

CARISMED

Capitalisation for Re-setting Innovation and Sustainability in MED-Cities

SECOND NEWSLETTER: The Carismed Project News, 2023



Dear readers and friends of CARISMED project,

I am pleased to introduce to you the Second Newsletter presenting Carismed project activities during the second quarter of the project implementation (June- November, 2022). During the second quarter of the project, the project held its first conference in Palermo and we do hope the report of this conference to be available at the project's website and social media. Furthermore, The Steering Committee organized its first meeting in Athens - Greece during June, 2022 and the second meeting Palermo/Italy at the end of November, 2022. Both SC meetings discussed, evaluated and modified the achieved results and made the necessary recommendations for improvement and further implementation of the project's activities. Partners worked on preparing the Urban Policy for Med-Cities through drafting an Urban Context Report based on a desk assessment of relevant past and ongoing projects. Then, in addition to a scenario analysis, an uptake strategy has been developed, and lead to the creation of a diagnostic map of degraded and underutilized buildings and areas in MED Cities, as well as the preparation of the essential baseline policy report. In addition, the partners concentrated on SMEs clustering roadmaps and capacity building, development of a Strategic framework among CCI SMEs clusters at cross-border level (EUMC/MPC), which will be used for drafting of guidelines for training activities on targeted topics, preparation of training material & selection of experts /Awareness & training activities LCARS and writingguidelines for cross-border cooperation networks. Meanwhile, Work-package (5) launched activities to deliver consolidation workshops between key stakeholders and CCI SMEs cluster members, to produce MoUs enabling and engaging all interested parties and to Implement the LCARS Strategy in buildings/areas per participating city concentrating on green & smart tools. This second newsletter is now available on the project website and other sources of social media; it will introduce you to the work-packages activities and outcomes providing a brief summary of each partner achievements. I wish this addition to be a well-brought-up opportunity to inform you about the project's progress.

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FIRST YEAR CONFERENCE
Capitalisation for
Re-setting Innovation and Sustainability
in MED-Cities (CARISMED) Project

Palermo, Italy

Date: 28th of November, 2022

Time: 9:30 - 13:00 | 16:30 - 19:00

Venue: NOZ - Nuove Officine Zisa

Pav. 20 - Cantieri Culturali alla Zisa

CARISMED CONFERENCE

On November 28 th 2022, CARISMED project's first conference was held at the Cantieri Culturali alla Zisa (NOZ) in Palermo, Italy. The conference was an opportunity to discuss circular economy in terms of the Low Cost Adaptive Reuse practices (LCARS). Salvatore Capasso from CNR ISMed delivered the opening words and clarified what is Institute for Studies on the Mediterranean (ISMed), whom is it composed of and the disciplines that are treated. He was followed by Alessandro La Grassa from CRESM whom in his turn confirmed that the Conference aims to present the results achieved so far by the different partners based on the capitalisation of previously accomplished or ongoing projects, Activities in Palermo and the inclusion of the immigrant community. Also, he clarified how CRESM was evolved , what it is and how it works. The opening was topped up by a speech from Shadi Ghadban from Birzeit University who clarified the project components and achievements since it started and the expected deadline, all participating members and organizations. The focus of the project and the specific objectives, synergies and work packages.

CARISMED is a project about capitalization and the first thing that was presented was previous experiences, in particular, MAIA-TAQA, INNOMED-UP and SME4SMARTCITIES projects where presentations were given in order to share knowledge concerning methodologies, tools and developed experiences. Subsequently, the activities of the CARISMED project were discussed to present the specific methodology developed to promote circular economy within the eco-Renovation of buildings. The afternoon session revolved around the topic of circular economy from a theoretical point of view, thanks to the speeches of Prof. Distefano from the University of Florence and Prof. ssa Germana from the University of Palermo. The theoretical approach was followed by several SME representatives from all countries involved in the project, they described their business, their approach to the circular economy as well as best practice techniques. Several moments of conviviality and open discussions among those present initiated a rich exchange of views where public participation both in presence and at a distance was engaged, excellent feedback from the companies involved was given which encouraged participants towards the continuation of the project.

CARISMED INTRODUCTORY MEETINGS

• Birzeit University BZU CARISMED team as the lead beneficiary, held an introductory meeting at Hebron Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Hebron City on the 4th of August in 2022, the project team met the main stockholders from the city and the governorate. The aim of this meeting was to introduce the CARISMED project, its objectives, goals, methodology and synergies with other projects, target Groups and final beneficiaries, project partners and project work-packages. The meeting also discussed the expected roles of each stakeholder and their contribution in the project's future activities.

