



European Institute of  
Innovation & Technology

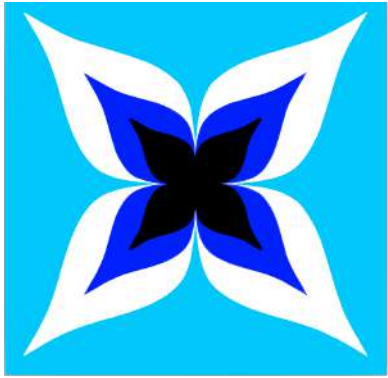
# EUFORIA Project

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# EUFORIA

## EdUcation Framework for Urban Resilience Innovation Activities

With the support of:  Urban Mobility





**EUFORIA**

## 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)
  - [University of Aveiro](#) (Portugal)
  - [Strascheg Center for Entrepreneurship \(SCE\)](#) (Germany)



# The Aveiro pilot – Who we are?



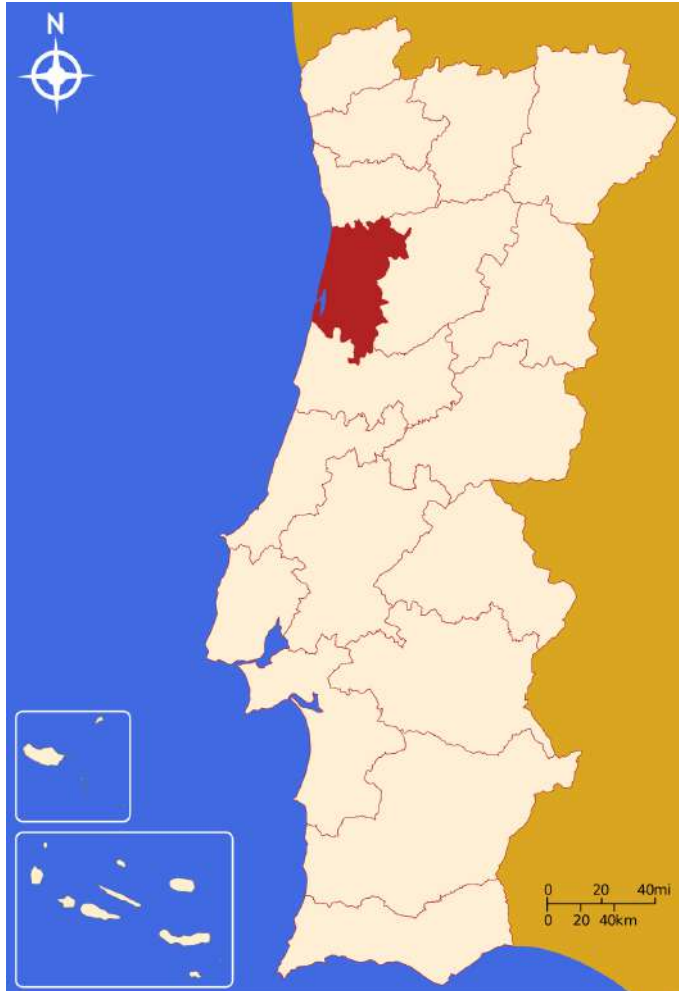
# The Aveiro pilot – Starting with the “WHY?”

- 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 12<sup>th</sup>)

- **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 1<sup>st</sup> local workshop (November 12<sup>th</sup>)

- **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 1<sup>st</sup> local workshop (November 12<sup>th</sup>)

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> local workshop (November 12<sup>th</sup>)

## 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?

- **Defragmentation** of the region, regarding infrastructures, services, and strategic vision
- Lack of a regional **resource center for linking** different initiatives, stakeholders, and facilities
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- **Attraction** of qualified, innovative, and forward-thinking people to jobs in the region

# Possible solutions (short / medium / long range)

- **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

# Possible solutions (short / medium / long range)

- **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

# Possible solutions (short / medium / long range)

- **Defragmentation** of the region, regarding infrastructures, services, and strategic vision
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# Possible solutions (short / medium / long range)

- 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

# Possible solutions (short / medium / long range)

- **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
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# Possible solutions (short / medium / long range)

- **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

# Possible solutions (short / medium / long range)

- **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
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# Possible solutions (short / medium / long range)

