in the city, and the social distribution of their impact among different population groups, accounting for different life styles and behaviours. Integration of health concerns, environmental stressors and social equality in public and private activities help alleviate a wide range of contemporary urban challenges, specifically social cohesion and health inequality, and promote the transition of European cities to sustainable, climate proof, smart and inclusive urban economies.

URBANOME brings together the complete set of environmental, social, and functional features of a city in an integrative analytical framework that would facilitate the identification of the main determinants of urban health and wellbeing and support co-creation and testing of policies and precision interventions designed to improve urban health and wellbeing through Urban Living Labs. The URBANOME approach will be applied through pilots built by the Urban Living Labs in Aarhus, Athens, Aberdeen, Madrid, Milan, Ljubljana, Stuttgart, Paris and Thessaloniki tackling various levels of environmental exposures, age-dependent susceptibility windows, inter-individual variability, gender differentiation of exposure, and socio-economic disparities. These will allow us to draw conclusions regarding the determinants of urban health and wellbeing that will be translated into evidence–based policy recommendations considering socio-economic and environmental factors leading to urban health inequalities. URBANOME is part of the European Cluster on Urban Health which includes other research projects funded in the frame of the same call.

Topic(s): SC1-BHC-29-2020 - Innovative actions for improving urban health and wellbeing - addressing environment, climate and socioeconomic factors

End Date: 28 Feb. 2025

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5.1.2   Possible participations

euPOLIS plans to cooperate with Common activities in scientific and dissemination aspects for urban observatory for multi participatory enhancement of health and wellbeing.

5.2   RECETAS Re-imagining Environments for Connection and Engagement: Testing Actions for Social Prescribing in Natural Spaces

5.2.1   Objective

Re-imagining Environments for Connection and Engagement: Testing Actions for Social Prescribing in Natural Spaces (RECETAS) will address loneliness, a modifiable health condition that is known to shorten one´s lifespan and may be as dangerous to one's health as smoking or obesity. In Europe alone, and before COVID-19 pandemic, over 75 million European adults reported meeting with family and friends at most once per month and 30 million European adults frequently felt lonely. Loneliness knows no geographic, economic, cultural, and social boundaries and affects all age groups.

For urban dwellers, nearby nature, with social structures, can improve health and mental well-being and reduce loneliness. Even under the extraordinary circumstances of COVID-19, people need time in nature for its healing benefits and its role in allowing people to interact in nature. Investments in nature-based solutions (NBS) and green infrastructure (GI) that address rapid urbanization and its adverse consequences on environmental systems in our cities, can be harnessed for health and well-being even in times of health emergencies.

RECETAS explores loneliness through a transdisciplinary lens, integrating social, behavioral, health, and natural sciences, and is grounded in participatory principles. It will use randomized controlled trials (RCT) and other epidemiologic, anthropological and health economic methods to test socially- and culturally-innovative nature-based social prescribing (NBSP) in six cities in Europe, Latin America, and Australia. The approach aims to improve upon real-world policy and practice to reduce loneliness by connecting people experiencing loneliness with helping professionals and extensive investments in NBS and GI, while alleviating pressures on stressed health care systems. If successful, it will systematically reduce loneliness, promote and sustain vibrant, socially-connected communities, and reduce health inequalities by connecting to nature in meaningful ways. "RECETAS" is part of the European Cluster on Urban Health.

Topic(s): SC1-BHC-29-2020 - Innovative actions for improving urban health and wellbeing - addressing environment, climate and socioeconomic factors

End date: 28 Feb. 2026

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5.2.2   Possible participations

Common activities in scientific and dissemination aspects.

5.3   eMOTIONAL Cities - Mapping the cities through the senses of those who make them

5.3.1   Objective

As the world is becoming more urbanized and cities of the future need to be people-centred, robust evidence-based knowledge on the underlying biological and psychological processes, by which Urban Planning & Design influence brain circuits and human behaviour, will be critical for policy making on urban health. Emotions are key drivers of our decisions; similarly, our choices are the conduit for our well-being and health. Thus, research

focusing on the signals triggered in our neurobiological architecture, responsible for emotions and decisions, while humans interact with the urban environment will shed light on how to improve population health, physical and/or mental. The eMOTIONAL Cities project was designed to fully characterise the intensity and complexity of urban health challenges and inequalities. By exploring the mechanisms and their dynamic, it complements conventional descriptive perspectives focused on exposure-outcome associations. It adopts a systems approach, based on natural experiments and actual problems of case-study cities (Copenhagen, Lisbon, London; and Lansing/Detroit in the USA). Building on theoretical foundations, novel eMOTIONAL city mapping will be generated by combining spatial analysis on social/health data with neuroscience experiments. Our research relies on mixed (qualitative/quantitative) methods and uses multidisciplinary instruments from Urban Planning & Design (GIS for land use, transport, climate and health), Neuroscience (fMRI, EEG) and Data Science & Technology (AI, Big Data and VR/AR reality). The analysis also addresses gender aspects and contemplates a clinical study to show that urban design can impact a vulnerable elderly population at risk of developing dementia. Finally, a novel machine-learning scenario discovery framework will allow testing and impact assessment (for cost-effectiveness, barriers and facilitators) of urban policy strategies to turn EU cities into smart, sustainable and inclusive environments. The eMOTIONAL Cities is a part of the European Cluster on Urban Health.

Topic(s): SC1-BHC-29-2020 - Innovative actions for improving urban health and wellbeing - addressing environment, climate and socioeconomic factors

End date: 28 Feb. 2025

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5.3.2   *Possible participations*

Common activities in scientific and dissemination aspects.

5.4   HEART-HEAlthier Cities through Blue-Green Regenerative Technologies: the HEART Approach

5.4.1   *Objective*

HEART's integrated approach aims to significantly improve urban health and reduce health disparities through an innovative urban planning methodology that embraces and promotes the policy making of proper Blue-Green (BG)-based technologies with techniques for changing individual -citizens'- behaviour. HEART mainly targets to: (i) monitor and efficiently assess the impact of specific BG-based interventions on Public Health (PH) and Well-Being (WB) through studies to be carried out at both clinical and non-clinical settings, in three European cities, i.e. Belgrade (Serbia), Aarhus (Denmark) and Athens (Greece). This way HEART aims to create evidence-based policy making recommendations that will be addressed to the relevant health authorities of these countries (based on specific KPIs), (ii) change individual -citizens'- health related behaviour, by using emerging ICT-based techniques, (iii) develop robust plans for regenerating and rehabilitating urban ecosystems to improve PH and WB, while in parallel addressing key challenges such as low environmental quality and low biodiversity, resilience to Climate Change and extreme weather conditions, air pollution, undervalued use of space in deprived and residual-values areas leading to health inequalities; (iv) create inclusive and accessible urban environments by systematically implementing gender mainstreaming strategies and new participatory tools (ICT-based) in order to ensure that diverse groups' needs are properly considered and embedded into urban-regeneration-planning; (v) design urban regenerating plans targeting to deliver cities-for-people: the proposed BG solutions will improve citizens' quality of life, based on real evidence and co-design processes, as well as stimulating and supporting social inclusivity for all; and (vi) improve urban resilience (operational, social and economic) through interventions designed using a set of urban planning matrices based on stakeholders' participation. HEART is part of the European Urban Health cluster.

Topic(s): SC1-BHC-29-2020 - Innovative actions for improving urban health and wellbeing - addressing

environment, climate and socioeconomic factors

End date: 28 Feb. 2025

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5.4.2 Possible participations

This project starts on March 2021. However, the NTUA team, as coordinator of the HEART project, already has initialize and be prepared to discuss the clustering strategy and possible activities, that the partners should continuously work on and the needed effort, during the project Kick-off meeting. The consortium has organized and invited, during the kick-off meeting, to participate and present the HBM4EU (https://www.hbm4eu.eu/) and URBANOME (https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/945391/de) projects.

Additionally, the below projects have been invited to participate too

- ENLIGHTENme

- RECETAS (section 5.2 above)

- EMOTIONAL CITIES (section 5.3 above)

- WELLBASED (section 5.5 above)

Basic cooperation with HEART project will be the organization of common special issues in high impact journals, special sessions in international conferences and even the publication of joint publications across different projects. euPOLIS will cooperate and organize common dissemination activities like organization of workshops and webinars especially during 2021 period (due to COVID-19).

5.5 WELLBASED Improving health, wellbeing and equality by evidenced-based urban policies for tackling energy poverty

5.5.1 Objective

Energy poverty is becoming a main challenge of the European welfare systems and beyond, abounding on the inequalities derived from living conditions and social determinants, with a direct and negative impact on health and wellbeing, mainly in urban contexts. Health problems attributable to energy poverty include respiratory diseases, heart attacks, stroke and mental disorders (stress, anxiety, depression), but also acute health issues, such as hypothermia, injuries or influenza. The complex nature of this recently identified phenomenon requires a comprehensive analysis of the problem and its solution from a multidimensional approach, which should involve environmental, political, social, regulatory and psychological issues, thus involving other Social Determinants of Health and health inequalities Urban policies and initiatives might respond very efficiently to energy poverty and their effects on the citizens wellbeing and health, by providing evidence-based interventions covering different angles of the challenges, including complementary actions covering individual (behavioural) but also social-political actions (regulations, urban planning) that include health in all policies. Based on the socio ecological model and on the realist evaluation approach, WELLBASED will design, implement and evaluate a comprehensive urban programme to reduce energy poverty and their effects on the citizens health and wellbeing, built on evidence-based approaches in 7 different pilot cities, representing different urban realities but also a diverse range of welfare and healthcare models. The project's multidisciplinary consortium, made up of 19 partners from 10 countries, has been built to guarantee the full coverage of the scientific, clinical, social and environmental competencies, and to gather the viewpoint of different communities and actors necessary to develop, test and evaluate the interventions related to

WELLBASED in order to maximize its chances of success. WELLBASED is a part of the European cluster on urban health projects.

Topic(s): SC1-BHC-29-2020 - Innovative actions for improving urban health and wellbeing - addressing environment, climate and socioeconomic factors

End date: 28 Feb. 2025

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5.5.2   Possible participations

Common activities in scientific and dissemination aspects.