 BZU, Hebron, Palestine



Introductory meeting, Hebron

CARISMED INTRODUCTORY MEETINGS

During the first year of the program the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) managed to complete the following activities:

- The first was drafting the Consolidated Methodological Framework and data collection for the city of Athens. The compilation of the report for the city of Athens and the preparation of the data collection framework for the participating cities was the main activity of the National Technical University of Athens during the first year of the project. In order to collect data for the case of Athens and to select specific pilot cases, we organized a briefing with the Athens Stakeholders Advisory Group on 16th September 2022, which was held in cooperation with CRES and with the participation of Euthymios Akogiannis (General Secretary of Spatial Planning and Urban Environment of the Greek, Ministry of Environment and Energy), Dimitris Xynomilakis (President of the Panhellenic Association of Greek Architects- SADAS-PEA) and Polychronis Akritidis (Managing Director of Athens Anaplasia SA).

 NTUA, Athens, Greece



Introductory meeting, Athens

- The members of SAG met with the partners to discuss issues concerning targeted interventions related to CCI SMEs located in the center of Athens. During the meeting general guidelines concerning the areas and types of interventions were discussed along with the documentation of existing good practices and processes and procedures in relation to the built (urban) environment and circular economy upcycling.
- The meeting with the Stakeholders Advisory Group and the questionnaire feedback we received supported the synthesis of the report for the case of Athens, which was prepared by the National Technical University of Athens and CRES. Approaching the case of Athens, this report, initiates describing the existing policies both at national, regional, and local levels regarding Circularity as well as explaining further concepts and good practices, which promotes the idea of Circular Economy over different scales of interest.

- The planning policies for the urban development and the built environment, listed the legislative framework and the operational and strategic axis which include and promote sustainability, low environmental footprint and energy upgrade of buildings and infrastructure towards the reduction of CO₂ emissions.
- The cultural heritage of Athens is highlighted in the Modern Movement building typology of 'polykatoikia', as an architecture system of massive extension all over Greece which formed the urban landscape of the Greek cities, besides the wide installment of antiquities and neoclassic infrastructures.

CARISMED LCARS WORKSHOP, HEBRON

A workshop where the needs for capacity building of craftsmen to promote innovative methodologies for readapting the working environment in the cities of the Mediterranean to cooperate current and future SMEs was held. The workshop included many lectures conducted by experts in the fields of innovation, sustainability, circular economy, and environmental design in relation to “Low-Cost Adaptive Re-use” LCARS in Palestine, as well as an extension discussion on green buildings Low-Cost Adaptive Re-Use Practice. This workshop was attended by a number of representatives from stakeholder institutions and SMEs from small and medium enterprises.

📍 BZU, Hebron, Palestine



Low-Cost Adaptive Re-Use Practices workshop activities, Athens

CARISMED LCARS WORKSHOP, ATHENS

Discussing the Pilot case for LCARS methodology, the center of Athens was proposed as the general context of possible interventions. Psirri, Kypseli, Eksarxeia, Kolonos, and Lamprini are some of the Athenian neighborhoods where a significant amount of vacant, abandoned, and unused building stock is situated, a fact that renders them an emerging case of interest. The historic center of Athens hosts an important phenomenon, engaging a dynamic number of SMEs occupied on creative and artistic professions. This case is extensively described in the INNOMED-UP project, where the pilot cluster of CCI SMEs is consider significant to the promotion of upcycling, circularity, and urban revitalization.

📍 NTUA, Athens, Greece



CARISMED LCARS WORKSHOP, IRBID

The SMEs showed a lot of interest in partaking in the new CARISMED project and attended the Low Cost Adaptive Reuse practices (LCARS) training, where they welcomed the idea of re-using two buildings; one in the city center and the other in the ancient touristic area in order to facilitate the marketing of their products as the majority of them have a home based business.

Future Pioneers for Empowering communities (FPEC) conducted a mapping exercise to identify suitable public building locations that could be used for rehabilitating one or two rooms, while applying LCARS measures, which would be implemented by youth and local SMEs. This idea was enthusiastically endorsed by the SMEs, as it would become an actual live example for the application of LCARS measures as well as provide a friendly work space for them.

📍 FPEC, Irbid, Jordan



CARISMED LCARS WORKSHOP, PALERMO

In 2022, Centre for Social and Economic Research (CRSEM) we were pleased to welcome to Palermo a volunteer under the Interreg Volunteer Youth initiative. Thanks to her enthusiasm, we have been able to produce two videos (one in Italian and one in English) presenting the CARISMED project to SMEs, explaining the goals and activities they can partake in. In the last days of 2022 we started to structure the next training activities on the Low-Cost Adaptive Reuse Strategy (LCARS).

