



ISOCARP INSTITUTE
Centre for Urban Excellence

ISOCARP INSTITUTE CENTRE FOR URBAN EXCELLENCE

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022



Prepared by:

Stichting ISOCARP Institute – Centre for Urban Excellence
Waldorpstraat 17,
2521 CA The Hague, The Netherlands
info@isocarp-institute.org

Content

Foreword

In 2016 the Stichting (Foundation) ISOCARP Institute, Centre for Urban Excellence, was founded under Dutch Law to expand and support the activities of ISOCARP, the International Society of City and Regional Planners. After intensive preparations, the ISOCARP Institute started its activities and projects in March 2018.

This Annual Report covers the fourth active year of the ISOCARP Institute from July 2021 to June 2022 and includes an outlook into the second half of 2022.

The ISOCARP Institute exclusively operates as the project office of the ISOCARP Society and focuses on Research (knowledge sharing and capitalisation), Practice (technical assistance and workshops) and Academy (capacity building and training).

In 2021-2022, the ISOCARP Institute conducted successful and high-level workshop and technical assistance activities, participated in several worldwide networking events such as Urban Thinkers Campuses of the World Urban Campaign and developed capacity-building programs globally.

Within the Research pillar, the EU Horizon 2020 funded projects Positive City Exchange (+CxC) and VARCITIES research projects were further developed and our new EU project JUSTNature started September 2021.

This report covers the overall objective and setup of ISOCARP Institute, as well as the key outcomes and activities, and the strategic outlook towards the following years – focusing on setting up important structures, expanding our network and building a solid project pipeline.



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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD





The ISOCARP Institute is initiated as a world class knowledge bank and think tank for planning excellence which empowers individuals, organisations and institutions to achieve better human settlements. We aim to bring together global planning professional experts and institutions to facilitate broader research communication and dissemination, as well as conducting professional educational programmes. Consequently, our mission is to enrich the knowledge base and developing the capacity of individuals, organisations and institutions partaking in shaping and developing human settlements. We strive to bridge the gap between planning theory and practice while contributing to knowledge generation and dissemination, fostering sustainability, resilience and effective functioning of human settlements.

The Institute's prime objectives are strengthening cross-border collaboration globally, upholding professional excellence in planning, advancing sustainable planning, increasing awareness of major development trends and promoting best practices, all while serving as a "Urban Think Tank" facilitating the generation and dissemination of knowledge for better cities.

The ISOCARP Institute started in January 2016, with the publication of its Statutes and registration as a Dutch Foundation to the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce Register. First ideas for a project office of ISOCARP were already developed 2007 - as global society of urban professionals, we aim to capitalise and further develop the knowledge of our members, share their knowledge and improve the urban planning profession by all means - by involving the members and benefiting to the Society. In 2018, the Institute activities were officially launched with the setup of the Institute location and staff members.

To accomplish its mission, ISOCARP Institute has been structured in three main pillars: Institute Academy, Institute Research and Institute Practice, representing the three domains of activities at the Institute and reflecting the main interests of the membership.

Institute Academy intends to capitalise and disseminate the urban knowledge of ISOCARP and upgrade the capacities of urban stakeholders by initiating and managing different programmes related to training and capacity-building, education and professional experience. Those programmes are proposed to uplift qualification of urban stakeholders or other persons involved in urban actions.

Institute Research aims to distil and further capitalise the urban knowledge of ISOCARP members and urban professionals by initiating, developing and managing research activities related to urban development. Institute Research is exploring and identifying research topics and programmes, developing research ideas and exploring urban development trends.

And finally, the Institute Practice is focussing on the practical implementation of urban solutions, supported by activities of technical assistance, urban labs and urban charrettes, delivering tangible solutions to local municipalities and governments, as well as other entities.

This Annual Report describes the activities achieved 2021-2022 within the three pillars of the Institute, and their achieved results.

July 2022

Didier Vancutsem

Director on behalf of the Board

POST COVID-19



The ISOCARP Institute has been strongly affected in 2020 – 2021 by the global pandemic crisis and is still affected since that time. Physical activities, also in 2021-2022, were strongly reduced or cancelled and shifted to online activities. Nevertheless, we were able to organise online activities such as Urban Thinkers Campuses or capacity-building activities, and an onsite Urban Workshop in China.

Consequently, the Institute staff continues to work and deliver project results from home, we are slowly reconnecting with working some days at office during the week. Coordination work is still substantial due to physical absence – physical staff meetings are replaced by regular, weekly meetings.

Related to Research, most of our activities linked to our EU research projects are online, although more and more project meetings are recently taking place on site.

Related to Technical Assistance, on-site activities such as Urban Labs or YPPs are getting slowly back: ISOCARP Society organised in March 2022, on behalf of the Institute, a YPP Workshop İzmit/Kocaeli / Turkey, and our next Urban Planning Advisory Team (UPAT) workshop taking place early August 2022 in Chapala, Mexico.

Related to Capacity Building, we were successfully implementing activities such as training sessions delivered online.

We thank the Dutch Government for their financial support delivered within the pandemic crises in form of salary compensation - it enabled us to operate and implement our activities in an appropriate way.

As our activities are recovering and we identify new, promising opportunities in a near future, we are looking forward to more and successful activities, and hopefully on site.

This Annual Report describes the activities achieved 2021-2022 within the three pillars of the Institute, and their achieved results.

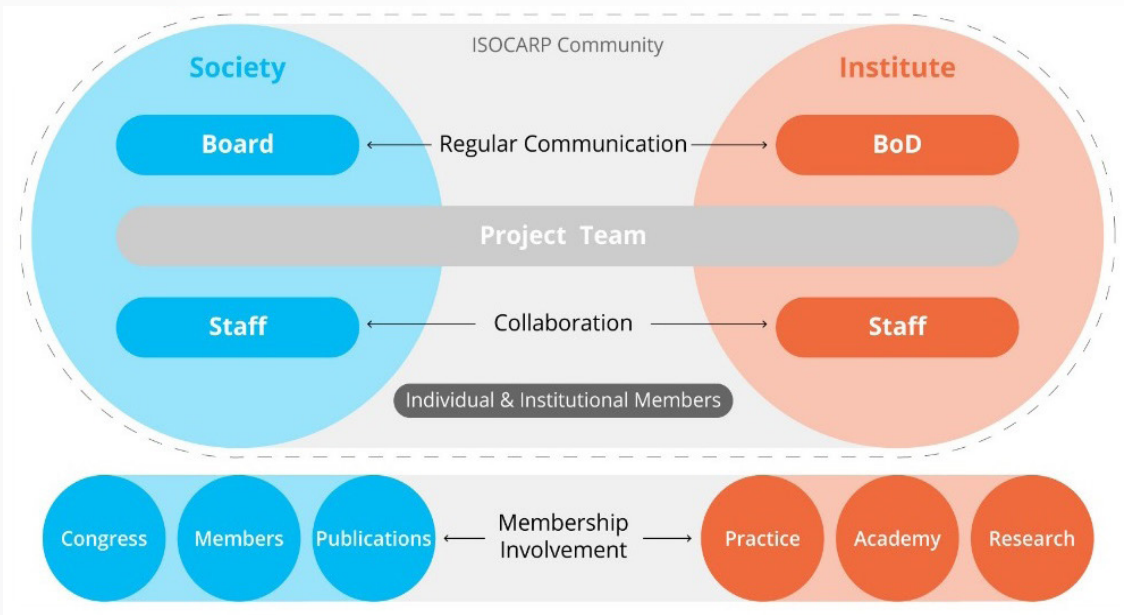
July 2022

Didier Vancutsem

Director on behalf of the Board

GOVERNANCE

2





Established in 2016 as a foundation, the ISOCARP Institute – Centre for Urban Excellence – is the practice-centred research spin-off of the International Society of City and Regional Planners. The focus lies on project-based work as well as the facilitation of activities which benefit from and contribute to the extensive membership base of ISOCARP, including the development of global capacity development, training and educational programmes with and for members. The Institute is managed by

the Board of Directors, introduced below. The Boards ensures the strategic alignment and collaboration with ISOCARP, its members and activities. The project office of the Institute, co-located with the ISOCARP head office, ensures the ongoing close collaboration and knowledge exchange. The current board consists of Pietro Elisei, President of ISOCARP, Daniele Vettorato, Board member at ISOCARP, and Didier Vancutsem, Institute Director.

