### STREETS FOR CITIZENS E-NEWSLETTER



#### FIRST YEAR OF THE STREETSFORCITIZENS PROJECT

As we approach the end of the project's first year, we're thrilled to share the progress and milestones achieved so far in this second edition of our e-Newsletter. The past twelve months have been a whirlwind of activity, collaboration, and innovation as we worked together to create more inclusive, people-centered urban spaces.

In this edition, we take you behind the scenes of the October partnership meeting in Portalegre, Portugal, where key discussions and co-creation sessions shaped the next steps of the project. You'll also find updates on the achievements across our work packages, as well as insights from each partner on the progress they've made during the first year.

From baseline studies to tactical urbanism methodologies and strategic communication efforts, Streets for Citizens is steadily building a foundation for sustainable urban transformation. This year also laid the groundwork for future capacity-building activities and citizen involvement, ensuring the project's long-term impact. We are proud of how far we've come and excited for the journey ahead as we work towards greener, more connected urban environments.

Thank you for following our journey! Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to innovate and inspire throughout the project.

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**Streets for Citizens** 

The second partnership meeting of Streets For Citizens Project was held in the Municipal Town Hall of Portalegre (Alto Alentejo sub-region, Portugal) on October 23rd and 24th.

After the welcoming of all participants, partners delved into the main activities developed in the last 6 months, focusing on Work Package 1 (WP1), where DUCoR (WP1 leader) guided partners through the people-centred approach and tactical urbanism methodology during interactive co-creation and training sessions, filled with insightful exchanges, in order to make our cities more people-friendly.

The second day of the partnership meeting began with a walking workshop (walkshop) led by IPOP (WP2 leader), where partners had the opportunity to explore the walkability factors of the city that directly affect citizens in their daily lives (e.g. pedestrian areas, crossings, parking spaces, accessibility, urban equipment and others). Also, project partners had the opportunity to walk along the pedestrian path that is intended to be created in the city of Portalegre within the pilot action (painting of a multicoloured corridor linking the city's main schools to several public spaces, such as bus stops and the city's bus terminal).







MEETING



Finalising the meeting, IPOP addressed the activities to be developed under WP2, with the main objective of increase the level of commitment of citizens to improve the innovative city-level urban environmental management long-term plans. Following that, DUCoR stressed the importance of pilot projects as a means of testing different solutions and initiatives, as well as exploring how to develop pilot actions. The participants were then divided into groups and asked to come up with a possible pilot design using the pilot action canvas provided. Once the design was drafted, the partners presented their ideas and discussed them together.

We're excited to continue working together for more people-centered, green, and inclusive urban spaces!

23-24 OCTOBER PORTALEGRE In the first year of the project, the professional work was focused on Work Package 1. As a result, several deliverables and an output were developed in frames of four main activities.

A1.1 Baseline Information: In the first period, joint work started wit D1.1.1 Baseline Study with Good Practice Catalogue. As a first step, DUCoR as WP1 leader started the cooperation with other knowledge provider partners: IPOP, ENVIPARK and AREANATEJO were involved. During the first partner meeting in Zaragoza, DUCoR held a workshop, where the valuable inputs of also the territorial demonstration partners were collected for the Methodology to Review Baseline Situation. DUCOR developed this document, based on which city partners could prepare their respective "Partner level baseline situation paper". These documents were analysed and formed the basis for the Baseline Study. At the same time, the Good Practice Catalogue was prepared using the inputs of several partners. Based on the findings of the Baseline Study with the Good Practice Catalogue, the visual D1.1.2 Slide deck has been developed by DUCoR. The presentation can be used by partners for promotion.

A1.2 Develop knowledge basis: During the 2nd partner meeting in Portalegre, the expert of DUCOR led a co-creation session for all project partners, with the contribution of knowledge providers. The aim of this co-creation sprint workshop was to design the concept and main elements of D1.2.1 Peoplecentered approach practical guide and O1.1 Tactical urbanism methodology. As a result, the content of these two documents are to be finalized by the end of 2024 with the involvement of the knowledge provider partners, taking into consideration the opinion of territorial demonstration partners.

