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InterRevita

InterRevita - A better life in small and mid-sized cities: from Interregional actions to improved Revitalisation strategies

Semester 2

Final report on surveys with stakeholders - main findings on integrated urban development issues for revitalisation purposes

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Introduction

The following document presents the comprehensive findings and conclusions derived from stakeholder surveys conducted as part of the InterRevita project. The aim of the document is to assess the current needs and objectives of small and mid-sized cities and analyse the information collected for improving the policy instruments on urban regeneration and revitalisation. The document also provides insights into the planned activities, implemented projects, and solutions developed by the project partners, along with recommendations for urban revitalisation based on their collective experiences. The findings and recommendations outlined in this document aim to contribute to the advancement of revitalisation strategies and the promotion of a better quality of life in small and mid-sized cities across the European Union.

Forty-two stakeholders from six different areas representative of the project partners took part in the surveys. The surveys were conducted on the basis of a template developed by the Foundation for Landscape Protection (FOK) who is responsible for the substantive activities of the InterRevita project. The template was divided into eight sections:

- Section 1. Information about stakeholders
- Section 2. Revitalisation needs
- Section 3. Environmental issues
- Section 4. Entrepreneurship development and revitalisation issues
- Section 5. Beauty and aesthetics
- Section 6. Public participation
- Section 7. Integrated urban development
- Section 8. Additional comments

Through stakeholder surveys, various pressing needs in the cities were identified, including infrastructure development, social integration, environmental sustainability, economic growth, and the enhancement of aesthetic appeal. Stakeholders emphasized the importance of public participation in revitalisation initiatives, integrated urban development, and the implementation of environmentally friendly practices. Climate adaptation measures, sustainable agriculture, waste sorting, and the preservation of historic landmarks were highlighted as crucial aspects to promote environmental sustainability. Additionally, initiatives related to the revitalization of territories for the needs of businesses, such as the renovation of abandoned spaces, facilitating public-private partnerships, and promoting entrepreneurship for sustainable development, were recognized as best practices in various regions.

This collaborative effort involved the active participation of all project partners, including the City of Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki, Lazio Region, Land and Housing of Navarre, City of Roeselare, Administration of Silute District Municipality, Jelgava Local Municipality and Foundation for Landscape Protection (FOK).

The following document consists of an introduction and a main findings section accompanied by annex section presenting the reports from the stakeholders survey conducted by 6 PPs. The annexes summarise in detail the conclusions following the survey conducted in the subsequent areas participating in the InterRevita project. Stakeholders from the following areas participated in the survey:

- The City of Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki
- Lazio Region
- Ribera County
- The City of Roeselare
- Šilutė District Municipality
- Jelgava Local Municipality

Main findings

The findings derived from the stakeholder surveys within the InterRevita project underscore the nuanced landscape of challenges and opportunities in small and mid-sized cities across the European Union. The identified needs and priorities, ranging from infrastructure development to social integration, environmental sustainability, and economic growth, paint a comprehensive picture of the multifaceted nature of urban revitalization.

Based on the surveys conducted the following conclusions should be emphasized:

Revitalisation needs

The most important revitalisation needs identified by stakeholders in the surveys include:

1. To develop a comprehensive management plan for a supra-municipal area aimed at harmonising a multisectoral vision of development. The plan should:
 - Be based on objective data (broad range of data from industrial and business to territorial and landscape level);
 - Strengthen social and territorial cohesion;
 - Provide for quality and sustainable employment;
 - Provide permanent tax incentives and breaks;
 - Include an assessment of the utility of public buildings and space including the selection of sites which can serve public needs and how to maintain and develop them in the future.
2. To create new development opportunities based on value and territory specificity. Stakeholders indicated that the following actions should be implemented:
 - Enhance local, high-quality agricultural production activities and encourage the development of organic production processes;
 - Develop capacity to offer services and facilities for slow tourism and for enjoyment of the environment and landscape;
 - Protect and strengthen the natural landscape;
 - Promote the development of innovative activities and businesses for tourism and sport.
3. To improve the quality of life in small and mid-sized cities and strengthen their attractiveness. Stakeholders highlighted the need for:
 - Revitalisation of urban centres, including the creation of decent and affordable housing;
 - Improving multi-functional use of premises e.g. through the development of small local centres for inhabitants where they can meet, experience culture and entertainment etc.;
 - Investing in infrastructures renovation (networks, road surface, streets, pedestrian and cycling routes, outdoor space etc.);
 - Supporting the construction sector;
 - Supporting the hotel industry to boost the tourism sector;

- Improving the management of internal resources and services for the population;
4. To strengthen social integration of inhabitants e.g. through:
 - Increasing the sense of unity of the inhabitants;
 - Introducing projects that seek public-private collaboration.
 5. To support environmental sustainability initiatives. Interviewed stakeholders mentioned the following activities which can contribute to fulfill this need:
 - Increasing in greening the city and open spaces;
 - Supporting energy transition;
 - Attracting sustainable innovation;
 - Investing in local economy and agriculture;
 - Educating for environmental sustainability contributing to a change in the mindset of residents.
 6. To rebuild and prevent natural risks. Stakeholders emphasized the following activities:
 - Reducing seismic risk and natural risks in general;
 - Reducing the vulnerability of settlements and improve emergency management;
 - Coordinating reconstruction interventions and defining intervention priorities in reconstruction;
 - Bringing unused built heritage, historical heritage and spaces back to life public.

Environmental issues

Key examples of climate adaptation measures undertaken to revitalise neighbourhoods (by addressing the impact of climate change e.g. heat, drought, floods on living conditions) mentioned by stakeholders in the surveys include the following initiatives:

1. To improve energy efficiency
 - Energy efficiency work on municipal buildings and participation in tenders for establishment of Energy Communities
 - Development of solar and photovoltaic parks in the region, with the presence of local promoters and technology companies.
 - Promotion of wind farms.
 - insulation of public buildings
2. To support sustainable mobility
 - Projects related to the development of sustainable mobility (development of cycle and pedestrian paths, accompanied by the increase in the offer of local public transport, and the creation of innovative mobility systems such as "on call" services and better organization of existing services).
3. To reduce gas emissions
 - Creation of the CERs, thanks also to the resources of the PNRR and the PNC
 - "GreenH2CATudela": construction of a green hydrogen plant in the facilities of the Agri-Food City of Tudela (CAT).
 - Transfer to heating systems that reduce CO2 emissions
4. To redevelopment public buildings
 - Building redevelopment interventions are incentivized with various fiscal measures (graded based on the type of intervention) if these include energy efficiency and a better response of the building structure to climate change.
5. To improve flood prevention
 - Municipality take into account weather forecasts before territory management works – no grass cutting during heat when the grass can burn out.
 - Careful work is done to monitor overflowing territories in terms of house construction there. At the same time those territories could be more used in recreation, establishing here platforms or footbridges to enjoy those territories, educate society and attract tourists
 - In order to avoid flood effects, municipality renews protective dams
6. To protect environment
 - River cleaning works are taking place
 - To recultivate soil to avoid desertification
7. To renovate infrastructures (e.g. networks, road surface, streets)

- Hydraulic defence works of municipal ditches and reclamation of gravitational instability of municipal roads;
8. To improve waste management
- Introducing a public/private partnership to design, implementation and management functional economic of the collection, storage, transport and disposal/treatment/enhancement of municipal solid waste with the adoption of ecological islands computerized (IEI) and Ecological Islands for Non-Domestic Users (IEUND) and hygiene service urban on the territory of the Municipalities".

Among the environmentally friendly practices that stakeholders believe should be implemented are the following:

1. Waste management practices
 - Development of ecological islands for waste management – data-driven solution for container stands serving apartment blocks areas;
 - Segregated waste collection (door-to-door);
 - Creation of composting stations;
 - Optimisation of the management, collection and disposal of waste.
2. Practices for reducing the environmental impact of mobility
 - Enhancing and promoting shared mobility in urban areas;
 - Ensuring access to local and regional public transport.
3. Water resources management practices
 - Reduction of concrete surfaces and prevention of excessive formation of new ones;
 - Increasing the level of re-using water resources e.g. development of gray water circuits, collection of rain water;
 - Mandatory inclusion of retention roofs in new construction projects;
 - Creation of water collection basins e.g. to support agricultural and livestock activities.
4. Protection of environment and greening practices
 - Obligation to compensate for greenery when developing new projects, deseed as much as possible;
 - Implementation of demolition policy to create additional green spaces in the city, especially in water-sensitive places;
 - Cooperation between municipalities, regions, and state level to manage river basins, forests, meadows and other resources;
 - Provision of unused territories for small gardens for inhabitants by the municipality;
 - Promotion of urban sustainable agriculture;
 - Preservation of the traditional landscape.

5. Energy efficiency improvement practices
 - Increasing energy production from renewable sources e.g. biomass and hydroelectric;
6. Practices for increasing community involvement
 - Participation of society in solving the environmental issues e.g. through development of interactive map where inhabitants can submit ideas, what can be improved in respective place.

