

syncity

Synergetic Cities for Europe

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This project has received funding in the framework of the Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe



Syncity in a nutshell

Case studies

Cureghem (Brussels) a “superdiverse” neighbourhood and arrival space

Main Objectives

- Raise awareness for inclusive **participation in ongoing urban renewal** processes
- Improve the life quality through **sustainability driven integrative stakeholder processes**
- **Transdisciplinary urban planning (living lab)** that is integrating local initiatives
- Development of a toolbox for **sustainable urban transformation** processes

current tasks

- Developing a **toolbox** for European municipalities to better implement integrative urban transformation processes
- Preparing post Covid **Urban living Lab** and developing co-creation actions
- A **Europe-wide network** “Creating Cities together”

At a glance

syncity -Synergetic Cities for Europe

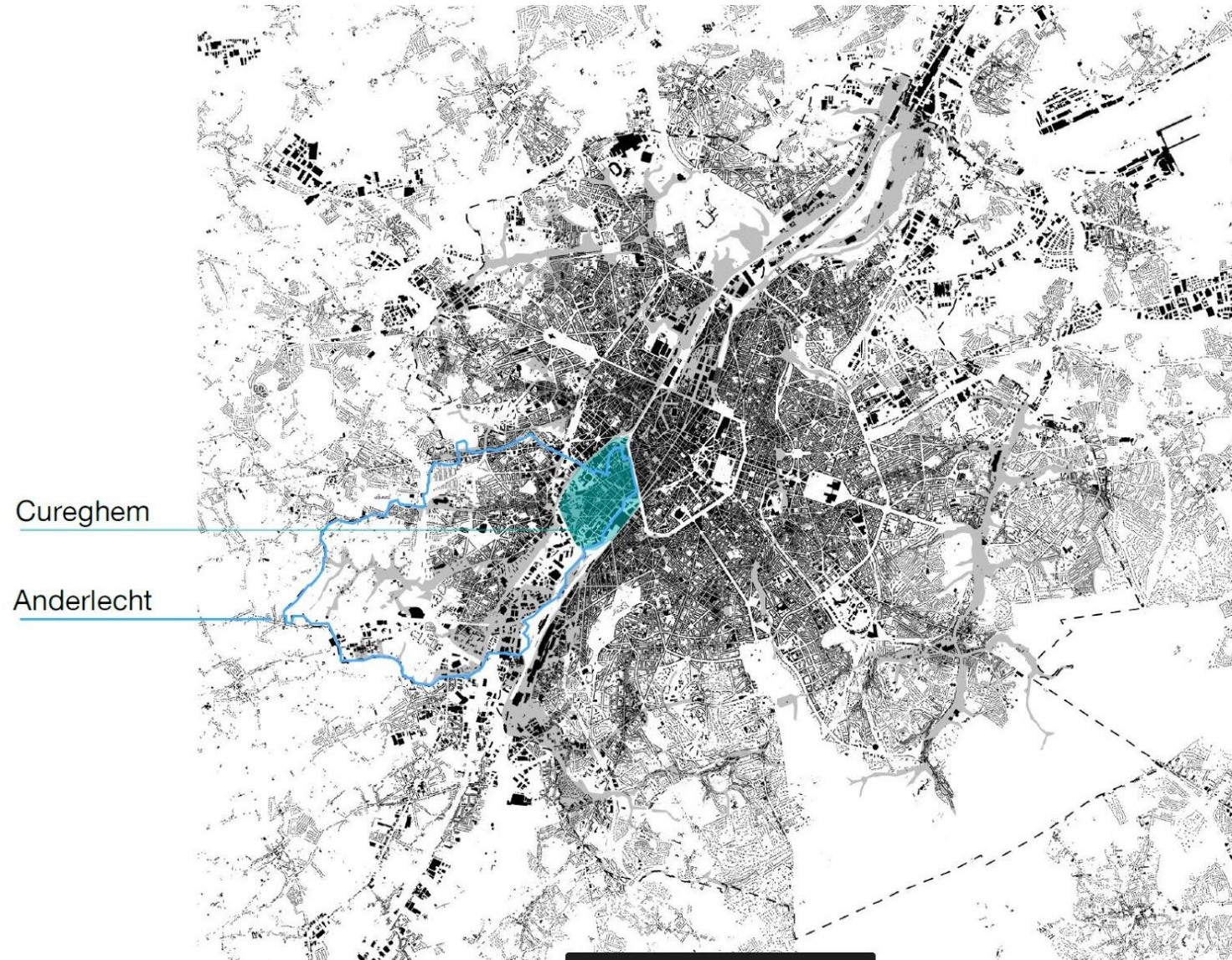
Duration: 2019 – 2021

Involved Cities: Brussels, Vienna

Coordinator: Oikodrom – The Vienna Institute of Urban Sustainability

Partners: The Institute for Environmental Management and Land-use Planning at Université Libre de Bruxelles; Laboratory on Urbanism, Infrastructures and Ecologies at the Université Libre de Bruxelles; Abattoir SA; Inter-Environnement Bruxelles; STRATECO; OIKOPLUS; Municipality of Anderlecht

Learning from Cureghem (Brussels)



Learning from Cureghem (Brussels)

Action research **three sites have been chosen:**

Abattoir site



A large and changing open space with logistic and commercial functionalities

Chaussée de Mons



A vibrant street with a diversity of shops tackling a waste collection issue

Rue Dr de Meersman



A square with various usages that requires transformation to increase conviviality

Urban Living Lab Place de Meersman

How open is participatory planning ?

