

EUFORIA Project

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EUFORIA

EdUcation Framework fOr Urban Resilience Innovation Activities

With the support of:





















The Project

- Financed by EIT Urban Mobility
- Empower entrepreneurial ecosystems by developing and implementing an education framework that ignites the creation of hubs in four cities (Aveiro, Athens, Varna, and Osijek), with universities as aggregators of relevant stakeholders
- Supported by the region of Munich as a co-creation partner
- Partners:

Athens Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation ACEin-AUEB (Greece)

The Edge: R&BD (Bulgaria)

J.J. Strossmayer University in Osijek (Croatia)

<u>University of Aveiro</u> (Portugal)

Strascheg Center for Entrepreneurship (SCE) (Germany)





The Aveiro pilot – Who we are?















The Aveiro pilot – Starting with the "WHY?"

- The definition of relevant challenges for each region requires the engagement of relevant stakeholders and a co-creation, collaborative, framework able to properly "give a voice" to these stakeholders
- Universities have a role in helping creating this collaborative framework, establishing bridges and communication
- The process towards the definition of these relevant challenges is a driver force (the path is also a goal!)
- It is our **responsibility** (academia, research, business sector, government/city officials, and civil society) to see ahead these challenges, for each region, and move towards **collaborative solutions**





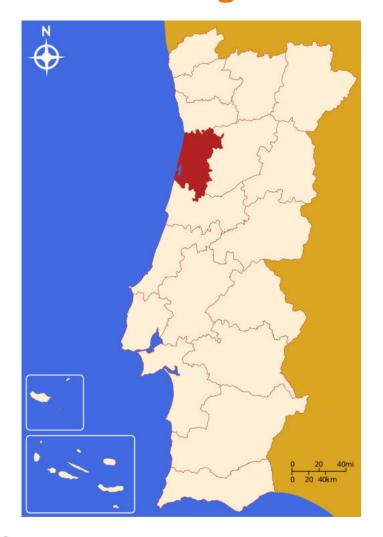
The Aveiro pilot – How?

- Create a vision for the Eco-System, and a concept/implementation plan for an Urban Resilience Innovation Hub
- Create Urban Resilience Innovation Hubs in each region involved in the project
- Create an Urban Resilience Innovation Network, aggregating all Hubs, and where solutions to each regions' challenges can be shared to the benefit of all regions involved
- Help policy makers in establishing the agenda for strategical decisions towards sustainable regions
- Contribute to role of Universities as relevant stakeholders in the process, namely by their mission of Education,
 Research, and University-Business Cooperation





The Aveiro region





- 19 municipalities
- called to participate in the kick-off (12/Nov.)
 - Aveiro
 - Ílhavo
 - Vagos
 - Albergaria-a-Velha





The 1st local workshop (November 12th)

The participants

- Commission for Coordination and Regional Development of the Center of Portugal (Government agency)
- City Council Municipality of Ílhavo
- City Council Municipality of Vagos
- Aveiro Center of Engineering, Bosch Aveiro
- Colab ALMASCIENCE Beyond Paper, The Navigator Company and RAIZ Innovation Center
- Bam.bu Bicycle (start-up, Start for Future Program)
- Transversal Unit for Cooperation with Society | Knowledge and Technology Transfer, University of Aveiro
- Researchers related to the Smart and Sustainable mobility, University of Aveiro
- Vice-Rector for the Cooperation between University and Society





The 1st local workshop (November 12th)

- The powerful questions
 - How do you see a sustainable community / region at the Aveiro eco-system?
 - Who are the main stakeholders to be involved in this vision?
 - What these stakeholders (including citizens) can do to contribute to this vision?
- What is the most relevant challenges for a sustainable Aveiro eco-system of the future?





The 1st local workshop (November 12th)

what would be the most important topics for a livable urban space in Aveiro, 5 years from now?

- How do you see a sustainable community / region at the Aveiro eco-system?
 - Who are the main stakeholders to be involved in this vision?
- What these stakeholders (including citizens) can do to contribute to this vision?





