

**Interreg
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IMPETUS

IMPETUS
Improving local Policies on
Temporary Uses

**Contract models, user agreements
for the use of public spaces and buildings**

**2nd Handbook
July 2024**

Summary

1. Introduction	3
2. IMPETUS - In a nutshell	3
Objectives and approach	3
Partners and policy instruments	4
3. Temporary uses	6
2.1. Definitions	6
4. Project's methodology	8
4.1. Working process	8
4.2. Thematic focus	9
4.3. Description & assessment form	10
5. IMPETUS Good Practices	14
6. Results and insights from Semester 3	33
6.1. 2st ITS in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria	33
6.2. 2st IPB in Bucharest	38
7. Next steps	44

1. Introduction

IMPETUS aims to generate a policy change in the design and implementation of integrated sustainable urban development strategies in European cities and regions by **promoting and regulating temporary uses**.

Temporary uses (TUs) refer to the practice of using vacant buildings, empty lots, and unused spaces as sites for co-creative experimentation, unlocking a multitude of innovative cultural, social, and entrepreneurial activities. The project aims to achieve this objective through **policy learning and capacity-building activities** that aim to embed temporary uses in integrated sustainable urban development strategies.

This **Handbook** presents the takeaways of the regions from the IMPETUS exchange and learning process during the **third semester of the project**, as well as the **Good Practices** collected by the Consortium. This is the second Handbook that has been published; you can have a look at the [1st Handbook](#) on the IMPETUS website.

At the end of each project semester, a new and updated Handbook will be issued, with new good practices and takeaways.

2. IMPETUS - In a nutshell

The project's overall objective is **to generate a policy change** in the design and implementation of integrated sustainable urban development strategies by cities and regions by adding new layers **to promote and regulate temporary uses**. In particular, IMPETUS aims to improve the **policy instruments** identified by each partner. This objective will be achieved through **interregional policy learning and capacity-building** activities on how to embed temporary uses in integrated sustainable urban development strategies. It will result in the **uptake of good practices**.

Temporary use: a definition

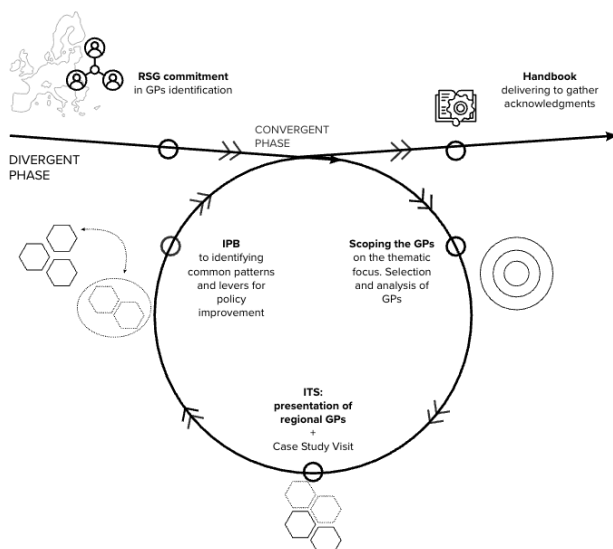
Temporary use is a practice in urbanism aiming to revitalise underutilised urban spaces, such as abandoned buildings, by allowing temporary, often community-driven activities. These practices are often **supported by local to national policies** during the "waiting time" in urban regeneration, as studied in projects like the [H2020 T-Factor Project](#).

Applying temporary uses in the waiting time of urban regeneration can be strategic and beneficial for the different actors at stake. Multiple gains can be achieved, including higher quality spaces, enhanced participation, dialogue, and trust, responses to existing and emerging needs, new partnerships and collaborations, and revert feelings and perceptions of decay and abandonment. At the same time, to the extent that temporary uses unfold alongside the critical relationship between public and private interests, they can also cast shadows, including appropriation of value, economic and environmental sustainability, and legacy for communities.

