

# Urban conflict and convergence in the anthropocene

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UERA

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*3 subjects, Around 20 persons*

## Nature Based Solutions, accessibility, mobility and urban economy,

- *What are the main conflicting and converging patterns / goals currently characterizing urban economies in your country?*
- *How can NBS contribute to creating resilient urban socio-economic system in changing economies?*
- *What innovations are required to foster circular economies and employment opportunities?*

Debating about the **costs of urban infrastructure**, which can be seen as economic drivers (defining the **relationship** between **green infrastructure** to be restored or newly designed, and **grey infrastructure** to be built, revamped, or 'greened');

- the planting of **new trees** in relation to **maintenance costs** (Mantua, is planning to plant 9,000 new trees in the near future);
- various international **models of urban afforestation in smart cities and eco-districts**;
- the collective scarce **consciousness** of the **landscape economy**, as it should be conveyed to the new generations.

Another topic that emerged concerns the **health and well-being** of citizens, with the example of Portugal in which administrations have convinced citizenship to perform physical activity in parks, and the relationship between the costs of subsistence of a healthy citizen, in relation to an inactive one.

## Health and wellness, environment, conservation and maintenance,

- *How can urban economies contribute to urban growth with climate change adaptation and mitigation?*
- *Which environmental policies are favourable/unfavourable regarding human health and wellbeing?*
- *How to facilitate knowledge transfer at different levels aimed at enhancing quality of life?*

Main discussion :

- how the **circular economy** can close the cycle of **urban metabolism**;
- the role of **NBS** in improving **resilience** and **quality of life** in the city;
- **policies** related to **territorial development** (transport, green, social integration, pollution) and which of these are the most effective;
- the role of different **actors and stakeholders**;

- the concept of **eco-design** and the reuse of **water as a source of energy** in the industrial production.

## Participation, co-production, social inclusion and governance

- *Which strategies and approaches have already proven in your city/country to improve social inclusion?*
- *What are the main barriers to collaborative approaches in partnership and co-production initiatives?*
- *Which priorities in governance and policy-making frameworks should be established to ensure effective communication amongst all stakeholders?*

Main discussions :

- clear **social inclusion strategies** have recently been few, also because of a growing emphasis on **discrimination**.
- Social inclusion means the **accessibility** of the whole population to basic resources, to social services and to the labour market.
- **Barriers to collaborative approaches** in partnership emerge probably because people have **different cultures**, and often lack appropriate **knowledge and competence**, especially on critical issues as those referring to the environment.
- The concept of **public space** should be considered as the primary structure of the city, as the expression of **historical, cultural and social identity** of local communities, and as a driver of the urban sustainable development, essential for the definition of a **new regeneration strategy** which builds up the continuity of freespace, urban voids, green areas and parks to connect urban and natural space.