



INTERNATIONAL URBAN AND REGIONAL COOPERATION



A European Union
Programme

Asia & Australasia

1st Technical Meeting IURC Programme in Vietnam

**Colleferro-Latina
Functional Area**



UIA: The UPPER Project in Latina

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Jan 19, 2021 8:30 - 9:30 CET / 14:30 - 15:30 VN





THE UIA PROGRAMME



Urban Innovative Actions (UIA) is an Initiative of the European Union that provides urban areas throughout Europe with resources to test new and unproven solutions to address urban challenges.

Urban Innovative Actions offers urban authorities with the possibility to take a risk and experiment the **most innovative and creative solutions**.

The main objective of UIA is to provide urban areas throughout Europe with resources to test innovative solutions to the main urban challenges, and see how these work in practice and respond to the complexity of real life.

UIA funds projects that are:

- **Innovative**: projects that have never been implemented anywhere else in Europe.
- **Participative**: involve the key stakeholders that will bring expertise and knowledge to the project.
- **Of good quality**: define realistic ambitions, coherent activities and effective management.
- **Measurable**: Projects with clear results that can be measured and quantified.
- **Transferable**: address an urban challenge that can be relevant to other urban authorities in Europe.



UIA TOPICS



Sustainable use of land and nature based solutions

UPPER LATINA

Urban Productive Parks for the development of NBS related technologies and services

EU-Vietnam IURC 1st Technical Meeting





Sustainable use of land and nature
based solutions



Urban Productive Parks for the development of Nature Based Solutions (NBS) related technologies and services

CHALLENGES ADDRESSED

In the past 50 years, the fast urbanization of Latina led to **unregulated exploitation of common land and natural resources**, with the establishment of dormitory neighbourhoods .

The **availability of accessible green areas per inhabitant is insufficient** (12.6 sqm per person), the existing city parks are underused due to lack of security, adequacy and maintenance, while abundant wasteland and brownfield should be reconverted.

Additionally, the fragile ecosystem of city canals and rivers suffers from high concentration of **water pollutants** and hydrogeological risk due to the **lack of maintenance**.

The city is also facing extreme **weather events**, such as **heat waves** and flash **floodings**, with several roads and bridges collapsing.

Shortage of public economic resources, lack of coordination among public and private actors as well as dispersion of specialized skills hamper the city's capacity to address ecosystems' recovery and **long-term maintenance of its green and blue infrastructures**.



SOLUTIONS PROPOSED



UPPER project is testing the **innovative use of urban green areas**, by creating the first **urban Productive Parks** devoted to research, development and self-production of **Nature Based Solutions (NBS)** to tackle environmental, socio-economic and governance challenges.

UPPER project proposes a wider approach to the concept of NBS, which includes **greenery and green infrastructures** and innovative outdoor services and activities (social care, inclusive jobs, training, education, sports, creativity and entertainment).

The solution foresees the regeneration of three misused urban areas which will serve as Productive Parks, plus eight Demonstration Sites for the deployment and testing of the self-produced NBS:

- **Plants for phytoremediation of water and soil,**
- **Indigenous trees to combat heat island effect and air pollution,**
- **Filtering and reinforcing plants for soft engineering interventions on canal banks and coastal dunes.**

The Productive Parks will be co-designed and co-managed by project partners with local citizens and stakeholders, with a People-Public-Private management scheme designed for their future maintenance and sustainability.

A job & skills programme is integrated in the whole cycle of self-production, installation and provision of NBS to the city.

The project supports the creation of social enterprises and for profit start-ups to ensure market exploitation, further development and upscaling of the Productive Parks.



EXPECTED RESULTS



Thanks to UPPER, the City of Latina will:

- Increase **availability, accessibility** and **inclusiveness** of city public green areas;
- Improve **air and water quality** in selected Demonstration Sites;
- Decrease **hydrogeological risk**;
- Decrease **soil pollution**;
- Enhance citizens **health** and wellbeing;
- Reduce **social exclusion** and risk of poverty for marginalized people;
- Improve **business development and marketability of NBS** related products and services;
- Improve local **sustainable economic and cultural development**;
- Increase **citizens participation**, environmental awareness, sense of belonging and ownership of urban green spaces as a common good;
- Enhance **institutional capacity**;
- Increase **self-sufficiency** of the city in producing, installing and maintaining NBS;
- Enhance **multilevel governance, stakeholders coordination and planning capacity**;
- Enhance **long term sustainability** of urban green areas and infrastructures.

The project in numbers

- 12,6 m2**
of available green areas for each inhabitant
- 500.000 m2**
of uncultivated land to be converted
- 10.000**
students (71% of student between 6 and 18 years) will benefit from the project
- 100.000**
inhabitant will benefit from the project
- 50**
unemployed people will have new job's opportunities
- 120**
persons with disabilities will benefit from social assistance and cultural services

3,947,760.00
Total ERDF budget granted



Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)
LIFE Clean Energy Transition



Innovative financing schemes for sustainable energy investments

The purpose of the proposal is to set-up and demonstrate **innovative financing schemes** leveraging public-private finance for building renovation, retrofitting or regeneration

ENDORSEMENTS



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NEW PROPOSAL



EVALUATION RESULTS: MAY-JUNE 2022



THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION !!



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