ENUTC
PROJECTS
CATALOGUE
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ENUTC PROJECTS CATALOGUE 2022

CONTENT

A EUROPEAN FUNDING SCHEME

The ENUTC call was launched by JPI Urban Europe with support from the ERA-NET Cofund scheme under Horizon 2020.

The ERA-NET Cofund Urban Transformation Capacites (ENUTC) was conceptualised in the framework of the Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) Urban Europe. JPI Urban Europe is an intergovernmental and strategic partnership of countries addressing the challenge of sustainable urban development through coordinated research and innovation. More than 20 European countries are engaged in the initiative.

JPI Urban Europe has a longstanding cooperation with the European Commission with a total of six ERA-NET Cofund calls launched under the European Research and Innovation Framework Programme – Horizon 2020. ERA-NET Cofund is an instrument of Horizon 2020 that supports and leverages cooperation of national research and agencies across Europe. Through the ERA-NET Cofunds,

the European Commission provides top-up funding and strengthens the relationship of the JPI Urban Europe programme to European strategies and priorities, e.g. the various related societal challenges of Horizon 2020. The ERA-NET Cofunds also facilitate the widening of participation of EU Member States or Associated States in such joint calls and programme activities.

As part of the preparation of the next European Research and Innovation Framework Programme – Horizon Europe – new mechanisms for public-public partnerships are under development. One of the candidates for such a European partnership is Driving Urban Transitions to a Sustainable Future (DUT).

THE ENUTC CALL

The ENUTC call aims at enabling and supporting capacity building for urban transformation – in research, business, urban government authorities, including city and municipality administration, and civil society, as well as other stakeholders for urban transformation.

The sense of urgency for a rapid sustainable transformation of our cities has never been greater. There is an increasing need to stake out pathways for such a transition, to reach acceptance of the need for transformation and enabling capacity building. The current approaches to target urban challenges and meet different international goals are often fragmented and incoherent as they are based on different ambitions and understandings of how cities and urban areas operate.

Research and innovation contribute with evidence on how to address urban dilemmas, while supporting capacity building for urban transformation and turning wicked issues into synergistic potential. This needs to be supported by aligning ongoing related initiatives and activities, as well as building upon existing knowledge in order to achieve stronger synergies towards greater impact.

The ENUTC call aims at pooling resources from 16 participating research programme owners and managers of 14 countries, to implement joint actions, including one main call and one additional call for proposals, in the area of urban transformation capacities.

The objectives of ENUTC are to: 1) enable capacity building in research, business, city administration and society for urban transformation; 2) support integrated approaches and solutions for sustainable urban development for the three topics of ENUTC: Urban circular economies, community-based developments and urban innovation ecosystems, and robust and resilient urban infrastructure and the built environment;

3) support transnational, pan-European research networking, community building and ensure synergies; 4) support activities which have a clear impact on transnational and evidence-based urban policies; 5) support research and innovation, which make a clear progress to reaching targets of the international policies, goals and missions.

THE ENUTC CALL TOPICS

In the ENUTC call, urban transformation capacities are related to three main topics, which address a wide variety of urban challenges. Because of the intricacy of issues, the three call topics overlap and there are also crosscutting concerns (use of data, tools for decision-makers etc.). Each challenge considers these transverse issues from a specific perspective.

The topic of urban circular economies implies functional urban design in support of circular systems, the use of nature-based solutions – that is actions for societal challenges that are inspired by processes and functioning of nature – and for supporting circularity in resource use and waste management strategies, business models and smart city developments for the common good.

The topic of community-based developments and urban innovation ecosystems implies innovative neighbourhoods which enable social innovation and local entrepreneurs, inhabitant engagement, co-creation and co-design to support liveable, just, inclusive and attractive neighbourhoods.

The topic of robust and resilient urban infrastructure and built environment implies an urban infrastructure and a built environment that can resist natural, environmental, social, economic and technological threats on smaller and larger scales based on efficient use of resources. It also implies fair access to urban infrastructure and the built environment.

THE PROJECTS

The 16 national funding agencies, from 14 countries, in the ENUTC call, have agreed on a list of 16 projects recommended for funding – and the projects are starting in 2022, and finishing in 2025.

