



# RU:RBAN Second Wave #4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Network Report



Network Transfer Progress

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# Index

- Introduction ... page 4
- Chapter 1 - Transnational Exchange and Learning activities ... page 6
- Chapter 2 – The Irish TNM Highlights in all RU:RBAN Elements! ... page 10
- Chapter 3 – The Greek TNM Highlights in all RU:RBAN Elements! ... page 20
- Chapter 4 – Lighthouse Cities Highlights! ... page 32



THE NEW TRANSFER JOURNEY IS ONGOING ...

# *RU:RBAN SECOND WAVE ...*

The management model of Roman Urban Gardens travelled through Carlow, Ireland and Alexandroupolis, Greece ...

*RU:RBAN transfer efforts in full steam ...*

For more info, visit <https://urbact.eu/rurban>

## Introduction

The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report aim is to **capture** and **connect** learning for the network and share it with wider audience.

For this purpose, It is uploaded in the networks' webpage.

RU:RBAN Second Wave continued by the end of June 2022 its journey scheduled to visit the **newcomer** cities around Europe, as also 3 **lighthouse cities** showcasing their urban gardens' management good practises.

These 3 months were of work overload, as 2 TNMs almost back to back were prepared in details and took place with partners being in person in Ireland and Greece ...



*This 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Report is to briefly present some new highlights from the exchange of experience between the LP, the experts and the newcomer cities, to introduce more details of the good practice, as to UNDERSTAND the Rome's management model to be transferred during the projects' journey.*



## Chapter 1 - Transnational Exchange and Learning activities

It was a very fruitful trimester for RU:RBAN (April to June 2022), since the partners were in full transfer steam, working on the mid-term review tasks, preparing - participating in 2 (almost) back to back Transfer Network Meetings and working in between in local level to involve their ULG members in all projects' elements !

RU:RBANeers left the pandemic behind and tried to be back to projects' implementation normality, regarding thier efforts to involve and mobilize core stakeholders in the selected policy topic ...

Visiting Calrow, Ireland and Alexandroupolis, Greece partners had a great support from both mayors, beside all other involved in the project people ...



**During the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester of 2022 in RU:RBAN, the Lead Expert organised the exchange of experience between the partners, following mainly the project transfer methodology & the cities Transfer Roadmaps ...**

**Until the summer break and before the next TNM in Split, Croatia all partners were working hard in local level to capitalize all transfer inputs in capacity building and to adopt the LP urban gardens regulation in each local ecosystem**

...

The pandemic was behind RU:RBAN, at least during the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester of 2022 ...

2 almost back to back TNMs took place in **Carlow, Ireland (May)** ...





## And in Alexandroupolis, Greece (June-July) ...



## Chapter 2 – The Irish TNM Highlights in all RU:RBAN Elements!

The Lead Expert has worked in cooperation with the LP and the 4 partner cities to prepare the 3<sup>rd</sup> Transfer Network Meeting in Carlow, Ireland. This TNM was the 1<sup>st</sup> one after the COVID-19 restrictions were moved and all partners with their ULG members could meet and work in person again!



The TNM took place onsite, with 56 participants.

33 of them were members of the ULG stakeholders!



The LE during April 2022 met online the LP representatives & the rest partnership to prepare in advance and in details all project working documents, templates etc., that were included in the extended PPTs that were presented, discussed and debated during the different TNM sessions, from 25th to 26th of May in Carlow, Ireland.



The LE also prepared pro and post documents for the TNM and transfer needs.

An additional object that was included in this meeting preparation was the Mid Term Reflection (MTR) actions, coordinated by the LE.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> TN MEETING RATIONALE AND FOCUS

The Lead Expert formulated the final Carlow agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> TN project meeting to dedicate half of the time to the 2 main project elements (E1 and E3) and half of the time in E2.

The E2 training contents were decided in cooperation with the responsible company (Andrea Messori – REPLAY Network) that took over the task after an open call on behalf the LP.