Entrepreneurship development and revitalisation issues

Among the good practices regarding the revitalisation of territories for the needs of businesses, stakeholders identified the following initiatives:

1. Revitalisation of abandoned public buildings and spaces for the purposes of entrepreneurship
 - Facilitation of public-private partnership as a cooperation between state, municipality and entrepreneurs that creates favourable environment for business development, investments and infrastructure improvements;
 - Management of manors and castles to facilitate development of tourism and creative industries;
 - Organisation of workshops on how to facilitate the revitalisation of territories for the needs of businesses;
 - Among the specific good practices, stakeholders mentioned e.g. Branku Brančotava where the entrepreneur has revitalised the territory and provides a place where society can socialise, get educated and spend their time, at the same time providing income to entrepreneur as well as Eleja Manor complex (Tea house, Exhibition hall), Berķene Manor, Līvberze school housekeeping rooms, Kalnciems sports base, Abgunste Manor, Svēte castle.
2. Attraction of investment
 - Development of the intelligent specialisation strategy and implementation of business-oriented projects;
 - Promotion of research and provision of training for potential employees;
 - Valorisation of business sectors and development of a sustainable and innovative supply chain;
 - Creation of industrial zones and knowledge hubs;
 - Development of integrated action plans for talent attraction to create a good environment for entrepreneurship. This can include business support, co-working spaces, match-making on the labour market.
3. Financing and tax incentives for private reconstruction

Beauty and aesthetics

Key examples of strategies and principles for enhancing the beauty and aesthetics of territories during the revitalisation process mentioned by the stakeholders include the following:

1. Preparation of comprehensive plan for revitalisation/regeneration of territories
 - Development of criteria for evaluation of degraded territories and sites;
 - Preparation of visual and cartographic material of degraded territories and sites;
 - Entrust the revitalisation process to the competent professionals;
 - Test setups / participation / visualizations.
2. Preserve and renewal of the architecture typical of the area
 - Conducting study of typical architectural and landscape characters;
 - Adoption of regulations for the architectural quality;
 - Integration of culture and art practices thus strengthening the territory as powerful cultural centre and creating common cultural identity;
 - Use of natural local materials in infrastructure development and create common design (at local, regional, state level);
 - Supplementing renovated buildings with the digital solutions (QR codes, virtual watching towers).
3. Greening the area and taking care of the environment
 - Making a conscious choice of plant and tree species can have a positive impact on a street scene. Less gray, more green.
 - Greening: aesthetic and maintenance-friendly green; the right green in the right place
 - Pay sufficient attention to monitoring/maintenance of greenery
 - Flowery planting is both beautiful to the eye and good for biodiversity. Making a well-considered choice can make a big difference, without necessarily having an extra impact on its maintenance.
 - Clean and natural environment attracts more inhabitants and tourists;
 - Environment protection and nature integration thus improving aesthetics and living conditions of inhabitants;
 - Well maintained environment with modern materials. Walking paths, cycling routes and connections between villages of JLM and Jelgava City.
4. Involvement of the public as well as other stakeholders and taking account their input
 - Adoption of planning/design/landscaping competitions at the planning stage of public works;
 - Collaboration with the neighbourhood and creative people in the area, use the resources and expertise available.

Public participation

Among the examples of successful public participation initiatives that have brought positive outcomes during revitalisation projects the stakeholders stressed the following:

1. Creation the partnership with various stakeholders
 - Involvement of society and considering their ideas/input – organisation of public consultations for sharing needs and desires as regards urban revitalisation;
 - Activating the society through common activities e.g. organisation of a clean-up day or environment improvement day;
 - Collaboration with educational centres, associations, and entrepreneurs for project development;
 - Engagement of youth e.g. reaching to youth centres;
2. Development of citizens budget
 - By providing a budget to a certain area let people suggest improvements and vote for certain ideas.

Among stakeholders' examples of how could public participation be better integrated into the revitalisation and regeneration process the following initiatives should be highlighted:

1. Establishment of Urban Councils composed of various entities e.g. municipality representatives, citizens for the purpose of facilitating discussion between workers, citizens, pensioners, tenants;
2. Establishment of digital platforms/forums for exchanging information and project proposals;
3. Conducting inhabitants' survey to share ideas, feedback;
4. Engagement of youth;
5. Involvement of local society from the beginning of the initiative development and implementation;
6. Use social media and webpage of municipality to increase awareness about activities carried out;
7. Use participatory budgeting as a tool for public involvement.
8. Promotion of meetings/public consultations/brainstorming events aimed at defining objectives, strategies and actions for the recovery and development of territory;
9. Combining different methods/channels of communication to engage local society (according to the target audience);
10. Raising awareness of the activities carried out and their relevance, providing the "why" – "what's in it for me" to public.

Integrated urban development

Among the most frequently mentioned method of integrated urban development implementation are the following:

1. Developing and working towards implementation of a jointly established vision for a sustainable and inclusive city
 - setting and successively achieving standards for e.g. parking areas, public transport, sports facilities, green areas, etc. in order to obtain an overall increase in the quality of life of the inhabitants;
2. Implementation of a multi-scale, holistic approach in the in the process of developing policies
 - Coordination of all aspects in the best possible way and improve the quality of life of residents;
3. Integration between different territory development policies
 - Implementing holistic approach to the development of territory where different spheres and interests are taken into account to facilitate sustainable development e.g. residential and industrial areas come together to develop a common proposal;
 - Linking opportunities and search for measures/processes that have an effect on various challenges/policy domains;
4. Careful and economic planning of resources based on development priorities
5. Cooperation of various actors for the development of a high quality policies
 - Involvement of different external stakeholders but also representatives from other departments. For example issues regarding public spaces can often not be fully solved without involving the social department;
 - Cooperation both in horizontal and vertical level, creation cooperation clusters and organizing meetings. There regional level governments could take the leading role as the mentors who see the development in the whole region. This would help to save resources and invest in revitalisation.
 - Engagement of society through e.g. organisation of informative events, discussions to share ideas, feedback.
6. Training for both professionals (employees) and citizens
 - Building awareness of the importance of integrated urban development;
 - Bringing citizens and institutions closer, consolidating the basis of trust at the basis of relationship and creates an open and transparent field of exchange, within which decisions can be shared and concerted with a collaborative and co-responsibility perspective;

ANNEXES

1. Report from the City of Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki (Poland)

Section 1: Information about stakeholders

List of stakeholders participating in the survey (name and surname, organization/institution):

- 1) Marek Kozłowski - Lokalna Organizacja Turystyczna Trzech Rzek (Local Tourist Organization of the Three Rivers)
- 2) Łukasz Piwko - Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego, Chorągiew Stołeczna, Hufiec Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki (Polish Scouting Association in Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki)
- 3) Sebastian Sosiński - Fundacja Nasza Historia (Foundation Our History)
- 4) Bańbura Sebastian - Oddział Polskiego Towarzystwa Turystyczno Krajoznawczego w Nowym Dworze Mazowieckim (Polish Tourist and Landscape Association)
- 5) Marek Trojak - Zjednoczeni dla miasta (United for the city)*

* an external entity interested in completing the survey

Section 2: Revitalization needs

In the opinion of your stakeholders, what are the most pressing revitalization needs that your city/region currently face? (Please provide specific examples or case studies if possible)

- Protection and promotion of national heritage
- Modernization of urban infrastructure, including its accessibility and functionality
- Development of public spaces (e. g. parks, streets, squares)
- Development of tourist infrastructure
- Modernization of residential buildings, including the introduction of social housing
- Development of social services
- Activation of the local community

Respondents are aware of what sustainable development is, but they are not always able to find such activities in the city. They notice, however, the urban initiative, maybe they just aren't well promoted either.

How do your stakeholders prioritise these revitalization needs, and why? (feel free to rank or describe the importance of each need):

Priorities are set on the basis of the following issues:

- Analyzing current tourism trends, attractions of our city, taking into account the local community and analyzing the benefits of investing in particular areas
- areas requiring attention in the context of urban regeneration
- from research and macro trends in urban development
- increase the effectiveness of actions for the local community.
- prevent marginalisation and social exclusion.
- may have serious consequences for the community as a whole

Section 3: Environmental issues

According to your stakeholders, is your city/region undertaking climate adaptation measures to revitalize neighbourhoods by addressing the impact of climate change (e.g. heat, drought, floods) on living conditions?

If yes, can you give an example? If no, do you think there is a need to do so and why?

- Green investments: Revitalization of urban parks, green plantations, creation of green areas in neighborhoods
- Sustainable transport: City bicycles and public transport work
- subsidies for the replacement of furnaces

How do your stakeholders understand environmental sustainability in the context of revitalization and regeneration of your city/region?

1. Balance between pro-ecological actions, which should be taken into account and utilized when implementing processes aimed at revitalizing and regenerating the city, i.e., creating better living conditions for present and future generations.
2. Sustainable environmental development in the context of revitalization and regeneration of a city like Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki means taking actions that support the economic and social development of the city while minimizing negative impact on the environment. This includes, for example, using eco-friendly construction technologies, promoting green infrastructure, or protecting local ecosystems. In practice, this may involve creating parks and green areas, investing in sustainable transportation, or programs to improve the energy efficiency of buildings. The goal is to

create a healthy, safe, and attractive environment for residents while preserving natural resources for future generations.