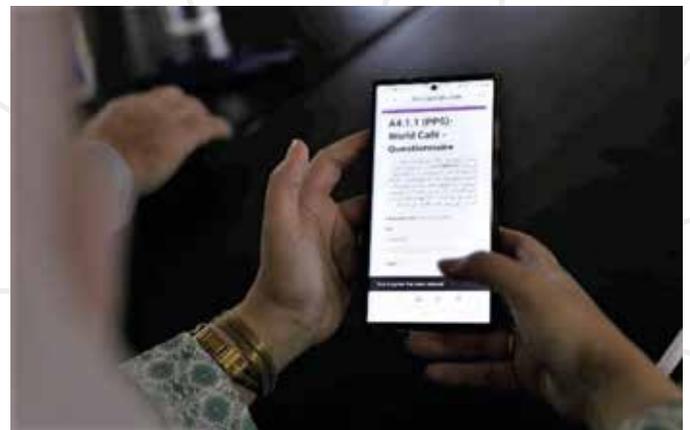


CRSEM, Palermo, Italy

WORLD CAFÉ WORKSHOP OPENING, HEBRON

On November 6 2022, BZU CARISMED team held another workshop in Hebron, focusing on the research methodology known as the "World Café". The workshop has been entitled: "SME's clustering roadmaps and capacity building" and aimed at deeping the understanding of the reality related to clusters of micro, small and medium enterprises operating in the current field of creative and heritage industries, innovation, sustainability and circular economy, in order to develop a strategic framework to improve this reality and to build the capacities of the framework members, in addition to extrapolate the extent and depth of the participants' regarding understanding of smart practices, sustainable and environmentally friendly concepts and practices.

BZU, Hebron, Palestine



Several craftsmen from various fields participated in the workshop, in addition to sufficient number of representatives from partner institutions and stakeholders.



WORLD CAFÉ WORKSHOP OPENING, ATHENS

The second activity was the Athens World Café, on the 22nd of November, 2022, the School of Architecture at the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) and the Centre for Renewable Energy Resources and Saving (CRES), implemented in form of a workshop a “world café”, entitled: “SME’S clustering roadmaps and capacity building”, as part of the activities under the CARISMED project. The workshop aimed to collect data from SMEs working in the cultural and creative sectors on their networking methods and the integration of smart and sustainable practices in their operation and production. The collection of this data will form the basis of a framework for action to support and educate enterprises on sustainable practices. The workshop was attended by representatives of small and medium architectural firms, which was the sector selected by the Athens partners for the needs of the project, holding an open discussion with the participation of all parties involved in the NTUA and CRES research teams. The results and conclusions of this workshop will be synthesized in drafting a training plan for the participating firms and their employees, with an emphasis on clustering, networking, and sustainable practices as factors to enforce CCI SMEs against the challenges posed in environments of multiple crises.

📍 NTUA, Athens, Greece



📍 CEEIM, Murcia, Spain

WORLD CAFÉ WORKSHOP OPENING, MURCIA

On the 14th of October, the EU Business Innovation Center of Murcia in the South-East of Spain (CEEIM) organized a World Café workshop as part of the ENI CBC MED CARISMED project activities with some actors involved in the cultural and creative industries. The participants were invited to reflect on ways of Fostering sustainability and smart solutions in urban environments following guidelines for CCI SMEs clusters in Med-cities developed by CNR-ISmed (Italy). This activity is aligned with the project objective to promote the exchanges between SMEs in the Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI) sector in each participating Mediterranean city to foster sustainability practices in urban environments. The workshop consisted of participants from for-profit and non-profit entities. It was structured following the world café methodology, with 3 rounds of conversation addressing different topics; Networking and clustering, Circular, smart, green and/or sustainable practices and Proximity and spatial re-use.

As main conclusions, the participants underlined the importance of cooperation and collaboration with entities with similar values to mutualize resources, especially in urban environment. Training and awareness activities are also of great importance for the SMEs in order to improve their capacities to implement and consolidate sustainability and circularity in their practices as well as to measure the impact.



WORLD CAFÉ WORKSHOP OPENING, ATHENS

In 2022, the capitalization activities carried out with the CARISMED's project mobilized ISMed-CNR on several fronts. Activities started in early 2022 initially focused on the creation of the working group. The goal was to involve as many colleagues as possible, with different professionalisms to reach a greater dissemination of the activities to be capitalized. Among the different activities planned in the project, our main responsibility was to coordinate the activities of WP4 "CCIs SMEs clusters assessment", the first activity carried out and already completed was "the identification of clusters". We developed this activity through the well-known "Work Café" methodology that took place with all the countries involved in the CARISMED project. The activity has been important for the capitalization process, it allowed us to understand the level of knowledge, skills and attitudes of clusters towards smart, green and innovation techniques in the SME's daily work.