1. City&Co
2. CREST (Climate resilient coastal urban infrastructures through digital twinning)
3. CONTRA (CONflict in TRAnsformations)
4. ILIT (Infrastructuring Libraries in Transition)
5. MUNEX (Municipalist Neighborhood Experiments)
6. CARIN-PT (Capacities for Resilient and Inclusive Urban Public Transport Infrastructure and Built Environment)
7. TRUSTMAKING
8. EmbedterLabs
9. COOLSCHOOLS
10. TANGO-W (Transformative cApacity in eNerGy fOod and Water)
11. CircularCityChallenge
12. U-GARDEN
13. CoNECT (Collective Networks for Everyday Community Resilience and Ecological Transition)
14. CO-HOPE (Collaborative Housing in a Pandemic Era)
15. Create
16. OPUSH (Open Urban Sustainability Hubs)

City&Co

To facilitate ageing populations, over 1100 cities joined the Global Network for Age Friendly Cities and Communities of the World Health Organization (WHO). Four cities in The Netherlands, Poland and Romania want to improve the quality of the domains of the holistic age-friendly agenda, i.e. outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation and social environments, and hereby involve the views and experiences of their citizens. There is a need for participatory approaches for older people and policymakers, which combine quantitative, sustainable and community-based elements.

City&Co aims to co-create an innovative spatial tool, a geoportal, for a community-based assessment of the age-friendliness of cities that can be used in multiple countries, and that supports cities in WHO's 5-year cycle. The creation and maintenance of local ecosystems of relevant stakeholders further supports the sustainability of age-friendly strategies and implementation and provides capacity building at city- and neighbourhood level.

CREST

Climate change largely impacts urban life. Extreme temperatures impact sea level rise and, subsequently, floods, droughts, and storms, have costly impacts on cities' basic services, infrastructure, housing, livelihoods, and health. Cities are responsible for 75% of CO_2 emissions, and stakeholders must solve to promote innovation and stimulate urban resilience by limiting negative impacts of climate change.

But for a problem to be addressed, it must first be seen and felt. Visualization is a potential way of increasing engagement with climate change, and IT developments, such as AI and AR, provide advancements that can be transformative in engaging audiences with climate change issues. This is at the basis of AugmentCity which developed a ground-breaking way to operate digital twins of cities, enabling data and "what-if" scenarios to be analysed and visualised in an interactive and immersive visualisation tool to be used by policymakers, researchers, companies, and citizens. CREST's proposition builds on AugmentCity in terms of demonstration, co-creation, and mobilization of

stakeholders for capacity-building and collective decision-making in 3 European urban areas for resilient urban infrastructure adaptation to climate change.

CONTRA

Polarisation threatens the transformative capacity of cities at a time when we need collective plans for a more sustainable and resilient urban future. The typical answer to polarisation is consensus-building among stakeholders, but this can lead to alienation, tensions with democratic institutions, and a gap with legal practice. CONTRA explores how institutionalising productive conflict can increase the transformative capacity needed for sustainable cities. Through a comparative study of climate transition planning in 4 cities (in Belgium; Netherlands; Norway and Poland), we study how conflict is handled and whether it is suppressed or actively used for sustainable transformation. We also pioneer a new model of living labs (Drama Labs) that uses theatre to experiment with productive conflict. Combining empirical investigations with our Drama Labs, CONTRA builds capacities for livable, inclusive and community-based transforma-

tions, while improving governance and regulatory processes.

ILIT

Public libraries are long-acknowledged places for information provision and knowledge transmission, but they increasingly also function as important socio-cultural infrastructures contributing to everyday urban life. However, austerity pressures heavily threaten libraries' function as spaces of encounter. ILIT examines how public libraries in Austria, Sweden and the Netherlands address systemic challenges such as unemployment, loneliness and segregation in rapidly transforming societies. It deploys the analytics of 'infrastructuring' and 'librarising' to unpack the (in)formal practices that library staff, patrons, policy-makers and other stakeholders employ to provide, perform and maintain public libraries as important socio-cultural infrastructures. By organising co-productive zine-making workshops with these different stakeholders, the project's ambition is to simultaneously study and cultivate a sense of community and social infrastructuring performed in and through public libraries.

MUNEX

How to address growing inequality, cynicism, distrust, and alienation? An ascendant municipalist movement argues that we should look for answers at the local level. Municipalism seeks to reinvent and reinvigorate local urban democracy by pushing back against overbearing bureaucracies and overpowering market forces. While the commitment to municipalism is strong and the momentum palpable, a key question is whether and how municipalist initiatives – from digital democracy platforms to public-communitarian partnerships – work in practice. To answer this question, the Municipalist Neighborhood Experiments (MUNEX) project examines municipalist policy experiments in neighborhoods in three cities: Amsterdam, Barcelona, and Vienna.