- **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 solutions (short / medium / long range)

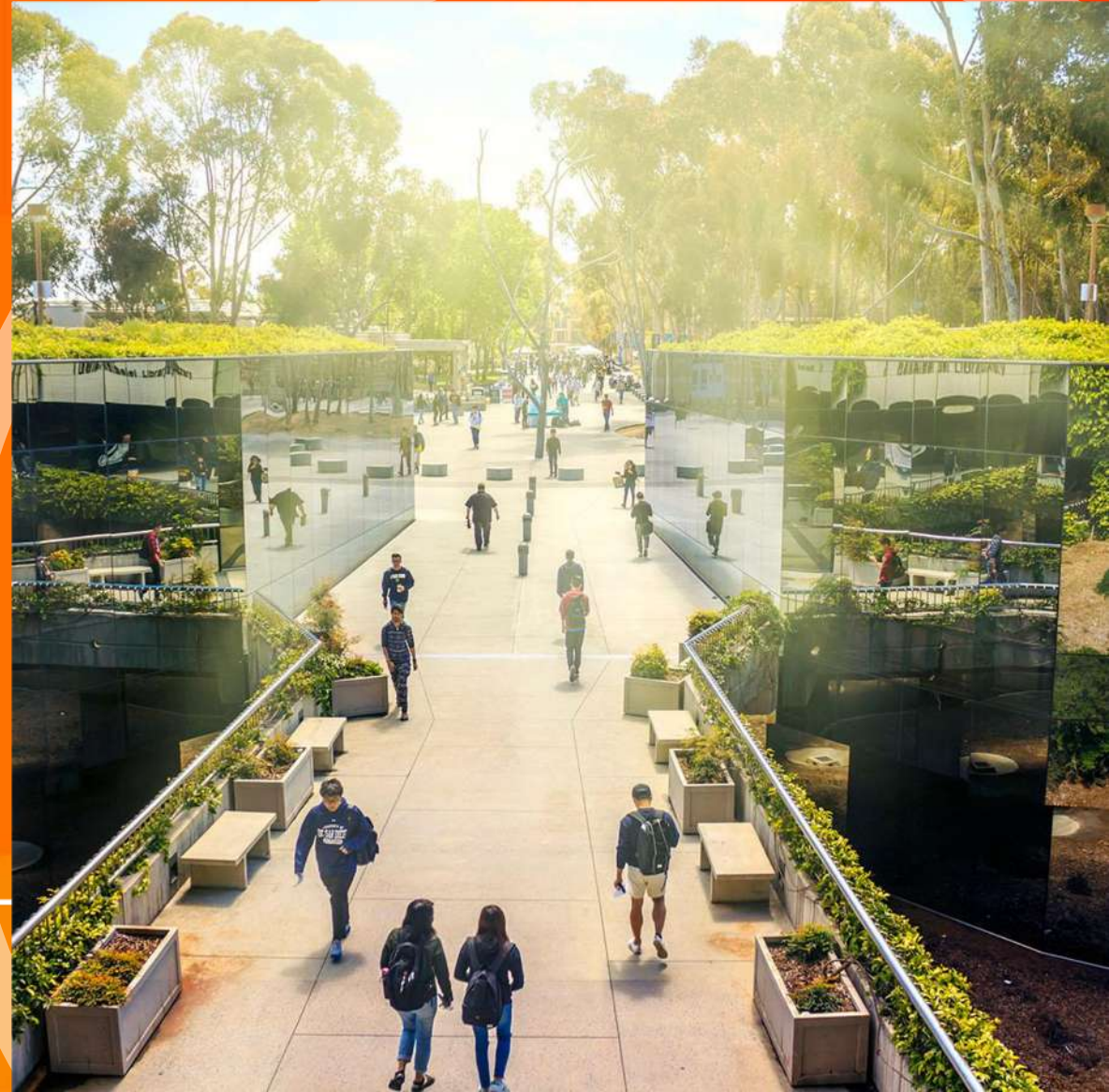
- Possible **transversal** actions
  - To create a common and global vision / agreement within Aveiro region on the identified challenges, properly communicated to citizens
  - Co-creation of technological, social and holistic solutions using the innovation ecosystem and structure of University of Aveiro
  - 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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