WORLD CAFÉ WORKSHOP OPENING, TUNIS

As part of the CARISMED project, Collectif Creatif organized collaborative World Café style workshops, with active participation of Medina community members, civil society and local private sector actors, to reflect on the urban Medina richness, and how the integration of circular economy, urban innovation could contribute to Medina's resilience. The workshops' main purpose was to raise awareness around the evolution of urban development especially related to urban repurposing, and designing of LCARS solutions within the historical urban quarters. The workshops also capitalize on previous urban surveys results and mappings.



Ismed, Palermo, Italy



This assessment led to the development of a specific training framework. We were also in charge of organizing the First Year conference of the CARISMED project. It took place in Palermo, Italy on the 28th of November 2022. It brought together all Project partners and a number of external guests. The projects to be capitalized, the different methodologies used and the first results of CARISMED have been presented and discussed. Several SMEs shared their experiences and had the opportunity to discuss the potential advantages of the CARISMED project in their work.

Collectif Créatif, Tunis, Tunisia





WORLD CAFÉ WORKSHOP OPENING, IRBID

 FPEC, Irbid, Jordan

Future Pioneers invited the SMEs that were trained and are active grantees under the INNOME-UP project to be part of this event which was held on November 6th, 2022 from 10:30am till 12:15pm at the information point premises that was established through the INNOMED-UP project located in Irbid, Jordan.

Thirteen participants showed their interest to take part in this experience, they all attended the event. The participants were divided into three tables with 4-5 participants per table where a facilitator per table managed one of the three focus areas, which are:

1. Networking and Clustering
2. Circular, Smart, Green and/or Sustainable Practices
3. Proximity & Spatial Re-Use



The SMEs demonstrated considerable knowledge regarding waste management, circular economy and innovation as they were part of INNOME-UP's extensive training program. They are part of two clusters, that were established through distributing the smart bins and bicycles that gather and then distribute the recyclables based on the material and type of product.

SAMPLE OF ABANDONED BUILDINGS, HEBRON

Both workshops were accompanied with significant in-depth discussion and recommendations by stakeholders and SME's. Based on the results of the two workshops, it's expected of BZU to organize a developmental training plan for workers in this sector aiming at developing their capabilities and advancing their performance of the clusters to overcome the problems they are facing today. In the next stage of the project's implementation, an abandoned building will be selected and adapted to the principles of LCARS (Studio lab), through involving craftsmen in the design and production of its interior furniture by providing its components based on circular economy.

📍 BZU, Hebron, Palestine



📍 CRES, Greece



SAMPLE OF ABANDONED BUILDINGS, ATHENS

The cultural heritage of Athens is highlighted in the Modern Movement building typology of "polykatoikia", as an architecture system of massive extension all over Greece which formed the urban landscape of the Greek cities, besides the wide installment of antiquities and neoclassic infrastructures. The historic center of Athens hosts an important phenomenon, engaging a dynamic number of SMEs occupied on creative and artistic professions. This case is extensively described in the INNOMED-UP project, where the pilot cluster of CCI SMEs is consider significant to the promotion of upcycling, circularity, and urban revitalization. Finally, discussing the Pilot case for LCARs methodology, the center of Athens was proposed as the general context of possible interventions. Psirri, Kypseli, Eksarxeia, Kolonos, and Lamprini are some of the Athenian neighborhoods where a significant amount of vacant, abandoned, and unused building stock is situated, a fact that renders them an emerging case of interest.

SAMPLE OF ABANDONED BUILDINGS, TUNIS

📍 PP6, Collectif Créatif, Tunis, Tunisia

Past data collection was used as basis for collective brainstorming on how the existing urban reality, could be capitalized for innovative urban development. During the workshops, the complex relationships between the architectural, the political, the real estate policies and the legislative context, were also discussed, and integrated in the designed solutions to ensure achievable objectives. Three workshops were conducted; the first was related to the use of collapsed abandoned historical buildings, the second focused on underused spaces such as basements, rooftops and courtyards and the final workshop focused on historical Madrassas, all underused public buildings. Finally, a round table discussion, was planned to present all outcomes from all workshops, and gather feedback, for a general report, which will be the basis for future project activity design.



📍 PP4, CRES, Palermo, Italy

CRES and as part of its contribution to CARISMED project, it developed a detailed report "Desk review & Uptake Strategy of ongoing projects" which includes:

- Innovative policy instruments improving sustainability in urban environment in the Mediterranean.
 - Training events, focused on sustainability in the built environment, circular economy, innovation and smart tools.
 - Innovative and user-friendly technical tools regarding the improvement of sustainability in the urban environment and cost-effective solutions for the refurbishment of buildings in Mediterranean cities.
- This report has contributed to the "Built-environment Situation analysis and Diagnostic mapping of degraded & unused buildings in Mediterranean Cities", which includes an even more detailed study about the legal



**Wastewater
Treatment**



**Building-Integrated
Photovoltaics
(BIPV)**



**Solar Thermal
Facility**



Microgrids