

Digital Resources

R. 4.6 - Digital resources for education and training

EUREKA European Urban REgenerators Knowledge Alliance
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R.4.6 Digital resources for education and training

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Keywords:	Urban regeneration; social innovation; digital resources; training; education;
Abstract:	<p>Webinars are critical reflection on case studies, inviting the actors that developed these processes and stimulating a discussion on their strengths, weaknesses and learned lessons;</p> <p>Podcasts: with the series “Urban Stories”, EUREKA promotes good practices of grassroots, culture-led urban and social innovation processes across Europe. All cases are members of the Trans Europe Halles Network, representing Europe as a whole – from North to South and from East to West – and with different lifespans.</p> <p>Articles: a non-exhaustive list of documents, articles and toolkits shared among the project participants during the training.</p>
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Abstract

EUREKA training provided **11 webinars** and **6 podcasts** and has shared within its community more than twenty articles, toolkits and documents on the topics of the living lab and urban innovation.

Webinars are critical reflection on case studies, inviting the actors that developed these processes and stimulating a discussion on their strengths, weaknesses and learned lessons; they have also been recorded and shared on youtube, for students to re-listen whenever they prefer. Each partner is in charge of producing one webinar. Each webinar lasts around 1,5 hours.

Podcasts: with the series “Urban Stories”, EUREKA promotes good practices of grassroots, culture-led urban and social innovation processes across Europe. All cases are members of the Trans Europe Halles Network, representing Europe as a whole – from North to South and from East to West – and with different lifespans. Each practice is explored through research carried out in 2021 under the project Eureka -European Urban Regeneration Knowledge Alliance-, funded with the Erasmus plus programme. Each podcast lasts around 15 minutes. The partner in charge is Melting Pro Learning Soc. Coop.

Articles: a non-exhaustive list of documents, articles and toolkits shared among the project participants during the training.

WEBINARS			
Title	Partner in charge	Short description and Lecturers	Direct link
Le Serre dei Giardini - from abandoned greenhouses to a community hub (Bologna, Italy)	Università Iuav di Venezia	<p>During the seminar the case study will be described in its business and organizational model, tracing its history through the key choices and learnings, with a focus on its strategic impact oriented approach.</p> <p>—</p> <p>By <i>Nicoletta Tranquillo</i> Msc in sustainable development and environmental science at the Lund University (Sweden) and previously a degree in Business Economics at the Bocconi University (Italy). Co-founder of Kilowatt.</p>	Le Serre dei Giardini - from abandoned greenhouses to a community hub (Bologna, Italy)

Theory of Change and Impact Evaluation	LAMA Società Cooperativa – Impresa Sociale	<p>The video focuses on Theory of Change as an approach for planning, designing and evaluating interventions.</p> <p>—</p> <p>By <i>Mattia Forni</i> and <i>Harshita Takare</i>,</p> <p>Mattia Forni holds a master's degree in political science from the University of Florence.</p> <p>Harshita Takare is a researcher, economist and urban planner with expertise in research and management of international development projects in the context of Europe, Africa and South Asia. Both are practitioners at LAMA Impresa Sociale.</p>	Theory of Change and Impact Evaluation
Visual Data Storytelling	Melting Pro Learning Società Cooperativa	<p>How can you communicate data in a simple and affordable way? How to avoid miscommunication and misunderstanding as data is not always objective.</p> <p>Visual Data Storytelling aims at designing informative experiences that means reducing the gap between information and experience working on how to trust on data and charts.</p> <p>—</p> <p>By <i>Alice Corona</i></p> <p>Adjunct professor Department of Statistical Sciences "Paolo Fortunati". Freelance consultant in the field of data storytelling and data literacy trainings. Co-founder and project leader of Batjo. Data journalist for Sheldon Studio. Data activist for Inside Airbnb and OCIO.</p>	Visual Data Storytelling