CARIN-PT

Public transport (PT) is an essential urban infrastructure. Yet, it remains unclear how socially just attempts to accelerate PT are in terms of who benefits (distribution), whose needs are considered (recognition), who decides and how (participation). The project will examine inequalities in terms of needs, capabilities, deci-sion-making and accessibility. It will also analyse how and to what extent PT and built environment policies take distribution, participation and recognition dimensions into account. In close collaboration with policy-makers and service providers, the project will consider micro-mobility, fare structures, flexible on-demand PT and transit-oriented development (TOD) in the urban regions of Tallinn (Estonia), the Flemish cities (Belgium), Stockholm (Sweden) and Oslo (Norway). The project aims to bring about a shift in how mobility policies and services are developed, implemented and delivered so that urban built environments and PT become integrated and inclusive.

TRUSTMAKING

Taking up the project as an active and applicable response to the challenges of living together in cities, this research project aims to empower urban youth and build capacities of city governments for the new green transition. Establishing a trustful basis is key for well-informed, intergenerational, and cross-sector collaboration with city governments, entrepreneurs, and civil society organizations during

urban development processes. Through Place-making practices we aim at fostering confidence of youth to co-create urban spaces, working in and with green infrastructures in four European cities: Oslo (Norway), Panevėžys (Lithuania), Vienna (Austria), and Valkenswaard (The Netherlands). Through Urban Living Labs tools for youth co-creation of green infrastructure are identified and developed, and cross-section collaboration mechanisms through summer/winter schools are designed. Lastly, the development of TRUSTMAKING guidelines addresses capacity building in public service for integrating youth perspectives and competences that bridge short-term concerns and long-term objectives in urban transformation.

EmbedterLabs

The project will develop capacity for more synergistic urban planning for transformations towards sustainable and resilient urban areas. It deals with a key deficiency of current urban planning: the rather context-specific lessons of Urban Living Labs (ULL) are poorly translated into citywide, integrated, transformative policy implications, leaving them having limited impact.

To do so, it answers two questions: 1) how to orient labs and experiments to inform broader learning processes, and 2) how to align laboratory insights with established policy mixes to enable transformation? To achieve this, a novel approach will be developed, tested and refined through action research in Gdansk, Stockholm and Maastricht. The experiments will focus on mobility infrastructure and public space, one key dimension of urban sustainability. These activities will improve the learning processes of experiments and accordingly support the creation of transformative capacity for urban policy makers.

COOLSCHOOLS

The project assesses how nature-based climate solutions in school environments can drive social-ecological transformations towards urban sustainability, climate resilience, social justice, and quality education from schools to metropolitan regions, and translates them into practical building capacity for school communities and beyond. Building on pioneering pilot NBS projects of school transformation in Barcelona, Brussels, Paris, and Rotterdam, the research combines natural, bio-med-

ical, social, and education sciences, and relies on participatory and co-creation methodologies. We will actively disseminate the pilots' best practice and key learnings among city governments, urban planners, school communities and other relevant stakeholders. The consortium's cross-sectoral composition ensures active multi-stakeholder involvement through an urban living lab and other co-engagement actions, that are planned to boost reflection and learning, and the wider use of COOLSCHOOLS outputs.

TANGO-W

The project aims to strengthen European cities' capacity of permanent change towards more sustainability in the sense of the energy transition. It addresses the three most critical areas for human well-being - energy, food and water - and their interrelationships. The project thus promotes urban transformation capacities at the interface of the areas in seven Urban Living Labs 2.0 (ULL) in Austria, Sweden, Norway and Lithuania. By establishing a transdisciplinary community-of-practice transformation system, TANGO-W aims to drive transformative change at the social, organizational, technological,

and economic levels.

The expected impact of the TANGO-W project is to bridge the implementation gap between research and practice by initiating cross-sectoral and cross-actor change. This will be achieved by testing and practicing new transformation roles and interventions within public administration and applied research. These new action routines enhancing transformative capacity should effectively support and further advance the implementation of cross-cutting policies such as SDG 11, the New Urban Agenda and the EU Urban Agenda.

CircularCityChallenge

The project sets up a pan-European competition for teenage students. Through the competition, the consortium will collect submissions providing novel ideas for circular city approaches. The challenge invites young people to submit their own ideas for a sustainable future in their environment while educating them on sustainable development. This approach has a threefold effect: 1) The project will develop example curricula that embrace the innovative way of teaching sustainability

and circularity through a challenge-based approach. 2) Students will enhance their awareness and deep understanding of sustainability through critical thinking and creating solutions. 3) Cities will be enabled to improve development strategies co-created by inhabitants, using the circular city approach to address the challenges of urbanization and climate change. Lessons learned will be used to define policy recommendations and roadmaps for curricula implementation in different national contexts.