Development and testing of different participation methods to understand the current needs of the users (participatory mapping, participatory observation, building model, examples of urban furniture).

- **Who are the inhabitants and users of the square?**
- **What is needed in the square at present?**
- **Are there any existing conflicts in the usage of the space?**



© syncity, Rue Dr de Meersman

Participation needs a public



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A cargo bike as activating tool
in public space

A digital blogging platform

CUREGHEM TALES



Tales from Brussels' Cureghem Neighbourhood.

Welcome!

As in every neighbourhood, there are tales told each day in Cureghem. Cureghem Tales invites you to get to know stories and tales related to a good future for all people in the neighbourhood – as to tell them yourself. Find out about or share challenges the area and its dwellers, business community and other users are facing, and present or explore sites, spaces and activities that already contribute to a good and sustainable life for all or could do so in the future.

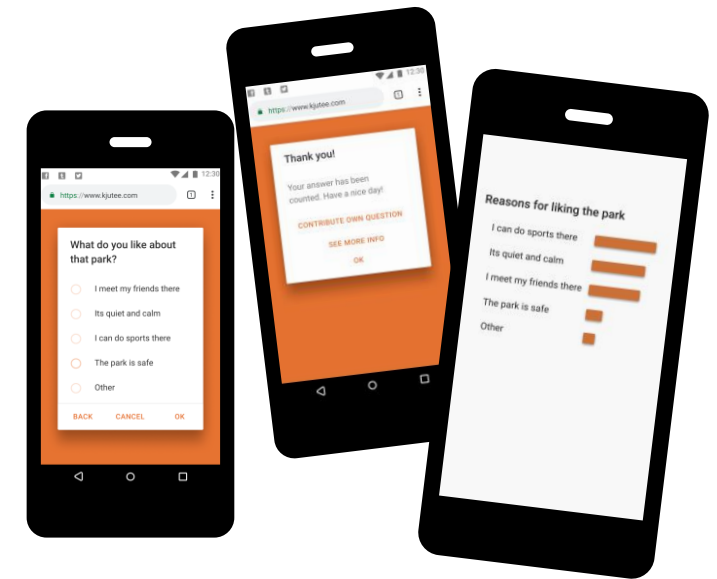
A special asset of the Cureghem Tales are click-through maps – our Cureghem Atlas. In our interactive maps, you can find locations with pictures and short stories, so that you and other visitors can find them again while walking through the neighbourhood.

If you too would like to find your tales, your places, your business, the opportunities or challenges the Cureghem have, please contact office@cureghem.com – we will be happy to add your story and make it available here for the Cureghem community itself and for potential newcomers to the area.

www.cureghem-tales.eu/

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An interactive mobile based
communication app

Bringing sustainability policy to life

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



10 Sustainability Criteria

1

Sustainability requires participation which seeks to establish transparent frameworks for discussion and exchange of information, reaching from inclusive debating formats to digital solutions, such as open data standards.

2

The language of sustainability discourses must be adapted to the primary stakeholders. It must not to circle around pre-dominant buzzwords of contemporary urban planning discourses in order to keep it as open and accessible as possible.

3

Sustainable approaches must create citizen participation tools more in tune with today's urban society by rethinking the links, relationships and alliances between municipal services, residents, users, economic actors.

4

Sustainable urban design solutions should be measured in terms of their resource consumption by the method of Life Cycle Assessment.

5

The overall goal of urban sustainability is to create urban environments enabling people to leave a small ecological footprint and to have a positive impact of the urban resource metabolism.

6

Sustainability should respect the needs of the working population and seek to strengthen local value chains through the valorisation of the existing local markets and enhanced working conditions.

7

Sustainable solutions seek to empower inhabitants and economic actors through the recognition of education of professional knowledge and skills and support the transition from informal to formal work.

8

Sustainable urban planning seeks to limit the disadvantages of gentrification processes and promote its advantages.

9

Sustainable solutions must include cultural activities and respect existing social and cultural diversity and value cultural practices that are often discriminated against, with a logic of empowerment.

10

Sustainable urban design must include a social improvement of the people who are living, learning and working in the area yet.

10 Sustainability Criteria

Advantages

Transparency due to explicit guiding principles

Helps to share experience in relation to a future project

Used in internal workshops before urban living lab action

Disadvantages

Accessibility of used concepts i.e. “gentrification” even though the process itself is understood

Thank you for your attention.



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