5.6   ENLIGHTme Innovative policies for improving citizens' health and wellbeing addressing indoor and outdoor lighting

5.6.1   Objective

A major, albeit underestimated, by-product of urbanization is the exponential increase of human exposure to artificial light. Outdoor illumination, artificial sky glow, domestic lighting, light-emitting screens, etc. entrain circadian clock. Despite scientific evidences on the pathogenic role of circadian rhythms disruption in predisposing to NCDs, affecting sleep, metabolism, immune function and many aspects of behavior and mood, EU cities are mostly focusing on improving lighting services' efficiency, reducing costs and emissions, but failing to consider lighting impacts on health and wellbeing. Through an open-online Urban Lighting and Health Atlas, ENLIGHTENme will collect and systematize existing data and good practices on urban lighting and will perform an accurate study on the correlations among health, wellbeing, lighting and socio-economic factors in 3 pilot cities -Amsterdam, Bologna and Tartu, where a target district will be selected due to its exposure to artificial light and to reflect social inequalities. Through the establishment of Lighting Urban Labs within the district, citizens and stakeholders will co-create innovative Lighting Urban Plans measures and define the implementation of a smart outdoor lighting system and indoor lighting changes in a pilot area within the district. There, a population-based study on elderly – addressed as a vulnerable group particularly prone to suffer circadian misalignment – will allow to assess lighting-dependent risks on mental and health conditions and surveys involving the overall district population and users will allow assess the impacts of urban lighting on quality of life and wellbeing.

The results will allow to develop a dedicated Decision Support System and guidelines and recommendation on the impact of lighting on health and wellbeing, proposing innovative lighting policies, measures, technologies and interventions aiming at improving citizens' health and wellbeing in cities. ENLIGHTENme is a part of the European Cluster on Urban Health.

Topic(s): SC1-BHC-29-2020 - Innovative actions for improving urban health and wellbeing - addressing environment, climate and socioeconomic factors

End date: 28 Feb. 2025

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5.6.2   Possible participations

Common activities in scientific and dissemination aspects.

6. The Cluster Projects (SC5 related Projects)

6.1 T-Factor Unleashing future-facing urban hubs through culture and creativity-led strategies of transformative time

Heritage, culture and creativity for urban regeneration

The concept of urban regeneration includes efforts to reverse declining city physical structures and economies by identifying needs and challenges, and engaging all stakeholders and delivering tailored projects for sustainable new communities. The EU-funded T-Factor project questions the waiting time in urban regeneration. This is the time between an intervention request and its implementation to prove how culture, creative collaboration and stakeholder engagement can release vigorous urban centres of inclusive urban (re)generation, social innovation and business. The project considers early-stage regenerations in the historical centres of Amsterdam, Bilbao, Kaunas, Lisbon, London and Milan, and provides their public-private partnerships with a special ecosystem of capacity building for extensively new city-making projects.

6.1.1 Objective

T-Factor challenges the waiting time in urban regeneration - i.e. the time in-between the adoption of the masterplan and its actual realization - to demonstrate how culture, creative collaboration and wide engagement can unleash vibrant urban hubs of inclusive urban (re)generation, social innovation and enterprise. The project targets early stage regenerations in a diversity of historic urban areas in London, Bilbao, Amsterdam, Kaunas, Milan and Lisbon, and provides their PPPs with a unique ecosystem of capacity-building for radically new city-making approaches. Leveraging local coalitions of actors, we will use the master plans of the targeted regenerations as the starting point to steer collective inquiry into their meanings and narratives, co-create visions of future spaces, and put them on stage via meanwhile uses and experiences. Throughout the process, culture and creativity will support voice and engagement, and help enrich and steer the master plans towards heritage and culture-relevant innovation and enterprise, and social and cultural integration. Via trans-disciplinary action research, we will keep track of change, and build on the insights to add iteratively new layers of collective reflection and action. This learning by making will continuously inform master plans and PPPs, consolidating, adjusting and providing new directions of urban development rooted in shared goals of sustainable city-making. T-Factor will work as an international community of practice, delivering an innovative city-mentoring model which will create multiple collaborations between the pilot cities, advance cultural and creative hubs, universities, enterprises and social organizations partnering the project, so as to shape an international movement of capacity-building and knowledge co-creation for the transformative time in urban regeneration leveraging heritage, culture and creativity.

Topic(s): SC5-20-2019 - Transforming historic urban areas and/or cultural landscapes into hubs of entrepreneurship and social and cultural integration

End date: 31 May 2024

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6.1.2 Possible participations

City of LODG (https://www.t-factor.eu/cities/) participates in this consortium and this is an advantage for the cooperation of the two projects for future dissemination and parallel events for dissemination and cities case studies. euPOLIS coordinator has initiate a communication channel between T-Factor and euPOLIS project and we have clarified the below topics for cooperation

In short: T- factor is dedicated to gathering info and experiences from cities that have implemented major scale regeneration projects with creative/ cultural component, learning from their

experiences in terms of introducing 'meanwhile uses' - that is projects, activities, structures etc. that would play some role in the regeneration process in between the start and completion of investments. Based on that project aim, there is a development and testing of some pilot "meanwhile" interventions planned in several cities that are starting with major regeneration project around culture. Since such 'meanwhile uses' can last for years - as regeneration projects themselves are demanding and take long the role of those 'meanwhile uses' seems to have a lot of potential for engaging local communities, testing prospective functions etc.

In other words, the question tackled by T- Factor project is - what to do, how to do it, what is the impact of interventions/activities that could be undertaken while you are in the midst of a major regeneration project that will transform parts of the city and will probably take years.

In case of city of Łódż, due to their role in T- Factor, there are not many significant, direct overlaps. But as far as entire projects are considered there are so-called Transformation Agency and Transformation Labs (T-Labs) established in the T- Factor project (this WPs has just begun) - these are permanent task forces and a decentralized system of 'incubation and acceleration' of practices and approaches for the transformative time in urban regeneration, that in general gather information from 'advanced' cities and help, think-tank, advise pilot cities in the implementation of 'meanwhile uses'. Since one of the T-Labs deals with the circular and collaborative economy, another with an urban design for sociality and wellbeing, and yet another with megacities and climate change there is potential, to cooperate with EuPolis. Especially, the NBS solutions, their impact on wellbeing and the idea of codesigning of city green spaces could be of interest for T- Factor.

Łódż is not included in the above-mentioned T-Labs since in meanwhile did not include green spaces so much. However, there is a lot of interest from some pilot cities about the use of 'meanwhile' green spaces, such as social gardens. Further discussions will be organized in next months with partners from T- Factor that deal with those particular topics.

Except the above first attempt to find basic common topics between the projects, euPOLIS is manage to achieve a common participation the forthcoming event on TNOC Festival at 22 Feb. (https://tnoc-festival.com/wp/) with presentation of both projects and cooperation with the organizers for further clustering activities.

6.2 HUB-IN Hubs of Innovation and Entrepreneurship for the Transformation of Historic Urban Areas

Innovating to conserve historic urban areas

Innovation and entrepreneurship are the main drivers of urban regeneration. In Historic Urban Areas (HUAs), the key factor is to foster innovation while conserving the historic natural, cultural and social sites. This is the aim of the EU-funded HUB-IN project. It will form a network of Hubs of innovation and entrepreneurship (Hubs) in eight HUA city partners. The next step will be to upscale resulting methods and tools. Based on 12 specific objectives, the project will start by building an ecosystem of interconnected Hubs to accelerate urban regeneration in the eight HUAs. The overall aim will be to systematically reverse trends of abandonment and neglect of historic heritage. This will result in job creation and sustainable opportunities for local traditional businesses.

6.2.1 Objective

Hubs of Innovation and Entrepreneurship for the Transformation of Historic Urban Areas HUB-IN aims to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in Historic Urban Areas (HUA), while preserving the unique identity of the historic sites regarding their natural, cultural and social values. HUB-IN adopts the innovation and entrepreneurship as the main drivers of urban regeneration in HUAs and it is fully aligned with

the International agendas for Cultural Sustainable Development (UNESCO) and Cultural Heritage Strategy (Council Europe).

HUB-IN will have two main stages. In the first stage, a network of Hubs of innovation and entrepreneurship (Hubs) will be developed in the HUAs of eight city partners and in the second stage, the resulting methods and tools will be up-scaled to a global network of HUAs of follower cities. The Hubs of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Hubs) will test, demonstrate and pilot activities of co-creation and co-design in three meaningful clusters with potential for sustainable transformation of HUA: i) Cultural and creative industries, ii) New lifestyles and iii) Endogenous Natural & Social Resources.

HUB-IN defines 12 specific goals, that will be achieved by the following methodology: i) Building an ecosystem of interconnected Hubs to accelerate urban regeneration in eight HUAs, ii) Creating value in pilot Hubs, piloting social innovation and accelerating sustainable entrepreneurship in HUAs, iii) Packaging, upscaling and exploiting the results and create collaborative global network of Hubs of innovation and entrepreneurship in HUA, iv) Creating the HUB-IN digital space.

HUB-IN expect to contribute to reverse trends of abandonment and neglect of historic heritage in a systemic way through the creation of networks of Hubs where innovation will be the main driver. HUB-IN will also have a direct impact on the creation of new sustainable opportunities for local traditional businesses and for the development of new creative skills and jobs.

Topic(s): SC5-20-2019 - Transforming historic urban areas and/or cultural landscapes into hubs of entrepreneurship and social and cultural integration

End date: 31 Aug. 2024

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6.2.2   Possible participations

euPOLIS will collaborate in events such as https://energy-cities.eu/event/urban-future-global-conference-2/

The URBAN FUTURE global conference is Europe's largest event for sustainable cities, which drive change and create sustainable urban spaces. Our projects could present something in common in this event and join this event UFGC21 in Rotterdam on 16 June 2021 09:00 to 18 June 2021 18:00.

6.3   CENTRINNO New CENTRalities in INdustrial areas as engines for inNOvation and urban transformation

Solutions for the regeneration of industrial historic sites

With the industrial revolution, technology was introduced to society, creating significant economic benefits to regional and national economies. However, globalisation resulted in European cities losing a large volume of their manufacturing capacity, transitioning into a knowledge economy. As a consequence, manufacturing jobs have decreased and neglected industrial areas have fallen into decay. The EU-funded CENTRINNO project aims to develop and demonstrate strategies, approaches and solutions for the regeneration of industrial historic sites and areas as creative production and manufacturing hubs that stay true to the ecological challenges of our time. The areas will also boost a diverse, inclusive and innovative urban economy and use heritage as a catalyst for innovation and social inclusion.