U-GARDEN

Urban gardens are a key component of the traditional urban and peri-urban landscapes of the main European cities, providing a wide range of ecosystem and social services, with a positive impact on the urban and socio-residential environment. The main aim for U-GARDEN is to promote the implementation of urban gardens and agroforestry experiences as key components of the strategic framework for sustainable urban development in European cities, from an interdisciplinary approach. The project will try to achieve several objectives: 1) to identify needs, problems and opportunities concerning urban garden and agroforestry experiences; 2) to promote, through Urban Living Labs, the stakeholders' capacity building in terms of green governance for food production and consumption in cities; 3) to drive citizens' capacity building for the involvement in sustainable urban development experiences; 4) to foster innovative business models around sustainable and local food production; 5) to evaluate the impact of the implementation of agroforestry/urban garden experiences in their social, cultural and environmental dimensions; and 6) to set up a multi-criteria framework to support decision-making in the location of urban gardens and agroforestry plots.

CoNECT

The project will catalyze existing networks for collective action in six EU countries, aiming to boost community organizing capacity by recognizing, mapping, connecting, and strengthening everyday practices of community resilience toward ecological transition.

The project will foster collaboration between citizens, thinkers, doers, planners, who will co-design

and conduct parallel synergistic Labs implementing joint tools and methodologies in order to: 1) map spaces and practices of community resilience; 2) analyze comparatively resources, partnership models, and stakeholder networks; 3) co-create experimental frameworks for setting up or enhancing initiatives of social resilience through multi-stakeholder collaborations; (4) set up a digital platform to connect local networks and enhance transformational agency of civic resilience through knowledge sharing; (5) establish a monitoring and evaluation framework for community resilience, scalable beyond the participating countries.

CO-HOPE

The (human) right to the city includes the right to live somewhere in security, peace and dignity. Globally, the prevailing market-oriented policies focusing on housing as a commodity have failed to enable adequate housing for all. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed this failure – also in Europe. CO-HOPE is a response to this health, housing and social crisis. Through theoretically informed applied research on collaborative housing, this project aims at generating potential-oriented recommendations for policymakers, and implementing an international capacity building

programme on collaborative housing that tackles the affordability- integration-health nexus. The results are expected to contribute to a shift in housing politics and provision towards community-led projects that foster sustainable and just transformative urban developments.

Create

The project aims at supporting urban transformation processes toward the circular economy by making an inventory of the existing material stocks within urban construction, developing reliable scenarios for future expected material flows, and providing governance arrangements on how to approach these transformation processes. The project focuses on the largest urban infrastructures and communal assets, namely buildings, municipal roads, water, and wastewater pipes. A transdisciplinary consortium will improve already existing, validated, and applied tools and arrangements and combine them with new digitalization technologies to inform decision-makers and enable a circular built environment. This will be achieved by engaging with a wide range of stakeholders in a co-creation process with three urban living and six fellow cities in five countries leading to a concrete proposal for an upscaling strategy for Europe.

OPUSH

An essential prerequisite for sustainable development is that it unfolds from within and is supported by local communities. The project aims to make knowledge on sustainable development and transformative action more visible and traceable and empower the local community by granting permanent access to open knowledge ecosystems. Thereby, OPUSH enhances the role and capacity of libraries within Open Science and through Citizen Science as a driver of sustainable development. The project is strategically engaged for the 2030 Agenda based on UN SDG:s by empowering people through education and learning and strengthening transformative action in all agendas, programs, and activities of the urban network shaping new urban innovation ecosystems and providing environmental and social justice for all.

THE FUNDING AGENCIES

Below are the 16 national funding agencies, from 14 countries, in the ENUTC call.

1. Forskningsrådet för miljö, areella näringar och samhällsbyggande (FORMAS), Sweden
2. Valsts izglitibas attistibas agentura (VIAA), Latvia
3. Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NWO), Netherlands
4. Agence Nationale de la Recherge (ANR), France
5. Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FRCT), Portugal
6. Innoviris, Belgium
7. Norges Forskningsråd (RCN), Norway
8. Narodowe Centrum Nauki (NCN), Poland
9. Unitatea Executiva pentru Finantarea Invatamantului Superior, a Cercetarii, Dezvoltarii si Inovarii (UEFISCDI), Romania
10. Statens energimyndighet (SWEA - STEM), Sweden
11. Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen (FWO), Belgium
12. Lietuvos mokslo taryba (RCL), Lithuania
13. Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur (ETAg), Estonia
14. Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF), Bulgaria
15. Österreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft mbh (FFG), Austria
16. Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI), Spain

CONTACT US

The ENUTC initiative is operated on a daily basis by a European management team. Many operational issues are dealt by national funding agency contact points.

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