Meanwhile practices observed across Europe seem to move relentlessly along this wide perimeter. **There is no unique model but rather a multiplicity of strategies** and approaches that take shape and evolve over time, unpacking and repacking interests, motivations, agendas, and drivers. They primarily depart from a common need for more **flexibility and adaptation in regeneration processes**, and yet their paths unfold in different ways and unravel different impacts.

The project seeks to **address the challenges European cities face**, which generate up to 85% of Europe's GDP and account for about 80% of energy use. European Cities face challenges ranging from environmental degradation and climate change to the digital revolution, from demographic transition and migration to social inequalities.

Semester 2-6



The project is divided into **two main phases**: the **core phase** - first three years of the project - will deal with the **interregional learning process**. If needed, this phase may also include designing one or more action plans and/or testing the transfer of good practice through a **Pilot Action**.

The IMPETUS working process involves a **recurring cycle of activities** repeated each semester on different thematic focuses.

Every semester of the core phase has a specific thematic focus that guides the collection and discussion of good practices. Each good practice that is collected may be relevant to one or more of the focus areas:

- **Semester 2:** Alternatives and approaches to the regulation of temporary uses at regional and urban levels
- **Semester 3:** Contract models, user agreements for the use of public spaces and buildings
- **Semester 4:** Policies to support, initiate, and advise on temporary use
- **Semester 5:** Alternative financing models and mechanisms for temporary uses

The thematic focus for **Semester 6** will be defined along with the implementation of the project by the consortium.

The **follow-up phase**, taking place in the last year of the project, is dedicated to **monitoring the effects** of the policy improvements and the possible achievement of **additional policy improvements**.

The **project's consortium** includes six partners from local administrations, two associate partners and an advisory partner.

National Association of Italian Municipalities - Tuscany (ANCI Tuscany) - LEAD PARTNER



Policy instrument: **ERDF Regional Operational Programme of the Tuscany Region 2021-2027**.

ANCI Toscana is the project's **lead partner**. It is supported by the **Tuscany Region** in its quality of MA of the ERDF ROP 2021-27 as an associated policy authority.

Métropole Européenne de Lille (MEL)



Policy instrument: **Metropolitan integrated strategy for urban regeneration of districts of the French "New National Program for Urban Regeneration"**.

Bucharest-Ilfov Regional Development Agency



Policy instrument: **Regional Operational Programme Investment in Growth and Jobs ERDF 2021 - 2027.**

Riga City Council



Policy instrument: **Sustainable Development Strategy of Riga 2030.**

Municipal Parking Society of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, S.A. - SAGULPA



Policy instrument: **Guanarteme-Plaza del Pilar. Culture-based urban development strategy.**

SAGULPA is supported by the local administration of Las Palmas (**Ayuntamiento de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria**), responsible for the policy instrument, as an **associate partner** of the project.

Mazowieckie Region



Policy instrument: **Regional Operational Programme European Funds for Mazovia Region 2021-2027**

LAMA - Società Cooperativa Impresa Sociale - ADVISORY PARTNER



The role of LAMA is to advise the other partners for the analysis and transfer of GPs, particularly as regards: **defining the methodology** for the analysis of GPs, **supervising the analysis and selection of the GPs**, leading and coordinating the **communication activities** of the project.

3. IMPETUS Good Practices - SEMESTER 3

During Semester 3 of the project, **6 GPs were collected** by regional partners and are described below.

6 Good Practices
<p>Riga City Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • «Gardens of Sports Palace», Urban Community Gardening
<p>Tuscany Region ANCI Toscana</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation for the temporary uses at the Municipality of Borgo San Lorenzo
<p>Mazowieckie Region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing in exchange for renovation
<p>Métropole Européenne de Lille</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary occupancy of the Couvent des Clarisses in Roubaix: an original approach to reactivate an historic building
<p>Bucharest-Ilfov Regional Development Agency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedural requirements for establishing temporary use contracts of public spaces in Romania (Slatina Municipality)
<p>SAGULPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huecos Urbanos (Urban Spaces)

3.1. «Gardens of Sports Palace», Urban Community Gardening

Location: Riga, Latvia

“Sporta pils dārzi” (Gardens of “Sports Palace”) is an initiative by active Riga residents to promote self-organization, neighborhood improvement, and healthy lifestyles. In 2020, they opened an abandoned Soviet sports center for public temporary use, encouraging residents of the community to take an active part in the development and improvement of their neighbourhood.