6.3.1   Objective

Europe gave birth to the industrial revolution about two centuries ago thanks to the convergence of a series of factors that allowed technology to be closer to society, while creating economic benefits to regional and

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national economies. With the globalisation, European cities lost a large volume of manufacturing capacity and transitioned to a knowledge economy. The result: a decrease in manufacturing jobs, the lack appreciation for these jobs, and neglected industrial areas subject to decay.

Decay of industrial heritage has a major imprint on European city's identities, but also is a source of opportunity. The result, industrial areas with high historical value for Europe being abandoned or exploited by extractive economic activities, with no connection to local knowledge, and with no generation of value at the local level.

CENTRINNO aims to develop and demonstrate strategies, approaches and solutions for regeneration of industrial historic sites and areas as creative production and manufacturing hubs, that 1) hold true to the ecological challenges of our time, 2) boost a diverse, inclusive and innovative urban economy, and 3) and use heritage as a catalizer for innovation and social inclusion. We give centre stage to craftsmen, vocationally trained professionals, entrepreneurs, makers, SME's, Fab Labs, Food Labs and Makerpaces to become key players in the cities supply of local goods and support them to take on a fundamental role in our future cities, thus opposing disengagement and stagnation of local economies. Through a holistic method combining the Fab City Global Initiative approach to productive cities with Emotion Networking, life cycle assessment and spatially-specific material flow analyses, we bring to the fore both complex, layered histories of these sites as well as the cities available resources in terms of urban landscape, materials, current day skills and practice and human capital.

Topic(s): SC5-20-2019 - Transforming historic urban areas and/or cultural landscapes into hubs of entrepreneurship and social and cultural integration

End date: 29 Feb. 2024

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/869595, https://centrinno.eu/about/

Email: Lucia Scopelliti (project coordinator) Lucia.Scopelliti@comune.milano.it

6.3.2   *Possible participations*

The CENTRINNO consortium partner EUROPAIKO DIKTYO DIMIURGIKON KOMVON and the project coordinator will be contacted for further investigation of possible activities in both projects.

6.4   TERRIFICA - Territorial RRI fostering Innovative Climate Action

Climate change adjustment models

Adapting to climate change means anticipating adverse effects to prevent or minimise damage, or taking advantage of opportunities that may arise. The EU-funded TeRRIFICA project will review the state of the art in climate change adjustment models, policies and strategies. The purpose is to examine approaches to climate action, climate change adaptation and and climate change mitigation in central, south, east and west Europe, in urban and rural areas as well as in EU and non-EU regions. Applying Living Lab strategies, crowd-mapping and co-creation activities, citizens, local authorities and experts will be integrated as partners to develop and coordinate adaptation processes. The key policies of RRI will be considered to address Sustainable Development Goals. TeRRIFICA will set up customised guides and key performance indicators for climate change adjustment exercises.

6.4.1   *Objective*

TeRRIFICA – Territorial RRI Fostering Innovative Climate Action – will create a comprehensive overview on the state of the art of climate change adaptation research, tangible climate action and climate change adaptation examples, related policies as well as communication strategies and methods at different levels of complexity. Through its co-creative multi-stakeholder approaches the project will identify opportunities, drivers and barriers of implementation. It takes into account challenges for the acceptance and feasibility, technological and regulatory constraints in six pilot regions in Spain, Germany, France, Serbia, Poland and Belarus. The

selected pilot regions cover the diversity of climate change mitigation approaches in Central– South, East – West, urban – rural, EU – non-EU settings. The project will define and adapt innovative communication strategies, dialogue actions and formats. Through Living Lab methodologies, different stakeholder-groups (with a particular focus on regional authorities and policy makers) will be integrated as co-creating and actively participating partners. This will lead to recommendations, procedures, tools and methodologies that are appropriate to the different roles and objectives of these parties and which will consider the key policies of RRI and integrate Sustainable Development Goals. TeRRIFICA will set up tailored roadmaps and key performance indicators for the implementation of developed methodologies and climate change adaptation activities in regional practice. Customised capacity building for the different stakeholder groups will be offered. Field trips to local and regional promising activities related to research and regional innovation, and broader stakeholder engagement with feedback loops will be organised to learn from these examples of innovation and create input for the next stages of development.

Topic(s): SwafS-14-2018-2019-2020 - Supporting the development of territorial Responsible Research and Innovation

End date: 30 June 2022

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/824489, https://terrifica.eu/

Email: terrifica@wilabonn.de

6.4.2   *Possible participations*

euPOLIS consortium partner MIKSER is cooperating with TERRIFICA project, and will be the linking partner between the two projects.

6.5   INTERLACE INTERnational cooperation to restore and connect urban environments in Latin AmeriCa and Europe

A sustainable boost for EU and Latin American cities

Cities around the world are facing multiple environmental challenges which, in turn, affect water security and human health. The sustainable restoration of urban ecosystems through nature-based solutions (NBS) can help address these challenges, while also providing wider social, environmental and economic benefits. The EU-funded INTERLACE project led by the Ecologic Institute will connect cities from Europe and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and equip them to effectively restore and rehabilitate (peri)urban ecosystems for livable, resilient and inclusive cities. The project will improve the knowledge of restorative NBS, promote ecologically coherent city planning, and lay the foundation for lasting peer-to-peer interactions between EU and CELAC cities. A network for stakeholder exchange will promote cooperation for transformative impact and the project's innovative methods will enable the co-production of governance tools for restorative NBS.

6.5.1   *Objective*

INTERLACE brings together a uniquely positioned consortium to empower and equip European and CELAC cities to effectively restore and rehabilitate (peri)urban ecosystems towards more liveable, resilient and inclusive cities. The project applies an integrative, city-driven approach to address urban challenges through the restoration, rehabilitation and (re)connection of natural and social processes between places. A three-tiered mechanism for city and wider stakeholder exchange and learning – the City Network Accelerator – will strengthen cooperation and peer-to-peer interactions on the local, regional (EU and CELAC) and global scales. Innovative forms of inclusive participation will optimise the collection of available knowledge and experiences

and the co-production of governance instruments and tools for restorative NBS. Six committed EU and CELAC partner cities are central to this process, providing and sharing experiences with other cities globally and building technical and procedural capacities. The international city network partners UNGL10, Climate Alliance and UCLG will facilitate a wide dissemination and application of project outputs through effective pathways to impact. The web-based Innovation Hub will support these efforts by disseminating INTERLACE's City NBS Tool for urban ecosystem restoration and rehabilitation and promoting project result exploitation. Comprised of integrated assessment systems, a catalogue of policy and governance instruments, city impulse papers, business cases, guidance documents, and more, the tool will support decision-making processes for urban ecological restoration in EU and CELAC cities and beyond. INTERLACE will advance knowledge and awareness of restorative NBS, foster more ecologically coherent and integrated city planning processes, and lay the foundation for sustained multi-directional cooperation and exchange between EU and CELAC cities for wider transformative impact.

Topic(s): SC5-13-2018-2019 - Strengthening international cooperation on sustainable urbanisation: nature-based solutions for restoration and rehabilitation of urban ecosystems

End date: 31 August 2024

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/869324, https://www.ecologic.eu/17625

6.5.2   *Possible participations*

Creation of common activities, for scientific and dissemination events.

6.6   CONEXUS CO-producing Nature-based solutions and restored Ecosystems: transdisciplinary neXus for Urban Sustainability

Urban ecosystem renewal in EU and CELAC cities

The EU-funded CONEXUS project will co-produce, structure and promote access to contextualised knowledge by co-creating Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) to support the restoration of urban ecosystems. Cities in Europe and Latin America share urgent global-local challenges to integrate practical actions with strategies to achieve greater inclusion, biodiversity, climate change adaptation and environmental quality. CONEXUS brings together community, private, public and research partners to experiment with novel co-production methods to deliver NBS innovations in 'Life-Lab' pilots, using a place-based approach to solve problems together with citizens (in São Paulo, Bogotá, Santiago, Buenos Aires, Lisbon, Barcelona and Turin). The combined palette of socio-cultural, ecological and governance contexts presents the opportunity to move forward faster together, and to inform changes in urban policy and practice.

6.6.1   *Objective*

Cities and regions in Europe (EU) and Community of Latin American & Caribbean States (CELAC) face shared and urgent global-local challenges to integrate practical actions with strategies to achieve greater inclusion, biodiversity, climate change adaptation and environmental quality. Many cities share problems of landscape fragmentation caused by rapid growth, urban sprawl and economic restructuring. Poorly planned urbanisation leaves a legacy of cities lacking the green areas needed for ecosystems to provide the services essential to human life. Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) have the potential to help reverse these trends, and our combined EU-CELAC palette of socio-cultural, ecological and governance contexts represents a huge opportunity to move forward - faster, together. CONEXUS will co-produce, structure and promote access to the shared,

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[10] https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/869324

contextualised knowledge needed to support cities and communities to co-create NBS, and to restore urban ecosystems, to help drive the required step-change in urban policy and practice in EU and CELAC countries. It adopts a planetary health perspective: healthy landscapes and ecosystems are vital to support human life, and humanity must restore, create and care for these landscapes and ecosystems in a reciprocal, ongoing and iterative relationship. This transdisciplinary project uses nature-based thinking (NBT) to bring together community, private, public and research partners to meet this challenge, and experiments with novel co-production methods to deliver NBS innovations in 'Life-Lab' pilots. The project's core concept is to co-create context-appropriate NBS for ecosystems restoration and sustainable urbanisation in CELAC and EU cities, using a place-based approach (place-making, place-keeping and place-prescribing), solving problems together with citizens. The CONEXUS cities are: in CELAC - São Paulo, Bogotá, Santiago and Buenos Aires; and in the EU - Lisbon, Barcelona and Turin.

Topic(s): SC5-13-2018-2019 - Strengthening international cooperation on sustainable urbanisation: nature-based solutions for restoration and rehabilitation of urban ecosystems

End date: 31 Aug. 2024

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/867564, https://www.wur.nl/en/show/CONEXUS-on-co-producing-nature-based-solutions.htm, https://www.wur.nl/en/contact_form.htm?contactpersonid=201305&contactpersonname=dr.%20APN%20%28Sander%29%20van%20der%20Jagt&organisationname=Department%20of%20Environmental%20Sciences&organisationpart=Forest%20and%20Nature%20Conservation%20Policy

6.6.2   Possible participations

Common activities in scientific and dissemination events.