Community Building in Multi-stakeholder Urban Developments	Pakhuis de Zwijger	<p>Together with researchers, practitioners, and designers, we will explore the best ways to build a community and guide better future urban developments.</p> <p>—</p> <p>Lecturers: <i>Servaz van Berkum</i> (Moderator) <i>Tjeerd Haccou</i> (Architect & Co-founder of Space&Matter) <i>Ellen van Bueren</i> (Professor of Urban Development Management at TU Delft) <i>Gert Joost Peek</i> (lecturer in Area Development and Transition Management at Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences) . Jonel Nugteren (Project manager of Asmtel III at Amsterdam Zuidoost)</p>	Community Building in Multi-stakeholder Urban Developments
Design Thinking for urban interventions	Asociatia Casa Plai	<p>Design Thinking is a non-linear, iterative process that teams use to understand users, challenge assumptions, redefine problems and create innovative solutions to prototype and test.</p> <p>Can this approach be applied to urban innovation? What can be the benefits of using it for present-day urbanists?</p> <p>—</p> <p>By <i>Alexandra Cotirta Gruicin</i> Organizational Psychologist, certified in Transactional Analysis (Psychotherapy & Organizational Development), Solution Focused Coaching ACC level and Lean Six Sigma Green Belt.</p>	Design Thinking for urban interventions

Diversify or Die	Trans Europe Halles	<p>In this webinar we discussed how we can make our urban practices more inclusive and diverse: what methodologies, terms and practices exist and what should be avoided.</p> <p>—</p> <p>By <i>Fairooz Tamimi</i> Director of Strategic Development at Trans Europe Halles, and is an award-winning author and journalist. She is a Diversity & Inclusion specialist and she worked globally and in Europe to utilize the power of innovation, diversity and culture to achieve sustainability.</p>	Diversify or Die
Urbanism and Tourism: Definitions and Evolutions	Universidad De La Iglesia De Deusto Entidad Religiosa	<p>How is urban development related to tourism and what are the impacts of unregulated tourism? What are the benefits and possible dangers of rapid tourism and can it be prevented without damaging the economy?</p> <p>—</p> <p>By <i>Amir Gohar</i> Senior Lecturer in Urban Planning Practices. Tourism & urban planner and sustainable development expert with nearly two decades of working experience with municipal governments, research institutes, international development agencies, private sector firms and local community organisations.</p>	Tourism & Urbanism: Definitions & Evolutions

Use of GIS (Geographical Information System) in urban planning: development of cartographic materials	Universitat ea De Vest Din Timisoara	<p>The aim of this webinar-tutorial is to deliver a didactic material, which aims to produce two maps useful in the analysis of the urban environment.</p> <p>—</p> <p>By <i>Alexandra Marian-Potra</i> PhD Assistant at the West University of Timișoara. Her main interest topics are regional geography, territorial planning, tourism and tourism development, digital mapping and GIS.</p>	Use of GIS (Geographical Information System) in urban planning: development of cartographic materials
Urban Regeneration in Timisoara	Municipiul Timisoara	<p>The main focus of the webinar is on urban regeneration and the main tools that public administrations have to tackle New European Bauhaus projects.</p> <p>—</p> <p>By <i>Roxana Pătrulescu, Roxana Canceal and Despina Ungureanu</i> Roxana Pătrulescu. Head of Historic Neighborhoods Rehabilitation Office within the General Office of Urbanism and Territorial Planning of the Municipality of Timișoara. Roxana Canceal. Part of Municipality of Timișoara's team working in the implementation of EU funded projects. Despina Ungureanu. Head of Participatory Governance and Neighborhood Management.</p>	Urban Regeneration in Timisoara

Governing a just city through collaborative governance	Hogeschool Van Amsterdam	<p>Shift from government to governance: a network collaboration. It means collaboration and co-creation. This is a participatory perspective, focusing on who is affected by a policy.</p> <hr/> <p>By <i>Julie Ferguson</i> Associate Professor of network governance at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences</p>	Governing a just city through collaborative governance
Fab Labs and Urban innovation: the case of the Jetclay 3D printing ecosystem.	Asociacion Cultural Open Yourkolekt iboa	<p>Jetclay is an EU award winning project that has found in urban innovation environments the perfect scenario to flourish. This webinar will explain how the project grew from idea to ethical startup and ecosystem thanks to the Old Artiach Old Cookie Factory in Zorrotzaurre, Bilbao.</p> <hr/> <p>By <i>Javier Pérez Contonente</i> and <i>Julián Trotman</i> Javier Pérez Contonente. Architect, Fab Academy Graduate and founder of Jetclay. Julián Trotman. Designer, Jetclay member and founder of Godot Studio.</p>	Fab Labs and Urban innovation: the case of the Jetclay 3D printing ecosystem

