

SCHEDA DESCRITTIVA

Nature-Based Urban Planning for Societal Transitions international program and on-site design workshop in Lisbon

"Nature-Based Urban Planning for Societal Transitions" is an Erasmus+ BIP-Blended Intensive Program, a short multinational program of teaching innovation that blends collaborative online learning exchange and face-to-face teamwork, facilitating interdisciplinarity and internationalization of the university community. The overall program will take place from March to May 2025.

"Nature-Based Urban Planning for Societal Transitions" is organized by

- The University of Lisbon - *Instituto Superior Técnico* (coordinator)
- Politecnico di Torino - *Collegio di Pianificazione e Progettazione*
- KTH Royal Institute of Technology
- The University of Ghent

Key dates of the Call

- deadline application – February, 10th
- selection results - February 18th
- deadline confirmation - February 21st

The BIP call admits Politecnico di Torino students enrolled in MSc in *Pianificazione urbanistica e territoriale* /Urban and Regional Planning (Italian and English curricula) and *Architettura del Paesaggio*.

Participants must be enrolled for the academic year 2024/2025 before the starting date of BIP activities, virtual part included.

Number of participants: a maximum of 6 graduate students will be selected.

PROGRAM AND OBJECTIVES

This BIP is coordinated and hosted by the *Instituto Superior Técnico* (prof. Isabel Loupa Ramos) and will focus on the UN SGD 11: making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) have gained significant attention in the policy agenda. By leveraging natural processes, NBS aim to restore, sustain, and introduce ecosystem functions, fostering the provision of essential ecosystem services (ESS). However, Nature-Based Solutions are frequently seen as "quick fixes" for poor urban planning, often limited to scattered green space designs rather than being integrated into a comprehensive urban strategy.

Nature-Based Urban Planning goes beyond simply adding green spaces; it calls for a holistic redesign of cities that places nature at the core of urban planning, to

mainstream biodiversity in the planning process, improving the quality of spatial planning, and adopting new planning rules that help mitigate biodiversity loss. Additionally, this approach prioritizes the interconnectedness of urban neighborhoods, which is essential for fostering a sense of community.

During the BIP training, students will implement both quantitative and qualitative methods to identify and analyze the problems of the case study in Lisbon which is based on the future city in the area to be vacant after the relocation of the current airport. They will use literature, geographic analysis, using historic and recent cartography, analytic drawings (views, plans, sections, etc.), as well collecting data through surveys to local population and stakeholders.

The final output will be a proposal of a prototype/design strategy for Nature-Based Urban planning in the case study area, and its presentation to the Municipality of Lisbon.

This BIP represents an opportunity to rethink urban development in light of pressing environmental challenges. By bringing together perspectives from diverse European contexts, the program will explore collaboration among students, researchers, and practitioners for critical reflection on how to evolve Nature-Based Urban Planning principles toward a sustainable urban future. Through a case study in Lisbon, participants will engage in discussions on the practical applications of the Nature-Based Urban Planning concept.

The BIP program is organized in two main parts: an on—line didactic activity [10 h]; and an on—site workshop [48h], followed by a wrap-up webinar and final assessment.

ON—LINE WEBINARS 10 hours of teaching

The program provides 5 on—line webinars [2 hour each].

The online training activities are carried out by the academic staff of the four institutions involved, providing a multidisciplinary and multicultural perspective on nature-based planning.

Between 1.03.25 and 15.04.25 four webinars will deal with the following topics:

Introduction to key concepts of Urban Planning, Nature-Based Solutions, Landscape analyses, Future Studies and Societal Transitions.

Presentation of the challenges of case study area together with the Municipality of Lisbon, Context analysis and Field experience preparation.

Between 2.05.25 and 30.05.25 delivery of the final report and last webinar: wrap-up and final assessment.

ON—SITE WORKSHOP 48 hours of on—site activities

The on—site workshops will be held in 6 days of full—time experience in Lisbon (Portugal) [21-26 April, plus 2 travel days].

The workshops and activities include:

- guided visits and photographic documentation of the local sites;
- landscape and urban site analysis;
- engagement with the local stakeholders and the municipal administration;

- teamwork, design work, and collective discussions.

Others social and optional activities may be organized, considering the local events held in the period (National Freedom Day, April 25th).

DATES AND LOCATIONS

Open Call deadline: 10th February 2025, h. 23:59 CET

On-line Webinars (n.1, 2, 3, 4): Between 1.03.25 and 15.04.25*

On—site Workshop: April 21-26, 2025 (Lisbon, Portugal)

On-line final webinar and assessment: Between 2.05.25 and 30.05.25*.

* The webinars' dates will be communicated to the selected participants in due time.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All participants must complete a Learning Agreement that will guarantee credit recognition (instructions will be sent to the participants by the International Mobility Unit). The **3 ECTS credits** will be automatically recognized as CURRICULAR, upon completion of all the BIP activities (both virtual and in-presence), including the delivery of a final report.

FEE AND ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

The programme does not require the payment of **any fee** and includes participation in all BIP activities. Participation in the programme can be funded through **Erasmus+ mobility grants**, contributing to cover travel, accommodation and meal costs. During the intensive workshop lunches and coffee breaks will be offered.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply students are invited to fill in the form available at: <https://forms.office.com/e/fCZBmSgzL6>, **no later than 10th February 2025, h. 23:45** uploading the following documents in pdf format:

- CV (max 4 pages) with personal information, phone and email;
- list of exams (Bachelor's and Master's degree), including the marks obtained (max 2 pages);
- motivation letter (max 1 page).

For any additional information, please write an e-mail to segreteria.collegioPianificazione@polito.it

Selected candidates will be notified by email **no later than the February 18th 2025**.

The list will comprise up to 6 selected students + eligible candidates (reserve list).

The selected students shall confirm participation according to the instructions indicated. Upon completing the selection procedures, PoliTO International Mobility Unit will receive the official list of participants and contact them about allocating Erasmus+ scholarships. For any information regarding the Erasmus scholarships contact the International Mobility Unit by ticketing service only (select topic: Mobilità verso l'estero - Progetti Speciali).

SELECTION CRITERIA AND COMMISSION

Candidates will be assessed based on their motivation, preparation (merit), competencies and expertise, and research skills, inferable from the documents sent to the application. A Commission, composed of BIP PoliTO Staff will assess the candidates (Prof. Claudia Cassatella, Dr. Enrico Gottero).

CREDITS

BIP coordination:

The University of Lisbon - Instituto Superior Técnico. Prof. Isabel Loupa Ramos

In partnership with:

Politecnico di Torino – DIST, prof. Claudia Cassatella

KTH Royal Institute of Technology, prof. Peter Brokking

The University of Ghent, prof. Veerle van de Velde

DISCLAIMER

The organization is NOT accountable if the activity is cancelled for any force majeure reason.