

CASUAL

Urban policies and projects that are expected to promote sustainability are often focused on the built environment and the technical infrastructure. Less attention is given to changing lifestyles and everyday practices, even though citizen and consumer behaviour have a tremendous impact on resource consumption in our cities.

The project investigates how to promote sustainable living and consumption patterns by including citizen and consumer perspectives in the governance of urban areas.

We explore new forms of inclusive urban governance by looking at collectively organised initiatives outside formal planning procedures (i.e. city exhibitions) as models for the future. In addition, planning for sustainable mobility is investigated through a focus on so-called transit-oriented-developments.



Results and expected impact

The research leads to the following conclusions about spreading knowledge from projects to policy-making for sustainable urban lifestyles: 1) Make the effects of changed behaviour visible on a human scale. 2) Target specific lifestyles without stigmatizing them. Sustainable consumption policy needs to allow for learning, rather than segregating different lifestyle groups. 3) Integrate key individuals or partners as drivers of integration into citywide strategies. 4) Understand that citizen participation and the role of citizens varies. In some strategies, citizens will be co-decision-makers, whereas in others they will simply be consulted.

Aim/objective

- Exploring Urban Living Labs as new forms of urban governance
- Investigating urban sustainable policies and planning practices
- Analysing interactions between transport and land use
- Empirical investigations of mobility patterns

Approaches/methods

- Participatory observation and culturing probing within urban living labs
- Mapping and statistical analysis of mobility patterns
- Discourse analysis of planning narratives

Expected results and impacts

- Implications on the usefulness of urban living labs within public planning
- Empirical findings on the relations planning concepts and the built environment
- Informing policy-making on the tensions between sustainability and individual practices

Involved cities/project examples

- Exhibition Experiment Stockholm with local foundation for urbanism
- Exhibition Mobility and lifestyles in Vienna-Liesing

CASUAL – Co-creating attractive and sustainable urban areas and lifestyle – exploring new forms of inclusive urban governance

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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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