3. Renewal of urban areas in a way that is environmentally responsible, economically viable, and socially just.
4. An approach that simultaneously considers environmental protection, ensuring social equality, and economic growth, while maintaining a balance between these three aspects. This approach aims to improve the quality of life for residents while also caring for future generations and environmental resources.

Are there specific environmentally friendly practices or initiatives that your stakeholders believe should be implemented in your city/region? Please elaborate.

- Development of green infrastructure (investments in parks, green areas, water retention)
- Sustainable transport and recreation areas – help reduce exhaust emissions
- Long-term planning in the context of existing protected areas and areas designated for regeneration purposes
- Energy efficiency in buildings

Section 4: Entrepreneurship development and revitalization issues

Are there any initiatives related to revitalization of territories for the needs of businesses that your stakeholders consider as the best practices in your city/region? Please elaborate.

It was pointed out that infrastructure, such as roads or networks, has been modernised, which has been geared towards businesses, contributing to improved accessibility and competitiveness of the area.

Good practices have also been identified, which may include the development of industrial parks using sustainable technologies, the creation of business incubators to support local start-ups, the stimulation of innovation (e. g. grant schemes, competitions for innovative projects) and investments in infrastructure to support SMEs. Attention was also paid to sustainability (which includes, inter alia, environmental protection, improvement of the quality of life of citizens and support for businesses that respect ethical and social standards), the promotion of environmentally friendly industries, which may include the use of renewable energy sources and minimisation of negative environmental impacts.

A good example of a future investment was the construction of a residential building on Paderewskiego Street, which, in addition to the commercialization of space through the construction of flats, introduced the principle of participation and was similar to a model way of cooperation with the developer. It assumed the introduction of an additional office building, revitalized the most valuable wooden building

in the city and assumed the construction of an access road by the entrepreneur in a way that had a real impact on the improvement of communication in the city.

Section 5: Beauty and aesthetics

How important is the aesthetic appeal and beauty of urban spaces for your stakeholders in the context of revitalization and regeneration?

- Very Important
- Important
- Neutral
- Less Important
- Not Important

According to your stakeholders, what strategies or principles can enhance the beauty and aesthetics of your city/region during the revitalization process?

- Active involvement of the local community
- Preservation and restoration of existing monuments
- Public art, creative space

Section 6: Public participation

Please provide examples of what your stakeholders consider to be examples of successful public participation initiatives during revitalisation projects in your city/region that have brought positive outcomes?

The following events were organised:

- meetings with residents of settlements, research and outdoor walks, workshops
- cleaning of tourist routes and rivers,
- consultation and cooperation with social organisations – resulted in the possibility of applying for grants and the realization of social objectives.

Encouraging investors, for example, to make a new road surface, or to participate in some social actions, has a positive reception. However, it seems to me that these are isolated cases. For housing projects, it is a good step for the council to introduce a higher ratio of parking spaces for new investments.

According to your stakeholders, how could public participation be better integrated into the revitalization and regeneration process of your city/region?

Organising regular consultation meetings, workshops and information sessions where residents can express their opinions, ideas and concerns about planned revitalisation measures (in-house, online consultations or surveys).

- Creation of a web platform or mobile application - use of digital tools to collect opinions and ideas (e. g. through surveys and surveys) and to inform about the progress of projects, but also a place where residents can submit their proposals and comments on revitalization
- Creation of working groups with the participation of residents, representatives of local social organisations, entrepreneurs and experts, among others, to cooperate with planners and architects on specific projects.
- Local Ambassador Programs: Selection of active residents who will promote community participation in revitalization projects.
- People participating in such consultations should have a feeling not only of fulfilling the obligation resulting from social consultations, but also of realistically deciding on something.
- The need for honest evaluation and communication of what went wrong and analysis of why.
- There is a need for education and work at the grassroots level of the local community, and the possibilities of its impact on the city, and you have to think about who should do it and how.

Section 7: Integrated urban development

What does integrated urban development mean to your stakeholders, and how can it be realised in the context of your city/region?

1. Balanced development of services in such a way that they complement each other and improve the living comfort of the inhabitants, taking into account ecological solutions (in the context of the city, this means sustainable development of housing with accompanying infrastructure such as nurseries and educational facilities, health centres, equal access to culture and the opportunity to learn about the cultural heritage of the city through guided tours of different parts of the city)
2. Harmoniously combining the different aspects of urban life - economic, social, cultural and environmental - in a way that supports sustainable development (in the context of Nowy Dwor Mazowiecki, this may mean the development of urban infrastructure that supports the local economy and creates jobs, while taking into account the needs of residents and environmental protection. For example, this could include developing green public spaces, modernising public transport, promoting sustainable mobility, and investing in education and culture to create a dynamic, vibrant and sustainable urban environment).

Addressing the following issues in the city:

- tourist – easy access to monuments by public transport
- resident – provided bus transport, even in the evening around the city and ensuring safe passage over the bridge on the Nara River by bicycle.
- safe transport over the bridge on the Nara River
- taking into account the costs of maintenance, repair, maintenance of the investments carried out
- creating space to actively participate in the life of the local community, engage in social and environmental activities, and develop as responsible and active citizens.

Are there specific policies, approaches, or best practices for integrated urban development that your stakeholders can recommend?

1. Integrated Spatial Planning: Consideration of sustainable land use, conservation of green spaces and cultural heritage, and integration of residential, commercial and recreational functions.
2. Green Infrastructure: Creating parks, green spaces and green roofs that support biodiversity and help manage rainwater.
3. Urban mobility: Development of sustainable forms of transport, including urban bicycles, pavements and public transport.
4. Energy and energy efficiency: Investing in renewable energy and upgrading buildings for energy efficiency.
5. Social participation: Involving residents in the planning and decision-making process for the development of the city.
6. Economic and social issues: implementation of public-private partnerships, including cooperation with developers (e. g. construction of nurseries).

Section 8: Additional comments

Is there any other information or insights your stakeholders would like to share regarding the revitalization and regeneration of small and mid-sized cities in the European Union?

Our city should orient itself through various activities towards the sustainable development of tourism, using the rich resources of cultural heritage such as the Modlin Fortress or the historic city centre.

A multi-dimensional approach that takes social, economic and environmental aspects into account when drawing on EU funds is essential. It is also important to involve local communities in decision-making processes, which increases the effectiveness and acceptance of regeneration projects.

Examples for us are issues from Paris, adaptation of the pro-airport areas in Berlin, and in Poland Bydgoszcz, and closer to us Płock.

2. Report from Lazio Region (Italy)

Section 1: Information about stakeholders

Surname	Name	Organization
Councillor		Lazio Region – Department of Public Works, Reconstruction Policies, Roads, Infrastructures (Regione Lazio – Assessorato Lavori Pubblici, Politiche di Ricostruzione, Viabilità, Infrastrutture)
Sanna	Pierluigi	Metropolitan city of Rome Capital (Città Metropolitana di Roma Capitale)
Di Gaspare	Maria Antonietta	Municipality of Borbona (RI) (Comune di Borbona – RI)
Zeppa	Umberto	Municipality of Colferro (RM) (Comune di Colferro – RM)
Gizzi	Gianluca	Municipality of Leonessa (RI) (Comune di Leonessa – RI)
/	/	“Augusto Lattanzi” Multipurpose Center APS Borbona (RI) (Centro polivalente “Augusto Lattanzi”)
/	/	Borbona Musical Band “Concezio Colandrea” (Banda musicale “Concezio Colandrea)
/	/	Borbona Youth Center (Centro giovanile di Borbona)
/	/	Vallemare Fraction Committee (Comitato di cittadini Vallemare)
Celestino	Sergio	Architect
Agostinello	Diana	CGIL of Rome and Lazio
Gazzani	Mariagrazia	USR – Special Reconstruction Office
Ercolani	Marcello	USR – Special Reconstruction Office
Mancini	Sebastiano	USR – Special Reconstruction Office
Gaetano	Borrelli	Coop Cler – Progettazione e ricerca s.r.l.
Fiorelli	Roberto	Lazio Region – Infrastructure and Transport Directorate (Regione Lazio – Direzione Infrastrutture e Trasporti)

Section 2: Revitalisation needs

In the opinion of your stakeholders, what are the most pressing revitalization needs that your city/region currently face? (Please provide specific examples or case studies if possible)

Below are the revitalization needs considered most urgent for the common affected by the earthquake and USR. Some specific examples of strategies applied and interventions already planned.

1. Rebuild and prevent natural risks

- a. Reduce seismic risk and natural risks in general;
- b. Reduce the vulnerability of settlements and improve emergency management;
- c. Coordinate reconstruction interventions and define intervention priorities in reconstruction;
- d. Bringing unused built heritage, historical heritage and spaces back to life public.

Specific examples of interventions already planned:

- Hydraulic defence works for ditches and watercourses;
- Reclamation of gravitational disturbances and interventions to make municipal roads safe;
- Renovation and seismic adaptation of school buildings(Villa Pulcini and Villa Lucci);
- Restoration and repair of road retaining walls;
- Repair of public residential buildings

2. Draw up a plan for a vast and supra-municipal area with unitary management aimed at having aimed at having an overall vision in all sectors

- a. A plan to strengthen social and territorial cohesion;
- b. A relaunch plan based on objective knowledge of the territories with updated territorial and landscape data;
- c. An entrepreneurial development plan that provides for quality and sustainable employment;
- d. A plan that provides permanent tax incentives and breaks.