7. The Cluster Projects (related to NBS)

In addition to euPOLIS, there are other projects related to Nature Based Solutions (NBS). EuPOLIS will try to cooperate with most, if not all, of these teams under a common action plan.

7.1 CLEVER Cities - Co-designing Locally tailored Ecological solutions for Value added, socially inclusivE Regeneration in Cities

7.1.1 Objective

Hamburg (DE), London (UK) and Milan (IT) have decided to create CLEVER Cities. Led by Hamburg, a well-balanced, competent partnership will position the EU as global leader in nature-based solution (NBS) innovation. CLEVER Cities applies a city centric approach, starting by key urban regeneration challenges and employing strong local partner clusters, to foster sustainable and socially inclusive urban regeneration locally, in Europe and globally. We will co-create, - implement, and -manage locally tailored NBS to deliver tangible social, environmental and economic improvements for urban regeneration. We are committed to make the interventions in front-runner cities (FR) cases for successful NBS and prepare robust replication roadmaps in fellow cities (FE), that also have NBS experience and expertise to offer. We will ensure long-term sustainability of actions in FR and FE by initiating urban innovation partnerships that will use SMART city principles to engage residents, establish new governance procedures, generate innovative financing and investment strategies. CLEVER Cities will employ partners' large global networks to generate rapid and durable uptake of NBS by capacitating businesses and a CLEVER Solutions Basket with innovative technological, business, financing and governance solutions, in Europe and globally. The influential and committed FR will serve as role model for FE and global cities in East Asia and South America. All cities will actively engage in replication, thus, help to meet EU and UN sustainability goals and profile the EU as global leader in green innovation. CLEVER Cities materialises in strong local clusters around FR with partners, which can both support local co-creation as well as transversal activities with specific knowledge and expertise. This makes it a distinct, exciting project that will generate lasting results in cities and deliver a CLEVER Cities package with solutions, guidance and open-sourced data EU NBS reference framework.

Topic(s): SCC-02-2016-2017 - Demonstrating innovative nature-based solutions in cities

End date: 31 May 2023

Contacts https://clevercities.eu/

Email: clever@sk.hamburg.de

7.1.2 Possible participations

Partners FCEBG and ENPL have participated in joint meetings and workshops with H2020 project in Belgrade (CLEVER Cities) with which they have shared the focus area (Linear Park). These took place in Nov. 2019, and Feb. 2020. These meetings were quite useful, as they actually met many of the stakeholders that CLEVER Cities have engaged to help them in co-creating planning documents (NBS friendly) for the focus area of euPOLIS.

Another possible participation of euPOLIS with CLEVER Cities project may be the following journal with deadline on 30th June 2021.

Figure 3: CLEVER Cities journal[11]

7.2 COproductioN with NaturE for City Transitioning, INnovation and Governance

7.2.1 Objective

The overarching objective of Connecting Nature is to position Europe as a global leader in the innovation and implementation of nature-based solutions. The project partners will form a community of cities fostering peer-to-peer, transdisciplinary capacity-building between front-runner, fast-follower and multiplier cities. Connecting Nature will co-develop the policy and practices necessary to scale up urban resilience, innovation and governance via nature-based solutions. An open innovation ecosystem approach bringing together city governments, SMEs, academia and civic society will be used to co-produce usable and actionable knowledge in all cities. Connecting Nature will provide the reference framework for a new generation of urban nature-based solution processes and empower transitioning ambassadors who will globalise this approach through a strategy targeting multiplier cities. This novel approach, coupled with the high capacity of the consortium, makes Connecting Nature an exciting prospect. In addition, linking all open-sourced data to the Oppla platform will ensure perpetuation beyond the end of the project.

Topic(s): SCC-02-2016-2017 - Demonstrating innovative nature-based solutions in cities

End date: 31 May 2022

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/730222, https://connectingnature.eu/, https://connectingnature.eu/contact

7.2.2 Possible Participations

euPOLIS consortium will cooperate in webinars organization and related presentations[12].

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[11] https://clevercities.eu/news/?c=search&uid=wkeLHif4

[12] https://connectingnature.eu/connecting-nature-enterprise-platform-nature-based-economy-webinar-series

Cooperation in workshops and related presentations[13]. The euPOLIS on 22-26 of February 2021 participated in the Nature of Cities Festival as coordinator and through the organized platform contacted the Connecting Nature Team, who was an Exhibitor of the event. Additionally, it was arranged to have a virtual meeting and discussions for presenting both projects and find common objectives for cooperation and clustering activities.


Figure 4: TNOC-Festival

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[13] https://connectingnature.eu/connecting-nature-enterprise-platform-community-workshops
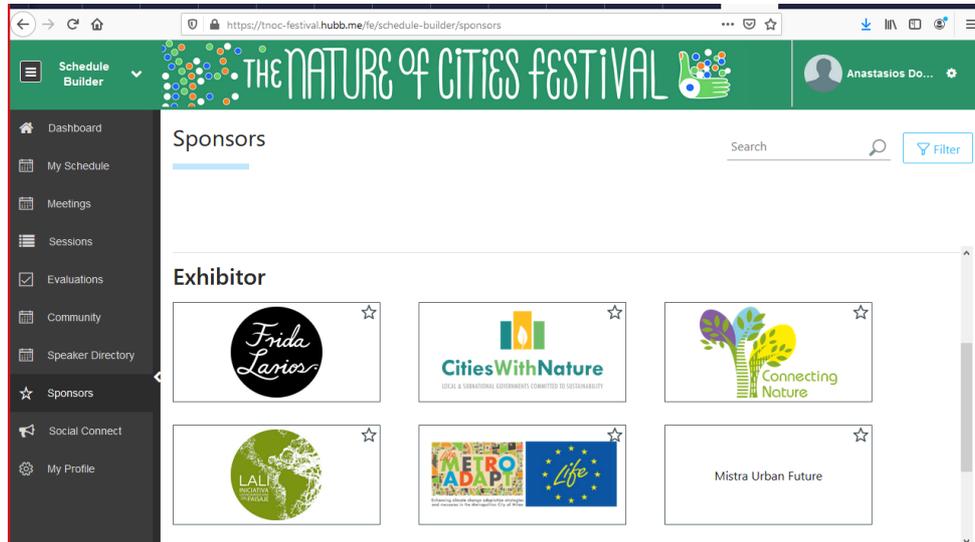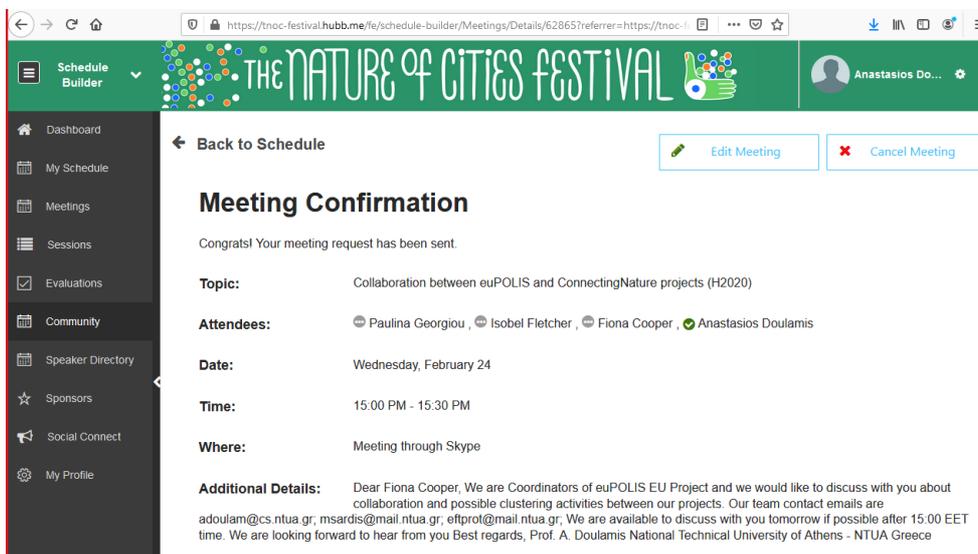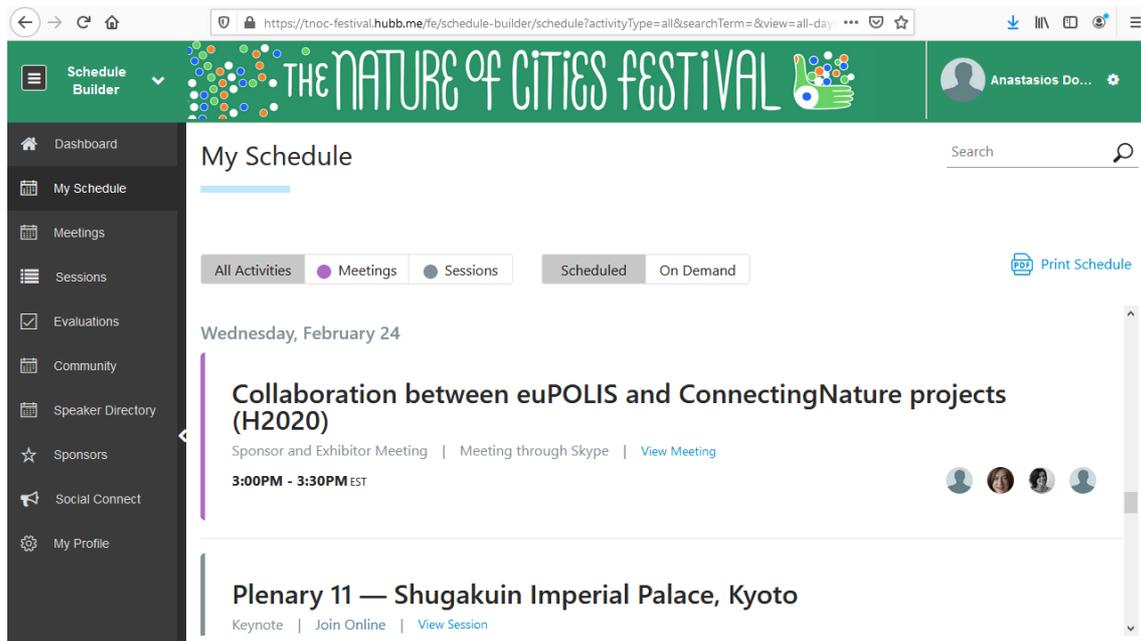
Figure 5: TNOC-Festival and euPOLIS participation, clustering activities with 'Connecting Nature Team' project