From 2020 to 2023, the urban gardens hosted cultural and educational activities. In fall 2020, over 150 community members prepared the site for urban gardening. By spring 2021, the gardens were open to the public, with 150 garden spaces, including accessible mobile gardening boxes, available for rent in the size of 12.5 square meters, each with 3 to 8 boxes full of gardening soil. While the central area featured wildflower meadows and recreational zones for free public use.

Gardens were rented to local residents for a symbolic fee, with discounts for vulnerable gardeners.

As the owner of this site decided to undertake construction works in part of this territory starting from 2024, during 2024-2025 there will be less space available - only for urban gardening activities, not for public events.

Resources needed

The initiative is supported by its commercial partners involved in the implementation under non-commercial agreements.

Evidence of success

Numerous benefits have already emerged, including the promotion of a healthy lifestyle, enhanced accessibility and inclusivity, the circular use of materials, and the improvement of community well-being.

The mobile gardening boxes, designed in various sizes and heights, ensure accessibility for individuals of all ages and abilities, including people with disabilities, children, and seniors..

At the heart of this initiative is the local community, which actively participated in creating the gardens and remains engaged in every aspect of the project. Community maintenance tasks are distributed among gardeners, and decision-making follows a democratic process.

Public communication efforts have been successful, generating increased interest and inspiration among the wider public to pursue similar initiatives.

Potential for learning or transfer

It is an excellent case study on how and under what agreements and contract models, private property can be put into public temporary use.



(Foto courtesy City of Riga)

3.2. Regulation for the temporary uses at the Municipality of Borgo San Lorenzo

Location: Borgo San Lorenzo, Italy

In 2021 the Municipality of Borgo San Lorenzo was working on the renovation of the local Operational Plan. Because of that the Municipality decided to open 2 complementary **participatory processes**: “Borgo Prossima” (transversal and public) and “Spazi ai giovani” (Focused on younger generations).

From the two processes, several issues were identified and, to address these challenges, the Municipality of Borgo San Lorenzo, with the **City Council Decision no. 35 of July 29th**, recognized temporary uses as a powerful tool to enhance territorial and social cohesion. They approved two main documents: **operational guidelines for the implementation of TU projects** and a **standard agreement template for use between the Municipality and interested parties**.

The operational guidelines outline the acquisition and management modes for temporary uses, including public tender procedures, property mapping, ensuring transparency and impartiality in selection, and establishing agreements with a 4+4 year term. Temporary use contracts can be signed at regulated or free rent based on the economic sustainability of the projects, with project content verified through dialogue with the administration and asset management offices.

The standard agreement template includes specific provisions on intervention and accessibility modes, the duration and possible extension of temporary use, the obligations of the user and municipality, liability towards third parties, and exemptions and benefits regarding fees and local taxes.

Resources needed

The management of processes for the temporary use of unused properties involves technical and legal aspects that fall under the responsibility of the Municipality.

Evidence of success

In December 2023, a Call for Expressions of Interest, based on the Decision, was published, inviting private, non-profit, and sports organizations to propose temporary use projects for an abandoned field in Polcanto, which the Municipality had purchased to create a community space.

Potential for learning or transfer

The Good Practice introduces an innovative model for temporary use of spaces, serving as an example for local administrations and private owners. It promotes urban regeneration by integrating new functions into urban spaces. It establishes a shared management framework involving property owners, third sector actors, and private companies, fostering social innovation and collaboration. The contractual model offers flexibility, crucial for experimenting with new forms of use. By providing controlled or free rents, it facilitates access to spaces for impactful projects, contributing to urban sustainability. Introducing a standard framework ensures transparency in usage agreements, reducing conflicts. Encouraging cultural, social, and recreational activities in spaces promotes territorial enhancement and social inclusion.