PIETRO ELISEI



Pietro Elisei (Romania/Italy), town and regional planner, senior researcher, and policymaker. He collaborates, as consultant, with ministries, cities and towns all over Europe, holding important positions in international organizations dedicated to urban planning (PLANUM SG, ISOCARP VP).

International expert in urban regeneration policies, integrated planning for small-medium sized cities and topics related to smart cities and strategic planning. As collaborator with EU universities and research centres, he works as international expert with international institutions (European Commission: URBACT and UIA Secretariats, UN-Habitat, UNECE) for important urban and territorial planning research/planning tasks. Dr. Elisei also routinely holds keynote speeches in international conferences and publishes several scientific articles on topics related to urban planning. Founder and Director of URBASOFIA (www.urbasofia.eu). Pietro is ISOCARP President 2021 – 2024.

DANIELE VETTORATO



Daniele Vettorato (Italy) leads a research team in urban and regional energy systems in the institute for Renewable Energy at EURAC Research, based in Bolzano, Italy. He holds a PhD from the University of Trento, focused on sustainable energy in cities and regions. Daniele has co-authored over 50 publications cited over 150 times and has been invited as lecturer and speaker in more than 50 events, trainings and universities courses. He worked in Brazil, Chile, Cambodia, Kenya, Mozambique, UAE, Russia, China. Daniele coordinates a research team of 20 professionals @EURAC research, has been project manager in several EU co-funded project and is technical and scientific coordinator of two Smart City and Communities Lighthouse projects in Europe (total budget over 50M€).

DIDIER VANCUTSEM



Didier Vancutsem (Germany/Belgium) is an international consultant in Urban and Regional Planning, Landscape Planning, Infrastructure and Environmental Management with 30+ years research and planning experience, based in Munich and has degrees in City and Regional Planning, Landscape Architecture and Regional management. He is Professor at the Brussels University Faculty of Architecture. He has gained professional experience worldwide e.g., as expert for the EU Commission, in the elaboration of national strategies for urban development, in regional strategies and abroad (Africa, Middle East, Asia), and on the local level. He is involved in different European and international research projects. As past Secretary General of ISOCARP until 2019, he is currently responsible for project development and management at the ISOCARP Institute.

OUR MISSION



ISOCARP INSTITUTE

WHAT GOALS ARE WE WORKING TOWARDS TO?

Global urbanisation rates and an intensifying climate crisis put the cities on the forefront in tackling today's and tomorrow's challenges. Over five decades of bringing international professionals together within the ISOCARP network, ISOCARP has contributed significantly to knowledge generation and exchange. We aim to be more proactive to contribute to the sustainable future

by becoming a more targeted and active initiative. Therefore, the ISOCARP Institute streamlines ongoing activities, facilitates the knowledge and experience of members, and expands activities further – targeting the achievement of UN's Sustainable Development Goals, the implementation and localisation of the New Urban Agenda, as well as building urgently needed capacity.



ISOCARP INSTITUTE'S MISSION

Our mission is enriching the knowledge base and developing the capacity of individuals, organisations and institutions partaking in shaping and developing human settlements. We strive to bridge the gap between planning theory and practice while contributing to knowledge generation and dissemination, fostering sustainability and effective functioning of human settlements.



ISOCARP INSTITUTE'S VISION

The Institute is initiated as a world class knowledge bank and think tank for planning excellence which empowers individuals, organisations and institutions to achieve better human settlements. We aim to bring together global planning experts and institutions to facilitate broader research communication and dissemination, as well as conducting professional educational programmes.



ISOCARP INSTITUTE'S OBJECTIVES

The Institute's prime objectives are strengthening cross-border collaboration globally, upholding professional excellence in planning, advancing sustainable planning, increasing awareness of major development trends and promoting best practices, all while serving as a "Urban Think Tank" facilitating the generation and dissemination of knowledge for better cities.

ACTIVITIES

3



The work of ISOCARP Institute is structured in three core pillars under which all existing and planned activities fall. Within the Research pillar, EU and global research project are situated which aim at advancing the academic knowledge in the urban field. Within the Practice pillar, technical assistance and consultancy is provided for primarily local authorities and the private sector. In the third pillar, Academy, the educational programme Young Planning Professionals is continued, as well as capacity building.

PILLAR 01 RESEARCH

We contribute actively to the urban research community through our work on global research projects, publications, academic exchange, and strong network of academic professionals. The core activities include dissemination and exploitation, the facilitation of knowledge generation and exchange, as well as linking theory with practice.

PILLAR 02 PRACTICE

We support public and private institutions through a variety of programmes, including the Urban Planning Advisory Teams (UPATs), technical assistance and technical review, building upon over 55 years of knowledge generation with the International Society of City and Regional Planners. New formats, such as City Labs, think tanks workshops, complement the programme.

PILLAR 03 ACADEMY

Through our newest branch – the ISOCARP Institute Academy – we facilitate our vast network and train young professionals and public representatives through our Young Planning Professionals Programme, seminars, and online education. Different programmes of global and locally adapted training initiatives complement the ongoing projects and constitute one of the key fields of action.

The work of ISOCARP Institute is structured in three core pillars under which all existing and planned activities fall. Within the Research pillar, EU and global research project are situated which aim at advancing the academic knowledge in the urban field. Within the Practice pillar, technical assistance and consultancy is provided for primarily local authorities and the private sector. In the third pillar, Academy, the educational programme Young Planning Professionals is continued, as well as capacity building.





RESEARCH

3.1



PILLAR RESEARCH

ISOCARP Institute actively contributes to the urban research community through our work on EU Research Projects, publications, academic exchange, and strong network of academic professionals. The work inside the Institute carries on the contribution to EU and global research projects initiated by the International Society of City and Regional Planners since 2016. ISOCARP Institute has three main research project activities so far.

The first, Positive City Exchange (+Cityx-Change), started in November 2018 and goes on until November 2023.

The second, VARCITIES started on September 2020 and will last until February 2025.

Finally, the third, JUSTNature started in September 2021 and will be continued until February 2026.

In July 2022, ISOCARP Institute has been granted two new Horizon Europe funded projects: UP2030, focussing on urban and regional planning and carbon-neutral cities, and DUST, focussing on citizen participation processes. Both will start January 2023 and last for three and four years.