7.3 Green Cities for Climate and Water Resilience, Sustainable Economic Growth, Healthy Citizens and Environments

7.3.1 Objective

The frontrunner cities of Manchester (UK), Valencia (Spain), Wroclaw (Poland) and Wuhan (China) and the Fellow cities Brest (France), Zadar (Croatia) and Modena (Italy) are currently inhabited by 12.7 million people and sit at the heart of wider metropolitan areas which are home to 17.8 million people. All cities already experience flooding and heat stress, with projections for these issues to increase due to climate change and ongoing development. Working in complex, resource-constrained urban environments, the municipalities for each city have committed to delivering joined-up, cost-effective, smart solutions to address these and other urban challenges. They recognise that the cities of the future will need to achieve more with less resources, and deliver genuine sustainable development that realises a broad range of social, economic and environmental objectives. Each city believes that nature-based solutions (NBS) are a critical part of this approach. GROW GREEN brings the partner cities together on the basis of these similarities but also their differences. Across the 6 European and 1 Chinese City they represent the range of different cities that are found across the world, and the different climate risks that they face. The cities will demonstrate a replicable approach for the development and implementation of city NBS strategies. The outcome will be more than simply demonstrating a methodology that works in the partner cities. GROW GREEN will provide the platform for a step change in the way that NBS are embedded in the long-term planning, development, operation and management of cities around the world. The project outputs will be promoted directly to 4-5 replication cities in Latin America, Africa and India to encourage them to develop and implement NBS strategies and to 146 Chinese 'Sponge Cities'. These channels have been designed to create global demand for NBS and to promote European NBS products and services to meet this demand.

Topic(s): SCC-02-2016-2017 - Demonstrating innovative nature-based solutions in cities

End date: 31 May 2022

Contacts: http://growgreenproject.eu/about/. http://growgreenproject.eu/about/contact/

7.3.2 Possible participations

Participation in the Nature of Cities Festival on Feb 22-26/2021 (http://growgreenproject.eu/events/). euPOLIS consortium will contact the project coordinators and find common action plan for clustering activities.

7.4 Nature Based Solutions for re-naturing cities: knowledge diffusion and decision support platform through new collaborative models

7.4.1 Objective

Based on a detailed mapping of urban challenges and relevant nature-based solutions (NBS), Nature4Cities aims at developing complementary and interactive modules to engage urban stakeholders in a collective-learning process about re-naturing cities, develop and circulate new business, financial and governance models for NBS projects, as well as provide tools for the impacts assessment, valorisation and follow-up of NBS projects. The different modules are: a database of generic NBS and associated environmental, economic and social performances, an observatory of NBS projects best practices / case studies, a set of innovative business, financial and governance models for the deployment of NBS in a range of different contexts, together with a tool to help urban stakeholders identify eligible models regarding their NBS project contexts, a NBS project impact assessment toolbox providing capabilities for environmental, economic and social impacts evaluation at different stages in the project development cycle from opportunity/feasibility studies to design steps and project follow-up). This toolbox will built on a range of tools, from generic indicator-based assessment for early project stages, down to detailed modelisations of NBS behaviors. These modules that already have a proper purpose on their own, will furthermore be integrated in a NBS dissemination and assessment self-learning platform [N4C Platform] to assist NBS project developers along the entire life cycle of their projects from opportunity studies and project definition down to performance monitoring. Nature4Cities indicators, methodologies, tools and platform will be field tested in real working environments and on real nature-based solution projects and developments in selected cities in Europe, which will be partners of the project and engage their technical urban and environmental planning teams.

Topic(s): SCC-03-2016 - New governance, business, financing models and economic impact assessment tools for sustainable cities with nature-based solutions (urban re-naturing)

End date: 30 Apr. 2021

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/730468, https://www.nature4cities.eu/

7.4.2 Possible participations

After 30th of April euPOLIS consortium will make an invitation to the consortium of NATURE4CITIES project for a keynote speech presenting the main outcomes and lessons learned from their project. The NATURE4CITIS project is ending on April 2021.

This invitation aims to provide in euPOLIS consortium experience and case studies that will trigger possible research in areas that either euPOLIS has to design, or to consider and possible be prepared to organize earlier, in order to avoid project delays, risks, and tasks delays. NATURE4CITIES exploitation plans and project summary will provide a useful for euPOLIS consortium information and impact for the project objectives implementation and considerations for its KPIs fulfilment during the project duration.

7.5 OPEn-air laboRAtories for Nature baseD solUtions to Manage environmental risks

7.5.1 Objective

Severe hydro-meteorological phenomena are having a high impact in European territories and are of global concern. The science behind these phenomena is complex and advancement in knowledge proceeds with

progress in data acquisition and forecasting useful for real-scenario interventions. The employment of nature-based solutions (NBS) to mitigate the impact of hydro-meteorological phenomena is not adequately demonstrated, still uncoordinated at the European level, therefore not reaching full potential. Actions to achieve highest NBS impact require strategies to enhance societal acceptance, policy strengthening while demonstrating advantages for market development. The objective of OPERANDUM is to reduce hydro-meteorological risks in European territories through co-designed, co-developed, deployed, tested and demonstrated innovative green and blue/grey/hybrid NBS, and push business exploitation. It aims provision of science-evidence for the usability of NBS, best practices for their design based on participatory processes. It foresees a multiple level of stakeholder's engagement from the local community up to the international level to leverage widest possible NBS acceptance to promote its diffusion as a good practice. It establishes the framework for the strengthening of NBS-based policies according to local legislation and promotes technology and innovation in NBS to create a European leadership.

OPERANDUM is based on open-air laboratories (OALs), a fairly new concept that expands the Living Labs to a wider vision for natural and rural areas. In OALs novel NBS in seven European countries and three in China and Australia are implemented to address specific risks and their effectiveness, assessed through innovative monitoring systems and cutting-edge numerical modelling approaches. OPERANDUM realizes a multi-dimensional open and flexible platform enabling stakeholders and end users to improve knowledge in NBS to mitigate climate change as well as ways to promote and exploit the improved/preserved environment while increasing business opportunities.

Topic(s): SC5-08-2017 - Large-scale demonstrators on nature-based solutions for hydro-meteorological risk reduction

End date: 30 June 2022

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/776848, https://www.operandum-project.eu/, https://www.operandum-project.eu/contact/

E-mail: silvana.disabatino@unibo.it

7.5.2   Possible participations

After 30th of June euPOLIS consortium will make an invitation for a keynote speech presenting the main outcomes and lessons learned from OPERANDUM project.

7.6   proGIreg - productive Green Infrastructure for post-industrial urban regeneration

7.6.1   Objective

For proGIreg three front-runner cities (Dortmund (DE); Turin (IT); Zagreb (HR))will create Living Labs in urban areas which face the challenge of post-industrial regeneration. These areas suffer from social and economic disadvantages, inequality and related crime and security problems. They lack quality greenspaces, have a negative impact on human health and wellbeing and are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Going beyond the current state-of-the-art with Green Infrastructure as a one-off state intervention, the proGIreg Living Labs will develop NBS which are citizen owned and co-developed by state, market and civil society stakeholders. Innovation will take place on the technical level through the NBS deployments, on the social level through co-designing, co-creating and co-implementing NBS with local communities and on the economic level through combining NBS with market-ready business models. Four follower cities in Eastern and Southern Europe (Cascais PT, Cluj-Napoca RO, Piraeus GR, Zenica BA) will be co-steering the research process to assure replicability and adaptability to their local context resulting in urban plans for NBS deployment. The NBS to be tested i.a. include: regenerating industrial soils biotic compounds, creating community-based urban agriculture and aquaponics and making renatured river corridors accessible for local residents. Scientific assessment and monitoring results from the Living Labs will be made available on the EU NBS platforms OPPLA and THINKNATURE and will contribute to the European reference framework for NBS. Global impact will be achieved by a training programme for cooperative planning, implementation and management of NBS. It will

be provided by partners from the cities, SMEs and universities involved. Training events will be organised in cooperation with the partner ICLEI. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) will be distributed via EdX, the most renowned MOOCs platform worldwide.

Topic(s): SCC-02-2016-2017 - Demonstrating innovative nature-based solutions in cities

End date: 31 May 2023

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/776528, https://progireg.eu/

7.6.2 Possible participations

Municipality of Piraeus is a partner in this project, so it will be an advantage to cooperate in both projects in all related dissemination events and exchange ideas and feedback.

Possible cooperation activity will be performed during the writing of this deliverable in TNOC Festival[14], from 22-26 February 2021.

7.7 RECONECT- Regenarating ECOsystems with Nature-based solutions for hydro-meteorological risk rEduCTion

7.7.1 Objective

RECONECT aims to contribute to European reference framework on Nature Based Solutions (NBS) by demonstrating, referencing and upscaling large scale NBS and by stimulating a new culture for 'land use planning' that links the reduction of risks with local and regional development objectives in a sustainable way. To do that, RECONECT draws upon the network of carefully selected Demonstrators and Collaborators that cover a range of local conditions, geographic characteristics, governance structures and social/cultural settings to successfully upscale NBS throughout Europe and Internationally. The RECONECT consortium is a transdisciplinary partnership between researchers, industry partners (SMEs and large consultancies) and responsible agencies at the local and watershed/regional level dedicated to achieve the desired outcomes of the project.

Topic(s): SC5-08-2017 - Large-scale demonstrators on nature-based solutions for hydro-meteorological risk reduction

End date: 31 Aug. 2024

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/776866, http://www.reconect.eu/

Email: z.vojinovic@un-ihe.org

7.7.2 Possible participations

euPOLIS aims to investigate possible collaborations and creation of scientific and dissemination activities with this project.