A1.3 Capacity building: knowledge providers are working on the development of D.3.1 Training materials that lay the foundations for knowledge transfer and the development of competencies of urban actors, focusing on the fields of tactical urbanism, and people-centered approach (involvement of citizens). The interactive online training will take place in December, 2024.

Al.4 Communication "CONCEPT": The D1.4.1 Communication, branding and digital Activities Strategy- CBDAS was developed by DUCoR, as a responsible partner for leading communication related activities. The developed CBDAS describes program requirements, rules of internal and external communication, specific project goals, target groups, messages, meetings and events; and the activities and requirements of the new generation communication. D1.4.2 Infographics are also prepared about the project topic to make it more attractive for the wider audience and deliver information to the target groups.



### WHAT WE ACHIEVED SO FAR

AREANATEJO (POR)



AREANATejo, as a Streets for Citizens Project partner, has a dual role, not only as Knowledge Provider, but also as Territorial Demonstration Partner. Throughout the implementation of the project, AREANATejo has actively contributed to the development of the Together other activities. with the Knowledge Providers, we met on September 9 at the KP Methodology Session to discuss and design the concept, structure, content and distribution of tasks with regards to D1.2.1 People-Centered Approach Guide and O1.1 Tactical Urbanism Methodology. In the KP Methodology Session, the tasks assigned to each Knowledge Provider were defined. AREANATejo was assigned the "Solutions" subchapters, referring to the "15-minute City", the "Cycling Strategy" and "Reducing Car access to city centers". The AREANATejo team was also assigned the preparation of a chapter of O.1.1. dedicated to the "benefits and disadvantages for climate adaptation", in relation to Tactical Urbanism methodologies.

Within this context, plans were drawn up for the content of the sub-chapters, following the logic of the document proposed by the partners responsible for the task, as well as the content for the contribution to O.1.1. After the revised content plan and feedback from the partners on the content of the sub-chapters, they were drawn up considering the challenge, the solution and how to implement it, the benefits of the solution, the difficulties that cities may face when implementing the solutions in question and also some potential examples of success in implementing them. The same happened with the contribution to O.1.1., where the content was drawn up considering the benefits of tactical urbanism for tackling climate change, as well as potential disadvantages, some of the good practices in this area and the long-term impacts.

AREANATejo, in partnership with the Municipality of Portalegre, is preparing an inspiring pilot project in the Alto Alentejo region. The plan? To create a vibrant, multicolored pedestrian corridor linking four schools with key public spaces, services, and the city's bus terminal. This initiative aims to promote sustainable mobility by encouraging walking, cycling, and bus travel. A highlight of the project is the active involvement of students in shaping their urban environment. Through creative activities like painting walls and urban furniture, young people will bring their ideas to life while fostering active citizenship and a deeper connection to their city.

But the vision doesn't stop at schools—this is a community-wide effort. Residents will have the chance to participate, making public spaces more inviting and inspiring a shift towards healthier, eco-friendly daily habits. By blending art, collaboration, and sustainability, this pilot not only raises awareness about soft mobility options like walking and cycling but also transforms urban spaces into places where people truly want to stay and thrive.

At the second coordination meeting of the project, which took place in the city of Portalegre, host of the AREANATejo pilot, all the partners were able to see first-hand the first demonstration of tactical urbanism in the city as part of the pilot. In this colorful demonstration by art students from one of the high schools of the city, bright colors were revitalizing the bus stop and nearby benches, turning them into eye-catching features. AREANATejo pilot showcases how creativity and collaboration can transform everyday spaces into vibrant hubs of community and sustainability, setting the stage for a more connected and eco-friendly future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROJE

#### IPOP (SLO)

Almost a year into the project, we've made significant progress, completing initial steps and working hard on the main outcomes of Work Package 1. Our project journey began with the Kick-off Partner Meeting in Zaragoza, Spain, in March, where we got to know the partners and launched our technical work. In April, we participated in the Green Living Areas Thematic Community Kick-off in Torino, where we were introduced to the various projects and partners of other EURO-MED communities and explored potential synergies.