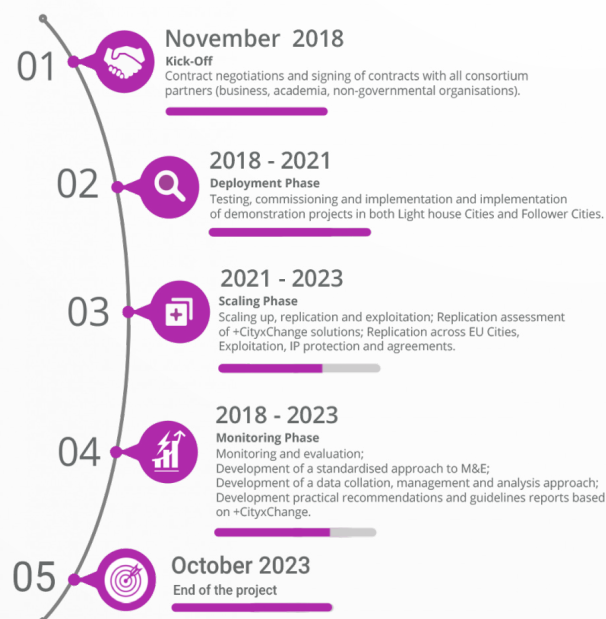
EU HORIZON 2020 INNOVATION PROJECT POSITIVE CITY EXCHANGE – +CITYXCHANGE

+CityxChange (+CxC) is a Horizon 2020 smart city Lighthouse project that aims to enable the co-creation of a liveable future by developing processes, frameworks, and tools to help achieve a Clean Energy Transition. The approach combines: Prototyping the Future through Integrated Planning and Design; Enabling the Future through Creation of a Common Energy Market; and Accelerating the Future through CommunityxChange with all stakeholders of the city. Specific innovations and methodologies, including citizen observatories, innovation playgrounds, regulatory sandboxes, and Bold City Visions, help to engage civil society, local authorities, industry, and other relevant stakeholders to scale up from Positive Energy Blocks (PEBs) to Positive Energy Districts (PEDs) to Positive Energy Cities, supported by a distributed and modular energy system architecture. The consortium has also worked to create a new energy market design coupled with consumer-driven innovation, developed in close cooperation with national regulators, Distributed System Operators (DSOs)/Community System Operators (CSOs), property developers, and local energy communities. The aim is to realise Europe-wide deployment of Positive Energy Districts by 2050 and pave the way for fully Positive Energy Cities.

As the project moves into its final year, it has shifted focus to support scalability and replicability, disseminating replicable pathways to help achieve sustainable urban ecosystems with lower emissions and 100% renewable energy on a large scale. PEDs developed during the project's duration aim to support scalability by expanding within existing urban areas and existing infrastructure. Replicability is achieved by sharing and exploiting processes to develop and

implement solutions in new cities driving climate-neutrality.

As leader of work package (WP) 10 “Dissemination and Communication” ISOCARP Institute manages communication channels and the project's website, working to inform networks of stakeholders and facilitate dissemination and exploitation of project results. In this final stage of the project, ISOCARP is working to communicate tangible outcomes through various platforms, scaling up the project to the international community and supporting creative storytelling pathways. As task leader for task 6.2, ISOCARP also supports the Follower Cities in developing and delivering their Bold City Visions for 2050 and guidelines. ISOCARP also leads storytelling workshops within the project.





EU HORIZON 2020 INNOVATION PROJECT

VISIONARY NATURE BASED ACTIONS FOR HEALTH, WELLBEING AND RESILIENCE IN CITIES | VARCITIES

VARCITIES is an ambitious project that acknowledges complexity and challenges of future cities. The target is to advance innovation across different urban scales by fully exploiting nature-based solutions from a digital, social and cultural perspective through vision of VARCITIES to implement nature-based actions in cities. The project helps to establish sustainable models for increasing the health and well-being of citizens exposed to different climatic conditions and challenges. The approach prioritises an integrative, trans-disciplinary focus that considers the entire ecosystem in its complexity, including all members of society. As recognising the necessity for nature-based approaches to be inevitably individual and context specific, Each Pilot City is directly informed by the unique and respective needs of the local society, the specific contextual evolution and the strategic municipal policies. The nature-based solutions interventions aim at becoming an underlying customisable fabric of an entire ecosystem of fully connected intelligent sensors and devices, capable of delivering several co-benefits, transforming the daily lives of European citizens. The aim is to complete business and commercial sustainable plan leading to replication toolkit at the ending year of the project in 2025.

The project is completing its second year. This means completion of the sketches for all pilots' visionary solutions, co-creation strategy stage 1, all ICT solutions, Implementation framework, monitoring methodology and KPI framework. The next coming step of VARCITIES will focus on development of Health & Well-Being (H&WB) VARCITIES platform such as 3D models and existing data platform, AR/VR app and "Go Nature" game to be used in pilots and H&WB final-live data platform. Later the project will transfer, upscale and sustain best practices

from VARCITIES through the development of a Healthy Cities Helix.

ISOCARP Institute has given an important contribution since the first year by creating the General Communication and Dissemination Strategy, creating and maintaining the project website and social media channels, as well as the Branding Identity Guidelines. In the following months, the institute will produce promotional video to accelerate public awareness of boarder audiences and reviewing the VARCITIES data management framework.

VARCITIES

Varcities Pilot Cities News & Events Contact

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF CITIES

Varcities is an ambitious project that acknowledges the complexity and the challenges of future cities and sets the ambitious target to advance innovation across different urban scales by fully exploiting nature-based solutions from a digital, social and cultural perspective.

- FUTURE CITY VISION**
- HUMAN CENTRED**
- NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS**
- SMART & RESILIENT**

GREEN CITIES ARE HEALTHIER CITIES

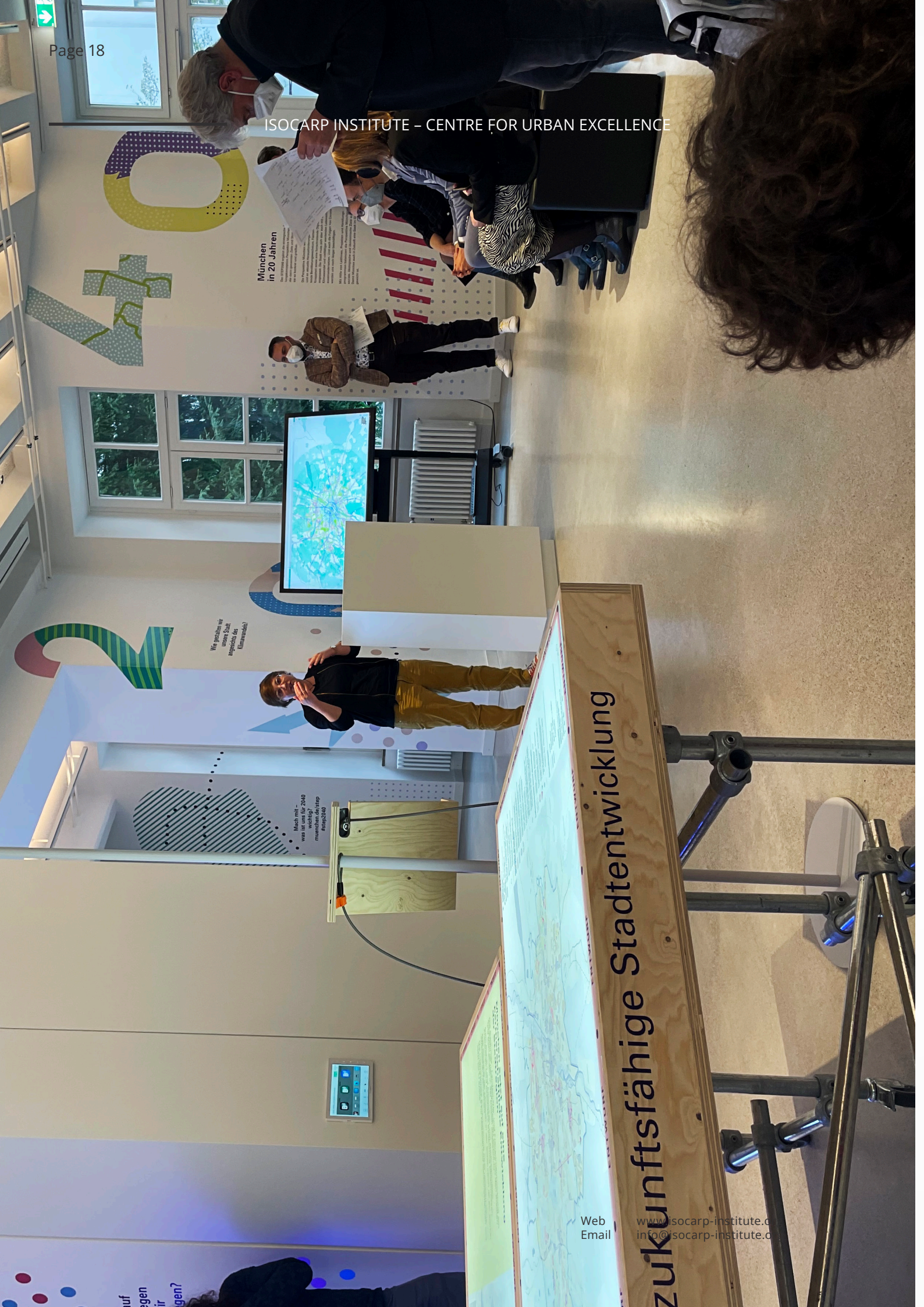
The configuration of the project sees the development of eight applied exemplar pilots (eight European municipalities from different geographic and climate zones).