(Foto courtesy Municipality of Borgo San Lorenzo)

3.3. Housing in exchange for renovation

Location: Żyrardow, Poland

The "Housing in exchange for renovation" program was developed in response to the pressing need for affordable housing solutions in the Żyrardów community. In fact, due to rising housing costs and limited availability, many residents were struggling to find suitable accommodation.

This program aims to address these challenges by revitalizing existing housing stock and empowering residents to become active participants in improving their living conditions.

The primary objectives of the "Housing in exchange for renovation" program are to:

1. Provide affordable housing options for residents.
2. Revitalize existing housing stock.
3. Empower residents to take ownership of their living spaces.
4. Foster community engagement and social cohesion.

The "Housing in exchange for renovation" program operates through a process:

1. Residents express interest in participating in the program.
2. Their application is evaluated by the Housing Committee of the Żyrardów City Council.
3. After the approval they are provided with an opportunity to renovate a designated property in exchange for affordable rent.
4. Upon completion of renovations, residents move into the refurbished housing unit.
5. The program continues to monitor and support residents throughout their tenancy.

Resources needed

Premises to be renovated, Tenant/occupant, Entity that will draw up the cost of adaptation works according to the scope of works to be performed (in the case of the City of Żyrardów, this is Przedsiębiorstwo Gospodarki Mieszkaniowej Sp. z o.o. (Housing Management Company), based in Żyrardów).

Evidence of success

Participating in the program offers numerous benefits for residents and community, including:

- Access to affordable housing options.
- Improved living conditions and quality of life.
- A sense of pride and ownership in their living space.
- Opportunities for skill development and community engagement.
- Revitalization of neighborhoods and improvement of the built environment.
- Strengthening of social ties and community cohesion.
- Promotion of sustainable development practices.
- Creation of opportunities for economic growth and investment.

Potential for learning or transfer

The practice of renting an apartment in exchange for renovation is unique because residents agree with local authorities to renovate the apartment as a condition of renting it. This innovative housing management approach allows local needs to shape the agreement, improving community quality of life and efficiently using public housing resources. By involving residents in renovations, this model demonstrates effective public resource management through creative contract and occupancy agreements.



(Foto courtesy City of Żyrardów)

3.4. Temporary occupancy of the Couvent des Clarisses in Roubaix: an original approach to reactivate an historic building

Location: Roubaix, France

The former convent « Couvent des Clarisses » was bought by the local authority. In 2019, the City of Roubaix published a call for projects to occupy the former monastery. The winning proposal allowed the partners to sign a "precarious occupation contract" with the Municipality: a flexible contract model that allowed the team to occupy the site and organizing workshops to start reactivating the venue. Their approach focused on ten goals:

- 1) To enable rapid occupation of a disused historic building;
- 2) Adapting the uses of the building by living in it;
- 3) Offering local residents a variety of activities adapted to the rhythm of the seasons;
- 4) Testing low-tech forms of heritage rehabilitation;
- 5) Putting into practice the frugal use of resources on a daily basis;
- 6) Make Les Clarisses a place where people produce, work and learn;
- 7) Welcoming and federating initiatives beyond the Roubaix area;
- 8) Experimenting with a replicable response to the issue of vacant real estate on the large brownfield sites in the north of the city;
- 9) Build a collective project with a specific governance;
- 10) Document and promote the project outside of the Roubaix area.

Resources needed

Public and private subsidies for a total cost of 1.8 millions € for 4 years.

Evidence of success

The gradual opening of the site is enabling local residents to repurpose a historic location for new uses while sharing knowledge about the zero waste project and the site's history. The flexible framework of the contract allows a variety of activities at different times. Local community members are engaged through opportunities to rent office or workshop spaces, participate in volunteer days for site restoration, and join in seasonal events.

Potential for learning or transfer

For historic monuments, the slightest alteration that is not maintenance, ordinary repair or safety work is subject to a process that could be very long and complex. On the other hand, this kind of approach can represent a flexible tool that could be replicated.