All 3<sup>rd</sup> TNM sessions are considered as very successful, since they attracted the partners and their ULG members interest and very useful discussions took place to add value to all partners transfer efforts.

The onsite support of the experts to the hosting city ULG members and partners is a highlight of the 3<sup>rd</sup> TNM results, as it also was for the TNM in Algeciras.



## CARLOW STATE OF THE ART IN URBAN GARDENING ...

Carlow presentation of the city's Case Study, as also its steps ahead on the project GP transfer is considered as **MOPE THAN** useful to all partners, since the Irish partner is following exactly the project transfer methodology recommendations and its transfer roadmap steps.

The municipality's staff in related the topic directorates took part in all sessions, improving their capacity building on the policy topic.

A **REALLY** big number of local stakeholders were also present in all sessions!



**There is always someone behind a very fruitful meeting, that organised all critical details of a really successful TNM ...**

**Kieran Comerford (Head of Economic Development & Enterprise – Carlow County Council) as project coordinator on behalf the partner brings added value to the project.**



**Kieran has responsibility for Business Support, Economic Development and Special Project Development (including EU projects). Kieran has worked in a variety of roles from retailing, banking, and information technology and in the training sector during his career and has worked in the Enterprise Development sector since 2002. His current roles involve leadership in projects under Project Ireland 2040 in the form of the Town & Village Renewal Scheme, Connected Hubs, Rural Regeneration & Development and Urban Regeneration & Development Fund as well as a variety of projects across Enterprise, Arts , Culture , Heritage , Urban & Rural Regeneration.**

When the policy topic of a Transfer Network is included in a city's long-term Strategy ...

### The Case of Carlow 2040 vision

**Our Motivation & Vision**

Project Carlow 2040  
A Vision for Regeneration  
November 2020

When an ULG is really of an added value to achieve goals set in the Transfer Roadmap ...

### The Case of Carlow RU:RBAN ULG

**Our ULG Members**

- St. Mary's Community Biodiversity Garden
- Carlow Garden Trail
- MSD
- Seven Oaks Hotel
- Carlow Tourism
- An Gairdín Beo
- County Carlow Chamber
- Visual
- Carlow County Development Partnership
- Woodford Dolmen Hotel / County Carlow Chamber
- Delta Centre and Delta Sensory Gardens
- Myshall Tree Trail and Community Gard4ens
- Ballon Tree Trail and Community Gardens
- Duckett's Grove Historic House and Walled Gardens

**Our ULG Journey**

- Networking
- Capacity Development
- International Exchange & Transfer
  - Local Projects
    - Community Gardens Policy & Vision
    - Mentoring & Support
    - Research
    - Accessibility & Design
    - Community Gardens & Tourism Standards



The Case Study Garden, An Gairdin Beo, is considered by the LE as the most successful one in terms of management of the garden, in both waves of the RU:RBAN project ...



RU:RBAN experts are using different team work tools in every TNM to raise all ULG members capacity building in Urban Gardens Management ...



The Poster session by Silvia Cioli in Carlow TNM is considered once again, a very successful tool to exchange experience between all ULG members, as also to raise their capacity building in terms of their knowledge of other management models of urban gardens ...

## Carlow update for Mid-term review results and suggestions for the next transfer steps ...



The LE made specific suggestions and comments to each transfer partner regarding the indicators set in their Transfer Roadmap and the achievements so far ...

A clear message delivered to all partners and their ULG members:



**CONCENTRATE** even **MORE** to local needs and expectations from the project and finalise your city urban gardens regulations ...

## Chapter 3 – The Greek TNM Highlights in all RU:RBAN Elements!

The Lead Expert has worked in cooperation with the LP and the 4 partner cities to prepare the 4<sup>th</sup> Transfer Network Meeting in Alexandroupolis, Greece. This TNM organized one month later the 3<sup>rd</sup> TNM and unfortunately 2 partners' representatives participated online and not in person (Algeciras and Split) ...



The TNM took place onsite, with 32 participants.

20 of them were members of the ULG stakeholders!

For the partners and their ULG members that could not participate, LE expert prepared the pre and post documents in a friendly, as also extensive reading model.