PILOT CITIES

PILOT CITIES & PARTNER COUNTRIES

To achieve knowledge exchange, maximization of EU investments, advancement beyond the state of art through clustering with other European initiatives and platforms.

Pilot cities





EU HORIZON 2020 INNOVATION PROJECT JUSTNATURE

ISOCARP Institute is part of the Consortium which will implement the new EU H2020 funded project JUSTNature, together with other 18 partners and under the lead of EURAC. The project officially started on 1st September 2021, and it will last until February 2026. JUSTNature represents the Institute's third project on nature-based Solutions (NbS) in less than five years, strengthening its international reputation and expertise on the topic.

Cities are major energy consumers and significantly contribute to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. They have a high density of socio-economic activities and a built environment design that enhance these issues. In this regard, especially developed cities can be exemplars in leading the way towards a low-carbon society and turning it into an opportunity as recently iterated by the European Green Deal. Such advances can address several other challenges arising from urbanisation and structural socio-economic changes. Cities represent a complex setting, where low-income populations are more exposed to environmental ills, environmental and climate impacts are not distributed evenly, environmental qualities are becoming increasingly exclusive to high-income households, and wealthier neighbourhoods are more biologically diverse than others. Debates on these inequities have gained further traction linked to the recent spread of SARS-CoV-2, leading to discussions on the future pathway of economic and social development due to the social and economic disruptions caused by the physical distancing and lockdown measures.

In this regard, the overall objective of JUSTNature is the activation of nature-based solutions (NbS) by ensuring a just transition to low-carbon cities, based on the principle

of the right to ecological space. This refers to the right to clean air and indoor/outdoor thermal comfort for human health and well-being, as well as thriving biodiversity and ecosystems. It also refers to the duty of not constraining the ecological space of others, in relation to the mitigation of climate change and measures required for reducing GHG emissions. JUSTNature will contribute to this vision of shaping low-carbon cities by developing a set of typical Low carbon | High air quality NbS in seven European city practice labs. By activating their just implementation, it will drive the co-design, co-creation and co-decision of supporting interventions regarding four innovation dimensions:

- 1) enabling effective governance,
- 2) enabling NbS system maintenance and operation,
- 3) enabling innovative business models and market design, and
- 4) enabling efficient technologies and applications.

The seven European City Practice Labs are: Bolzano-Merano (Italy), Chania (Greece), Gzira (Malta), Leuven (Belgium), Munich (Germany) and Szombathely (Hungary).

Within the consortium, ISOCARP Institute is implementing various communication and dissemination activities (WP9), supporting cross-learning activities between municipalities (WP5), and engaging in high quality research activities to deliver a report on good practices for the co-governance of nature-based solutions (WP7).



PRACTICE

3.2



PILLAR PRACTICE

ISOCARP Institute supports public and private institutions through a variety of programmes, including the Urban Planning Advisory Teams (UPATs), technical assistance and technical review, building upon the over 55 years of knowledge generation inside ISOCARP. Technical assistance and review are a central aspect of the practice pillar, delivering scientific review of planning documents or planning system analysis. The expansion of the existing UPAT programme with further development and adaptation to the current trends with urban labs, design charrettes and think tank workshops -such as Urban Thinker Campus (UTC) of the World Urban Campaign is another priority.

URBAN PLANNING ADVISORY TEAM (UPAT) CHAPALA LAKE SHORE, MEXICO

ISOCARP Institute organized, facilitated, and carried out a UPAT Design Planning Workshop from August 1st to 6th 2022 in Chapala, Mexico on the topic of waterfront urban development, and addressing the challenges along the Chapala Lake shore. The UPAT was promoted by a group of municipalities around Chapala Riviera together with civil society sponsors, former ISOCARP Vice President Paco Perez was in charge of the local coordination.

Chapala Lake lies on the Mexican Plateau at 6,000 feet (1,800 metres) above sea level in the states of Jalisco and Michoacán. Chapala is Mexico's largest lake, measuring approximately 48 miles (77 km) east-west by 10 miles (16 km) north south and covering an area of 417 square miles (1,080 square km). Despite its size, the lake is very shallow and is susceptible to infestations of water hyacinth. It is fed principally by the Lerma River from the east and is drained by the Santia-

go River, which flows out of its North-eastern side. The lake is surrounded by many mountains and sierras and contains three small islands.

The UPAT purpose was to launch a process of comprehensive regional planning and management of Chapala Riviera. Despite complex set of government plans and programs in all sorts of matters upon Chapala Lake and the urban settlements around its shore, including also several civil society and NGOs initiatives, a comprehensive view and strategic approach to lead the prosperous development of Chapala Riviera in a wide scope and long-term perspective doesn't exist. The prepared UPAT report is intended to be the reference to prepare a Regional Urban Plan, to be approved by all concerned authorities and looked out by society to secure continuity between public administration changes.

UP AT CHAPALA LAKE SHORE





Together with Paco Perez, ISOCARP Institute selected a team of 5 (five) international member-experts to visit Chapala and work together on developing this comprehensive view and strategic approach in the shape of a preliminary Masterplan of the Chapala Riviera in order to have a qualified opinion on how to order the territory and how to take advantage of the potential of the lake's riviera, to shape this opinion in a big vision approach, with a long term scope, but with short term strategic actions, and to have a convincing document to promote the initiative before third parties.

The international team together with local experts successfully developed a high-level document as a so-called Masterplan as conceptual approach focussing on urban mobility, sewage system, basic infrastructure and services, lake shore, agriculture, land uses, urban regulation and urban management. At the end of the UPAT week on site, the proposal was presented to the local municipal authorities and NGOs; the experts will deliver a document with the proposed Master Plan within 4 weeks after the UPAT.

