

SMART-U-GREEN

Urban landscapes witness major transformations that affect urban landscape quality and quality of life. Some transformations are desirable, such as greener urban landscapes. Some are inevitable, such as changes due to major economic or cultural changes. Urban landscape transformations come with conflicts involving many actors, interests and rapidly changing advocacy coalitions.

Bottom-up initiatives, such as community gardens, introduce new forms of urban landscape management, sometimes confronting urban planning regimes with the challenge to adopt more organic, collaborative and transformative forms of governance. Smart-U-Green will investigate these developments in urban regions in the Netherlands, Italy, France, and with input from other countries. Together with local governments, local businesses, citizen initiatives and NGOs the project will develop new forms of governance.



Aim/objective

- Analyze stakeholder perspectives to understand their arguments in policy controversies;
- Analyze policy controversies to understand how (local) power relations inhibit or enable the utilization of (local) knowledge;
- Identify and explore innovative governance options for greening urban landscapes

Approaches/methods

- The identification of key regional stakeholders through interviews, document analysis and input from project partners
- The Repertory Grid technique in combination with statistical analysis to identify the range of perspectives in all case study areas
- The QLand/QLife framework of urban landscape indicators to evaluate decision-making in the case study areas, as well as a political agenda-building approach to map out political processes
- Stakeholder workshops in the primary case study areas (Drechtsteden, Regione Marche and Grand Reims) for joint fact-finding and decision support

Expected results and impacts

- Assess stakeholder perspectives and options
- Involve diverse user communities
- Create cross-regional networks
- Rethink existing framework for urban planning, making space for bottom-up initiatives

Involved cities

Primary case study areas

- Drechtsteden
- Regione Marche
- Grand Reims

Co-operation case study areas

- Zagreb
- Pskov
- Mahilioŭ

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– Governing conflicting perspectives on transformations in the urban rural continuum

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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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