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[14] https://progireg.eu/events/?c=search&uid=60MaowgF

7.8 Urban Nature Labs

7.8.1 Objective

UNaLab will develop, via co-creation with stakeholders and implementation of 'living lab' demonstration areas, a robust evidence base and European framework of innovative, replicable, and locally-attuned nature-based solutions to enhance the climate and water resilience of cities. UNaLab focuses on urban ecological water management, accompanied with greening measures and innovative and inclusive urban design. The UNaLab partners aim to develop smarter, more inclusive, more resilient and more sustainable local societies through nature based innovation jointly created with and for stakeholders and citizens. UNaLab's 3 front runner cities: Tampere, Eindhoven and Genova, have a track record in smart and citizen driven solutions for sustainable development. They support 7 follower cities: Stavanger, Prague, Castellon, Cannes, Basaksehir, Hong Kong and Buenos Aires plus share experiences with observers as City of Guangzhou and the Brazilian network of Smart Cities. Therefore UNaLab results will impact on different urban socio-economic realities, with diversity in size, challenges and climate conditions. In order to create an EU reference demonstration and go-to-market environment for NBS, UNaLab will use and further develop the ENoLL Urban Living Lab model, and the European Awareness Scenario Workshop method for the co-creation of solutions, and the roadmap approach, in this way achieving an innovative NBS toolbox. Roadmaps will be used in all 10 cities, but in particular serve the follower cities. VTT, with a track record in the field of urban sustainability and Smart Cities, leads UNaLab. The UNaLab consortium is comprised of 29 partners across 12 different European countries and three non-EU countries. The consortium is well-balanced, representing key stakeholders within the value chain of urban challenges and smart, sustainable cities (public bodies, research institutions, large industries, small and medium enterprises.

Topic(s): SCC-02-2016-2017 - Demonstrating innovative nature-based solutions in cities

End date: 31 May 2022

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/730052, https://unalab.eu/en, https://unalab.eu/en/contact

7.8.2 Possible participations

Cooperation in Scientific and dissemination activities as already we have received related invitation for cooperation from Project Coordinator of URBAN project.

7.9 New Strategy for Re-Naturing Cities through Nature-Based Solutions

7.9.1 Objective

Urban GreenUP aims at obtaining a tailored methodology (1) to support the co-development of Renaturing Urban Plans focused on climate change mitigation and adaptation and efficient water management, and (2) to assist in the implementation of NBS in an effective way. NBS classification and parametrization will be addressed and some resources to support decision making will be established as part of the project activities.

A large scale and fully replicable demonstration action of NBS accompanied by innovative business models will provide evidences about the benefits of NBS contributing to the creation of new market opportunities for European companies, and fostering citizen insight and awareness about environmental problems.

Three European cities will assume the demos as front-runners (Valladolid, Liverpool and Izmir), other set of two European cities will act as followers to strengthen the replication potential of the results (Ludwigsburg and Mantova) and finally three non-European cities (Medellín, Chengdu and Quy Nhon) will allow to identify the market opportunities for European companies out of Europe and fostering the European leadership in NBS implementation at global level. URBAN GreenUp also aims to: fostering the creation of a global market and EU international cooperation; deploy a wide Exploitation and Market deployment procedure for NBS solutions & deploy an Impact-based Communication and Dissemination strategy.

Topic(s): SCC-02-2016-2017 - Demonstrating innovative nature-based solutions in cities

End date: 31 May 2022

Contacts: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/730426, https://www.urbangreenup.eu/

Email: CARTIF Technology Centre Raúl Sánchez, rausan@cartif.es

7.9.2 Possible participations

Cooperation in scientific and dissemination activities.

8. Current Status of the Implementated Clustering Activity Plan

The euPOLIS project coordinator (PO) and project manager (PM) have taken the following actions to get in contact with the coordinators of VARCITIES, GoGreenRouts and IN-HABIT projects and prepare a first clustering activities plan.

Type of Activity: **Meeting**

1. In 16th September 2020 an online kick-off meeting took place for the euPOLIS consortium member. In this meeting the euPOLIS consortium invited the VARCITIES, GoGreenRoutes and IN-HABIT leaders to present their projects.

2. In 13th October 2020 an online kick-off meeting took place, were the projects presented, to each other.

3. A 1st clustering event organised by the EC on 12th November 2020(Appendix I). In this event except PO and PM, other members from the euPOLIS consortium participated. The main outcomes were about: (a) indicators and baseline used in the project and (b) gender, equity, inclusion and other social related issues.

4. An online meeting took place with VARCITIES on 25th November 2020, in which participated many members from the euPOLIS consortium.

5. Participation to the kick-off meeting, organised by GoGreenRoutes on 19th January 2021 (Communication).

6. Participation to the 2nd Clustering Event organised by EC on 27th January 2021 (Clustering Meeting)(Appendix II).

7. Participation in European Bauhaus (NEB) event (online web event) on 15-26 February 2021.

8. Participation in The NATURE of CITIES Festival (online web event) and cooperation with Connecting Nature project Team on 22-26 February 2021.

Type of Activity: **Scientific**

1. A TF2 report on the NBS' indicators with comments was sent on 5th January 2021 by the euPOLIS project to the EC.

9. Future Activities and Plans

Further activities will be discussed during the 3rd EC Clustering Event. In parallel from M7 the euPOLIS consortium will organize direct communication with all listed projects in this document and through online meetings will investigate the common activities that will lead in a plan for 2021 period (under COVID-19 restrictions) and further actions during the project duration, in relation with EC guidelines on clustering strategy that project belongs.

Next sections describe euPOLIS partners future plans on clustering.

9.1 GSH

Our partner GSH is using the "working groups" that is participating since last July 2020, as exploitation clustering groups where they meet every two months for general purposes. The same working groups can be used for dissemination since GSH has already used them to disseminate the euPOLIS project.

In the COVID ERA a future scheduled event/participation, is known max 3-4 days before and the list of events cannot be static, means must be updated every 6 months max – is a "living planet".

Table 4. GSH possible events for clustering activities

A/A	Working Group	Past Event	Future Event	Action
1	Phi-Lab https://blogs.esa.int/philab/2018/07/09/hello-world/	Phi – week https://phiweek.esa.int/		https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bfsisoc9JIA&list=PLvT7fd9OiI9XELZXcljYTftUtJ_NFWRrY&index=12
2	INFOCOM	22nd InfoCom World conference		https://www.infocomworld.gr/22o-infocom-world-2020/programma-epistimonikis-enotitas-3i-mera/
3	World Geospatial Industry Council (WGIC): https://wgicouncil.org/		TBC	TBC

9.2 BioAssist

Partner BioAssist has not participated to any clustering activities in which the euPOLIS project was mentioned or discussed yet. With regard to future plans, BioAssist aims to leverage on its involvement in 2 projects, which are not related to NBS, but are relevant to PB and WB:

- GATEKEEPER (Smart Living Homes - Whole Interventions Demonstrator for People at Health and Social Risks) H2020 project. GATEKEEPER is a European Multi Centric Large Scale Pilot on Smart Living Environments. The scope of the project is the application of advanced Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) to tackle the challenge of improving the quality of life of citizens while demonstrating its significant efficiency gains in health and care delivery across Europe. (https://www.gatekeeper-project.eu/)

- beHEALTHIER (Building Health Policies out of data of Collective Knowledge), a national R&D project that aims to facilitate health policy creation and evaluation. The project will deliver a secure integrated ICT platform that seamlessly integrates big data technologies across the

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complete data path, providing Data as a Service (DaaS) to the health ecosystem stakeholders, as well as to the health policies' makers, achieving a "health in all policies" approach. Creation and co-creation (cross-domain) of policies will be feasible through a rich toolkit, which will be provided on top of the DaaS, incorporating mechanisms for causal and risk analysis, as well as for compilation of predictions, creating multi-modal targeted policies addressing various evolving risks that will be realized from each different population segmentation. Furthermore, beHEALTHIER will facilitate policies evaluation and optimization through adaptive and incremental visualizations of simulations and outcomes of evidence-based analysis of prevention strategies. ("beHEALTHIER" is a national project MIS 5063807)

BioAssist aims to present the euPOLIS project in future events of the aforementioned projects, either project meetings, or workshops and initiate discussions on potential synergies (e.g., discuss how beHEALTHIER's approach can be combined with data collection within euPOLIS for PB and WB policy making). A more specific plan will be detailed and reported, depending on the events that will be scheduled by the projects.

9.3   ERCE PAN

The euPOLIS partner ERCE PAN, has already informed the consortium that there is a parallel ongoing "ATENAS" project (https://atenasjpi.eu/about-atenas/#) at ERCE that focuses on the implementation of NBS in city of Łódź. ERCE are involved in this project as Coordinators. ATeNaS is an international project of JPI Water (www.waterjpi.eu) financed under the framework of the WaterWorks 2017 Programme. ERCE PAN will keep updated the euPOLIS consortium and will try to organize a joint workshop/discussion/meeting in order to cooperate and analyse further possible clustering activities.

Already a short presentation of the euPOLIS project has been performed to the local business leaders in city of Lodz (involved in ATeNaS project).

10. Conclusions

This deliverable has presented the common Action Plan on Clustering Activities for the euPOLIS project and consortium. The current document describes the main points of the clustering activities, the organization of needed activities; how the euPOLIS consortium will implement them and a set of already selected 'possible' participations with other H2020 related projects and consortiums. Additionally, it describes already implemented clustering activities until M6 and future plans.

The document provides an overview of the initial strategy for communication and dissemination for the clustering of activities of the euPOLIS, addressing matters such as but not limited to: communication and dissemination integrated strategy, social media and cross-promotion, participation in EU and worldwide events, interaction with European Technology platforms and presenting an initial roadmap of activities, all with the goal contributing to reach the aforesaid objectives. This strategy will be based on participations and meetings with representatives from each project, following, either the EC guidelines and suggested project teams with common research topics, or common objectives and similar tasks for urban cities, health and wellbeing following euPOLIS project KPIs.

The euPOLIS consortium has collected a big number of possible projects and participations, aiming to cooperate and exchange ideas and experience for design and develop successfully the project and enhance its impact. Its participation in EU teams, according to basic project keywords of implementation, produces an enhancement from the imported knowledge and feedback, that will be passed in all project phases and WPs as a continuously 'review' process. The clustering activities will create parallel opportunities for direct dissemination which will be presented through the clustering forthcoming deliverables during the project periods.

This deliverable is released in month six (M6) and provides a first release of common clustering action plan. The processes and actions described in this deliverable are in a mature state and have been proved successful and achievable in other projects. However as time passes, new ideas will come in mind, as well as modifications and adaptations of the existing ones. Therefore, this 'live' document may be revised when required, and the consortium will be notified about the changes in due time.

References

[1] Horizon Europe Cluster 1 Health, https://ec.europa.eu/research/pdf/horizon-europe/annex-1.pdf

[2] Delgado, Mercedes/Porter, Michael E./Stern, Scott, 2013: Defining Clusters of Related Industries, Working Paper 20375 of the National Bureau of Economic Research. Available at: www.nber.org/papers/w20375.