We would like to thank the ISOCARP team members **Rolf Schuett** (team leader), **Diana Andrea Giambiagi**, **Dara Golubovic-Matic**, **Ric Stephens**, and **Taliah Dommerholt** for their attendance, contributions and highly appreciated ideas. In addition to the ISOCARP team, we could not have been successful without **Walter Rast**, senior expert of the International Lake Environment Committee (ILEC), and the assistance of the young planning professionals, **Esteban Contreras**, **Deni Hernandez Castaneda**, **Sebastian Pacheco Velazquez**, **Ana Karen Pimienta Reynoso**, **Andres Rodriguez Von Hauske**, and **Donaji "Mave" Fiallo Zurita**.



New income generating apartments

Mixed financing programs

ISOCARP INSTITUTE – CENTRE FOR URBAN EXCELLENCE

New land surveying

RENEWAL THINKING CAMP

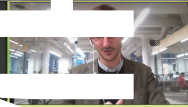
GOVERNANCE

LOCAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE RENOVATION PROCESS AND THE RESULTING BENEFITS

UP TO 100%

Of residents in districts to be renovated participated in the development of their neighbourhood

The conclusions were made based on benchmark studies of participatory planning renovation in European countries adjusted to the level of civic engagement in Russia



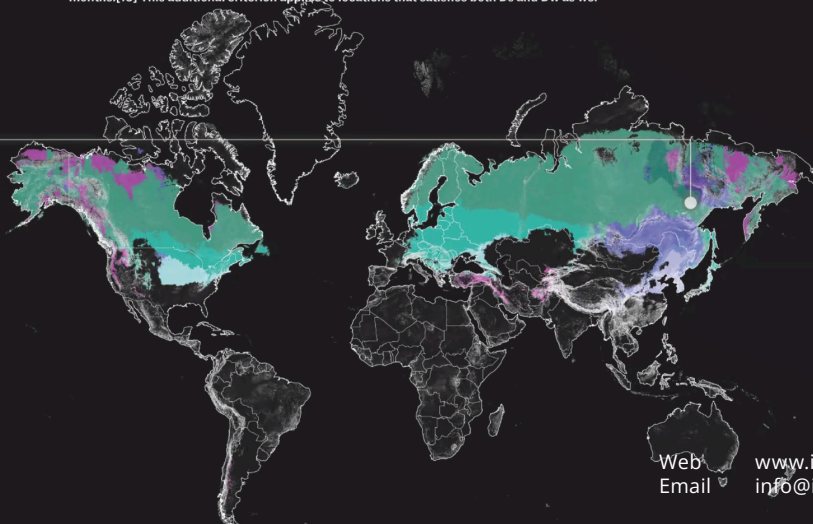
COLD
2021

YAKUTSK, RUSSIA



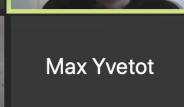
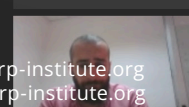
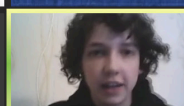
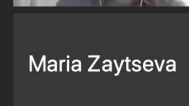
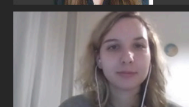
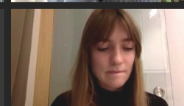
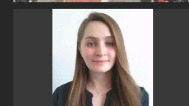
Not only does Yakutsk experience the coldest winters on earth, but it is also the largest city in the world with a continuous permafrost. In the summer, however, flooding and hot temperatures are frequent. Whereas additional housing was mostly made of wood in the 20th century, the erection of large housing units lacking the flexibility needed for the changing seasons.

This type of climate has the coldest month averaging between 0 °C (32 °F)[10] (or -3 °C (27 °F)[8] and 18 °C (64.4 °F) and at least one month averaging above 10 °C (50 °F).[10][8] For the distribution of precipitation in locations that both satisfy a dry summer (CS) and a dry winter (CW), a location is considered to have a wet summer (CW) when more precipitation falls within the summer months than the winter months while a location is considered to have a dry summer (CS) when more precipitation falls within the winter months.[10] This additional criterion applies to locations that satisfies both Ds and Dw as well



Web
Email

www.isocarp-institute.org
info@isocarp-institute.org



Maria Zaytseva

Max Yvetot



URBAN THINKER CAMPUS OF THE WORLD URBAN CAMPAIGN (UN-HABITAT)

The Urban Thinkers Campus (UTC) model is an initiative of UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign, conceived in 2014 as an open space for critical exchange between urban researchers, professionals, and decision-makers who believe that urbanization is an opportunity and can lead to positive urban transformations. It is also intended as a platform to build consensus between partners engaged in addressing urbanization challenges and proposing solutions to urban futures. In 2021, UTCs are presenting, discussing and delivering climate action solutions. Hereafter a short overview of UTCs where the ISOCARP Institute was initiator or contributor.

UTC MASS HOUSING AND CLIMATE CHANGE

ISOCARP Institute together with STRELKA Institute Moscow organized on 18th - 19th October 2021 a UTC on "Mass Housing and Climate Change: Challenges and Solutions" <http://masshousing-lab.strelka-kb.com>. This three-day event (workshop + public conference) sponsored by the UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign and the European Union Delegation in Russia, was the launch of an international initiative to tackle mass housing's inadaptation to climate change, by sharing intelligence between students and professionals. The results of this event were further presented online at the COP26 on November 10th, 2022.

In Russia, approximately 70 million people live in mass housing units, the vast majority of which was built during the Soviet time, with little consideration for climate change and sustainability. This housing stock is in dire need of refurbishment today. However, Russia is not an exception. Mass housing units were erected both in Western and Eastern Europe in the second half of the 20th century, as well as on all continents. The stock of mass housing worldwide is so huge that it cannot be replaced in the foreseeable future for ecological, economic and social reasons; and it keeps on growing today. Mass housing units should be considered an opportunity for developers, architects and planners, as good solutions bear the potential to be reproduced worldwide. Their modernization could have a significant impact in the fight against climate change.

The practical workshop was designed to bring forward solutions to regenerate mass housing units in the context of climate change. Participants had the opportunity to work on a theoretical case study using the actual data from four

locations in the world, designing solutions for the modernization of mass housing units in different climatic zones. Teams of up to 10 participants from different backgrounds united force and intelligence to propose innovative ideas for mass housing and climate adaptation measures. The experts for the workshop were **Ekaterina Maleeva**, project director at Strelka KB, **Nagi Agzamov**, director of the Centre for urban ecology at Strelka KB, **Max Ivetot**, Head of urban governance at Strelka KB, and **Milena Ivkovic**, architect and urban expert at ISOCARP Institute.

The conference brought professionals from the EU, UN-Habitat, ISOCARP, Strelka KB and others, sharing their experience on the challenges and solutions to address the inadequacy of mass housing in a changing climate. The UTC was very successful with around 3.000 participants during the workshop and the international conference.

Thank you to the following speakers:

- **Didier Vancutsem**, Director at the ISOCARP Institute
- **Christophe Lalande**, Head of the housing division at UN-Habitat
- **Hilmar von Lojewski**, councillor at the German Association of Cities (Städtetag)
- **Christophe Hutin**, architect
- **Michaela Kauer**, Director of the Brussels Liaison Office of the City of Vienna and coordinator of the EU Urban Agenda Housing Partnership
- **Ekaterina Maleeva**, project director at Strelka KB
- **Alexandra Chechetkina**, managing director at Strelka KB.



ACADEMY

3.3



PILLAR ACADEMY

One of ISOCARP Institute's core functions is to design and deliver capacity building and continued education programs to individuals, organisations and institutions; conduct research and promote knowledge transfer; as well as offer advice and short-term consultancy services to government, non-government and international bodies worldwide. The programmes facilitate the vast knowledge and experience of ISOCARP, building upon over five decades and more than 750 individual and institutional members from about 85 countries working towards knowledge for better cities. The developed trainings are facilitated by representatives of the Board, senior members as well as staff.