## 4th TN MEETING RATIONALE AND FOCUS

The Lead Expert formulated the final Alexandroupolis agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> TN project meeting to give as much as possible space to local stakeholders to exchange their experiences with the LP and the Irish delegations.

# AGENDA



The LE with Alexandroupolis core project team prepared and organized a very interesting workshop on urban gardens management, where 6 experts presented a variety of case studies around the world ...

## E2 Training ...

It was the 3<sup>rd</sup> time during the project lifetime that all partners and ULG members met in person and the 2<sup>nd</sup> that they took part in the E2 training introduction, organised under a different approach, than the one that took place in Carlow.



The youngest member of all RU:RBAN ULG members is a Greek high school student, aged only 16 !



This young man motivated by his family environment took place in all sessions of Day 2, asked a lot of things to the project experts, gave an interview and finally shared with all participants his really interested ideas for urban communities challenges!

## The Alexandroupolis Case Study: BIOAGROS



Bioagros of the Municipality of Alexandroupolis in Greece is a self-managed urban garden on the outskirts of the city that offers nutritional, environmental, social and cultural shielding. The growers as well as the Municipality are actively involved as also other stakeholders such as schools, NGOs and civil society groups as well as technical experts and academic institutions.

The objectives of the community garden are:

- Development of environmental and social sensitivity of citizens.
- The development of environmental programs in cooperation with public and private bodies of the Municipality.
- The development of good environmental practices in vegetable gardens.
- Opportunities for passive and active recreation, education and training of all ages, genders and nationalities with possibilities of exchange of knowledge of edible ethnobotany, dietary habits, production and preservation of food and development of a spirit of solidarity and social mutual assistance.
- The development in the field of recreational activities and organization of outdoor events focusing on environmental issues.



The City Garden Bioagros, is a special case study model, which operation is in fully charge of the municipality of Alexandroupolis.



The project experts collaborated with the core responsible people of the garden and exchanged useful information for the improvement of its regulation, that is the basis for the improvement of the regulation of future municipality gardens.

The new approach that the city of Alexandroupolis organised with the coordination of the LE was a more than interesting session on Day 2, where Local influencers in urban agriculture took part in a round table discussion, having 5 guests that presented urban agriculture case studies from Greece, Germany and Italy...



**-Julia Tzortzi, Politecnico di Milano:**

Community-based urban farms and gardens through ProGReg project: Pireaus city experience learnt from Turin, Dortmund, Zagreb.

**-Nikolaos Thymakis, Politecnico di Milano:**

Urban Edible Gardens in Municipality of Marousi in Athens (GR) and Municipality of Brighton (UK)

**-Elena Patatouka, e-Trikala:**

Circular, integrated systems for urban vegetable gardens in Trikala (GR)

**-Kristina Maknea, Bucharest University USAMB:**

Co-implementation of Urban Horticulture in Bucharest University

**-Nicol Van der Missen, Agronomist in Alexandroupolis:**

Local initiatives and raising awareness

RU:RBAN - 1.7.2022  
Alexandroupolis Greece

**Local initiatives - raising awareness**  
**Feast for organic**

Nicolette van der Smissen,  
Agronomist  
Consultant for Organic Farming

Circular smart systems for public gardens in the city of Trikala

Dr Elena Patatouka  
Senior Researcher and Project Manager, e-Trikala

4<sup>th</sup> TN Meeting of Alexandroupolis  
7/1/2022

**CIRC4Food**  
Food Production System Inspired by Circular Economy

Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση της Ελλάδας και της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης

LESSONS FROM OTHER CITIES

E1 - Alexandroupolis 29.06.2022-01.07.2022

Let's work together

E1 - Alexandroupolis 29.06.2022-01.07.2022

The World Café session by Silvia Cioli, that was used for the 1st time during 2nd Wave is considered by all participants, a fruitful session to network, to discuss management problems and exchange between delegates that never met before ...