PODCAST Urban stories - Practices of urban and social innovation in Europe		
Title	Short description	Direct link

Episode 1 Bitamine Faktoria - Spain	In this episode we focused on the cultural centre – Bitamine Faktoria based in Irun, Spain. They have a unique approach to art processes and put a lot of emphasis on public space and community engagement in their daily work.	https://meltingpro.buzzsprout.com/1452067/10875203?t=0
Episode 2 Brunnenpassage - Austria	We examined Brunnenpassage from Vienna, Austria. It is an independent cultural centre in the middle of a market that engages local community living around the area and often of immigrant background.	https://meltingpro.buzzsprout.com/1452067/11892531
Episode 3 OvestLab - Italy	We interviewed OvertLab from Modena, Italy. This space serves as a meeting point and creative incubator for the neighbourhood.	https://meltingpro.buzzsprout.com/1452067/11892546
Episode 4 Communitism - Greece	We talked to a cultural space from Greece – Communitism – who have been reviving an old abandoned heritage buildings in Athens. They are a collective of artists who believe in commoning practices and have opened their spaces to everyone to visit and take part in.	https://www.buzzsprout.com/1452067/11892579
Episode 5 Fabrica de Pensula - Romania	We talked to an independent cultural center Fabrica de Pensula in Romania.	https://www.buzzsprout.com/1452067/13001902
Episode 6 Nova Cvernovka - Slovakia	In our last episode in the series, we interviewed an independent cultural center from Slovakia – Nova Cvernovka. The artists who founded the center managed to build a strong community of artists and creatives around the center and negotiate a 25 year-old contract for the building.	https://www.buzzsprout.com/1452067/13001922

Articles | Research and inspiration on Living Labs and Urban Innovation

Title	Abstract	Direct link
Living lab handbook for urban living labs developing nature-based solutions	<p>The Living Lab approach is one of the most well-known and successful approaches for developing innovations. There are many aspects to consider when setting up a Living Lab in terms of organization, operations, resources, business models, users / citizens, openness and value.</p> <p>In this handbook, we are focusing on Urban Living Labs – meaning Living Labs operating within an urban setting (in a city). This urban setting can be as narrow as a single street or as wide as the city as a whole. You can modify this approach to use it in other contexts as well – for instance in a rural environment. In Living Labs, the space for the experimentation is always a real-life setting: the solution is tested in the real-life environment, right where it is planned for (for example, on a street).</p>	https://unalab.eu/system/files/2020-07/living-lab-handbook2020-07-09.pdf