One of these activities is the Young Planning Professionals Programme (YPP-P) which was initiated in 1991. The key activity is the facilitation of workshops which merge international and interdisciplinary co-creation and continued education for Young Planning Professionals (< 35 years). Since the establishment of the programme, 48 workshops across the globe were organised with around 1,000 participants from every continent.

A Young Planning Professionals' workshop (YPP) was organised in Kocaeli, Turkey between 19 and 25 March 2022 on behalf of ISOCARP Institute. <https://isocarp.org/young-planning-professionals-workshop-kocaeli-turkey-2022/> The Kocaeli YPP Workshop, "Change for Resilience. Resilience for Change" intended to discuss the concept of resilience through a transformation of urban public space, which can become a critical tool for a resilient city and society. It was organised in collaboration with the Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality, Marmara Municipalities Union, and the ISOCARP Society.

URBAN FUTURE



Shaping Humanity's Urban Future Beyond 2030

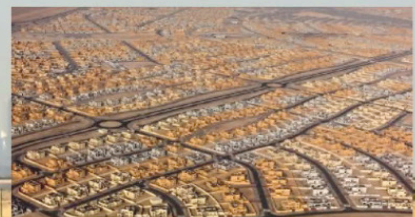
Contemporary UAE



Source: <https://data.worldbank.org>



Web
Email www.isocarp-institute.org
info@isocarp-institute.org





DUBAI FUTURE FOUNDATION AND ISOCARP INSTITUTE

ISOCARP Institute organised a 2-days intensive capacity-building program in cooperation with the Dubai Future Academy, the academic branch of Dubai Future Foundation, an educational course structure with the topic of "Shaping Humanity's urban future beyond 2030". The courses took place on January 17th and 18th, 2022. <https://programs.dubaifuture.ae/programs/61dbe717bcfa2e003df61674>

The intensive course provided the means for the participants to understand the prospective thinking of urban humanity and its future. This is done by delivering a comprehensive overview of the urban interconnected system and how it will evolve in the next decades, beyond the implementation of the SDGs and 2050. The course delivered a clear idea of the urban humanity and its future, and how prospective thinking can be practiced. Course attendees were trained to understand the urban planning principles and enabled to formulate alternative scenarios for the urban design spaces towards 2050 and beyond.

The aim of the course was to understand the future of the urban humanity, its evolution and how the future beyond 2030 looks like, which challenges and pathways shaping urban futures will dominate in the next decades, and how the relationship between human and technology will evolve. Participants were able to grasp resilience principles, zero-carbon urban future and urban sustainability as a basis for the urban humanity; as well as to capture the forward-thinking methodology and comprehend the next generations of urban territories and its implications for Dubai and UAE. The course aimed at feeding into two of the UAE Centennial 2071 axes.

COURSE PROGRAM

Prospective thinking and future of cities

- Intelligent Cities, **Alfonso Vegara**, President Fundacion Metropoli, Madrid
- Environmental future, **John Echlin**, urban planner and environmental expert
- Human Future, **Eric Huybrechts**, urban planner and governance expert

Horizon scanning of trends and challenges on the environmental and human future

- New urban and living conditions beyond 2030, **Eugenie Birch**, (Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research, Department of City and Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania)
- New paradigms and urban living conditions, **Nicholas You**, director of the Guangzhou Awards, past director of Urban Branch UN-Habitat
- Urban management, **Haris Piplas**, urban planner researcher at ETH Zurich, Research Lead at Drees&Sommer – Milena Ivkovic, urban planner, expert in participative tools

The 2 days were moderated by **Didier Vancutsem**, Director ISOCARP Institute, and **Jonathan Subendran**, Project Manager at ISOCARP Institute.

Many thanks to all speakers for their engagement and high-level contributions.

Knowledge Base



ISOCARP INSTITUTE'S KNOWLEDGE BASE **OVERVIEW OF THE COMPOSING ELEMENTS**

The Knowledge Base platform aims at compiling, sharing, discussing, and elevating the knowledge of the global community of urban and territorial planning professionals. The Institute has created the Knowledge Base to allow for global dissemination of the accumulated knowledge of ISOCARP's members (e.g., Presentations, interviews, lectures, papers, articles), as well as to disseminate the results and solutions that are being developed within our projects and

our Urban Thinker Campuses (UTCs). The outcomes – which cover topics of ISOCARP World Planning Congress papers, projects, case studies, or ISOCARP Review articles – are available as videos on our Knowledge Base and other communication channels. Furthermore, they feed into activities of the ISOCARP Institute Academy, e.g., by acting as expert inputs for city leader trainings and capacity building.

KNOWLEDGE BASE BY THE NUMBERS:

6	CASE STUDIES
21	REVIEW ARTICLES
24	CONGRESS PAPERS
6	VIDEOS AND RECORDINGS

COOPERATION & DISSEMINATION





58TH ISOCARP WORLD PLANNING CONGRESS ISOCARP INSTITUTE'S SPECIAL SESSIONS

ISOCARP Institute will host two special sessions as part of the 58th ISOCARP World Planning Congress "From Healthy Cities to Wealthy Cities" in Brussels, Belgium from 3.-6. October 2022. Special sessions are organized for Institute's on-going EU projects, JUSTNature and +CityxChange,

For JUSTNature, the special session "Justice for what? Ecological (space) justice in the cities" aims to share knowledge created during the project, mainly concerning knowledge on how to link ecological (space) justice and the activation of nature-based solutions (NbS) potentials and good co-governance (principles, barriers and enablers) of NbS. The session also includes interactive discussion session, adopting the House of Commons approach to discuss activation of NbS for more healthy and just cities. The discussion point is "A matter of ever more optimised distribution of NbS or a question of procedural and recognition ecological justice considerations?"

For +CityxChange, the special session "Pathways from Positive Energy Districts to Climate-Neutral Cities" examines how to accelerate the adoption of Positive Energy Blocks and Districts (PEBs/PEDs). PEBs/PEDs — defined as connected buildings that together have an average yearly positive energy balance—play an important role in supporting climate-neutral cities and sustainable urban transitions. The Session will include short interactive presentations highlighting the various perspectives (political, social, technological, economic), followed by a guided discussion where, together with the audience, the perspectives will be discussed to define pathways to climate neutrality. The Session will serve as an arena for documenting and discussing the processes that take place in the project, exploring cross-cutting challenges, exchanging experiences, and developing solutions.


58
**TH ISOCARP
 WORLD
 PLANNING
 CONGRESS**
**FROM
 WEALTHY
 TO HEALTHY
 CITIES**
**URBANISM AND
 PLANNING FOR
 THE WELL-BEING
 OF CITIZENS**
**3-6 OCTOBER
 2022
 BRUSSELS
 BELGIUM**





NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS

ISOCARP Institute is a proud partner of the New European Bauhaus initiative.

The New European Bauhaus, initiated by the European Commission in October 2020, connects the European Green Deal to our living spaces. It calls on all Europeans and by extension all citizens worldwide, to imagine and build together a sustainable and inclusive future that is beautiful for our eyes, minds, and souls.

The New European Bauhaus will:

1. Bring citizens, experts, businesses, and Institutions together and facilitate conversations about making tomorrow's living spaces more affordable and accessible.
2. Mobilize designers, architects, engineers, scientists, students, and creative minds across disciplines to reimagine sustainable living in Europe and beyond.
3. Strive to improve the quality of our living experience. It will highlight the value of simplicity, functionality, and circularity of materials without compromising the need for comfort and attractiveness in our daily lives.
4. Provide financial support to innovative ideas and products through ad-hoc calls for proposals and through coordinated programs included in the Multi-Annual Financial Framework.