The 1st local workshop (November 12th)

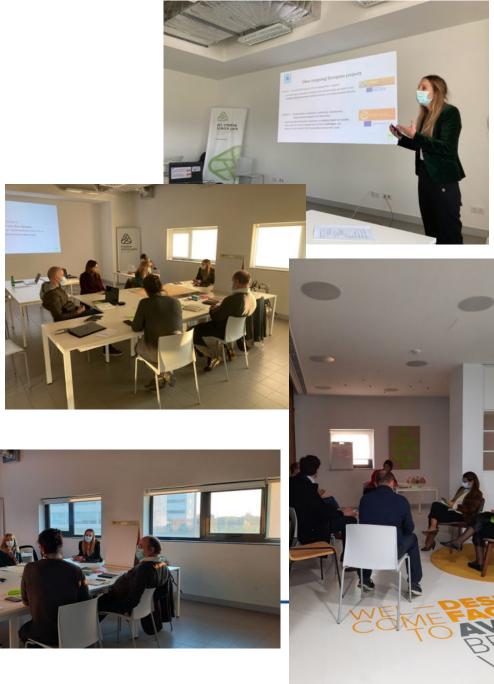
Three parts

- Meet the project, the participants, the powerful questions
- Presentation of the Munich eco-system
- Group work (two groups)
 - Identify the main challenges
 - Visualize Aveiro eco-system when these challenges are achieved
 - Identify the main actions towards these challenges
 - Identify the main constraints during the path
 - Define the main actors for actions









Where are we now?

Stage #01 – Consolidation

executive summaries were generated from the Workshop and sent to the groups for their feedback, comments, and suggestions towards a consolidated document





Where are we now?

Stage #02 – Brainstorming sessions

based on the consolidated document of Phase #01, two meetings were carried out for share the statements of the groups and discuss

potential solutions (measurable, specific, realistic) to the identified challenges





Where are we now?

Stage #03 – Closing the circle

proposals from Phase #02 were sent to participants (stakeholders) for feedback, comments, and suggestions on the generated potential solutions





The challenges to be targeted (as identified)

- Defragmentation of the region, regarding infrastructures, services, and strategic vision
- Lack of a regional resource center for linking different initiatives, stakeholders, and facilities
- Citizens attitude towards public transportation, with resistance to shift to sustainable and greener transportation options
- Attraction of qualified, innovative, and forward-thinking people to jobs in the region





The perceived constraints

- Perception that responsibilities belongs to some other stakeholder
- Lack of a clear vision about these challenges, properly communicated to citizens
- Poor engagement of citizens, particular young and young adults
- No direct (inter)relation between [policy makers + industry/companies + education sector + citizens]
- Difficulty in gathering relevant information that is dispersed with different actors in the region
- Difficulty in keeping information systems updated
- Transportation system that is perceived as not being an integrated solution across the Aveiro region



Initial solutions (short / medium / long range) to these challenges?

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• Defragmentation of the region, regarding infrastructures, services, and strategic vision

Improve the cohesion of the region (responding to the perception of defragmentation), with impact over infrastructures, services and strategic vision





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• Lack of a regional resource center for linking different initiatives, stakeholders, and facilities

Build a regional resource center that integrates information of different initiatives, stakeholders, their interests and expertise





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 Citizens attitude towards public transportation, with resistance to shift to sustainable and greener transportation options

Action plan for the improvement of public transportation systems: forum with main stakeholders; executive committee composed by different stakeholders; communication events for awareness and engagement of citizens; critical analysis of the existing transportation routes





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Attraction of qualified, innovative, and forward-thinking people to jobs in the region

Actions and strategic plans for SMEs to integrate qualified employers; Match between offer vs. demanding at the regional (integrated) level; Seeking and applying for National and International funding





- Possible transversal actions
- To create a common and global vision / agreement within Aveiro region on the identified challenges, properly communicated to citizens
- Co-creation of technological, social and holistic solutions using the innovation ecosystem and structure of University of Aveiro
- Create synergies between ongoing research projects at UAveiro, also engaging students and educators





Next steps...

- More definition and detail into the potential (initial) solutions
- Interchange of challenges / solutions with the other pilots
- Engagement of the academic community, together with citizens, in enriching / revising / improving possible solutions



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