BRIGHT FUTURE

The existing post-industrial paradigms represent neither the final nor the complete point of discussion about future urban development. We believe that they serve as a basis for critical reflection on the role of manufacturing, particularly in small industrial towns since a noteworthy share of small towns in Europe sustains its productive economic base.

The main aim is to find locally embedded social-cultural and spatial specificities in small industrial towns as basis for identifying social and institutional innovations. In the project, we will analyze a set of small industrial towns across Europe as case studies in order to direct urban policies towards respecting the particularities of the small European industrial town and alternative urban development.

Aim/objective

- To know the socio-cultural qualities of small industrial towns
- To translate their qualities into social innovations in order to adapt, to be resilient, and sustainable
- To discuss a new urban policy and research agenda tailored to small industrial towns

Approaches/methods

- Interdisciplinary research on hidden socio-cultural qualities within case study towns in Europe
- Participatory transdisciplinary research on social innovations in case study towns and their applicability to other transitional towns

Expected results and impacts

- Comparative analysis of industrial towns in different developmental contexts
- Social and institutional innovations aimed at supporting positive practices in industrial towns
- Policy & research recommendations to urban governance and practitioners

Involved cities

- Velenje
- Fieni
- Kajaani
- Corby
- Heerlen

About JPI Urban Europe

JPI Urban Europe is a transnational research and innovation programme on urban transition. With the ambition to develop and validate new solutions for sustainable and liveable cities, a cooperation platform and programme is provided to connect urban stakeholders, researchers, cities, business and society

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