

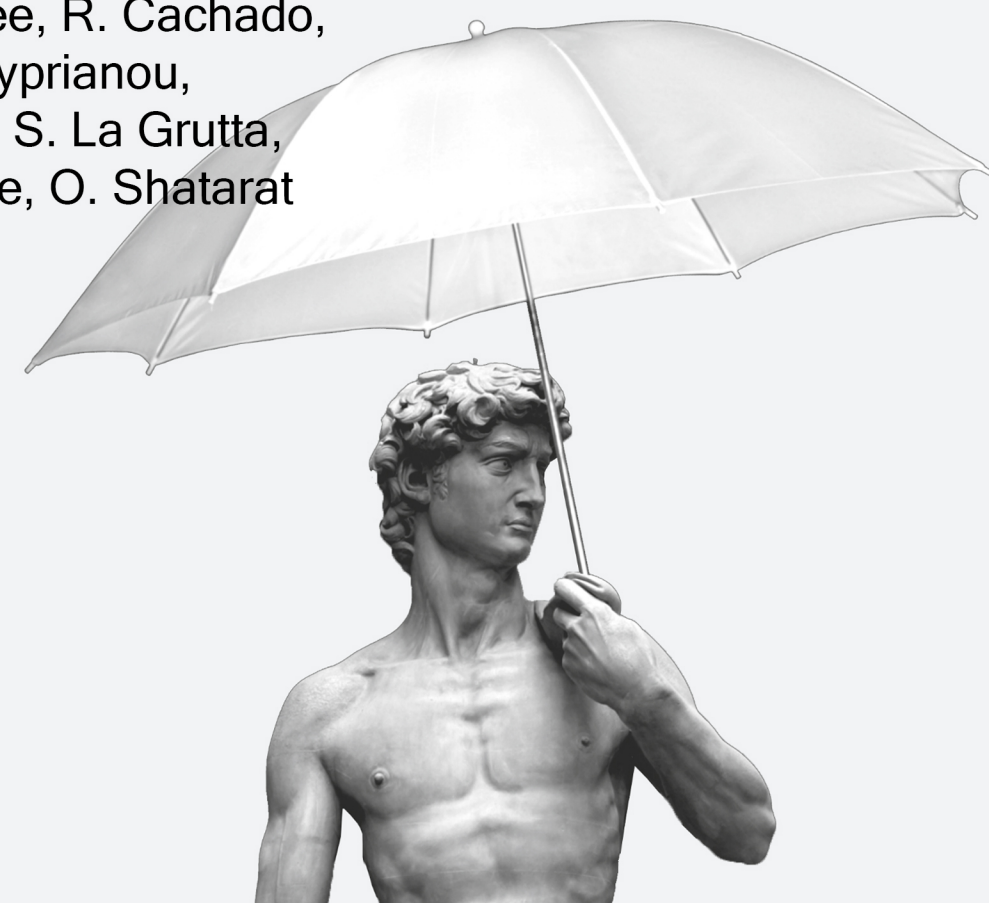
Methods and tools for innovative higher education on regenerating cities to improve citizens' health through climate change adaptation

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Climate Change, Cities, Communities and Equity in Health

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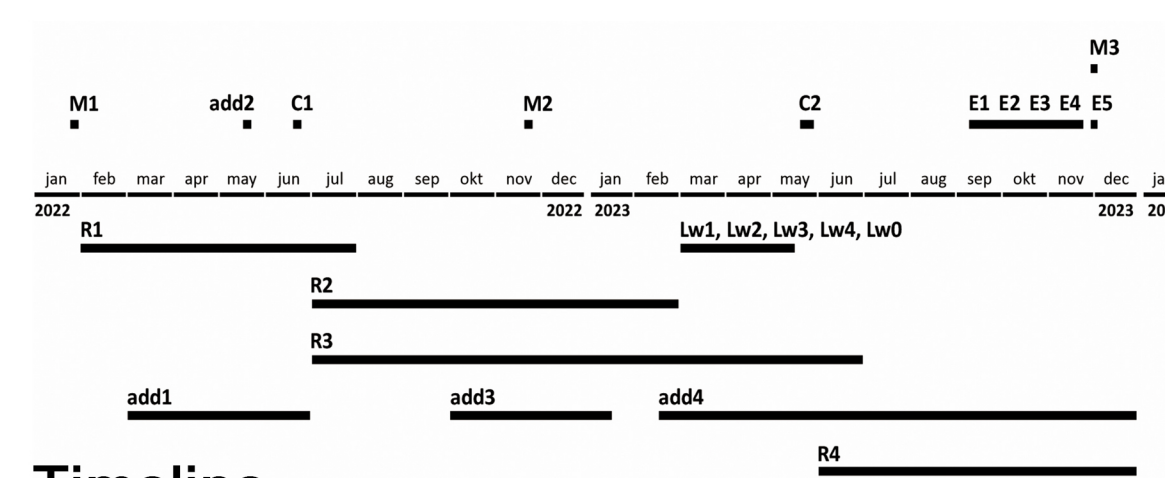
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Timeline