As a partner, ISOCARP Institute intends to enrich the activities of the NEB by deploying our leveraging capacity through capitalization, dissemination, and co-creation activities on a global level through the following:

1. Communicate, disseminate, share and amplify key messages of New European Bauhaus.
2. Co-creation with a wide range of global stakeholders across public, private, and civil society.
3. Mobilizing the vast network of ISOCARP Society.

Since the initiation of the partnership ISOCARP Institute has been involved in the Co-Design and NEB Prize phases which include a series of consortium workshops activities as well as jury member evaluation responsibility. After the kick-off phase, the New European Bauhaus engaged in the pilot project phase and the NEB prizes, followed by the NEB lab projects phase. The institute aims to be an active member in shaping the process and hosting conversations to strengthen the dialogue on the NEB Initiative.

ISOCARP ECOSYSTEM



COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN THE ISOCARP ECOSYSTEM

As the project office and research branch of the International Society of City and Regional Planners ISOCARP, the ISOCARP Institute is communicating with the Society and its membership on several levels and ways:

On Board level :

- Regular communication with Board members on project ideas e.g., on future urban lab activities, review and research projects, capacity building or congress seminars
- Regular information about Institute activities with weekly report to Board members as Team minutes
- Publication of Institute activities in regular, monthly Newsletter
- Presentation of Institute results and activities during members meetings such as the AGM, the SGM or the World Cafe

On Membership level

- Involvement of members in the three activity pillars of the Institute:
 1. Academy: involvement of members in the capacity-building and training programmes
 2. Practice: attendance and contribution from the membership to urban labs, design charrettes, and think tank labs such as the Urban Thinker Campuses
 3. Research: participation and involvement of members in the research projects and their dissemination events

ISOCARP ECOSYSTEM SOCIETY AND INSTITUTE

Within the ISOCARP knowledge ecosystem, Society and Institute are complementary entities with the aim to develop urban excellence and share a broad knowledge for better cities: the level of joint goal setting and the collective action towards the above-mentioned aims define the intensity of interaction in the knowledge ecosystem. Both entities engage in this joint search for innovative knowledge pursuing new and highly valuable goals.

While the Society is developing and managing the membership network, congresses and publications, the Institute is initiating, developing and implementing projects with involvement of its membership to the benefits of the Society. Acquired knowledge by both entities is made available to the membership and the broader community. Not only both entities, Society and Institute, are benefiting from this collective action – also the membership has a return in form of higher and qualified knowledge and professional experience.

THE TEAM

5



CURRENT STAFF

THE TEAM WORKING FOR ISOCARP INSTITUTE**WILLEM - PAUL HERBER***Financial Administrator*

Willem-Paul joined ISOCARP Institute in November 2021. He has studied economics and holds a post-master's degree in accountancy (University of Amsterdam). His focus is on financial management, a field in which he has extensive experience.

**YIRANG LIM***Project Manager / Researcher*

Yirang Lim (Ph.D.) is a researcher and policy analyst in urban development and governance. She is specialized in urban policy, policy and impact evaluation, smart cities and governance, and energy transition. She joined us in December 2021 for the EU Horizon 2020 JUSTNature project.

**TALIAH DOMMERHOLT***Project Manager*

Taliah joined ISOCARP Institute in April 2022 to assist with EU Horizon projects. She is passionate about the intersection of sustainability and social justice, specializing in urban transitions, nature-based solutions, community mobilization, sociology, and environmental policy. She is working on the EU funded project +CityxChange.

**METHI LAITHAVEWAT***Project Project Assistant*

Methi joined ISOCARP Institute in May 2022 to assist with communication and dissemination across EU Horizon projects such as +CityxChange, VARCITIES, JUSTNature, as well as ISOCARP Institute activities and the YPP Programme. His backgrounds in architecture, urban design, planning, and management make him passionate in public participation and engagement in urban development.

PAST STAFF

- **JOHNATHAN SUBENDRAN**
- **GISELA GARRIDO VERON**
- **MARIE-SOPHIE BARREAU**
- **FEDERICO AILI**
- **SINDI HAXHIJA**
- **ANNA MYLLYMAKI**
- **TJARK GALL**
- **DAVID STRUIK**

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Project Assistant | (until 06-2022) |
| Project Manager | (until 02-2022) |
| Project Assistant | (until 12-2021) |
| Project Manager | (until 11-2021) |
| Urban researcher | (until 06-2021) |
| Communication officer | (until 03-2021) |
| Project Manager | (until 10-2020) |
| Project Manager | (until 12-2019) |

OUTLOOK

6



ISOCARP INSTITUTE THE WAY FORWARD

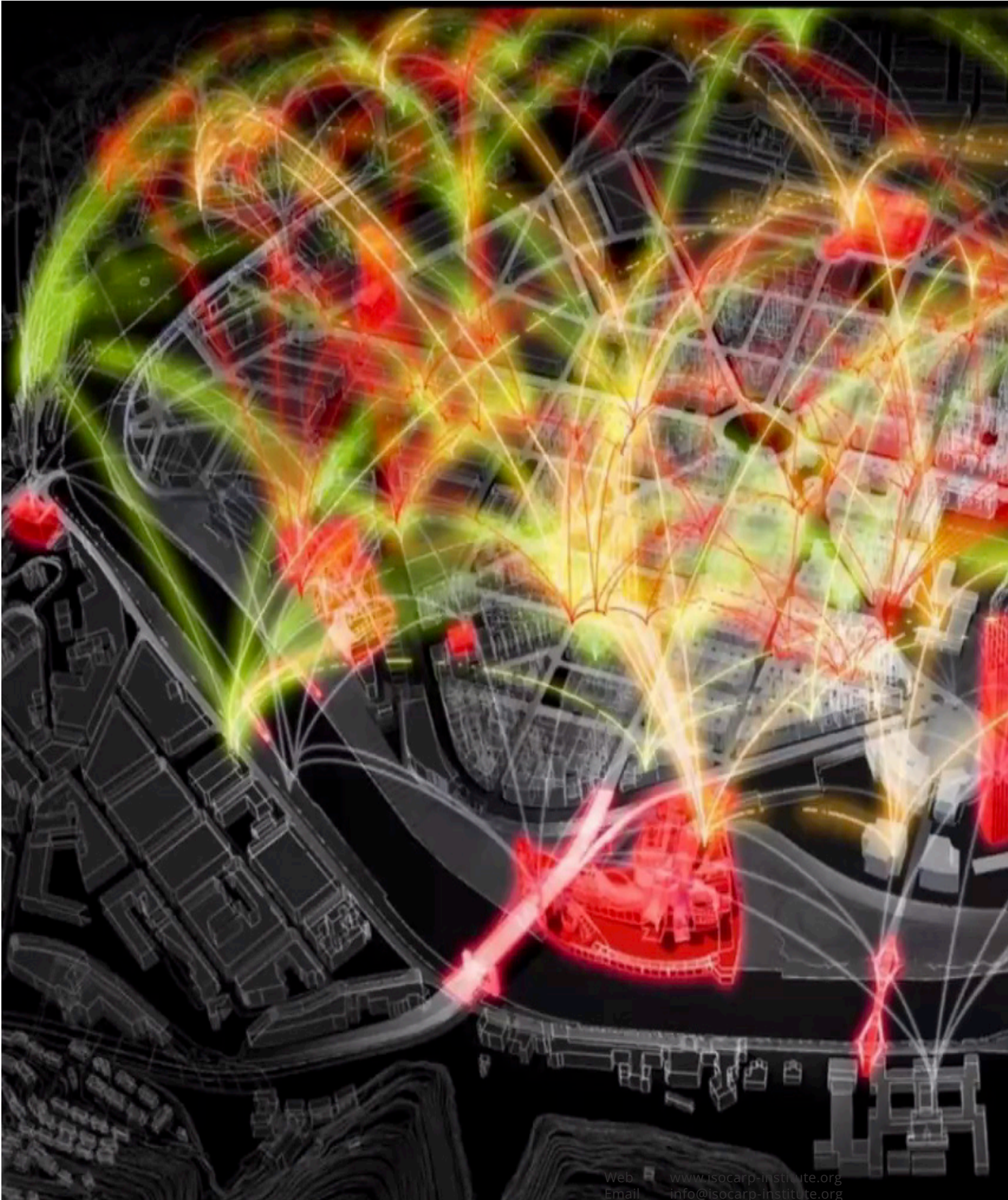
The last operational year 2021-2022 was a more dynamic and intense year than the previous -challenging- year 2020-21. After cancellation or postponing of workshops and events, new online opportunities and activities were developed and implemented.

