











THE CULTURE OF SUSTAINABLE GREEN URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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TECHNICAL, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES 25 May 2023, Timisoara

By 2050, more than 70% of the world's population will live in urban areas. To meet this challenge, urban areas must be designed in a sustainable way able to solve actual societal challenges including pollution, heat pockets, stress, etc. Sustainable urban development must be considered on a multifactorial approach based on economic, social, technical, ecological and cultural inputs.

The cultural program for "Timisoara European Capital of Culture 2023" is built around the people, the places where they live and meet and the way they form connections with each other, with their surroundings and the continent they are on. This title of Capital of Culture obliges for the sustainable development not only from a human, social point of view but also in terms of environmental protection culture, citizen values oriented towards empathizing with ecological norms. In this sense, the personal development of citizens to promote community values (including the development of appropriate attitudes for the environment and urban development) is a key element promoted by EEA 914 Think Green initiative to empower citizens to express their values and attitudes, to move away from passivity and inaction through a civic process fuelled by culture.

In this context, culture plays a key role in achieving sustainable green urban development, especially through enhanced efforts to protect and safeguard the green heritage of cities. The development of recommendations to promote the role of culture in sustainable development thus becomes more than necessary. Educational institutions, and not only, have the capacity to provide the educational framework to provide the necessary framework for the effective promotion of culture as an indispensable pillar of sustainable urban development.

This conference has as objectives the exchange of expertise between Romania and the SEE countries regarding sustainable urban development as well as the identification of ways through which the culture of green spaces and the culture of promoting environmental values can contribute to obtaining modern, green, sustainable cities despite technical, socio-economic and environmental challenges.

The conference is organized under EEA 914 – Think Green. The culture of sustainable urban development project. The Think green project. The culture of sustainable urban development benefits from a grant worth 50,673 euros from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA and Norwegian grants.

The EEA and Norwegian grants represent the contribution of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway to a green, competitive and inclusive Europe. There are two general objectives: reducing economic and social disparities in Europe and strengthening bilateral relations between the donor states and 15 EU states in central and southern Europe and the Baltic states. The three donor states cooperate closely with the EU under the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA). Between 1994 and 2014, donor states contributed €3.3 billion through consecutive grant schemes.

For the period 2014-2021, the EEA and Norwegian Grants amount to €2.8 billion. More details are available at: www.eeagrants.org and www.eeagrants.ro

Topics covered by this conference (but without ignoring other subjects of interest related to conference description):

- Conceptual models and frameworks for sustainable cities
- Sustainable development goals and cities
- Designing resilient cities
- Climate goals 2030: Importance of renovation and energy efficiency (Paris, Green Deal, SDGs)
- Architecture for 2050 Carbon resilience in a changing climate
- The Architecture of Green Buildings
- Smart cities and health
- Built environment and mental health
- Environmental psychology (knowledge, attitudes, behaviors) towards a sustainable urban development. The art of thinking green
- Nature based solutions and health
- Health impact assessment of nature based solutions and green space
- Urban biodiversity and ecosystems
- Greening of cities
- Nature based solutions
- Sustainability and biodiversity: from restorative to regenerative
- social-ecological linkages in city and green space planning
- Green infrastructure in cities
- Environmental citizenship
- Environmental education
- Green roofs, green walls and interior greening
- Circular economy as strategy for cities
- Material streams management, reuse, recycle
- Natural Materials and Biodiversity
- Sustainable urban and settlement development, spatial planning for increased quality of life
- Stakeholder engagement

- Culture of green spaces
- Culture of sustainable urban development
- Ecological culture

Please note that abstracts (300 – 330 words, excluding title and authors) have to be written in English, TNR 12, and should be submitted to rares.halbac-cotoara-zamfir@upt.ro. All abstracts will be reviewed by conference organizers prior to acceptance.

Selected authors will be invited to present their works in plenary. The conference will take place in Timisoara, the Small Hall of the Senate, the Rector's Building of the Politehnica University of Timisoara, on May 25, 2023, starting at 10 a.m.

The deadline to submit an abstract is 24 April 2023. Selected authors will be notified by 30 April and invited to register for the conference. Attendee registration will open from 8 May onwards.

The abstracts will be published, after the conference, in MDPI Proceedings (open access journal indexed in CNKI, Digital Science, DOAJ, Google Scholar etc.)

Participation at this conference is free.

More information about EEA 914 project can be found here:



More information about the conference can be obtained by sending an e-mail to rares.halbac-cotoara-zamfir@upt.ro.