(Foto courtesy City of Roubaix)

3.5. Procedural requirements for establishing temporary use contracts of public spaces in Romania

Location: Slatina, Romania

The aim of this practice is to regulate the temporary use of public domain, while also setting a legal framework for the associated costs.

The procedure was brought to life to make productive use of unused spaces and bring them back into commercial or cultural use, depending on the type of event organized (street fairs, open-air cultural activities, selling of handmade goods or seasonal craft items, etc.).

Furthermore, this procedure makes it easier for interested parties to understand the requirements and documents they must submit to sign a temporary use contract. The contract stipulates the costs for carrying out these temporary use activities (based on their nature) and also sets clear obligations and rights for each signing party. Before this initiative was adopted, there was no clear definition of these temporary activities and the associated taxes to be paid.

Resources needed

Human resources that overlook the process of signing contracts and the payment of the associated taxes.

Evidence of success

The areas where these activities are being temporarily organized can see some improvement in terms of the maintenance of the buildings and spaces to enhance the overall experience of the participants. By temporarily renting these public spaces, the Municipality can attract additional funds to the local budget which can later be invested in urban regeneration projects.

Potential for learning or transfer

Through this practice, the Municipality can have a clearer view of the unused spaces and in the future, it can take more targeted actions to improve the urban regeneration process in the city of Slatina.



(Foto courtesy [Andrei Stoe CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons](#))

3.6. Huecos Urbanos (Urban Spaces)

Location: Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

The main goal of the project is the reuse of private or public plots in abandonment or disuse plots for recreational uses, ecological and environmental promotion and social cohesion.

To achieve the main goal, a process of renaturalization of the urban space has been undertaken creating new green spaces and allocating certain urban infrastructures (places to sit, shade-providing locations...etc.) where citizens have the chance to interact.

The process is as follows: first, a municipal architect designs the space. Then, the necessary materials are acquired, and the works are executed.

Resources needed

The required resources include hiring qualified technicians for the design of the place, purchasing construction materials, and carrying out the works themselves.

Evidence of success

During the time when the project was being executed, the communities could enjoy the recreational uses that the new spaces could allow. These plots served as meeting points for social cohesion, green spaces where citizens could sit, talk and share experiences.

Potential for learning or transfer

The experience of the City Council in the identification of adequate spaces, the negotiations and agreements reached with the rightful owners of the plots, as well as the execution and design of the spaces could be valuable for other partners and could possibly be replicated in other cities.



(Foto courtesy Ayuntamiento de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria)

4. Results and insights from Semester 3

4.1. ITS in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

On April 9-10th 2024, SAGULPA and the Municipality of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria hosted the second **Interregional Thematic Seminar (ITS)** of the IMPETUS project. The seminar has been attended by all project partners, along with some of the stakeholders from Regions that have been active in Regional Stakeholder Groups during the past semester.

During the first day of the ITS, partners presented the **Good Practices** concerning the topic of the Semester: **“Contract models, user agreements for the use of public spaces and buildings”**. The first day was also devoted to **study visits**.

Study visit

The consortium had the chance to visit two of the **urban gardens** involved in the Good practice “Huecos Urbanos (Urban Spaces)”: “El Lasso” and “Pino Apolinario”.



Partners also visited the Environmental Centre “El Pambaso”, a multifunctional space, managed by the Las Palmas de Gran Canaria City Council through the Technical Unit for the Environment, where educational, environmental and social projects and activities are developed: urban gardens, school gardens, conferences, seminars, talks, meetings.

Finally Parque Litoral El Rincón (Rincón Coastal Park) a 13,200 m² public area for sports and health uses, completed in 2015, next to the Paseo de Las Canteras, which includes spaces for walking and recreation, a play area and areas for practising sports.

The second day was oriented to fostering dialogue and exchange among partners: a debrief **session** was conducted to consolidate the presented elements, key features, and policy instruments from the partners, highlighting the **relevance** and **transferability** potential of the presented GPs.

