

Temporary uses and urban regeneration: Lille to host next IMPETUS project meeting

European project partners from six different countries will meet in Lille for their first Interregional Policy Brokerage Event on 31 January and 1 February to enhance their capacity to design local policies that foster the temporary use of abandoned or disused spaces for urban regeneration.

LILLE, France — On **January 31** and **February 1**, the Lille Metropole will welcome its European partners of the **IMPETUS project** for the **1st Interregional Policy Brokerage Event**. The meeting represents the first operational meeting in 2024 for the project, which started in March last year, and will be attended by **regional** and **local authorities** from six nations: Italy, Spain, France, Latvia, Poland and Romania.

IMPETUS, funded by the **Interreg Europe Programme**, aims to transform the way cities and regions design **policies** to **support a sustainable and just transition** for European cities, focusing specifically on the role of **temporary uses** for abandoned or underused spaces. The project partners are exchanging insights and practices from their respective cities and regions regarding strategies and alternatives for regulating temporary uses at both regional and urban scales. In Lille, the discussion will focus on the most relevant features of the selected good practices, to understand their transfer potential and, thus, their possible transfer to other regions and cities.

*Through its urban renewal program, the European Metropolis of Lille is pursuing a proactive policy of requalifying old neighborhoods and industrial wastelands in the municipalities on its territory. In this context, **temporary uses** become a lever when the destination of vacant space is uncertain or a source of dysfunction, **creating new social dynamics and prefiguring new uses**. This seminar, held in Lille, is an opportunity to **exchange views** with the main partners and operators in transitional urban planning in the metropolitan area, and to **visit emblematic sites**, such as the transitional development of **Place Jacques Février in Lille** with SPLA La Fabrique des Quartiers, follow the experimental rehabilitation of a 1930s house, discover the conversion of an industrial building into a cultural facility, **La Condition Publique in Roubaix**, which has a metropolitan impact, and finally share the experience of the **Ferme Urbaine du Trichon**, a project to reclaim an industrial wasteland,*

co-constructed with local associations.' explains **Béatrice URO**, Project Director for Social and Urban Cohesion.

The **Métropole Européenne de Lille** is engaged in the project with a distinct goal of enhancing the **integrated metropolitan strategy for urban renewal of districts**. This initiative seeks to achieve territorial equilibrium and establish a unified, collaborative vision for the future of areas targeted for regeneration under the **French "National Programme for Urban Regeneration"**. This urban renewal strategy is set to transform 14 districts through an ambitious programme to improve the living environment and attract residents by focusing on using vacant space to create high-quality public areas for the immediate benefit of the community.

ABOUT THE IMPETUS PROJECT

IMPETUS aims to change how cities and regions design sustainable development plans, including temporary uses for abandoned or underutilised spaces to be regenerated. It will learn from different policies and build the capacity to make it happen. This will lead to better urban governance, accessible services, and collaboration with local communities, with the aim of increasing access and opportunities for the most vulnerable categories of residents and city users. It will work with residents, civil society, and small businesses to tackle urban challenges together and improve policies on temporary uses that may be considered innovative tools to transform cities through a place-based approach.

The project is co-financed by the [Interreg Europe programme](#), through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and runs for four years, starting from March 2023.

IMPETUS PROJECT PARTNERS

ANCI Toscana (Association of Tuscan Municipalities) - Italy - Lead partner

Bucharest-Ilfov Regional Development Agency - Romania

Métropole Européenne de Lille - France

LAMA Società Cooperativa - Impresa Sociale - Italy

Riga City Council - Latvia

Mazowieckie Region - Poland

Municipal Society of Mobility, Sustainability, and Innovation of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria - Spain

Tuscany Region - Italy - Associated partner



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