The main focus during the first period was establishing The Baseline Information, which involved gathering data from city partners and identifying examples of good practices in tactical urbanism and placemaking. We contributed extensively to the Good Practice Catalogue (D1.1.3), conducting / thorough research on local, national, and global examples, such as Open Street, Comfortable Zunaj (Slovenia), Grätzloase Street, (Austria), and Share It Square (USA). As knowledge providers, we worked closely with the Work Package 1 leader to refine the Baseline Study Methodology (D1.1.1) and reviewed final outputs like the Baseline Study and the Slide Deck (D1.1.4).

In the second period, we began intensive work on the People-Centred Practical Guide (D1.2.1). We prepared chapters on one of the most pressing urban challenges: car-centric introduced cities. We participation methodologies and developed solutions for addressing car-dominated towns, drawing our included on experience. These approaches and best practices for measures such as Tempo 30 zones, School Streets, and Parking Management.



In October, we attended our second partner meeting in Portalegre, Portugal, where we advanced work on the People-Centred Practical Guide (D1.2.1). We supported the Work Package lead in executing the co-creation workshop and outlined the activities to be completed by the end of the year.

#### DUCOR (ESP)

In the first year of project implementation, **DUCoR** has started professional and communicational activities. DUCoR was the responsible partner to lead Work Package 1 activities. Firstly, DUCoR prepared the Methodology to Review Situation, Baseline including a template. document was This shared with territorial demonstration who could partners, use it to prepare their respective "Partner level baseline situation paper". These

documents were analysed and formed the basis for the D1.1.1 Baseline Study.



At the same time, knowledge providers were involved in the preparation of a Good Practice Catalogue. Based on the findings of the Baseline Study with the Good Practice Catalogue, the visual D1.1.2 Slide deck has been developed by DUCoR. We have participated in the 1st partner meeting in Zaragoza, Spain and the 2nd partner meeting in Portalegre, Portugal. During the latter, our expert led a co-creation session for all partners, with the contribution of knowledge providers. The aim of this co-creation sprint workshop was to design the concept and main elements of D1.2.1 People-centered approach practical guide and O1.1 Tactical urbanism methodology. As a result, the content of these two documents are to be finalized by the end of the year with the involvement of the knowledge provider partners, taking into consideration the opinion of territorial demonstration partners, as well. Together with knowledge providers D.3.1 Training materials are developed that lay the foundations for knowledge transfer and the development of competencies of urban actors, focusing on the fields of tactical urbanism, and people-centered approach (involvement of citizens). The interactive online training will take place in December, 2024.

DUCoR was also responsible for leading the communication activities of the partnership. Besides creating the D1.4.1 Communication, branding and digital Activities Strategy- CBDAS, we have fulfilled numerous tasks in this field. DUCoR has accomplished the initial duties to start the project website, set up social media accounts for the project (Facebook and LinkedIn) and created several posts. We have also created the official poster of the project and the eNewsletters. D1.4.2 Infographics are also prepared about the project topic to make it more attractive for the wider audience and deliver information to the target groups.

#### FAMCP (ESP)

FAMCP is proud to be a partner in the Streets for Citizens project, focused on revitalizing public spaces through Tactical Urbanism. Our pilot action, which will take place in Utebo municipality, represents an opportunity to redesign mobility and the quality of urban life, testing innovative and sustainable solutions. Added Value to the Project so Far: To date, the project has strengthened dialogue with the local community, and public representatives, identifying specific needs and opportunities to transform a key street in Utebo. The planned interventions are based on collaborative approaches, where neighbours <sup>´</sup>II actively participate in planning and execution. This process has sparked strong local interest, generating a sense of belonging and enthusiasm in the community.

Pilot Approach: Utebo as a Reference: The action will be carried out in one of the main arteries of the municipality, where improvements will be implemented ranging from the creation of temporary pedestrian spaces to the installation of street furniture that promotes social interaction. The selected street will be a living laboratory where we will test solutions adapted to the needs of the rural-urban environment.



Why is it important? Our goal is to inspire other cities and municipalities in the region by showing how small

interventions can generate big changes. Utebo will not only be an example of innovation, but also of how collaboration can transform public space into a place of meeting, safety and sustainability. Stay tuned for updates on this exciting intervention and how Utebo is leading this change towards liveable more humane and cities!