The aim was, therefore, to **stimulate work with the Regional Stakeholders Groups** and key policymakers upon returning from the ITS, in **preparation for the following Interregional Policy Brokerage Event (IPB)**.

4.2. IPB in Bucharest

On June 11-12th, 2024, the Bucharest-Ilfov Regional Development Agency hosted the second **Interregional Policy Brokerage (IPB)** event of the IMPETUS project.

During the weeks before the meeting, bilateral **Online Touchpoints** were carried out between LAMA and each consortium partner to validate the results of the previous ITS and prepare for the upcoming meeting.

The third step of Semester 3 was the meeting to promote **exchange and cooperation between partners** to enhance their capacity to design regional policies.

The IPB meeting has been structured to allow an effective dialogue and exchange among the partners’ regions and stakeholders.

During the first day, the IPB consisted of two **plenary working groups** to collaboratively explore insights from other projects and various types of TUs regulations. The two topics, both of which were followed by a Q&A session, were:

- Key insights and learnings from other projects and initiatives;

- Comparative analysis of regulation and contracts on Temporary uses.

1. Key insights and learnings from other projects and initiatives

Ms. Laura Martelloni presented the main issues and opportunities for urban regeneration learned from the **T-Factor Horizon 2020 project**. Urban regeneration faces **three core issues: purpose, time, and scale**, alongside challenges like climate change, an ageing population, and social polarisation. T-Factor explored how these problems can be addressed through the T-Factor's Pilot projects in London, Amsterdam, Bilbao, Lisbon, Kaunas, and Shanghai.

The goals to achieve in these cities included creating a diverse social space where people could meet and get to know each other, reviving local traditions, fostering conviviality etc. In short, creating a **sense of community**.

By experimenting with diverse events and opportunities, temporary uses (TUs) offer a **flexible approach** to attracting and engaging people in multiple ways and temporal perspectives: stable, prompt, and regular uses.

Urban regeneration projects vary significantly in scale, from small neighbourhood initiatives to large city-wide programs. T-Factor's pilots demonstrated that **TUs can be adapted to different scales effectively**.

TUs can be transformative if integrated into governance; now, the challenge is to convince policymakers of their value and embed them in their set of policy solutions.

Diana Dobrin and Samuel Stancu from Urbanize Hub presented the **potential of meanwhile spaces for urban regeneration**. Traditional reconversion is complex: *'What if we could shortcut the process for better use? Temporary solutions, such as pop-up public spaces, community gardens, art installations, and event spaces, are endless'*.

Innovation and experimentation with meanwhile spaces can transform our cities sooner and better:

- **Economic benefits** include supporting local economies while reducing maintenance costs.
- **Social benefits** involve fostering community engagement, enhancing social cohesion, and creating inclusive and beautiful spaces.
- **Environmental benefits** include enabling temporary green infrastructure, encouraging healthy routines and limiting pollution.

Ms. Alexandra Stoica (Proper Architecture, Romania) presented case studies and **legislative issues on revitalising unused spaces**. She identified several administrative and regulatory issues expressed by both public and private entities:

- **Restricted access to public data on unused urban heritage** hampers efforts to effectively identify and repurpose these spaces.
- **Lack of mechanisms for resolving ownership issues** like an operational method for expropriating properties for public utility, a list of buildings confiscated by the state as

possible spaces for community projects etc.

- **Weak financing instruments** are a major obstacle, with the private sector disinterest in investing. Public policies are also problematic, marked by a lack of coherence and insufficient knowledge of the opportunities presented by TUs.
- **Cross-cutting challenges** include legislative gaps and/or over-regulation in building reactivation, invasive interventions altering building identity, inadequate financial incentives for investors, insufficient strategies to prevent building decay, and a shortage of qualified specialists in public administration.
- **Lack of coherent public policies** for using/reusing existing built heritage, as well as insufficient **studies** on development opportunities at the national level.

Ms. Cristina Pavelescu from BI RDA ended this first round of presentations with '*URBACT Greenplace – Participative solutions for the revitalisation of the Victoria Tram Depot*'. The URBACT Greenplace project focuses on building **local identity**, enhancing **environmental measures**, and using **participatory tools** to restore **forgotten urban spaces** and **communities**.