Specific examples of interventions:

- MUNICIPALITY OF COLLEFERRO – Metropolitan City of Rome Capital – STRATEGIC LINES FOR
- URBAN PLANNING;
- Extraordinary large-area reconstruction programme (Municipalities of Borbona, Leonessa and Posta);

3. Create new development opportunities based on value and territory specificity

- a. Enhance local, high-quality agricultural production activities and encourage the development of organic production processes;
- b. Protect and strengthen the naturalistic-landscape and connectivity components ecological of agricultural plots;
- c. Develop capacity to offer services and facilities for slow tourism and for enjoyment of the environment and landscape;
- d. Promote the development of innovative activities and businesses for tourism and sport;
- e. Promote the development of energy, water and forestry communities.

Specific examples of interventions already planned:

- Regeneration of urban parks and the Vania Massari sports hall and sports facility;
- Energy efficiency improvement of the former slaughterhouse municipal offices.

4. Improve the quality of life of communities and strengthen the attractiveness for new forms of residence

- a. Increase the sense of unity of the territory to promote its recognizability towards externally. Improve the management of internal resources and services for the population as an opportunity to encourage exchange, relationships, a sense of belonging to the same community;
- b. Rationalize and refunctionalize services.

Specific examples of interventions already planned:

- Redevelopment of Piazza Albaneto and Piazza Frazione;
- Redevelopment of the access road to Leonessa and interventions on the road network;
- Redevelopment of public buildings (Civic museum-library-historical archive, school gym, school canteen via A. Moro, cemeteries,
- Building redevelopment and energy efficiency of ERP houses in Corso San Giuseppe and in via San Francesco;
- - Qualification of water and sewerage networks (Construction of APS purifier – PNRR).

How do your stakeholders prioritise these revitalization needs, and why? (feel free to rank or describe the importance of each need):

The identification of fundamental strategies for the development and future of these places leads to the listing of the following priorities:

1. Rebuild and prevent natural risks, guaranteeing the safety of an area at high seismic risk and its inhabitants. It is essential to reduce seismic vulnerability and improve emergency management;
2. Systematize two related factors with the natural vocation of the area: sustainable agriculture and slow and immersive tourism;
3. Improve the quality of life of communities and strengthen the attractiveness of new forms of social life, through the creation of new generation infrastructures and the creation of multidisciplinary common spaces;
4. Reconstruction of primary services (water supply, sewerage system for waste water, methane, road network) shared between the various communities;
5. Economic and fiscal incentives for the recovery and reconstruction of private assets towards a new dimension of construction.
6. Increase public mobility in general and, in particular, integrate the different modes of transport, including soft mobility and shared mobility;
7. New way of managing collective properties, public services and common private spaces.

Section 3: Environmental issues

According to your stakeholders, is your city/region undertaking climate adaptation measures to revitalize neighbourhoods by addressing the impact of climate change (e.g. heat, drought, floods) on living conditions?

If yes, can you give an example? If no, do you think there is a need to do so and why?

To combat climate change, various mitigation practices are being adopted:

- a. Proposal for a public/private partnership regarding the “Design, implementation and management functional economic of the collection, storage, transport and disposal/treatment/enhancement of municipal solid waste with the adoption of ecological islands computerized (IEI) and Ecological Islands for Non-Domestic Users (IEUND) and hygiene service urban on the territory of the Municipalities”;
- b. Hydraulic defence works of municipal ditches and reclamation of gravitational instability of municipal roads;
- c. Energy efficiency work on municipal buildings and participation in tenders for establishment of Energy Communities
- d. Projects related to the development of sustainable mobility (development of cycle and pedestrian paths, accompanied by the increase in the offer of local public transport, and the creation of innovative mobility systems such as “on call” services and better organization of existing services).
- e. Creation of the CERs, thanks also to the resources of the PNRR and the PNC
- f. Building redevelopment interventions are incentivized with various fiscal measures (graded based on the type of intervention) if these include energy efficiency and a better response of the building structure to climate change.

How do your stakeholders understand environmental sustainability in the context of revitalization and regeneration of your city/region?

1. Safeguard the forest heritage – certification of the forestry chain to contrast deforestation;
2. Safeguard of ecological corridors;
3. Identification of the index soil permeability different by homogeneous areas;
4. Censor and monitor water sources;
5. Enhance public transport

Are there specific environmentally friendly practices or initiatives that your stakeholders believe should be implemented in your city/region? Please elaborate.

1. Energy production from renewable sources: biomass and hydroelectric;
2. Collection of separate waste (door to door) with uncollected in compostable station and ecological island;
3. Obviously, the management, collection and disposal of waste should be optimised, whether of domestic or farm animal origin;
4. Creation of water collection basins to support agricultural and livestock activities;
5. Enhance the public on call service and strengthening of sharing mobility services in urban areas (thanks to funding of approximately 5 million euros over three years (DM 417/2022). These are complementary services to local and regional public transport and in particular the implementation and promotion, making available, strengthening and strengthening of):

Section 4: Entrepreneurship development and revitalisation issues

Are there any initiatives related to revitalization of territories for the needs of businesses that your stakeholders consider as the best practices in your city/region? Please elaborate.

1. Extraordinary Intermunicipal Reconstruction Programme, (establish a Biodistrict, for the valorisation of the agricultural products of the territory, for their external marketing, for their further qualitative strengthening towards organic, for build a sustainable and innovative supply chain, which could have a headquarters in regeneration of abandoned spaces to be redeveloped, but to strengthen the territory and its business sector);
2. State program of public works;
3. Financing and tax incentives for private reconstruction

Section 5: Beauty and aesthetics

How important is the aesthetic appeal and beauty of urban spaces for your stakeholders in the context of revitalization and regeneration?

- Very Important n. 9
- Important n. 5
- Neutral n. 2
- Less Important
- Not Important

According to your stakeholders, what strategies or principles can enhance the beauty and aesthetics of your city/region during the revitalization process?

1. Urban regeneration, using the construction of public works as a driving force for private reconstruction and the resumption of artisanal, tourist and commercial activities;
2. Adoption of planning/design/Landscape ideas competitions in the phase of public works planning;
3. Membership in community programs;
4. Study of typical architectural and landscape characters and subsequent adoption of regulations for the architectural quality of post-earthquake reconstruction and urban spaces
5. The strategy to improve beauty and aesthetics is to entrust the projects to the competent professionals for each subject.

Section 6: Public participation

Please provide examples of what your stakeholders consider to be examples of successful public participation initiatives during revitalisation projects in your city/region that have brought positive outcomes

1. Extraordinary reconstruction program: participatory meetings that took place in the various municipalities. The objective was to collect from citizens, from operators around the world rural, tourism, productive activities, the sector of services for the community and people, useful directions, information, needs and desires;
2. "Comitato di Frazione" – "The Fraction Committee", provided for by art. 8 of the "Consolidated Law on Local Authorities", has consultative, proactive and even referendum power towards the municipal administration for the needs of the hamlet;
3. Public consultation and "work spaces" for the drafting and sharing of strategic lines for the urban planning of the Municipality of Colleferro.

According to your stakeholders, how could public participation be better integrated into the revitalization and regeneration process of your city/region?

- a. Promotion of meetings aimed at defining objectives, strategies and actions for the recovery and development of territory connected to the strategic vision, to be submitted for participation and sharing with Municipal administrations, citizens and all operators.
- b. It would be useful to establish and recognize Urban Councils supported by technical skills and the presence of social subjects including the union capable of animating the discussion between

workers/ ices , citizens, pensioners , tenants and capable of making their territorial experiences and professional knowledge available.

- c. Improving the involvement of entrepreneurs in the territory aimed at “DOING TOGETHER”;
- d. Participation can be facilitated through dedicated forums and digital platforms for exchanging information and project proposals.
- e. Public participation is increased through initiatives that directly respond to the concrete needs of citizens and economic activities. Among these, having efficient , differentiated, integrated and safe mobility services to carry out systematic and non-systematic movements on a daily basis, for reasons of study, work, leisure, holidays, are certainly a primary need to fully exercise citizenship rights.

Section 7: Integrated urban development

What does integrated urban development mean to your stakeholders, and how can it be realised in the context of your city/region?

- a. The real challenge is therefore to build communities that welcome, desire and support a change designed for and with people. To be informed, listened to and feel that their opinion is relevant to such an important process for the future of its territories, brings citizens and institutions closer, consolidating the basis of trust at the basis of relationship and creates an open and transparent field of exchange, within which decisions can be shared and concerted with a collaborative and co-responsibility perspective.
- b. Sharing and multi-scale approach in the definition of implemented policies;
- c. Train professionals and citizens that urban regeneration means making the housing stock compatible from an environmental point of view, with the use of ecological materials and with the use of renewable sources (e.g. energy communities) and good practices to reduce the noise pollution;
- d. Achieve adequate standards for parking, commercial establishments, public transport, the presence of places of social, cultural and religious aggregation, sports facilities and green areas, etc. in order to obtain an overall increase in the quality of life of the inhabitants;
- e. Integration between different territory development policies, with respect for the environment and landscape;
- f. It is an approach to the development of cities capable of combining in a single overall project all the actions relating to the renewal of buildings and urban spaces (public and private), the development of entrepreneurial activities, educational and cultural initiatives, the arts and science , through formal and informal collaboration between networks of citizens, public administration and business networks for the development of the local economy. It is a way of working capable of bringing together local skills and

know-how to identify shared solutions and achieve sustainable results over time, which meet citizens' expectations.