<p>Urban Living Labs: A Living Lab Way of Working</p>	<p>Urban living labs have become a popular phenomenon in today's cities. But what exactly are urban living labs? All over the world, the term "living lab" is being used to refer to a variety of local experimental projects of a participatory nature. Practitioners and scholars agree on the need for a more precise definition as a starting point for living lab research, Professor Ellen van Bueren and research fellow Kris Steen have conducted in-depth research on this topic during the AMS research project on 'Urban Living Labs'. The aim of the research was to develop a methodology to facilitate systematic achievement of the living lab goals and ambitions in practice. How do urban living labs work? How can they contribute to a more sustainable environment? And how can you set up a successful urban living lab? Furthermore, the living lab way of working guides actors in what to think about in which stage of the process, while offering advice on elementary questions such as for example how to set up a project, how to formalise the made agreements, how to achieve inspiring co-creation sessions and how to manage an innovation collectively through a suitable legal organisational form. Finally, recommendations are made to ensure that the evaluation, refinement and dissemination activities in the living lab are conducted with success. This is necessary to allow an overarching learning mechanism in the larger urban innovation system by adoption of the formulated lessons in other urban contexts, realising the full potential of a living lab.</p>	<p>https://www.researchgate.net/publication/318109901_Urban_Living_Labs_A_Living_Lab_Way_of_Working</p>
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<p>Living Labs—A Concept for Co-Designing Nature-Based Solutions</p>	<p>Living Labs are recognized as a progressive form to foster innovation and the strengthening of collaborative planning. The concept has received strong attention by the European Union (EU) research and innovation agendas recently. This contribution investigates how a Living Lab approach could be used for the design and implementation of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS). NBS are gaining acceptance as a more sustainable solution for reducing the exposure to natural hazards and vulnerability to events, such as increased flooding in changing climate. However, a lack of collaborative approaches hinders their broader implementation. A literature review on the theoretical aspects of the Living Labs concept in the context of NBS is conducted, and we compare the theoretical findings with practices that were observed by case studies implementing NBS in a collaborative manner. The Isar-Plan River Restoration in Munich, Germany, and the Mountain Forest Initiative (Bergwaldoffensive). Both of the case studies have already started well before the concept of Living Labs gained wider popularity. Both award-winning cases are recognized good practice for their exemplary in-depth stakeholder involvement. The paper discusses the concepts and approaches of Living Labs and reflects on how it can serve and support in-depth participatory stakeholder involvement.</p>	<p>https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/13/1/188</p>
<p>Community Engagement: a Practitioner's Guide</p>	<p>Written in collaboration with the Department of Civic Things, part one of this two-part series explores the steps you need to take to create a sustainable and effective engagement strategy for your government agency. Dive into the best practices and guidelines on equitable, meaningful community engagement and build a stronger community together with your residents.</p>	<p>https://www.citizenlab.co/ebooks-en/community-engagement-practitioners-guide?utm_source=occd&utm_medium=resourcelibrary&utm_campaign=toolkitnavigator</p>

Innovation in strategic planning: Social innovation and co-production under a common analytical framework	<p>The article is aimed at discussing social innovation and co-production under a common analytical framework in order to contribute, without attempts of comprehensiveness, to the debate on how to indicate new opportunities to foster innovation in strategic planning. In the Paper co-production and social innovation are considered as mutual supporting elements in the creation of ‘trading zones’: spaces of strong interaction for mobilizing varied (and also conflicting) collective intelligence; middle ground spaces of confrontation able to institutionalize co-production and scale-up social innovation, in a long-term process that might transform how local institutions and strategic planning operate. Within this framework, the case study of Bologna in Italy is discussed, highlighting criticalities and opportunities in a city that has invested in specific planning mechanisms aimed at linking coproduction and social innovation within a common policy effort.</p>	https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/14730952231182610
Urban Living Lab for Local Regeneration	<p>This open access book provides an integrated overview of the challenges and resources of large-scale social housing estates in Europe and outlines possible interdisciplinary approaches and tools to promote their regeneration. It especially focuses on the tool of urban living labs, as promising in promoting new and more effective local governance and in including the different actors into the planning process. The book combines theory and practice, since it is the result of action-research conducted in different social housing estates all over Europe. Building on the results of the SoHoLab project (2017–2020), the book benefits from a multidisciplinary perspective, since the researchers involved belong to the fields of anthropology, urban planning, architecture, urban sociology. The project combined theoretical reflections with the installation and/or the consolidation of Urban Living Labs, run by universities, in large social housing estates in three European cities: Brussels, Milan and Paris.</p>	https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-19748-2#about-this-book
Living labbers webinar series	<p>A webinar series about Living Labs</p>	https://unalab.eu/en/living-labbers-webinar-series

Framework for agile living labs	<p>The Living Lab concept proposes a number of guidelines (user-centric design, iterative in-the-wild testing, user involvement & panel management, etc...), yet does not offer much in term of practical guidance on how to run an innovation project in real-life. Agile project management methodologies do offer such guidance yet have been critiqued for not providing a focus on the end-user. The Framework for Agile Living Labs (FALL) projects aim to provide practitioners with actionable guidelines on how to run a Living Lab project in an agile way. Agility means being able to flexibly integrate new information in the project's roadmap, which is exactly the type of situation that a Living Lab project will find itself in, due to its focus on iterative testing with end-users.</p>	https://eu-macs.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/20180425-FALL-infographic.pdf
Action research in the city: developing collaborative governance arrangements for the urban commons	<p>This paper gives insight in the action research method used to develop collaborative governance arrangements for the urban commons. Urban commons, i.e. the collective management of common resources in the city by the group of stakeholders in a form of self organisation, is seen as constituted in collaborative governance, which is a form of policy making that takes place in the continuous interaction between stakeholders around places and practices. Action research as a form of policy analysis aligns with the flexible and contingent status of policy in this setting. In the paper we elaborate on the activities action researchers perform and the attitudes and routines they need to adhere to. It also gives insight in the role and function of a conceptual model for action researchers and how systemic is strived after, illustrated by examples of the Zero Waste Lab case in Amsterdam Nieuw West.</p>	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/347290749_Action_research_in_the_city_developing_collaborative_governance_arrangements_for_the_urban_commons