R1 Research on mitigation and adaptation strategies of climate change effects on human health in urban areas

R2 Healthy urban planning Teaching Methodological Guideline

R3 Educational toolkits for healthy urban planning and urban participation

R4 Urban planning guidelines oriented to health and climate change mitigation practices



Results

Partners



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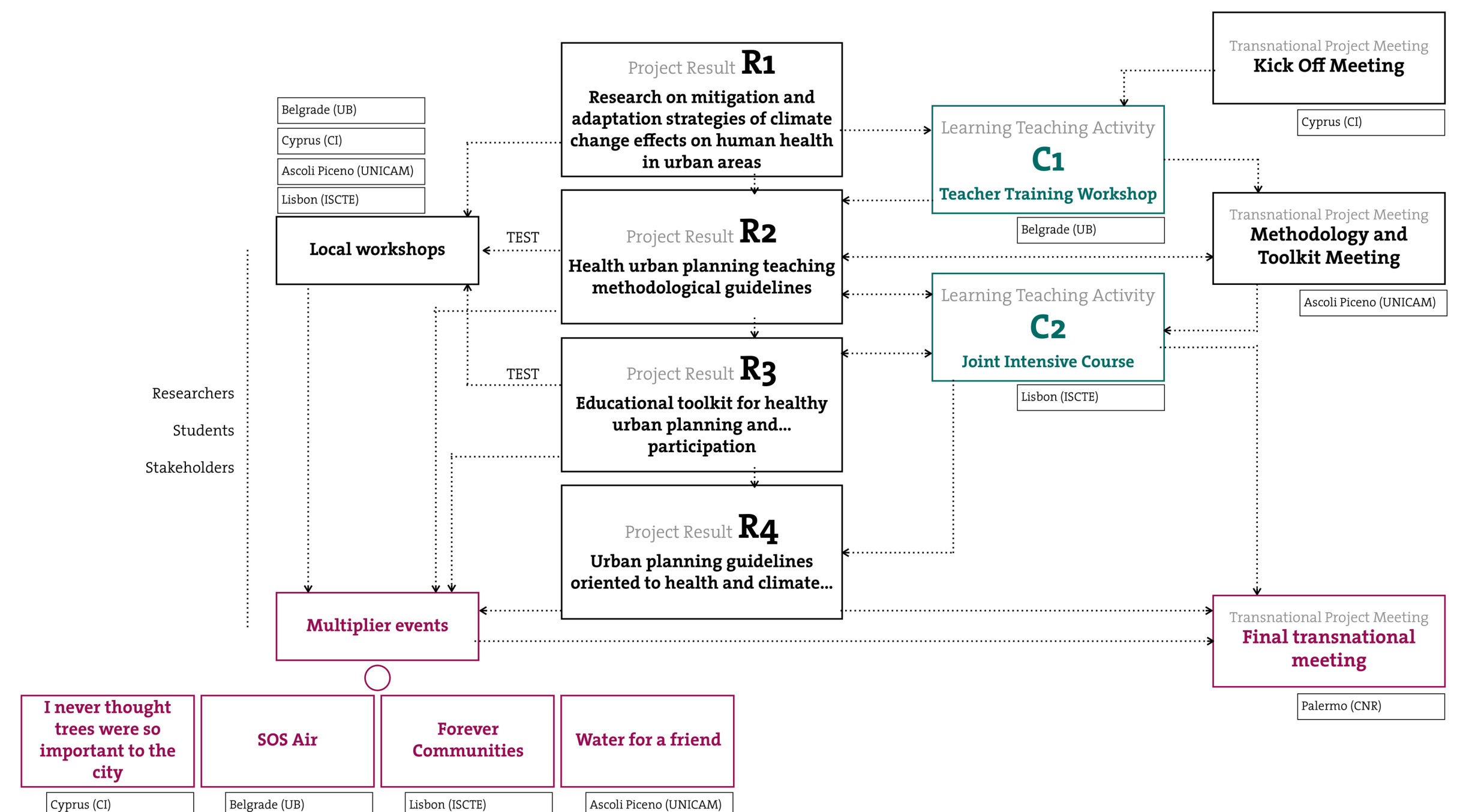
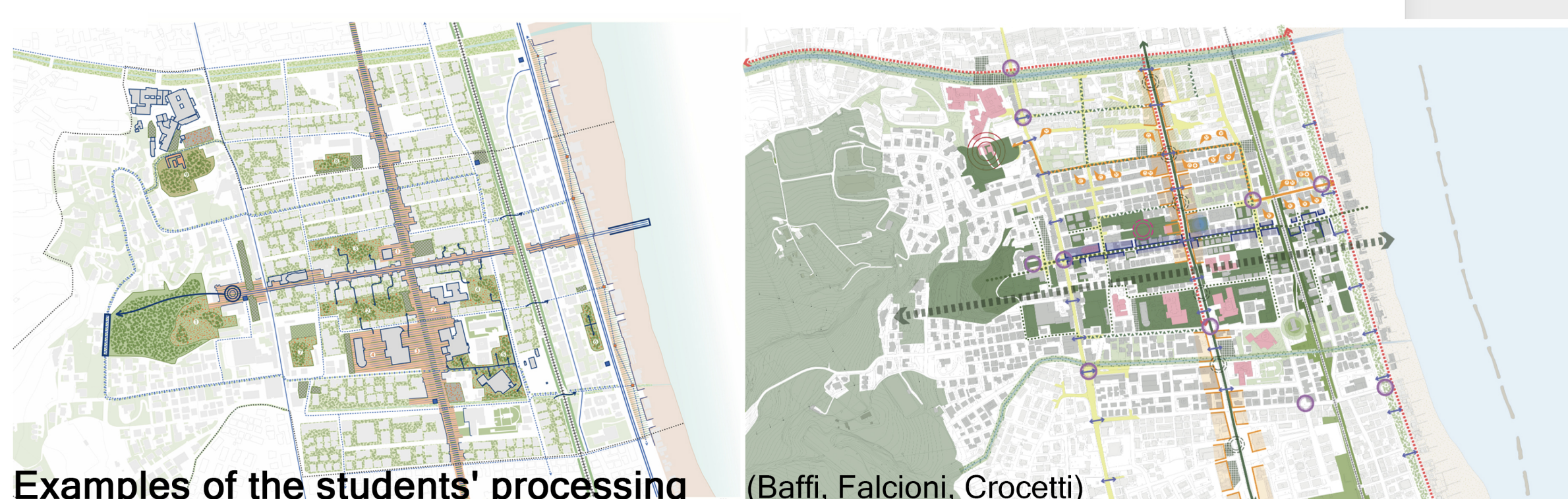
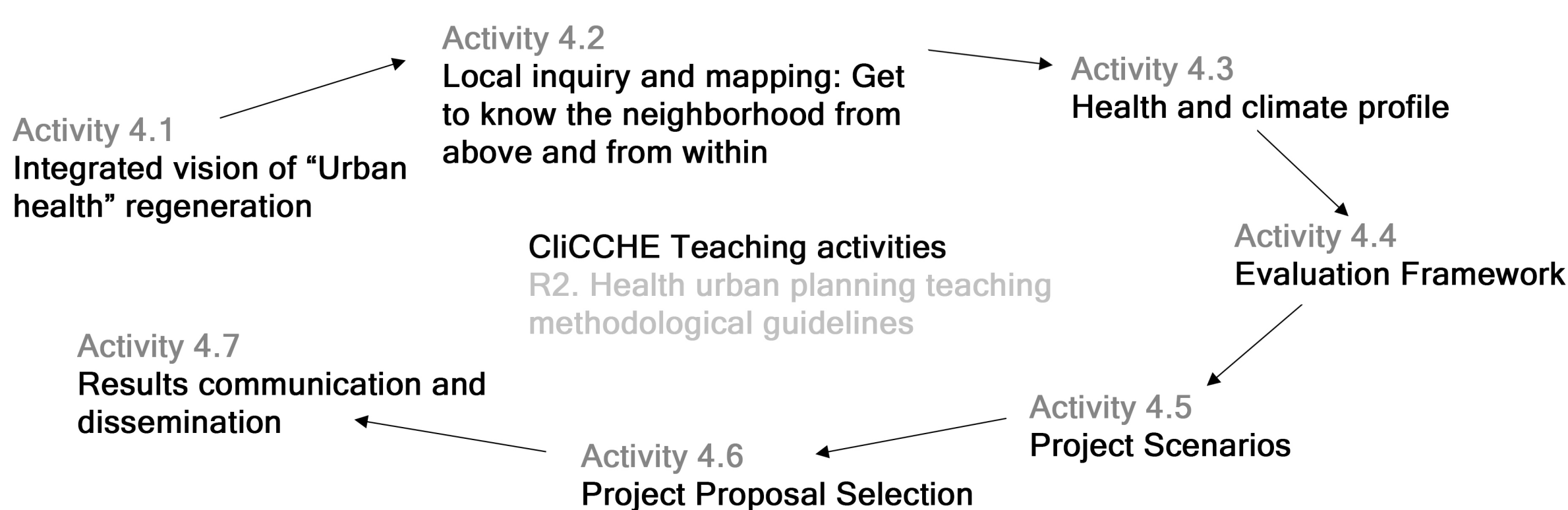