This way of working starts from developing and sharing a vision of a sustainable and inclusive city, which can make it possible to overcome the great climate and demographic challenges that European cities face, if they want to pursue the challenges of the 2030 Agenda.

A territorial development that brings together the different needs of all the actors involved in an integrated, harmonious and balanced way, within a strategic vision of the community.

Are there specific policies, approaches, or best practices for integrated urban development that your stakeholders can recommend?

- a. Good model was the URBAN community initiative;
- b. PSR – Extraordinary reconstruction program;
- c. Strategic lines for the urban planning of the Municipality of Colleverro;
- d. Regional transport and logistics plan;
- e. Regional landscape territorial plan

Section 8: Additional comments

Is there any other information or insights your stakeholders would like to share regarding the revitalization and regeneration of small and mid-sized cities in the European Union?

Exchange good practices that see active cooperation between the different components of the city: the public administration primarily with the coordination role, the schools, the aggregation and cultural centers, the business associations, the third sector associations, the Foundations;

Growing need for coverage and data exchange and ultra broadband;

Despite the varied needs and critical issues to be resolved which manifest themselves in the regeneration and revitalization of small territories in the various Member Countries, we would like to share the opinions of the other Member Countries with respect to what we analyzed in Section 2 in the paragraph "The change of priorities, the rediscovery of the human dimension".

Philological recovery of historic buildings, in terms of bio-architecture; development of digital broadband services in small towns (coverage of the so-called "white areas").

3. Report Ribera County (Spain)

Section 1: Information about stakeholders

List of stakeholders participating in the survey (name and surname, organization/institution):

Surname	Name	Organization
Elguea	María Luisa	Asociación de Empresas Ribera (AER)
Pérez Pérez	Zeus	Ayuntamiento de Tudela
Agüera	Anichu	Ayuntamiento de Tudela
Medrano	Carlos	Eximia consultores (Cociudadana)
Villava Gómez	Sergio	Consortio EDER
Lezana Pérez	Emilio	Fundación Laboral Construcción
Marcén Zunzarren	Jose Antonio	Gobierno de Navarra
Rodriguez Gomez	Jesus María	Gobierno de Navarra
López Vera	Pedro Andrés	Gobierno de Navarra
Herrero Larrea	Itziar	Gobierno de Navarra
Marton Perez	Mirian	Gobierno de Navarra
Espinosa Ochoa	Javier	Humaro Sociologos

Section 2: Revitalization needs

In the opinion of your stakeholders, what are the most pressing revitalization needs that your city/region currently face? (Please provide specific examples or case studies if possible)

Regional plan with joint and supra-municipal management from the territory so that it has an overall vision in all sectors, giving a boost to social and territorial cohesion.

A revitalisation plan based on objective data, above all at industrial and business level, for the search for quality and sustainable employment. Tax benefits and new forms of work will be necessary.

Social integration of all people, through disruptive projects that seek public-private collaboration. There must be early social care, including in educational centres.

Revitalisation of urban centres, also seeking decent and affordable housing. Comprehensive urban regeneration is necessary.

Infrastructures renovation (networks, road surface, streets, etc.). Good connections and infrastructures under a joint vision at county level, therefore urban and interurban mobility will be more attractive.

Lack of hospitality sector in order to boost tourism sector. Boost to construction sector.

How do your stakeholders prioritise these revitalization needs, and why? (feel free to rank or describe the importance of each need):

Regional plan with joint and supra-municipal management from the territory so that it has an overall vision in all sectors, giving a boost to social and territorial cohesion.

Revitalization plan in industrial and business sector, strengthening new areas, beyond the agri-food sector.

Social integration

Integral urban regeneration.

Section 3: Environmental issues

According to your stakeholders, is your city/region undertaking climate adaptation measures to revitalize neighbourhoods by addressing the impact of climate change (e.g. heat, drought, floods) on living conditions?

If yes, can you give an example? If no, do you think there is a need to do so and why?

Strategic projects aimed at circular economy.

“GreenH2CATudela”: construction of a green hydrogen plant in the facilities of the Agri-Food City of Tudela (CAT).

Development of solar and photovoltaic parks in the region, with the presence of local promoters and technology companies.

Soil adaptation is necessary to avoid desertification.

Promotion of wind farms.

How do your stakeholders understand environmental sustainability in the context of revitalization and regeneration of your city/region?

Soil adaptation in order to revitalize, looking for new forests and the conversion of communal soil.

Are there specific environmentally friendly practices or initiatives that your stakeholders believe should be implemented in your city/region? Please elaborate.

Lourdes Renove project

SECAP

Local energy communities

LIFE Nadapta studies in relation to soil treatment and forestry.

Although they have not been developed, but it could be the case of the development of value-added products, or the use of plant processing machinery with high sustainability standards.

Section 4: Entrepreneurship development and revitalization issues

Are there any initiatives related to revitalization of territories for the needs of businesses that your stakeholders consider as the best practices in your city/region? Please elaborate.

In Ribera county

In Ribera county there is the [Strategy for Intelligent Specialisation and Sustainability of La Ribera Navarra \(ECESI RN\)](#). Through the regional plan, business-oriented projects are being developed.

The AER is working on the deployment of different projects to help companies achieve greater productivity. Furthermore, in coordination with [Invest in Navarra](#), work is being done to attract investment in La Ribera.

Lines of collaboration are also being opened up with the municipalities of La Ribera to provide coverage for industrial development through the AER's technical office.

The Foral Industrial Law is going to be approved, and there is already a commission with the relevant agents in each of the sectors.

A good case of success would be what was done in Pamplona with the UPNA, where research and training were promoted, which led companies to see Pamplona as a potential location.

Another good initiative to follow would be the [Ciudad Agroalimentaria de Tudela \(CAT\)](#), an industrial estate with all the services and renewable energy sources, seeking a positive environmental impact.

An example in this sense is [Alhama Cintruénigo](#), which seeks a need for local development based on several lines of business focused on the Circular Economy with manufacturing activities in areas of innovation and ecological transition (management, recovery and transformation of plastic waste and derivatives) in collaboration with leading companies in the sector.

Of course, the success story in Navarre is the 1964 Industrial Plan of Gortari, Urmeneta and Huarte, who copied the state law for the industrialisation of Navarre, which led to the evolution and revitalisation of the region. They attracted companies by means of tax deductions and by promoting infrastructures in the region as a whole.

Current success stories include Ultracongelados Virto and Iberfruta at company level.

There are also the cases of Peralta and San Adrián, which are two work poles due to the business and entrepreneurial synergies that have been achieved.

Section 5: Beauty and aesthetics

How important is the aesthetic appeal and beauty of urban spaces for your stakeholders in the context of revitalization and regeneration?

Very Important

According to your stakeholders, what strategies or principles can enhance the beauty and aesthetics of your city/region during the revitalization process?

Urban regeneration, especially in the historic centres to promote the Ribera Brand, and establish a virtuous circle from the public sector, and thus strengthen tourism and commerce.

A law of calls for proposals could be established, as Pamplona had for the historic centre, in order to be renovated.

Improving urban mobility through citizen-friendly infrastructures.

Section 6: Public participation

Please provide examples of what your stakeholders consider to be examples of successful public participation initiatives during revitalisation projects in your city/region that have brought positive outcomes?

Generally speaking, people only participate when these modifications affect them directly, for example, in the participation of the Local infrastructures plan (PIL).

On the other hand, there have been collaborations with educational centres through the Navarre Employment Service (SNE), which serve to promote employment in the area.

The projects developed through the SNE propose training with a commitment to employment. An example to follow could be the [Sunsundegui Formula](#).

According to your stakeholders, how could public participation be better integrated into the revitalization and regeneration process of your city/region?

The current regulatory framework puts business at the centre, but it is through public-private partnerships that much can be achieved. There are direct and immediate lines of action for companies, but it is up to the educational centres to manage them. It would probably be necessary to create more school-workshops for the integration of all people and to offer, with this model, training linked to the needs of local companies.

Section 7: Integrated urban development

What does integrated urban development mean to your stakeholders, and how can it be realised in the context of your city/region?

A way of doing urban planning in a transversal way, where, for example, urban residential and industrial areas come together to develop a common proposal. It has to be coordinated and in consensus, with the same objectives and driving projects.

The EDER consortium or other joint services are not responsible for town planning, it is a municipality competence, but the Government of Navarre could coordinate the revisions of the General Municipal Plans, or create a model of integrated urban development in collaboration with the EDER consortium and the municipalities could then take this on board in the revisions of their municipal plans.

One project proposal could be the River Axis as an integrating element.

This is a multi-faceted approach, where it is not only important to have good urban spaces and accessibility to housing, but also employment in accordance with the demands of local businesses.

Are there specific policies, approaches, or best practices for integrated urban development that your stakeholders can recommend?