<p>The creative bureaucracy & its radical common sense</p>	<p>Public bureaucracies across the globe face a converging, escalating crisis. Our societies are increasingly unequal. The population is ageing and they have fewer resources to respond to the growing need for care services. Demands for affordable living conditions are increasing as public space declines. Frenzied finance movements are rattling domestic economies. Mass migration is engendering fear and uncertainty. This accounts for some sudden and dangerous responses to overcome the effects of a turbo-charged capitalism. Add to this the rise in populism divides the world into ‘patriots’ and ‘globalists’ and is just a foretaste of what is to come. And overlaying everything our digitizing world and its disruptive technologies is providing both vast opportunities and threats.</p> <p>There is a massive, urgent task ahead for bureaucracies to help create a fairer more equal world buttressed by an incentives and regulatory regime to match. They need to be smarter and cities need to be more creative as well, yet a city cannot achieve that if part of the system is uncreative. [...]</p> <p>Our overall aim is to shift things from a ‘no, because’ culture to a ‘yes, if’ culture — one that captures possibilities and potential. This short book is targeted at those working in and outside bureaucracies. It seeks to inspire those inside the system and to shift perceptions of those outside who may have succumbed to knee jerk prejudices and clichés about who bureaucrats are, how they work and the potential of the public sector. Indeed, behind many great projects there is a creative bureaucrat, finding ways to shape the rules they operate with in positive directions.</p>	<p>https://creativebureaucracy.org/file/63485/</p>
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<p>Controlling the Valves: Dealing with Conflict in a Transition Initiative for Public–Private Water Governance in Amsterdam</p>	<p>Conflict lies at the core of urban sustainability transitions and the indispensable structural changes that accompany them. In this chapter we examine the RESILIO project, a multi-actor collaboration in Amsterdam aiming to transition towards a 'climate proof' city through smart water retention systems on urban roofs. The focus is on the conflict that emerged during discussions about controlling the smart valves on the rooftops which are designed to prevent urban flooding. Using a discourse analytical framework, the study analyses participant interactions, conflicting positions, and discursive strategies employed by the partners involved in the initiative. Participants utilised several discursive strategies, including identity, stake, and accountability management, to manage their positions in the conflict and influence the discourse. The study highlights the challenges of addressing conflict that involves redefining accountability and responsibility between public and private actors in the collaborative setting of transition initiatives. By doing so the findings contribute to a deeper understanding of how conflict can shape learning processes and foster sustainable urban transitions.</p>	<p>https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-99-2695-4_8</p>
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<p>Participate! Portraits of Cities and Citizens in Action</p>	<p>Participate! Portraits of Cities and Citizens in Action offers an introduction to the complex world of urban development, identity and participation. It explains how the self-understanding of cities is mirrored in their approach to urban development. The basis of the book is formed by portraits of six European cities: Berlin, Hamburg, Paris, Lyon, Amsterdam and Groningen. The book fills a gap as it provides general introductions to cities, a brief outline of the city's planning system, a short historic introduction to the city's planning culture. With telling and outstanding examples of citizen participation this book offers important insights in both the intrinsic logic of the cities and the mechanisms – sometimes more inclusive, sometimes more exclusive- of participation. Participate! is one of the results of the R-link project, a unique cooperation of Dutch policy makers and scholars on participation and urban development. Of interest for urban planners, architects, city journalists and students and academics in the field of urban planning.</p>	<p>https:// www.researchgate.net/ publication/ 353846856_Participate_P ortraits_of_Cities_and_Ci tizens_in_Action#:~:text= Portraits%20of%20Cities %20and%20Citizens%20i n%20Action%20offers%2 0an%20introduction,their %20approach%20to%20u rban%20development.</p>
<p>Street-Level Democracy? urban professionals as participatory innovators in neighbourhood planning processes</p>	<p>In 2017 the municipality of Amsterdam launched a programme to combat a housing shortage and realise ambitious societal goals for 32 of its most deprived neighbourhoods. After decades of urban renewal projects, these areas still scored poorly on most socio-economic indicators. The programme aims to develop more affordable housing for low- and middleincome households, to revitalise the existing public spaces of these neighbourhoods and to improve the residents' socio-economic position. In addition, the progressive municipal council installed in 2018 intends to democratise urban renewal processes with the aim of increasing community involvement.</p>	<p>https:// openresearch.amsterdam/ image/2020/3/17/ aanholt_et_al_street_level _democracy.pdf</p>