#### OCS (BA)

Municipality Centar Sarajevo is a proud active partner in "Street4citizens" project, through which it participated and participated in all key activities, along with other partners. This project, focused on the union of urban spaces through access that puts the citizens in the has center, enabled our municipality to transform and gain new knowledge / and skills in the field of urbanism and mobility.

Activities:



MunicipalityCentar Sarajevo actively participated in the first meeting of the Zaragoza, Spain, as well as at the second meeting in Portalegre, Portugal. At both meetings, we had the opportunity to exchange experiences with partners and learn from the best practices in the field of tactical urbanism and sustainable mobility.

As partners in the project, we participated in all workshops organized under the project, where together with other partners we developed ideas and concrete plans to improve public spaces. Through these workshops, we have acquired new knowledge and developed competences that will help us in the future realization of similar initiatives. The exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of urbanism and mobility was key to our municipality. Through cooperation with other partners, we have gained insight into innovative approaches used in other cities and municipalities, which allowed us to design our future activities based on different ideas and solutions.

The project has helped us develop a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities in urban planning, and empower us to implement sustainable, civic oriented solutions.

#### JS PTUJ (SLO)

The historic city of Ptuj, Slovenia, is intricately linked to the Drava River, which has played a pivotal role in shaping its development over the centuries. Today, Ptuj is embarking on a visionary transformation of its old city center, focusing on sustainability and innovation through nature-based solutions (NbS) and tactical urbanism. These approaches aim to breathe new life into a neglected riverside area. Through Streets for Citizens project pilot we will create a multifunctional, green space for the community while addressing the challenges of climate change.

A Collaborative Vision for a Vibrant Urban Space: Central to this project is the reimagining of an abandoned urban plot near the Drava River into a bustling city promenade. Through a competition involving architecture students, creative ideas were presented to integrate NbS and tactical urbanism principles, ensuring the area becomes a model for sustainable and flexible urban design.

Key Concepts and Proposed Solutions: 1. Green Parking Lot - a newly established pedestrian and bicycle path, preserved historical structures, and a modular pergola adaptable to various community needs.

2. Park Promenade - a park-like walkway integrating recreational spaces, native plants, and water features to seamlessly blend urban life with nature.

3. Garage Under the Park - a semi-underground garage topped with a green, walkable roof offering park-like amenities and urban equipment.

Tactical Urbanism: Flexible and Community-Focused: In addition to long-term NbS strategies, Ptuj is embracing tactical urbanism to create immediate and flexible improvements in the urban landscape. This approach includes temporary interventions like: pop-up parks and seating areas using modular designs, pedestrian-friendly zones and temporary road closures to encourage walking and cycling, experimental greenery installations to test and refine NbS designs.

Tactical urbanism allows the city to engage the community in the transformation process, gathering feedback and adjusting plans to meet citizens' needs while fostering a sense of ownership and pride in the revamped space.

A Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Future: Ptuj's revitalization project through Streets for Citizens pilot project is a testament to the city's commitment to creating a more sustainable and inclusive environment. By combining the long-term benefits of NbS with the adaptable strategies of tactical urbanism, Ptuj is addressing pressing urban challenges such as the lack of green spaces, urban heat, and climate change. By providing citizens with a dynamic, green space for recreation and social interaction, Ptuj demonstrates how historic cities can innovate and lead the way in sustainable urban desian.



#### NICOSIA DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CYP)

ANEL is proud to be a partner in the Streets for Citizens project, which began nearly a year ago and has made significant progress, focusing on revitalizing public spaces through Tactical Urbanism. This initiative aligns with ANEL's mission to empower its member municipalities by fostering vibrant, community-focused spaces for all. ANEL participated in the kickoff meeting in Zaragoza, Spain, followed by the second meeting in Portalegre, Portugal, which provided invaluable opportunities to exchange experiences with project partners and learn from best practices in tactical urbanism and sustainable mobility.

At the Portalegre meeting, ANEL attended alongside a stakeholder from another region, also involved in urban planning. This collaboration enriched discussions, facilitating the exchange of ideas and perspectives on urban development challenges. ANEL found the workshop on the Tactical Urbanism methodology particularly insightful, offering practical tools that can be applied to improve public spaces and promote sustainable urban environments. By participating in these workshops, ANEL gained valuable knowledge and skills that will directly support the implementation of its demonstration investment, Liveable Public Space (Investment 3.3), aimed at advancing sustainable urban environments.

