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„PNRR: Fonduri pentru România modernă și reformată!”

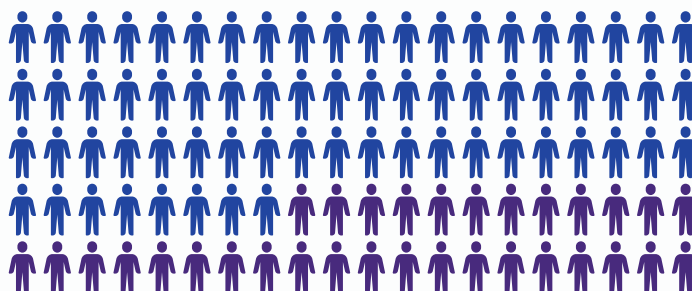
E-NEWSLETTER

CITY-FOCUS



City: Future Organisation of Changes in Urbanisation and Sustainability

By 2050,
approximately 68%
of the global
population will
reside in urban areas



Current urban systems face various vulnerabilities, including those related to infrastructure, environmental threats, and social inequalities.

Cities must enhance their resilience to cope with geopolitical shocks, pandemics, migration inflows, and technological disruptions.

There is a critical need for effective urban governance that incorporates participatory approaches and smart technologies to manage these challenges and turn them into opportunities for positive transformation.

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About CITY-FOCUS

The City-Focus Project is designed to enhance the understanding of EU cities' resilience and develop a theoretical framework for assessing urban vulnerabilities and transformation capacity.

The project also seeks to provide an evidence-based urban governance model using intelligent technologies and smart city solutions to achieve sustainable urban quality.

The project will be implemented by an interdisciplinary team, coordinated by an internationally renowned researcher (Karima KOURTIT), who will make a significant contribution to the development of knowledge and practice in the field of European studies and regional and urban development.

KEY OBJECTIVES:

- **Develop an innovative theoretical model for assessing urban vulnerabilities and transformation capacity**
- **Evaluate resilience performance in Romanian cities**
- **Create a shared knowledge base using urban development indicators**
- **Generate a replicable citizen-based framework and smart solutions for responsive city organization**
- **Enhance research and management skills among academics, support early-stage researchers, and promote an integrative, interdisciplinary approach to urban studies**

Innovation elements

- **Urban Vulnerability-Opportunity Model (VOM)**
- **Data-Based Research Approach**
- **CITY-FOCUS Living Lab (CFL)**
- **Gamified and Citizen Engagement Platform**
- **Citizen Science Research Methods**

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FIRST STAGE ACTIVITIES

The first stage of the CITY-FOCUS project, conducted from March 1, 2024, to June 30, 2024, laid the groundwork for future activities by establishing a comprehensive research framework and setting up effective communication strategies and channels.



EVENTS

- *Project Launch* within the opening session of the International Conference EURINT 2024 - "Debating Europe: new approaches, action tools and integration scenarios", organised by the Centre for European Studies of the Faculty of Law of the UAIC.
- Organisation of a Methodological seminar *Advanced methods in social sciences* (during the EURINT conference, 25th of May 2024), presentations from Thomas Dentinho & Umut Turk

RESEARCH

- Review of current literature in the fields of sustainable transformation and urban resilience
- Identification and exploration of relevant databases and indicators for data collection
- Development of a methodological framework to guide the organisation of the Living Lab



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MANAGEMENT

- Development and implementation of a communication and dissemination plan to maximise the impact of the project
 - Launch of project website & social media pages
- Management and coordination of project activities, including the organisation of meetings and progress reporting
 - Kick-off meeting (24th of May 2024) during the EURINT Conference
 - Meetings with young researchers of the project team



NEXT STEPS

- Reconceptualising the Urban Vulnerability and Transformation analysis framework
- Defining the methodological framework for empirical research in Romania
- Integration of relevant actors in the Living Lab
- Development of methodological skills and knowledge transfer
- Communication and dissemination of project activities through conferences, articles and events

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