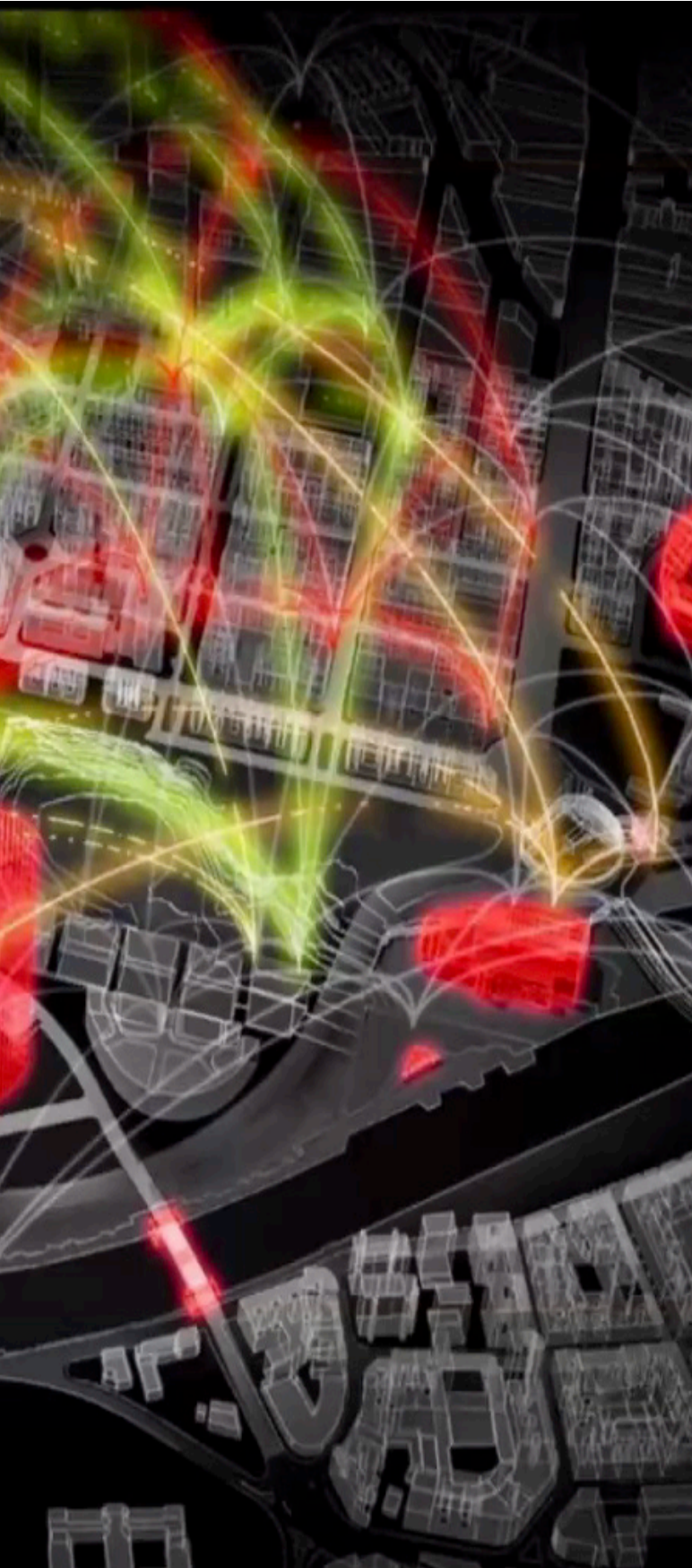
For the second half of 2022 and first half of 2023, ISOCARP Institute is planning to increase its activities, following the three main pillars: Institute Academy, Institute Practice and Institute Research. This corresponds to the current business evolution of the Institute: after three years of start-up operations, the Institute is now stabilising and confirming a stable and sustainable growth.

In the **Institute Academy** pillar, our activities are focussing on conceptualisation of knowledge, operationalisation of capacity-building and training programmes in close cooperation with local and global partners, as well as professional impact as monitoring of training activities. We are building on the capacity-building experience of the CRIC project and the capacity-building program for the Dubai Future Academy and looking forward to further implementation steps. New opportunities are under preparation, e.g., with the ThinkCity Academy Malaysia.

In the **Institute Practice** pillar, we do see a growing interest to move back to physical interactions and workshops. A good example is the Urban Planning Advisory Team workshop taking place in August 2022 in Chapala, Mexico. New expressions of interest from cities and regions are appearing. While we are diversifying our activities and developing hybrid urban planning workshops, we also do look at developing other kind of activities such as short-term online activities combined with high-level curators involved, such as participatory urban laboratories, webinars, or placemaking processes beyond planning advisory in physical form. Our technical assistance and professional review activities may be relaunched, focussing on planning systems topics, a new generation of a manual of planning practice, including additional aspects such as climate adaptation and SDG implementation.

In the **Institute Research** pillar, EU research projects such as CityxChange, VARCITIES and JUSTNature are our main activities. In July, the Institute got awarded two new European Horizon Europe Research projects, UP2030 and DUST. The project UP2030 aims to guide cities through the socio-technical





transitions required to meet their climate neutrality ambitions. It will do so by enabling a quantum leap from a 'business as usual', project-by-project decarbonisation approach to a vision-driven, strategy-based approach that is anchored on sound projects and renewed policy development. The approach uses urban planning and design as a vehicle to create better connected, more compact, net-zero neighbourhoods in the city pilots – i.e. neighbourhoods that promote liveability and, through designing with intent, promote mitigation action. The DUST project will develop and operationalise novel participatory instruments for proactive and strategic citizen engagement in sustainability transitions. It will combine design-led territorial tools with digital tools for citizen deliberation at scale. The project addresses a defining societal and democratic challenge for Europe, which is to hear the voices of least engaged communities, especially in structurally weak regions dependent on energy-intensive industries, which will be most affected by transitions towards a more sustainable future. Both new research projects will start in January 2023. The Institute is also looking at other research opportunities globally, although our research activities on European level will continue to be the main driver. ISOCARP Institute is an appreciated partner in EU project consortia. Here also, we are intending to diversify the portfolio and looking for global and applied research on local and global level.

Web www.isocarp-institute.org
Email info@isocarp-institute.org



ISOCARP INSTITUTE
Centre for Urban Excellence

Chamber of Commerce
65202260

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