Tudela strategic plan 2030

4. Report from the City of Roeselare (Belgium)

Section 1: Information about stakeholders

List of stakeholders participating in the survey (name and surname, organization/institution):

1. Simon Casier, Natuurroof
2. X, Antea
3. X Strategic unit, city of Roeselare
4. Pieter Vandenbroucke, Climate program, city of Roeselare
5. Emmely Boudry, Province of West-Flanders
6. X, Vives
7. Lien De Raes, WVI
8. Suzan Demey, Dpt of Water, City of Roeselare
9. Ine Lobelle, Dpt of Housing, City of Roeselare
10. Louis Vandermaes, Dpt of Green infrastructure, City of Roeselare

Remark: not all respondents replied to all questions

Section 2: Revitalization needs

In the opinion of your stakeholders, what are the most pressing revitalization needs that your city/region currently face? (Please provide specific examples or case studies if possible)

9 out of 10 responses

A common need that is identified is the need to green the city. The majority of the stakeholders indicated this in their response.

Other aspects that were mentioned are open space, water, mobility, social aspects, energy transition, future proof city design, attract sustainable innovation, change mindset renovation, local economy and local agriculture.

How do your stakeholders prioritise these revitalization needs, and why? (feel free to rank or describe the importance of each need):

4 out of 10 responses

Measures that deal with green and water have high priority in order to reach a future proof city (less floods, achieve a general increase in well-being through greenery)

Enable social neighbourhoods by creating green meeting spaces

Attract and support sustainable innovation

Be able to produce and use local energy.

Section 3: Environmental issues

According to your stakeholders, is your city/region undertaking climate adaptation measures to revitalize neighbourhoods by addressing the impact of climate change (e.g. heat, drought, floods) on living conditions?

If yes, can you give an example? If no, do you think there is a need to do so and why?

6 out of 10 responses

Several stakeholders refer to the climate adaptation plan of Roeselare. Examples that are listed are:

- Foodroof RSL
- Business parc Krommebeek
- Sint Jozef deseals
- Integrated project design

How do your stakeholders understand environmental sustainability in the context of revitalization and regeneration of your city/region?

6 out of 10 responses

To invest in green and blue measures and implement this in policies.

Sustainability ideas must be taken into account and applied to the maximum extent possible in every project that is realized

If you focus on the revitalization of neighbourhoods, changes related to climate adaptation suddenly become a lot more attractive

No greenwashing, but effective sustainable solutions in projects

Are there specific environmentally friendly practices or initiatives that your stakeholders believe should be implemented in your city/region? Please elaborate.

6 out of 10 responses, 3 main topics identified

Greening the city:

Obligation to compensate for greenery when developing new projects, deseal as much as possible. Many more green zones in densified areas & project developments. Demolition policy to create additional green spaces in the city, especially in water-sensitive places. Less space for cars gives more space for green, pedestrians, bikes,...

Promote urban agriculture

Water:

Avoiding concrete surfaces and removing the excess locally would need more attention as well re-using these water resources locally. E.g.: gray water circuits, collection of rain water etc.

Mandatory retention roofs with new building projects that take up open space

Mobility:

Promote shared mobility

Section 4: Entrepreneurship development and revitalization issues

Are there any initiatives related to revitalization of territories for the needs of businesses that your stakeholders consider as the best practices in your city/region? Please elaborate.

9 out of 10 responses

FOODROOF RSL – NATUROOF knowledge hub proposal – can serve as a study object for knowledge institutions present in the city. Both for water management on open ground and on the roof

OC West/core point

Retail stores – plans layout

Agrotopia (<https://inagro.be/agrotopia>)

Business Parc Krommebeekpark – provides plenty of space for water by constructing large buffer basins and widening the stream bed of the Krommebeek that runs through it. The water from the paving is collected and discharged slowly towards the stream. Created to stimulate interaction with neighbourhood

Integration of water basins in industrial zones

Concept stores (e.g. on the corner of the Munt): contractors / producers who together furnish a store with their products

Village points: combination of shop, post, catering, social economy

Core plan: integrated plan around local shopping

Space management, densification of industry, investigating dual use and linking opportunities, jointly addressing common needs (e.g. water buffering) – e.g. Creation of an industrial park where water buffering, biodiversity, recreation and separation from residential areas can be combined.

The city has one of the best heatnets of the region and businesses will be able to benefit from that now and in the future

In the URBACT Action Planning Network C4Talent we would like to make an integrated action plan regarding talent attraction and retention on the one hand and to create a good environment for entrepreneurs on the other. This can include business support, co-working spaces, match-making on the labour market and so on.

Within the project Kick! (partly funded by ERDF) the business support programme, “DigiPreus” (translated as DigiProud) was rolled out by the City. During the Coronacrisis, shops had to close and it was hard for local retailers to sell their products since a lot of them did not have a webshop or social media. The City offered them courses given by experts for a cheaper price, on how to develop a webshop and/or social media. This way, local retailers could continue selling their goods.

The Jan Mahieustraat, one of the main shopping streets of Roeselare, was recently reconstructed. It made the street more attractive and comfortable for shoppers and pedestrians in general. But there was also eye for the aesthetic and climate adaptative aspect with more green spaces.

Also, the entrances and exits of some main parking lots of Roeselare (Stationsparking and Wallenparking) will be made more attractive soon (by the end of 2024). This will make it also more clear for visitors who leave the parking where the city centre is located. With painting techniques the visitors will be almost automatically “sent” to the city centre. This is, of course, better for the local shops who are located in the city centre

Section 5: Beauty and aesthetics

How important is the aesthetic appeal and beauty of urban spaces for your stakeholders in the context of revitalization and regeneration?

- Very Important: 7 responses
- Important: 1 response
- Neutral: 2 responses

- Less Important
- Not Important

According to your stakeholders, what strategies or principles can enhance the beauty and aesthetics of your city/region during the revitalization process?

8 out of 10 responses; strategies for 3 different themes could be identified

Participation projects:

Involving stakeholders, for example through citizen science

Participation, expertise (studies), visualizing, making it understandable

Collaboration with the neighbourhood & creative people in the area, use the resources and expertise available.

Test setups / participation / visualizations

Trying to combine different objectives in 1 project:

A lot of energy also goes into the context, getting to know the situation on the spot, communication and support. You can increase efficiency if you can combine this for different goals into one project.

Ex. Combine water buffering with nature & recreation

Greening:

Less gray, more green. Making a conscious choice of plant and tree species can have a positive impact on a street scene.

Greening: aesthetic and maintenance-friendly green; the right green in the right place

Pay sufficient attention to monitoring/maintenance of greenery to address concerns of local residents

Flowery planting is both beautiful to the eye and good for biodiversity. Making a well-considered choice can make a big difference, without necessarily having an extra impact on its maintenance.

Section 6: Public participation

Please provide examples of what your stakeholders consider to be examples of successful public participation initiatives during revitalisation projects in your city/region that have brought positive outcomes?

7 out of 10 responses

The Sint-Jozef breaks out project was mentioned in 4 out of the 7 responses.

Other examples listed are:

Rista padel, business parc Krommebeek, Godelievewijk, Park van de walle, Projects Groenpark, Citizen budgets – by providing a budget to a certain area let people suggest improvements and vote for certain ideas

According to your stakeholders, how could public participation be better integrated into the revitalization and regeneration process of your city/region?

7 out of 10 responses

Between the meeting where ideas are discussed and the moment a decision is made, provide time for reflection and allow people who were not at the first meeting to vote.

Knowledge sharing – education – awareness – indicating necessity through practical examples

Providing the “why” – “what’s in it for me” to participate in public participation

More intensive, also as an opportunity for people to get to know each other.

Broad, to detect opportunities around other themes

Communication: good communication regarding expectations in advance, and also good process communication

Combining methods: public moments + door-to-door + digital, to reach as many people as possible

Provide more time in the project process for participation, as well as specialized employees who can guide the participation.

One respondent replied this could be difficult: Providing participation in all projects is difficult, given the extra effort, resources and time this entails.

Section 7: Integrated urban development

What does integrated urban development mean to your stakeholders, and how can it be realised in the context of your city/region?

7 out of 10 responses

Integrated urban development means a total approach to growth and sustainability in urbanized areas. All aspects should be taken into account ranging from economy and sustainability, infrastructure and housing as well as social cohesion and services and safety.

One respondent also pointed out that integrated urban development means not only involving different external stakeholders but also involving colleagues from other departments. For example issues regarding public spaces can often not be fully solved without involving the social department.

The following suggestions to realize this were made:

- Coordination of all aspects in the best possible way and improve the quality of life of residents.
- Linking opportunities and search for measures/processes that have an effect on various challenges/policy domains
- Creation of public space in a smart way that meets public needs as much as possible without additional impact on the environment.
- Licenses to build should be more carefully drafted. More stringent local laws could be laid down
- Standardization of water management and about stricter regulations regarding water and greenery in projects.

Are there specific policies, approaches, or best practices for integrated urban development that your stakeholders can recommend?

5 out of 10 responses

Implement a quality cell for big projects. This cell of expert people from different domains can shed light and challenge the design on the different aspects to come to integrated development.

A department which works over the different departments and manage integrated projects can help to motivate colleagues to work in a more integrated way regarding urban development.