The E3 peer review was also a highlight for E3, as Fiammetta Curcio asked all partners in advance the TNM, to focus on their E3 updates, start working on their regulations' final steps and ask them to introduce all of their queries, in Alexandroupolis, before the **final version** expected to be presented in Split TNM ...



Alexandroupolis Urban Gardens Ecosystem was a real surprise  
to all partners ...

Beside Bioagros study visit where partners met and  
discussed with more than 15 growers, two more visits  
introduced their urban gardens' special purpose:

(1) Vegetable Garden of the Mental Health Center



## (2) Technical High School Vegetable Garden



### (3) Special School Vegetable Garden & Horticulture Laboratory





## Chapter 4 – Lighthouse Cities Highlights! ...

Lighthouse cities ( Helsinki and Oslo) Case studies  
presentations by the Lead Expert ...

**Kostas Karamarkos presented the most interesting  
aspects of 2 Lighthouse Cities Urban Gardens  
Management Models !**

**The partners were introduced in those different  
approaches of Helsinki and Oslo ...**



### How the CITY OF HELSINKI supports urban gardening and farming:

Associations and communities can lease land areas from the City for small-scale urban farming.

There, plants are grown in growing containers, in growing beds, in growing bags or on small patches.

Individual city residents can directly contact farming associations

or

establish their own community for urban farming.





## The city of Oslo contribution ...

The city of Oslo is supporting the project operational expenses, by the municipality financial sources, coming mostly from the city taxes.



The project is an **URBACT Transfer Network**  
funded and supported by  
the European Regional Development Fund & the URBACT Programme

### URBACT Transfer Networks

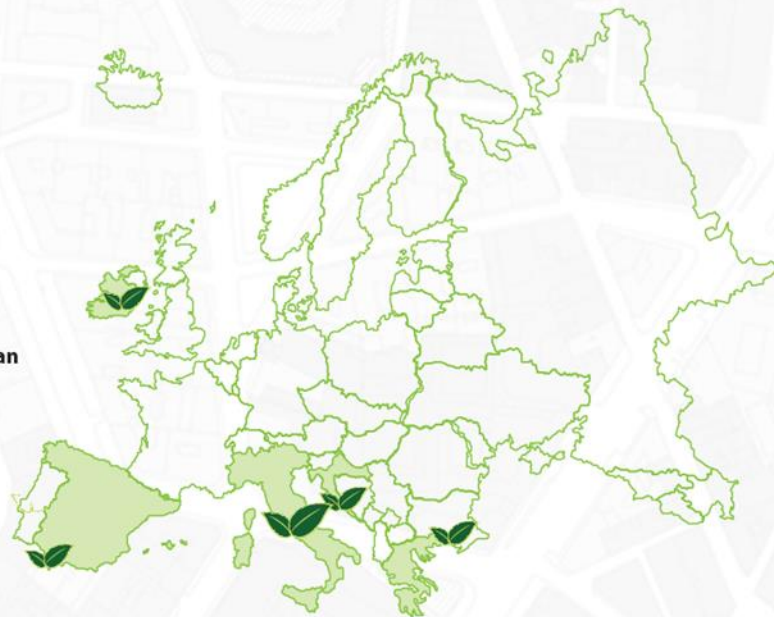
explore how the knowledge and experience of identified Good Practice Cities  
can be shared with and implemented by other cities  
across the European Union  
to encourage a more integrated and sustainable urban development

The transfer components (TC) of the Good Practice are  
the **Capacity building** in organizing urban gardens  
the **Training** of people in managing urban gardens  
the **Governance** of urban gardens

## Ru:urban

is led by Rome,  
Good Practice City  
for the Network

The Good Practice is  
**the management model of urban  
gardens in Rome**  
to be transferred to  
Alexandroupolis, Algeciras,  
Carlow and Split  
to ensure sharing  
of experience  
and to enhance  
the capacities  
of local governance



URBACT Transfer Network: RU:RBAN Second Wave

**Lead Partner: City Of Rome**

Transfer Cities: Alexandroupolis, Algeciras, Carlow and Split

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**To be continued !**