<p>Repositioning the public in the social innovation debate. Reflections from the field</p>	<p>In urban studies, social innovation mainly means voluntary, non-statutory, citizen-led, or community-led initiatives implemented to respond to unmet or new social needs. Social innovation has been applied to many urban regenerations and territorial development initiatives, but in many cases overestimated its potential to come up with progressive solutions alone without the support of public action. In the paper, by critically discussing the case of the Simeto area in Sicily, we claim a shift from the concept of social innovation to the one of public innovation, and we assume social innovation as a social and territorial construct that requires to be mobilised ad hoc within particular spatial and institutional settings. From a strategic planning perspective, this process should involve the creation of trading zones, boundary objects, and agonist democracy, allowing specific and context-based interactions among community-based initiatives and institutions at different levels.</p>	<p>https://rosa.uniroma1.it/rosa03/tracce_urbane/article/view/18120/17330</p>
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Open Innovation Strategies for Sustainable Urban Living	<p>Cities are increasingly seen as having an important role in tackling societal challenges related to climate change, while open innovation is increasingly accepted as a new way of working for governments. In the current work, we explore the role of open innovation to tackle global challenges on a city level. In the context of the city of Rotterdam and its vision on sustainability and liveability, seven collaborative initiatives are introduced. These initiatives aim to address both sustainability and liveability goals. Our research shows that in order to have these initiatives contribute to the overall municipal goal on sustainability and liveability, the municipality needs to take different roles. Whereas traditional open innovation literature usually distinguishes three main types of open innovation, namely outside-in, inside-out, and coupled processes, the current study shows that open innovation for sustainability in the city needs a much more fine-grained and elaborate perspective; a multi-level open innovation model that allows for different co-creative partnerships joining forces in sustainability challenges. It can be concluded that governments have a key role in infrastructuring these co-creative partnerships.</p>	https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/11/12/3310
In dialogue with Paul Citron	<p>The interview has been conducted at Césure, the new two-year project of Plateau Urbain and Yes We Camp. This 25.000 sqm former University building will host more than 180 initiatives and more than 1.000 students</p>	https://rosa.uniroma1.it/rosa03/tracce_urbane/article/view/18260/17322