In preparation for the pilot action, ANEL has initiated meaningful dialogue with the local community and public representatives in Latsia to identify key needs and opportunities for transforming a street in the area. This participatory approach ensures that all stakeholders' perspectives and priorities are considered, reflecting the community's aspirations. Furthermore, through its baseline assessment, ANEL has analyzed the main challenges in the Latsia municipal quarter, which include motorized transport issues such as road infrastructure and parking policies, as well as a lack of adequate pedestrian and cycling facilities. The analysis also highlighted concerns about the condition and accessibility of green assets in public spaces, underscoring the need for their integration into a sustainable urban planning framework.

ANEL has introduced the project to key stakeholders and is actively showcasing the innovative Tactical Urbanism methodology

alongside best practices gained through knowledge exchange. With the municipal Latsia quarter designated the primary as beneficiary, ANEL is eager to implement this methodology in the pilot demonstration \_ and looks forward to witnessing the project's progress and impact!



#### ANCI LAZIO (ITA)

In July 2024, an important meeting was held in Rome's Municipality IX, one of the pilot areas of the European Streets for Citizens project, co-funded by the European Union under the INTERREG Euro Med Programme and coordinated by ANCI Lazio. During the meeting, project representatives collaborated with the principal and other representatives of the Matteo Ricci School, located on Via Cina, to address urban challenges in the area surrounding the school. In Italy, ANCI Lazio acts as a project partner and is responsible for coordinating the pilot area in Rome's Municipality IX.



A major topic of discussion was the safety of children during school dismissal. The issue, previously identified in Rome's Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (PUMS), was reiterated by the school principal. The parking lot in front of the school often becomes overcrowded with parents' cars, leading to stress, traffic congestion, and safety risks for children. Additionally, the school courtyard is frequently filled with waiting parents, creating further crowding issues that compromise safety.

Tactical Urbanism for Safer and Inclusive Spaces

The Streets for Citizens project is tackling these challenges using the innovative Tactical Urbanism approach. Through a participatory process involving local stakeholders, the following interventions are planned:

- Pedestrianizing and securing the street in front of the school to ensure a safer and more orderly dismissal process.
- Improving the pedestrian crossing on Via Cina, while ensuring that the adjacent parking lot remains accessible to parents and residents.
- Creating a bike lane to connect the school with the surrounding neighborhood, promoting slow and sustainable mobility.

A follow-up meeting with the Municipal Police, scheduled for mid-December, will explore solutions aligned with traffic regulations to further enhance the safety of the area.

Sustainable Urban Mobility and Regeneration Initiatives

In parallel, Municipality IX is advancing another project focused on sustainable mobility in the area, with details to be announced soon. Additionally, a milestone was reached with the approval of the Technical and Economic Feasibility Plan for the redevelopment of Largo Nicolò Cannella. This ambitious initiative, part of the "15 Projects for 15 Districts in the 15-Minute City" program, aims to transform an 11,000-square-meter space into a multifunctional hub, enhancing quality of life and fostering social cohesion.

The Largo Nicolò Cannella project integrates several innovative elements:

- Tactical Urbanism: The use of colors, visual cues, and participatory design fosters a sense of belonging and improves public space usability. This approach has already been successfully tested in Municipio IX through Streets for Citizens.
- Green and Nature based Solutions: expansion of green spaces, increased permeable surfaces, and the introduction of new plant species, including trees and shrubs, will enhance biodiversity and urban resilience.
- Strategic community spaces: the regeneration of the central building—housing the Bocce Club, Social Center, and Civil Protection unit—will preserve its role as a vital communit

With a total investment of €1,500,000 (€1,000,000 for construction and €500,000 for ancillary costs), the project is a shining example of how tactical urbanism and participatory planning can create inclusive, sustainable public spaces. This initiative solidifies Municipio IX as a leader in urban experimentation and a model for replicating best practices in urban regeneration. By addressing critical challenges and fostering collaboration between stakeholders, the Streets for Citizens project demonstrates the transformative power of community-driven solutions to enhance urban sustainability and safety.