[3] European Cluster Collaboration Platform, https://clustercollaboration.eu

[4] EC Presentation, p. 38, https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/research_and_innovation/ec_rtd_he-presentation_062019_en.pdf

[5] New European Bauhaus, https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/index_en

[6] Bauhaus, https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/system/files_en?file=2021-01/New-European-Bauhaus-Explained.pdf

Appendix I, First Clustering Meeting (EC, SC5-14-2019)

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME)

SC5-14-2019 Visionary and integrated solutions to improve well-being and health in cities: Clustering Activities

Follow-up First Online Clustering Meeting, held on 12 November 2020

Main Areas of Cooperation

1. Baseline and Indicators for Wellbeing and Health
   Main output:
   A list of joint indicators (defined together also taking into account the current NBS Handbook on Indicators and Assessment).

2. Gender, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (GDE&I)
   Main outputs:
   1) A GDE&I Manager in each project to monitor all co-creation and co-deployment activities;
   2) A common co-creation strategy to include and effectively engage diverse groups of citizens according to a diverse set of personal characteristics (i.e. sex, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, etc.). This common set of personal characteristics will need to be identified ex-ante by the four GDE&I Managers;
   3) New technologies to monitor progress and bottlenecks in GDE&I (i.e. AI to tackle unconscious bias, AI for emotion recognition, biosensors, etc.). The proposed new technologies could be included in the common co-creation strategy.

3. Joint Communication & Dissemination Activities
   Main outputs:
   1) A common glossary (to be consistent both for internal communication between the 4 projects and for external communication);
   2) Joint events (at least 2/3 conferences/workshops);
   3) Joint publications;
   4) Synergies with the new projects funded under the H2020 SC1 Health, demographic change and wellbeing.

Appendix II, Second Clustering Meeting (EC, SC5-14-2019)

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME)

SC5-14-2019 Visionary and integrated solutions to improve well-being and health in cities: Clustering Activities

Follow-up Second Online Clustering Meeting, held on 27 January 2021

Main Areas of Cooperation

1. **Wellbeing and Health at the local level**

   Main output:

   ✓ A **Manifesto** with a common narrative on the subsidiarity principle applied to wellbeing and health.
   How can we define health and wellbeing at the local level? What is "locality" in this respect? Are we considering the whole city, just a district, or a neighbourhood? Could we use GPS coordinates? This Manifesto could complement the work that the OECD is doing on wellbeing at regional level.

   ✓ **A joint deliverable based on a list of common indicators** (*defined together also taking into account the current NBS Handbook on Indicators and Assessment*).
   This list should also include the definition of "bottom-up" and "place-based" indicators resulting from the co-creation process with citizens.
   When defining these indicators, one could envisage the *creation of a matrix for the 4 projects*. For instance, such a matrix could be based on the type of solution (*not only NBS but also social, digital and cultural ones*); general impacts on health; general impacts on wellbeing; place-specific impacts.

   ✓ In order to be updated on the work carried out on NBS Indicators and Assessment, **one representative per project** should participate in the existing Taskforce 2. Please contact Veronica.RUIZ@iucn.org; adina.dumitru@udc.es and Laura.Wendling@vtt.fi to add the representative from your project (put your PA in Cc).

2. **Gender, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (GDE&I)**

Main outputs:

✓ Each project should nominate a **GDE&I manager +** the **main lead on co-creation and co-deployment activities**.
The GDE&I managers and the leads on co-creation will define *common modalities to engage diverse citizens remotely due to the current COVID-19 pandemic*. This will allow them to address the *digital divide* not only in terms of rural/urban cleavage but also in terms of different abilities that citizens have when using online technologies and tools.
The results of these co-creation activities to engage diverse citizens during the **COVID-19 pandemic** could also be reflected in a **joint deliverable** on co-creation in order to harvest the richness of process.

✓ A **common strategy to define the set of personal characteristics** (i.e. sex, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, etc.) to be included when engaging diverse citizens.
The work carried out in this respect could result in a **joint deliverable** on *GDE&I toolkit for health and wellbeing in cities*. This **toolkit** could reflect similar work done by other international organisations on DE&I for the labour market. See for instance World Economic Forum (2020) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion 4.0: A toolkit for leaders to accelerate social progress in the future of work.
Concerning *age as a personal characteristic*, please have a look at the new Commission Green Paper on Ageing: Fostering solidarity and responsibility between generations (27 January 2021). More information available here.

✓ A **joint deliverable/ positioning paper** on AI and GDE&I (i.e. AI to tackle unconscious bias, AI for emotion recognition, biosensors, etc.). Such a deliverable should also take into account the current debate on AI and discrimination. See for instance AINOW (2019) Discriminating Systems: Gender, Race and Power in AI.

3. **Joint Communication & Dissemination Activities**

Main outputs:

✓ **A common glossary** (to be consistent both for internal communication between the 4 projects and for external communication).

✓ **Joint deliverables** (i.e. the ones mentioned above)

✓ A **timeline** for **joint events** (at least 2/3 conferences/workshops). A calendar with main events for 2021 will be shared on Teams to prepare the joint events of the projects.

✓ Synergies with the cluster of projects H2020 SC5-20-2019 on Transforming historic urban areas into hubs of entrepreneurships and social and cultural integration.

T-FACTOR
Coordinator: Laura Martelloni la.martelloni@gmail.com
HUB-IN
Coordinator: Vera Gregório veragregorio@lisboaenova.org
CENTRINNO
Coordinator: Lucia Scopelliti Lucia.Scopelliti@comune.milano.it

✓ Synergies with the new projects funded under the H2020 SC1 Health, demographic change and wellbeing.

ENLIGHTEN ME 48 months	Innovative policies for improving citizens' health and wellbeing addressing indoor and outdoor lighting	Simona Tondelli simona.tondelli@unibo.it Valerio Carelli valerio.carelli@unibo.it Vera Schneider v.schneider@eurice.eu
URBANOME 48 months	Urban observatory for multi-participatory enhancement of health and wellbeing	Denis Sarigiannis denis@eng.auth.gr
RECETAS 60 months	Re-imagining environments for connection and engagement: testing actions for social prescribing in natural spaces	Jill Litt jill.litt@isglobal.org Laura Coll Planas: Laura.Coll@uab.cat Carolyn Daher: Carolyn.Daher@isglobal.org
EMOTIONAL CITIES 48 months	eMOTIONAL Cities - Mapping the cities through the senses of those who make them	Paolo Morgado paulo@campus.ul.pt Bruno Miranda bruno.a.miranda@gmail.com
HEART 48 months	Healthier cities through blue-green regenerative technologies: the heart approach	Prof. Anastasios Doulamis, adoulam@cs.ntua.gr Prof. Nikolaos Doulamis, ndoulam@cs.ntua.gr Dr. Manthos Bimpas, mbibas@esd.ece.ntua.gr
WELLBASED 48 months	Improving health, wellbeing and equality by evidenced-based urban policies for tackling energy poverty	Elena Rocher elena.rocher@lasnaves.com Maite Ferrando mferrando@kveloce.com

Appendix III, European Urbam Health Cluster

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Directorate E - People
E.1 - Healthy Lives

Brussels January 2021
RTD.E.1/MV

**MODALITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE
'EUROPEAN URBAN HEALTH CLUSTER'**
Agreed at the Coordinators meeting on NN.NN.2021

This document sets out the decisions taken with regards to the implementation of the '*European Urban Health Cluster'* at the online meeting on NNNN of the coordinators of the 6 projects resulting from the Horizon 2020 topic SC1-BHC-29-2020 "*Innovative actions for improving urban health and wellbeing -addressing environment, climate and socioeconomic factors"*

The initial version of this document was agreed on in Q1 2021. It can be updated   between the European Commission and all coordinators as the cluster evolves.

Cluster composition
The European Urban Health Cluster is at this stage composed of the 6 projects resulting from the above mentioned call.
If considered relevant and agreed by all founding cluster members, the cluster can be extended to other projects during its lifetime.
Lifetime
The cluster will be active from 1 March 2021 until 28 February 2025.
Cluster mandate
The cluster mandate was discussed with the coordinators on 16 November 2020 and a final version for inclusion as a specific task in the Description of Action (DoA) of the grant agreement was distributed per email on 27 November 2020.

In order to promote urban health in the European Urban Agenda and to optimise synergies and avoid overlaps between the projects selected for funding from the call SC1-BHC-29-2020 ('Innovative actions for improving urban health and wellbeing -addressing environment, climate and socioeconomic factors), the projects eMOTIONAL Cities, ENLIGHTENme, HEART, RECETAS, URBANOME and WELLBASED will form a cluster. Common cluster activities will include the following (not exclusive):

1. Organisation of a common kick-off meeting of the six projects in Q2 of 2021 in cooperation between DG R&I and the cluster.

2. Organisation of annual cluster meetings by the projects.

3. Common dissemination and communication activities, including a common dissemination and communication strategy for the cluster [Month 6], cluster web portal and visual identity [Month 6], cluster brochure [Deliverable Month 6], shared stakeholder list [Month 6], shared individual Data Management Plans between cluster partners [Month 8], policy briefs [Month 18, 32 and

46].   The penholder and project responsible for each joint deliverable will be decided in the document setting out the Modalities for Implementing the Cluster to be agreed on in Q1 2021.

4. *Establishment of an International Advisory Board for the cluster.*

5. *Organisation of thematic workshops/working groups/training on issues of common interest (e.g., science-policy interface, ethics, health determinants and urban interventions, data analysis and management) will be organised.*

1) Cluster Governance

- The cluster will be coordinated by a team of the six project coordinators and their deputies ('Cluster Coordinating Team').

- The Cluster Coordinating Team will be in charge of developing and implementing the activities as set out in the following sections.

- The European Commission (DG RTD) will act as the overall supervisor ensuring the smooth running of the cluster.

- DG RTD will be in charge of the oversight and good information flow, enabling joint agreements and long-term consistent development of the cluster.

- Initiated by DG RTD or the Cluster Coordination Team, bi-annual online meetings will be organised between the Cluster Coordination Team and DG RTD to discuss overall aspects. The first two meetings will take place in June and December 2021.

- DG RTD will liaise closely with the Project Officers in charge of the projects to ensure smooth coordination of the cluster.

2) Organisation of the launch event, annual cluster meetings and the final event

- In Q2 2021 a joint launch event will be organised online in collaboration between DG RTD and the Cluster Coordination Team. The date and exact modalities will be decided at the Cluster meeting in February 2021.