Involve various stakeholders, including government agencies, local communities, businesses and nonprofits, in the planning process. Solicit input and feedback from residents to ensure the development plan reflects their needs and aspirations.

Invest in and upgrade essential infrastructure, including transportation networks, water supplies, sewerage systems and energy grids. Add green spaces and sustainable design principles to urban planning to improve overall quality of life.

Develop strategies to increase the city's resilience to natural disasters, climate change and other potential challenges. Consider adaptive planning measures to reduce risks and ensure long-term sustainability.

A 'concrete arrest': Stop taking up landscape space and focus on qualitative densification.

Section 8: Additional comments

Is there any other information or insights your stakeholders would like to share regarding the revitalization and regeneration of small and mid-sized cities in the European Union?

3 out of 10 responses

Every city or region should set an example in this area and make all new public buildings inspiring examples in green and water management.

The success of revitalization efforts depends on an integrated approach, local involvement and a willingness to embrace innovative solutions. It is important to recognize that every city is unique, and measures should be tailored to the specific characteristics and needs of the local community.

One respondent indicated it is time for action: 'stop talking and start doing'.

5. Report Šilutė District Municipality (Lithuania)

Section 1: Information about stakeholders

List of stakeholders participating in the survey (name and surname, organization/institution):

2024-01-08, Stakeholders meeting in Silute administration (Dariaus ir Girėno st

1. Šilutė Tourism and Information Center
2. Šilutė Public Health Office
3. NGO "Land of Lamata"
4. NGO "Pomeranian Region"
5. NGO "Seagull Land"
6. Directorate of Protected Areas of Lithuania Minor
7. JSC "Šilutės autobusų parkas"
8. JSC "Šilutės vandenys"
9. NGO "Klaipeda region"
10. JSC "Šilutės thermal networks"

Section 2: Revitalization needs

In the opinion of your stakeholders, what are the most pressing revitalization needs that your city/region currently face? (Please provide specific examples or case studies if possible)

In the opinion of the stakeholders, the most important thing would be to clean up:

1. The embankments of the village of Rusnė and Mingė, to expand them, adapted for the parking and stopping of ships. This would be an excellent tool for improving water communication with the Curonian Spit, with Klaipeda district.
2. Modernization of educational institutions, adapting institutions for people with disabilities, due to the inclusive education program for children with disabilities, the quality of education is improved by purchasing innovative equipment, creating labs, introducing an "all-day school" in schools.
3. The population of Šilutė municipality is aging, the amount of social services provided is tendentiously increasing, the need for social care places is increasing, and at the same time the need for medical services and their development is also purposefully increasing.
4. Tourism development in Šilutė district: to clean up pedestrian-bicycle paths to the heritage and natural objects of interest, all tracks should be adapted to the disabled and universal design principles, the arrangement of river and pond shores should be adapted for recreation. The development of water sports tourism in the area.

How do your stakeholders prioritise these revitalization needs, and why? (feel free to rank or describe the importance of each need):

The development of tourism in Šilutė district is one of the most important priorities, since the development of the tourism sector in accordance with the principles of sustainable development and the efficient use of recreational resources could be the engine of the district's economy and business in it, as it attracts new inventions, creates jobs, increases incomes and stimulates the growth of demand.

Section 3: Environmental issues

According to your stakeholders, is your city/region undertaking climate adaptation measures to revitalize neighbourhoods by addressing the impact of climate change (e.g. heat, drought, floods) on living conditions?

If yes, can you give an example? If no, do you think there is a need to do so and why?

The development of renewable energy parks in the area would help reduce the use of fossil fuels, thus reducing the amount of carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere and the greenhouse effect.

Infrastructure for electric cars should be developed, as additional parking spaces, fast and slow charging stations.

Šilutė district is located in the flood zone, so part of the investments is always directed to reducing the consequences of flooding and increasing prevention: a squadron to Rusné Island has been built, which allows residents to reach their homes during flooding, improves the quality of life, constantly invests in the renewal and construction of polders, strengthening of embankments, cleaning of reclamations.

How do your stakeholders understand environmental sustainability in the context of revitalization and regeneration of your city/region?

All the planned measures for the development of the city and the improvement of infrastructure, must be environmentally friendly as for example. installation of lighting of streets, pedestrian paths or pedestrian crossings with the help of saving LED lamps, the introduction of electronic passenger ticketing systems, attention should be paid to the adaptation of communication infrastructure for people with special needs.

Are there specific environmentally friendly practices or initiatives that your stakeholders believe should be implemented in your city/region? Please elaborate.

Adaptation of all transport infrastructure to electric transport, promotion of sustainable mobility.

Section 4: Entrepreneurship development and revitalization issues

Are there any initiatives related to revitalization of territories for the needs of businesses that your stakeholders consider as the best practices in your city/region? Please elaborate.

The areas provided for in the city's general plan for business development, they are concentrated in one part of the city, the road infrastructure to investment plots for business is being extinguished, communications are being built, the power of the electorate is needed (for renewable energy use), engineering networks (water supply and sewage) are being built.

Section 5: Beauty and aesthetics

How important is the aesthetic appeal and beauty of urban spaces for your stakeholders in the context of revitalization and regeneration?

• Very Important

Most stakeholders believe that beauty and aesthetics in creating the cityscape and trying to revive it is one of the top priorities. All decisions made on the complex development of cities should have an attractive appearance and beautify the overall picture of the city.

According to your stakeholders, what strategies or principles can enhance the beauty and aesthetics of your city/region during the revitalization process?

All decisions made on modernization, reconstruction, complex management of the city and development should be combined with the unique historical heritage of the city, be in harmony with each other, not stand out from the city's overall image. Šilutė is unique in its historical main street, the appearance and layout of which must be preserved.

Section 6: Public participation

Please provide examples of what your stakeholders consider to be examples of successful public participation initiatives during revitalisation projects in your city/region that have brought positive outcomes?

One of the most interesting initiatives is the collaboration of lawn parks with local communities (business-community cooperation), wind farms and communities sign co-workers' agreements, which provide communities with funds from the wind farms operating in their area. The funds are invested in improving the quality of life of community members, contributing to various projects, developing services in settlements, covering the need for funds for the organization of holidays, reducing social exclusion.

According to your stakeholders, how could public participation be better integrated into the revitalization and regeneration process of your city/region?

Participatory budgeting would be a place from alternatives to how the community could participate in the decision-making that is relevant to them.

Section 7: Integrated urban development

What does integrated urban development mean to your stakeholders, and how can it be realised in the context of your city/region?

Integrated urban development can ensure that the development process is aligned with the needs of the inhabitants living in a particular area, empowering them to social partnership, sharing, subsidiarity and clustering.

Are there specific policies, approaches, or best practices for integrated urban development that your stakeholders can recommend?

Inclusion and implementation of the Sustainable Mobility Plan guidelines in the Strategic Development Plan.

6. Report from Jelgava Local Municipality (Latvia)

Section 1: Information about stakeholders

List of stakeholders participating in the survey (name and surname, organization/institution):

1. Aiga Spāģe, Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies
2. Natalija Ņitavska, Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies
3. Lāsma Cimermane & Zane Rautmane, Association "Close"/ Tuvu
4. X, parish council
5. X, Environment Management Unit, JLM
6. X, Environment Management Unit, JLM
7. X, Environment Management Unit, JLM
8. Līga Švānberga, LAG Rural Partnership "Lielupe"
9. X, Zemgale Planning region, Zemgale Business centre
10. X, Latvian State Forests, Zemgale region
11. X, Jelgava Business incubator
12. Eva Merzļakova, Youth Council of JLM
13. Simona Gabriela Leščute, Youth Council of JLM
14. Kristiāna Beatrise Jankovska, Youth Council of JLM
15. Aleksandrs Čapareks, Youth Council of JLM
16. Evelīna Vilka, Youth Council of JLM

Remark: not all respondents replied to all questions

Section 2: Revitalization needs

In the opinion of your stakeholders, what are the most pressing revitalization needs that your city/region currently face? (Please provide specific examples or case studies if possible)

15 out of 16 responses

It is stated that first it is necessary to collect information regarding sites that needs to be revitalized – both – territories belonging to municipality and private owners. The discussion should be started which of those sites are needed to serve public needs and how to maintain and develop them in the future. Also there is a need for revitalized territories for use in entrepreneurship.

Development of small local centres are needed for inhabitants where they can meet, attend events, gather in day centres (multi-functional use of premises). Also there is a need for pedestrian and cycling infrastructure – connection between villages and development centres of the municipality. Well-kept public outdoor space would be appreciated. Access to public water and forest resources.

Soviet heritage abandoned buildings which are not functioning and degrade the landscape and make it unsafe should be whether revitalize or demolish. Certain requirements should be set to control their physical and visual appearance. Work of sewage treatment equipment should be improved. Revitalization of dumps, former soviet time farm complexes, quarries.

In many cases also certain sites are mentioned in the surveys: water tower and abandoned shop in Brankas, Rotonda and open-air stage in Eleja Manor park, riverbanks in Bērvircava village, White house in Zaļenieki manor ensemble, former ambulance in Eleja, bus stop and fence in Svēte, basements near Āne pond, Āne village sewage treatment station etc.