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The concept of “urban health” and the role of urban design in the promotion of quality living spaces in cities are highly debated on a scientific level, but have not yet been effectively introduced into university education. A gap between education, scientific research and professional practice hinders the achievement of a seamless cooperation among the different stakeholders involved in the urban regeneration of our cities. The CLICCHE Erasmus+ project, January 2022 - December 2023 (Climate Change, Cities, Communities and Equity in Health), involved 5 European partners and aimed to implement a joint European initiative facilitating collaboration between the world of higher education, with the contribution of numerous disciplines dealing in different ways with climate change adaptation and urban health, with citizens, local stakeholders, professionals and public administrations.

The aim was to develop an integrated transdisciplinary educational methodology capable of generating, with the contribution of different key actors, urban regeneration proposals in order to facilitate processes of social innovation and co-production of knowledge in European cities. CLICCHE shared educational methodology and its toolkit have been tested through specific training courses, involving university students, public administrations, local communities and stakeholders, in order to increase their knowledge and awareness of climate change and its impacts, and to identify the needs for urban regeneration that respect the environment and human health. CLICCHE attempted to work on a large and international scale by bringing together knowledge that stems from European institutions that work on different issues but jointly identify highly site-specific methodologies.

The construction of this working method can be useful for universities to innovate their educational models, for local administrations to generate more inclusive and sustainable planning and design tools, also from a social, environmental, and cultural point of view, for citizens to raise public awareness on the effects of climate change on health in the urban context.



Methodological workflow

The main steps of the proposed methodological workflow are: Conducting research on climate change adaptation strategies to mitigate human health impact in urban areas (R1); - Developing a transdisciplinary methodological framework for curriculum design (R2), discussed in a training course for teachers and researchers (C1) and presented to the relevant committees of the consortium's educational institutions. Development of an educational tool for sound urban planning and urban participation (R3); - Testing and further development of R2 and R3 during a series of workshops with students, partner cities and local communities, and final testing as part of a joint intensive course (C2) involving 20 students; - Development of guidelines on climate change adaptation-orientate health practices in urban planning (R4), aimed at scientifically assessing the impact of planning practices on human health and identifying, within the methodology, how to integrate health issues into teaching practices in urban planning and design;



San Benedetto del Tronto Sant'Antonio UNICAM April- May, 2023
Urban Health Strovolos, Nicosia The Cyprus Institute April- May, 2023
How to make healthier cities Alvalade District, Lisbon ISCTE April- May, 2023
City of Valjevo UB April- May, 2023

Local Workshops

April- May 2023

The educational activities, inspired by the R2 Methodological Guidelines and R3 Educational Toolkit, were implemented in four local workshops involving 190 students, 41 citizens, 29 stakeholders, 52 teachers, and discussed in 1 intensive course for students and teachers. Each participating university organized the local workshop, in the Project member cities, San Benedetto del Tronto (UNICAM), Strovolos (The Cyprus Institute), Alvalade District Lisbon (ISCTE), Valjevo (UB), with the direct engagement of the local communities and stakeholders. CLICCHE's experience has yielded confirmation of the efficacy of innovating university curricula on climate adaptation.

This approach has been demonstrated to enhance students' awareness, facilitate their comprehension of future scenarios, and motivate them to engage in action through place-based learning and problem-solving. To this end, CLICCHE developed an interdisciplinary and knowledge co-production training course that integrated research and participatory analysis. This approach facilitated an examination of the nexus between academic methods, local knowledge, and place management practices. This enabled an understanding of the cultural and social determinants of climate change and the monitoring and addressing of the challenges of the areas under study. The urban regeneration solutions that have thus been designed arise from a collective and collaborative action that requires the stimulation of diverse and unconventional tools capable of transcending disciplinary boundaries, overcoming persistent difficulties and resistance, and encouraging students to identify and describe problems and potential solutions for climate change adaptation and health in cities, thereby facilitating a true integration of approaches and ideas.