- The Cluster Coordination Team will organise the annual cluster meetings and share the related costs. The place, date and a contact person should be communicated minimum 6 months before the meeting takes place, preferably at the closure of the previous annual meeting. A report summarising the meeting should be prepared by the cluster and sent to EC maximum 1 month after the meeting takes place.

  2021 : Project(s) NN
  2022: Project(s) NN
  2023: Project(s) NN
  2024: Project(s) NN

- A final event will be organised in Brussels near the end of the cluster lifetime to convey key results and messages to stakeholders such as national, EU and international regulatory communities, NGO's, industry, the scientific community, etc. This event will be organised by the Cluster Coordination Team in close collaboration with the EC.

- In order to optimise costs, individual project meetings and thematic workshops can be organised in conjunction with the annual cluster meeting.

2022   Thematic workshops and working groups

- The Cluster Coordination Team will organise four thematic workshops of common interest in conjunction with the annual meetings. Proposed topics are:

  2021 (Project):
  2022
  2023
  2024

The organisation of these workshops does not exclude the possibility of organising others, if deemed necessary.

- Working groups on practical topics of shared interest will also be organised between projects. These should mainly interact via emails and online conferences. Any necessary meetings should be optimised with regards to other cluster or project activities.

- When a working group is set up, the Cluster Coordination Team and DG RTD should be informed.

- Information on the WG and a contact point should be included on the shared web-portal. The first working groups and their agreed animators are:

  1) science-policy interface,
  2) ethics,
  3) health determinants and urban interventions,
  4) data analysis and management

The organisation of these working groups does not exclude the possibility of organising others, if necessary. The type of working groups, will be decided by all founding cluster members.

- For each annual cluster meeting, a concise report on the WGs will be prepared for public dissemination to facilitate contacts to other clusters and projects as well as a more detailed report on the WG activities for the cluster members.

  - 2022: NNN and NNN (includes development of templates)
  - 2022: NNN
  - 2023: NNN
  - 2024: NNN

2023	Communication and dissemination activities

- The cluster will endeavour to harmonise communication and dissemination activities as much as possible to maximise the impact. This includes e.g.:

  - Common web-portal (NNN will develop and host it throughout the lifetime of the cluster)
  - Joint visual identity: cluster name, acronym and logo, templates for documents and presentations
  - Presence in the social media
  - Cluster leaflet (M6, update as necessary)
  - Newsletters (Annually in time for the cluster meetings)
  - Joint policy briefs (M18, 32, 46)
  - Joint stakeholder list for communication/dissemination

- A specific working group will be created with one communication/dissemination expert per project to ensure a focused and dynamic approach. NNN will initiate the group. The group will

develop a joint communication and dissemination plan including a budget plan. A first draft will be submitted to all coordinators end of NNNN for discussion, a final version is expected for NNN.

- The working group will also manage the joint stakeholder list.

- All 'products' resulting from the cluster activities are for feedback and approval by all coordinators before publication.

Reporting activities

- Each project will include in its Technical Report a chapter in cluster activities. This chapter will be prepared by the Cluster Coordination Team and will include reports on the WG activities.

    - For the first periodic report, NNN and NNN are in charge of preparing the joint chapter

    - For the second report, NNN and NNN are in charge of preparing the joint chapter

    - For the final report, NNN takes the lead with strong support from all coordinators.

- Annual reports on WG activities will, in addition, be issued for the annual cluster meetings as described above.

- For the mandatory joint deliverables the following projects have agreed to take the lead:

    - Common dissemination and communication strategy for the cluster (M6) – NNN (note: see link to WG on communication and dissemination above)

    - Cluster web portal and visual identity (M6) - NNN

    - Cluster brochure and newsletters (M6) – NNN. This include preparing the brochure as well as a template for the newsletter to which all project should contribute annually.

    - Joint policy briefs (M18, 32, 46) – NNN. This includes preparing a template and collecting the information provided by all projects.

Appendix IV, European Bauhaus (NEB)

New European Bauhaus

Why the New European Bauhaus (NEB)?

- **The New European Bauhaus wants to make the Green Deal a cultural, human centred and positive, "tangible" experience**. It shows the opportunities and hopes and brings the Green Deal to the people by building a new future together.

- **The New European Bauhaus wants to connect different realities**. The COVID crisis has shown that many topics are interlinked and that new thinking comes from breaking silos, just as the Bauhaus movement did one hundred years ago. The New European Bauhaus would like to facilitate the exchange of knowledge between people across Europe and to create an interdisciplinary project.

- **The New European Bauhaus wants form to follow planet**: We want to create a design movement integrating three dimensions: sustainability (including circularity), quality of experience (including aesthetics) and inclusion (including affordability). Showing that creativity is in finding affordable, inclusive and attractive solutions for our climate challenges.

What is the New European Bauhaus?

- **The New European Bauhaus is a think-do tank.** A design lab, accelerator and network at the same time. A creative and interdisciplinary movement, convening a space of encounter to recuperate and revisit sustainable practices from, empower the most inspiring practices of today, and design future ways of living, at the crossroads between art, culture and science.

- **The New European Bauhaus wants to build a sustainable future through creativity, innovation and imagination.** To enable experimental places and spaces for us to reimagine how to live better together after the pandemic.

- **The New European Bauhaus is a crossroads project.** It connects innovation, creativity and design to citizen's quality of life in towns and localities. It bridges, connect and blend the green and digital transformations.

- **The New European Bauhaus is a transformational project.** It aims to lead the thinking, inspire behaviours, attract the markets and influence public procurement to make new ways of living possible. The ultimate focus is "beyond buildings" – the project should bring benefit to the whole of society. It will help to revisit Europe's cultural heritage and shape its future.

- **The New European Bauhaus is transformational in its delivery.** Co-created and delivered in innovative, fresh, inclusive and creative ways.

What are the next concrete steps?

Timeline

Q4 2020-Q3 2021 (1 year)

DESIGN

Q4 2021-2023+ (2 years+)

DELIVER

Q1 2023/2024+(2 years+)

DISSEMINATE

#NewEuropeanBauhaus

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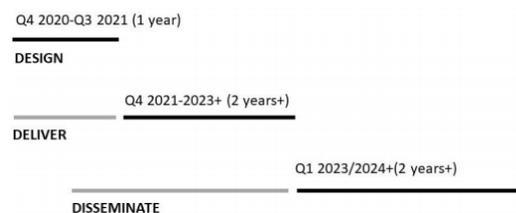
The New European Bauhaus will unfold in three phases: Design, Delivery and Dissemination. The phases will partly operate in parallel, as individuals and communities interested in the first ideas are most likely to become partners to deliver and scale up the initiative. The New European Bauhaus will engage early, to shape the concept in a large co-creation process. In parallel, the initiative needs to develop a framework of deliveries, to align with the ongoing planning of the Multiannual Financial Framework.

The Design phase

The goal of the design phase is to **connect to what is already out there to see where and how the New European Bauhaus can accelerate, concretise and materialise good ideas.** The outcome should be a framework including a call for proposals for **at least five places where the new Bauhaus concept can be materialised. These pilots should be distributed in different EU Member States**.

In this phase, the project will be in active listening mode. Culture and technology are not new concepts for architecture and urban planning: the ground is fertile for a very interesting exchange. The New European Bauhaus will provide special facilitation methods and harvesting tools, to allow each contribution to be readable and to generate ideas and insights that can be shared with everyone else.

In addition, a **series of semi-structured interviews** with the most advanced thinkers and practitioners will lead to a **New European Bauhaus high-level roundtable**; a compass and sounding board for the initiative.

As one element of the design phase, the European Commission will launch in spring 2021 the first edition of the **New European Bauhaus prize** that will reward inspiring examples around the key elements of the project. The prizes will be awarded in summer 2021 when the design phase will come to an end.

Engage & harvest (3 months):
- How do high quality, sustainable, inclusive, affordable, translate in our communities?
- Where are possible gaps?
- What are the themes that emerge?
- What are good intervention points?

nov   dec   jan   feb   march   april   may

Define the **Concept and the engagement structure** (2 months):
- How do we ensure the widest participation? How can we include different communities and cultures?
- How can we help the communities we interact with to make sense of the contributions?
- What are the ecosystems we build on?
- When is the end result a success?
- What kinds of relevant instruments are there?
- What kind of delivery options could be considered?

Ideate (4 months):
- What challenges and needs could drive the calls for proposals?
- How do we measure change?
- How do we empower the change that is most beneficial?

Delivery phase

The delivery phase will begin by setting up at least five New European Bauhaus pilots. Flanking initiatives identified in the design phase and digital networks and platforms will complement the pilots to structure and spread the movement. A 'community of practice' formed by all the participants of the design phase will monitor the five pilots: all the partners involved in the broader initiative should be able to learn and benefit from the first experiments towards good impact.

Dissemination phase

In this phase, the New European Bauhaus will focus on diffusing good ideas and concepts to a broader audience, not only in Europe but also beyond. This will be about **networking and sharing knowledge** between practitioners on the best available methods, solutions and prototypes. We want to help all frontrunners to replicate their experiences across cities, rural areas and localities and to inspire a new generation of architects and designers. Last but not least, the initiative will **support the emergence of lead markets** for new ways of living in buildings that are in harmony with the natural environment and the climate.

#NewEuropeanBauhaus

Appendix V, New European Bauhaus (EC invitation to euPOLIS)

The New European Bauhaus team is planning a series of **information sessions** to present the opportunities to contribute to the initiative.

The next information session will focus on **cities and regions** and we thought you may be interested to inform your networks and to support the initiative to grow!

There are **additional sessions already planned** for February targeting other sectors and stakeholders. Please, find hereunder the current calendar:

When	For whom
15 Feb (11h00-11h50)	Regions, cities and local authorities
16 Feb (11h00-11h50)	Open to everyone
22Feb (11h00-11h50)	Scientific communities
23 Feb (11h00-11h50)	Youth sector and universities
24 Feb (11h00-11h50)	Creative sector (architects, designers, artists)
26 Feb (11h00-11h50)	Businesses

To join a session, they will need to follow the **corresponding streaming link** (please, find them all **here**) and will interact with us on **Slido**.

Please spread the word within your networks, inviting their members and all possible interested people.

In the meantime, you can find more on the initiative on our website

We count on you!
The New European Bauhaus Team