How do your stakeholders prioritise these revitalization needs, and why? (feel free to rank or describe the importance of each need):

14 out of 16 responses

Collection of information about sites/ territories to be revitalized

Clarification of public opinion regarding revitalization needs of sites

Planning of use of those sites (for example, attractive place for events, festivals, art installations)

Should start with those where there is flow of people or there are nearby sites with peoples` flow

Ensuring the safety of people if those sites are dangerous

Spread of information about revitalized sites

Development of public outdoor area

Demolishing of abandoned houses/ farms

Reconstruction of quarries

Pedestrian and cycling connectivity

Modernization of sewage treatment equipment

There are also very certain and concrete ideas given for specific sites in Brankas, Eleja, Bērvircava, Zaļenieki, Svēte, Āne (reference to previous question).

Section 3: Environmental issues

According to your stakeholders, is your city/region undertaking climate adaptation measures to revitalize neighbourhoods by addressing the impact of climate change (e.g. heat, drought, floods) on living conditions?

If yes, can you give an example? If no, do you think there is a need to do so and why?

4 out of 16 responses

Most of respondents were not aware if such measures are undertaken in JLM, but many are convinced that those measures should be really needed and important.

However, some positive responses were given:

River cleaning works are taking place

1 respondent has noticed that municipality take into account weather forecasts before territory management works – no grass cutting during heat when the grass can burn out.

Careful work is done to monitor overflowing territories in terms of house construction there. At the same time those territories could be more used in recreation, establishing here platforms or footbridges to enjoy those territories, educate society and attract tourists

In order to avoid flood effects, municipality renews protective dams

There is also an opinion given that municipality implements many other measures to prevent climate changes: insulation of public buildings, purchase of electric cars, transfer to heating systems that reduce CO2 emissions

How do your stakeholders understand environmental sustainability in the context of revitalization and regeneration of your city/region?

9 out of 16 responses

According to the Sustainable development strategy of Jelgava City and Jelgava Local Municipality until 2034 inhabitants live in clean and climate neutral environment, in harmony with nature, adjusting to the risks caused by climate changes. Nature values are used for development of tourism and recreation. In order to reduce CO2 emissions and their impact on climate changes, energy efficiency measures are implemented by transition to low-emission and zero emission transport. Use of renewable energy resources (sun, wind, geothermal) is increasing, research and innovations are carried out in climate and sustainable energy implementing Green Deal.

Repeated use of local resources and involvement of local community in development and revitalization processes.

To base the development of municipality on existing resources (by renewing, revitalizing and re-forming current sites) before starting new development from the scratch.

In the management and development planning take into consideration environmental and climate processes and their changing nature.

Coherent development that ensures present needs, but – at the same time – do not threaten ability of next generations to ensure their needs. To use with purpose to be something left to next generations.

To collect information about nature resources and whether protect them or – on the contrary – let them serve as the basis for economic and social growth.

To respect environment.

Activities to decrease flood`s, drought and heat consequences.

To ensure attractive, comfortable, sustainable and nature friendly living environment.

Reduce energy consumption in municipal buildings.

Renovation and maintenance of historic buildings and surrounding parks.

Are there specific environmentally friendly practices or initiatives that your stakeholders believe should be implemented in your city/region? Please elaborate.

6 out of 16 responses

Cooperation between municipalities, regions, and state level to manage river basins, forests, meadows and other resources – with common view with neighbours.

Sustainable agriculture, preserving the traditional landscape of Zemgale region.

Waste sorting.

Participation of society in solving of environmental issues – interactive map where inhabitants can submit ideas, what can be improved in respective place (not complains, but suggestions).

Municipality provides unused territories (with water, roads, garbage bins) for small gardens for inhabitants.

Section 4: Entrepreneurship development and revitalization issues

Are there any initiatives related to revitalization of territories for the needs of businesses that your stakeholders consider as the best practices in your city/region? Please elaborate.

9 out of 16 responses

Entrepreneurs invest finances in revitalization of abandoned places/ sites turning them into new objects where different kind of activities take place.

Management of manors and castles to facilitate development of tourism and creative industries.

Facilitation of PPP as a cooperation between state, municipality and entrepreneurs that creates favourable environment for business development, investments un infrastructure improvements (for example, reconstruction of the building where small factory Pupuchi (broad bean production) is situated (PPP)).

Branku Brančotava where the entrepreneur has revitalized the territory and provides a place where society can socialize, get educated and spend their time, at the same time providing income to entrepreneur.

There are workshops organized where there is information given about how to facilitate the revitalization of territories what is a good start.

Revitalization of Eleja Manor complex (Tea house, Exhibition hall), Berķene Manor, Līvbērze school housekeeping rooms, Kalnciems sports base, Abgunste Manor, Svēte castle.

Section 5: Beauty and aesthetics

How important is the aesthetic appeal and beauty of urban spaces for your stakeholders in the context of revitalization and regeneration?

- Very Important: 12 responses
- Important: 4 responses
- Neutral
- Less Important
- Not Important

According to your stakeholders, what strategies or principles can enhance the beauty and aesthetics of your city/region during the revitalization process?

12 out of 16 responses

To preserve and highlight existing values;

To preserve, renew and maintain historic plantations (manor parks, alleys etc.)

More attention to historic buildings;

Development projects for public spaces of small settlements;

Well maintained environment with modern materials. Walking paths, cycling routes and connections between villages of JLM and Jelgava City;

To use natural local materials in infrastructure development and create common design (at local, regional, state level) and digital solutions (QR codes, virtual watching towers);

To implement all the ideas despite their craziness from the beginning!;

To prepare the data base of degraded territories and sites of JLM;

To develop criteria for evaluation of degraded territories and sites;

To prepare visual and cartographic material of degraded territories and sites;

Clean and natural environment attracts more inhabitants and tourists;

Environment protection and nature integration thus improving aesthetics and living conditions of inhabitants;

Culture and art integration thus strengthening municipality as powerful cultural centre and creating common cultural identity.

Section 6: Public participation

Please provide examples of what your stakeholders consider to be examples of successful public participation initiatives during revitalisation projects in your city/region that have brought positive outcomes?

10 out of 16 responses

At state level – Big Clean-up day where there are cleaning and environment improvement day organized in whole country in April;

Volunteering in Branku Brančotava, where around 50 volunteers gather together for an action where one family gets their house repaired;

Berķene Manor, Blankenfelde Manor, many other sites that have been revitalized by private owners;

Involvement of society in environmental issues – application for suggestions (already mentioned in point 3);

Partnership with different partners;

Common work for cleaning-up of territory of Svēte Manor;

Work in associations, work groups (for example, LAG Lielupe);

Initiatives of inhabitants, entrepreneurs for project development;

Successful example is clean-up in Vilce nature park for cleaning of the river organized by municipality where local community took part;

For young people youth centres are good way to be involved;

Application play in Geocatching

According to your stakeholders, how could public participation be better integrated into the revitalization and regeneration process of your city/region?

12 out of 16 responses

To involve inhabitants surveys can be conducted (followed by common gathering and barbeque);

To get better results/ opinion youngsters could be invited;

Getting involved in the processes already from beginning offering different kind of ways to be involved, as well as offering different channels (according to the target audience) so inhabitants can choose the most appropriate for them, also personal communication and cooperation with NGOs;

More discussions and public consultations to involve society, specially in the format of “brainstorming”;

Via social media and webpage of municipality;

Participatory budgeting as a tool for public involvement.

Section 7: Integrated urban development

What does integrated urban development mean to your stakeholders, and how can it be realised in the context of your city/region?

5 responses out of 16

It means holistic approach to the development of municipality where different spheres and interests are taken into account to facilitate sustainable development;

Careful and economical planning of resources, based on development priorities set by JLM;

Knowledgeable municipality with knowledgeable staff oriented to the sustainable development of JLM;

Integrated municipality means the municipality where all groups of society cooperates, helping to each other to improve the quality of life, for example, development of recreation places can potentially support local businesses. In the context of JLM it means that more discussions are needed with society, also informative events in order to provide information about current issues, conversation with society;

Vision of development and current situation, strategy of cooperation between sectors;

Cooperation both – in horizontal and vertical level creation cooperation clusters and organizing meetings. There regional level governments could take the leading role as the mentors who see the development in the whole region. This would help to save resources and invest in revitalization.

Are there specific policies, approaches, or best practices for integrated urban development that your stakeholders can recommend?

2 out of 16 responses

Municipal development plan is under preparation

Adjusting development of municipality to 17 SDG

Section 8: Additional comments

Is there any other information or insights your stakeholders would like to share regarding the revitalization and regeneration of small and mid-sized cities in the European Union?

4 out of 16 responses

Since the term “revitalization” is not widely used in Latvia it would be good to give also definition of it and explain in more details;

Experience of Branku Brančotava (association Tuvu);

For example, in Estonia, delegation agreements for involvement of private sector in management and maintenance of sites and territories are more successful;

In Finland municipalities already more than 10 years in cooperation with scientists forms new models of populated places, which are gradually developed thus creating cohesive and strong communities by balancing ecological environment, integrating art objects into inhabited places, solving rain and sewage water management. Development of those places starts with environmental and outdoor solutions and construction is developed step by step.