Drawing from the success of the Former Tram Depot Popowice in Wroclaw, the approach emphasizes citizen participation in transforming degraded urban areas. Activities like community gardens, exhibitions, and workshops engage residents in reclaiming and reforesting spaces, turning them into green lungs that connect suburbs with city centres.

Similar participatory processes are envisioned in Bucharest to renovate and repurpose the **Victoria Tram Depot**. Challenges include managing noise and gaining approval from public authorities for proposed temporary uses. Despite initial noise concerns, activating the depot holds promise for enriching the neighbourhood.

2. Comparative analysis of regulation and contracts on Temporary uses

Ms. Federica Castellano (University of Pisa) started the works of the second plenary by offering a view of **TUs current legislation in Italy**, where regional regulations govern TUs without a national framework, leading to varying approaches across municipalities. Moreover, virtuous municipalities are exploring the possibility of harnessing the potential of local initiatives to reconvert spaces through TUs. More specifically, some cities, such as Prato municipality in Tuscany, are studying how to facilitate and enable temporary use-based urban transformations by creating public intermediary bodies, also known as 'Urban Reuse Agencies.'

To succeed, TUs must promote economic, social, cultural, and environmental sustainability, guided by criteria set by local councils. **Sharing best practices is crucial due to the lack of clear national rules.**

Challenges include legal uncertainty, ensuring economic viability, and fostering community engagement. Overcoming these challenges can make TUs integral to sustainable urban development in Italy, enhancing urban spaces efficiently and flexibly.

Ms. Alexandra Stoica presented three **contract models** for TUs' management based on a public-private partnership:

- **MODEL 1 – PREPARING THE SPACE.** In this case, the NGO or LLC will organise two events and conduct an online promotion campaign for the public entity. The contract is for a specified period with potential extension, and payment covers space fitting-out, event organisation, and consultancy/advertising services.
- **MODEL 2 – PROMOTION.** This contract establishes a partnership between a public entity and an NGO or LLC for revitalising state-owned heritage buildings, organising themed events, and maintaining consistent activity to preserve the building's cultural significance. The public entity supports these efforts and propose activities it considers appropriate for the promotion and training of the space.
- **MODEL 3 – SUSTAINABILITY.** The purpose of this contract is to provide consultancy for the promotion and development of the future Public Relations Centre. NGO or LLC advises on the choice of activities suitable for the space, coordinates the promotion and organisation of events, temporary installations etc., and carry out online promotional campaigns to attract creative and cultural uses for the space. Payment for these services shall be made at the end of each month of the contract on the basis of the invoice issued by the Provider and the attached activity reports.

Then, she introduced the Calup platform, an online tool to map and reactivate vacant spaces. CALUP is a collaborative platform focused on urban regeneration by harnessing local talents and innovative ideas. It aims to unite city stakeholders through a virtual Think tank that inspires and promotes creative solutions for the sustainable reuse of historically significant spaces. CALUP's blog showcases both local and international case studies that illustrate potential reuse projects, highlighting community-driven initiatives. By mapping local communities and vacant spaces, CALUP connects alternative use projects with these underutilized areas. The platform encourages the transformation of historical houses, villas, industrial and commercial spaces, demonstrating their potential for reactivation and sustainable urban development.

Mr. Valentin Mousain from Lille Metropole presented an overview of **Contractual arrangements for transitional management in Roubaix's urban renewal projects.**

These contractual arrangements aim to revitalise neglected areas, enhance social cohesion, reduce municipal maintenance costs, and promote sustainability.

Roubaix's urban renewal project involves three key types of contracts for different plots:

- **Temporary occupation contracts for vacant plots** are managed through temporary contracts that allow temporary use of unused land. These short-term contracts provide flexibility and enable interim community-driven projects, preventing land deterioration and promoting sustainable development by reusing materials from public works.