#### ENVIPARK (ITA)

ENVIPARK, along with IPOP, DUCOR and AREANATejo, is one of the "Streets for Citizen" technology providers that will support pilots development throughout the project.

The cities that would implement innovative ideas are Rome (IT), Ptuj (SL), Utebo (Spain), Ioannina (Greece), Sarajevo (Bosnia), Portalegre (Portugal) and Latsia (Cyprus).

The innovation of this project relies on the participatory approach to understanding the problems and the needs of the cities and providing possible solutions.

Technology providers worked together to create useful documents to define the methodologies and approaches that pilot cities could use to co-create, together with citizens and main stakeholders, interventions and solutions (both temporary and long-term).

In particular, a Good Practices Catalogue (D 1.1.3) was elaborated to give examples of best practices for different types of interventions in Cities with a focus on small and medium-sized Cities in Europe.

Envipark provided useful examples regarding the interventions undergone in Italy, especially all the tactical Urbanism interventions of Milano and the so-called "school squares" in the city of Bologna.

In the second half of the year, Technology Providers started an in-depth analysis of methodologies and approaches to organize and develop interventions to reduce car traffic in pilot cities and realize more people-centred activities, by giving practical and useful information.









An online / training webinar will be organized in December to address pilot-specific issues and provide methodologies 🥖 for pilot the cities' interventions. Envipark took part in "Spiazzante" the conference in Turin, 5 "school where square" interventions, both in Turin and in the surrounding area, were presented. The conference was the occasion 🥖 to understand the process for stakeholders' engagement and the typology of tactical urbanism intervention used for the realization of these new "squares".

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROJE

#### MOI (GRE)

Almost one year into its journey, Streets for Citizens is proving to be a pivotal initiative for loannina, aligning with the city's efforts to become a climate-neutral and smart city. With citizens at the core of these developments, the project's focus on tactical urbanism and public participation is key to driving climate action. Since the project's launch, loannina has joined a network of partners committed to shared learning and collaboration. Participation in project meetings in Zaragoza and Portalegre offered valuable insights into citizen engagement tools and methodologies for regenerating public spaces in participatory ways. In April, city representatives attended the Interreg Euro-Med Green Living Areas gathering alongside 19 other projects. This event not only fostered connections with like-minded cities and stakeholders across the Mediterranean but also introduced loannina to thematic groups that will provide ongoing support throughout the project's three-year duration.

Within Streets for Citizens, loannina together Portalegre and Rome, are focusing on Active Mobility. The pilot project centers on transforming a staircase street with a steep 30% slope that connects important routes and services around the city's center. Currently degraded, poorly lit, and challenging for vulnerable users, the area is set to undergo a complete revitalization. Employing tactical urbanism, co-creation, and New European Bauhaus principles, the project aims to create a vibrant, accessible, and inclusive public space with enhanced aesthetic and practical value.

To prepare the forthcoming citizen engagement and co-creation activities, over the summer and beyond, loannina organized a variety of activities:

- Events such as picnics, a lake run, and a promenade walk temporarily repurposed public spaces by closing them to cars and inviting citizens to take ownership.
- At the planning level, the city conducted supportive studies on promoting cycling and regenerating public spaces.
- During this period several projects for greening, pedestrianizing, and improving public areas advanced; projects that are complementing the Streets for Citizens forthcoming intervetnions and making them part of a big inclusive and holistic plan.



Last but not least, to maximize impact, loannina has prioritized creating synergies among ongoing projects and initiatives. By aligning these efforts, the city is paving the way toward a co-creative, equitable sustainable, and urban future. Representatives have participated in prominent international events, including gatherings of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities initiative and the Urban Resilience Forum. Additionally, Ioannina has fostered collaboration with other Mission cities such as Kozani and Kalamata. Last but not least, Ioannina brought together relevant projects, such as MOBILITIES for EU and ELABORATOR.

Through these collective efforts, loanning is transforming the vision of Streets for Citizens into reality, making significant strides toward a livable, citizen-centric city that embraces sustainability and innovation.





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