<p>Lost in participation: conflicts and motivations in participatory culture-led regeneration projects</p>	<p>The research explores the frictions and tensions that may arise between stakeholders with conflicting aims in culture-led urban regeneration projects. Using ethnography (particularly “deep hanging out”), the core part of the paper empirically investigates a participatory operatic project, OperaCamion, developed within a complex governance structure, involving public institutions, a creative team and two opera theatres; adaptation of operas have toured public spaces and, in Palermo, resulted in a co-production with citizens. Through fieldwork, the paper illustrates the tensions resulting from conflicting needs and points out the need for accurate partnership design and an appropriate selection of participants, followed by negotiation and conflict mitigation strategies in order to ensure that all the involved stakeholders gain benefits and derive value from the partnership, and that the culture-led regeneration project is delivered successfully.</p>	<p>https://rosa.uniroma1.it/rosa03/tracce_urbane/article/view/18257/17508</p>
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<p>Building possibilities. Community planning as a critical spatial thinking</p> <p>A conversation with Kenneth Reardon</p>	<p>Kenneth Reardon has dedicated much of his career to examining the relationship between planning, community development, and social equity, emphasizing the importance of engaging local communities in the planning process to ensure that planning decisions consider the needs and aspirations of all residents, particularly those from marginalized and underserved populations. Reardon's research explores various aspects of advocacy planning, including participatory action research, community organizing, and University service learning, contributing valuable insights to the field of community planning. Moving from grassroots mobilizations to institutionalization of practices to art as a device of engagement, my conversation with Prof. Kenneth Reardon took place in Boston in February 2023, during the time I spent with him and Prof. Antonio Raciti as a visiting researcher at the School for Environment, in the Department of Urban Planning and Community Development.</p>	<p>https://rosa.uniroma1.it/rosa03/tracce_urbane/article/view/18455/17495</p>
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<p>Can institutions learn? A conversation with Laura Lieto</p>	<p>Laura Lieto is a planning theorist and an urban ethnographer. Her work is about urban informality, trans-national urbanism and planning regulation, with a socio-materialist orientation inspired by Actor Network theory and assemblage thinking. I met Laura when I had the occasion to invite her to the U-Rise Master at University Iuav of Venice. I had the chance to listen to an inspiring lecture on how local governments and institutions work. Her capacity to see the complexity of decision making processes is obviously given by her theoretical thinking, combined with the actual position she holds as vice-mayor in the City of Naples. But I'm sure this depends also on previous ethnographic work she conducted observing local institutions from within.</p> <p>This is the reason why we decided to interview Laura Lieto beside Kenneth Reardon. To convey how much local governments matter if we believe that communities really matter. In this conversation we mainly discuss the process of reciprocal learning between community based practices and local institutions.</p> <p>Can Institution Learn? is the title of a seminar I organized at University Iuav of Venice in 2018. After many years of field and action research, the question is still open. Or more precisely, the question is broader: we are interested in understanding whether and how the community based action-local institutions nexus can positively impact planning mechanisms and systems to enhance processes of public innovation.</p>	<p>https://rosa.uniroma1.it/rosa03/tracce_urbane/article/view/18456/17496</p>
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<p>Exploring the social innovation co-production nexus in Sofia: The case of Toplocentrala within the AGORA project</p>	<p>This paper investigates the territorial implications of social innovation and co-production of services in strategic spatial planning. It focuses on the regeneration of Toplocentrala, a socialist heritage building in Sofia that has been transformed into a regional centre for contemporary arts, within the context of the AGORA project's strategic planning process. The research aims to enhance our understanding of the role of public action in social innovation and the need to redefine collaborative practices within institutional frameworks to promote innovation. A multi-method approach combining qualitative and quantitative data was employed, including site visits, interviews with key stakeholders, and secondary data analysis. The study highlights how strategic spatial planning processes involving social innovation and co-production of services can reshape the relationship between the state and civil society.</p>	<p>https://rosa.uniroma1.it/rosa03/tracce_urbane/article/view/18172/17500</p>
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<p>The Transformative Potential of Active Citizenship: Understanding Changes in Local Governance Practices</p>	<p>This paper focuses on understanding the transformative potential of active citizenship in green space governance. Through an in-depth case study, we show how citizens promoted the redevelopment of a brownfield into a green space, but eventually also contributed towards a broader co-creative shift in local governance. In this process, we highlight how a shift in citizens' activities from contestation towards collaboration led to the uptake of citizen-driven discourses and activities in spatial planning. The social connectivity between governance practices is of key importance in this transformation—successful governance practices that involve active citizens can inspire others. Even so, transformation is often a slow and path-dependent process which also depends on an enabling policy environment. Cooperating with authorities provides citizens with power, but also requires alignment with official rules. Creating and maintaining effective partnerships will remain a challenge for citizens and policymakers that strive for societal transformations.</p>	<p>https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/11/20/5781</p>
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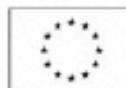


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European Urban Regenerators Knowledge Alliance (EUREKA) is a three-year project set to create a multidisciplinary curriculum, designed jointly by universities, cultural practitioners and policy-makers, for a rising professional profile of urban innovators. The project will identify needed skills and develop a training that addresses the current job market's demands across Europe.

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