- **Temporary occupation contracts for built-up plots** apply to plots with existing structures, allowing temporary usage while ensuring buildings are maintained and potentially refurbished.
- **Brownfield activation contracts for large-scale abandoned industrial properties.** This strategy revitalises significant brownfield sites, driving economic and social regeneration while supporting sustainability goals.

Ms. Blanca Bassas Portús presented the *Pla Buits* and *Mans al Verd* programmes. The Pla Buits Programme was launched by the Barcelona City Council in 2013 to fund temporary activities of public interest in vacant city plots. Non-profit organisations participate through public contests, with free concessions lasting three to four years and renewable annually. The City Council covered plot arrangement costs, without specific grants for the project developed in the plots. Activities included cultural, educational, social, and sports initiatives on a temporary, non-profit basis. This project evolved in the more recent Mans al Verd programme, engaging citizens in caring for urban greenery and biodiversity by activating the temporary use of public green space under the facilitation of the local government. Its goals include increasing urban green spaces, educating citizens about greenery and biodiversity, and fostering community participation. The contract model for Mans al Verd is a public competitive tendering, addressed to non-profit organisations in Barcelona, for a 4-year concession of the spots, with no additional grants for the projects.

Day 1 ended with two rounds of presentations by Dario Marmo from LAMA and Beshnik Mehmeti from ANCI Toscana.

The first, titled "Enabling Transformative Reuse: Perspectives for Temporary Use Agencies," focused on the **crucial role played by TU Agencies** in transforming unused spaces, coordinating the stakeholders involved in the project, and ensuring smooth implementation.

The second one illustrated the opportunity for partners of the IMPETUS project to implement a **pilot action**. It must be **new for the region where it is being implemented** and it must focus on small-scale testing of new practices on the ground with relevant stakeholders. Then, if successful, the pilot should, in principle, be continued and/or implemented at full scale within the policy instrument addressed. A pilot action must involve **additional activities that would not be carried out without the support of the Interreg Europe programme**.

During the second day, partners had the chance to participate in two **Study Visits**:

- On the city's historical heritage, **The Forts of Bucharest** (XIII-XIV Battery, **Jilava**, Ilfov county);
- On **Hala Laminor**, a regeneration project in a former industrial area in the city periphery.

Study visits

The Forts of Bucharest

The first visit was to the Forts of Bucharest, specifically the XIII-XIV Battery in Jilava, Ilfov County. These forts, originally built as part of a defensive ring around Bucharest in the late 19th century, have now been repurposed for cultural events, exhibitions, and community activities. This visit provided insights into the adaptive reuse of historical military structures through supportive regulatory frameworks.



Forts of Bucharest, the XIII-XIV Battery in Jilava, Ilfov County

Hala Laminor

The second visit was to Hala Laminor in Bucharest, a **former industrial hall** integral to the city's manufacturing sector. This site has been transformed into a vibrant **space for art exhibitions, pop-up markets, and community gatherings**. Within the covered area of 68,000 square metres, the City Hall of Sector 3 set out to revitalise a strategic area and develop a beneficial project from a social, cultural, and economic point of view.



The Laminor Hall

5. Next steps

The project's next step will be the **collection of GPs** related to the **thematic focus “Urban Agencies for temporary use”**:

By ‘urban agency for temporary use’, in the context of urban regeneration and development, we refer to an intermediary organisation that serves as a dedicated body for facilitating and managing temporary use projects or initiatives that aim to revitalise vacant or underutilised urban spaces for creative, social or economic purposes. The nature of the urban agency for temporary uses can take different forms, such as initiatives implemented by public or private bodies or could be driven by a public-private partnership. Its core functions include supporting, initiating or coordinating temporary use projects, mediating between property owners, tenants, and administrative entities, and overall simplifying the process of temporary occupation by providing operational support, resources, and guidance on legal, administrative, safety and security aspects related to the temporary use projects. Overall, the agency plays a central role in enabling the transformation of underutilised or vacant urban spaces by providing comprehensive support, guidance, and coordination to all actors involved in the temporary use process.

The GPs collected will be presented at the **ITS event in Warsaw, October 16-17 2024**.