

# Re-NEWed Spaces

ERASMUS+ TRAINING COURSE

*Reclaiming abandoned public  
spaces and making them into  
areas for young people*

## The Manual

17. – 24.10.2019

Maiori, Amalfi Coast

Città di  
**MAIORI**  
*Costa d'Amalfi*



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union





# Content

## *Re-NEWed Spaces*

Welcome and introduction to the topic, the project of Re-NEWed Spaces and this tool	P. 3
Public spaces	P. 4
Mobilizing youth	P. 7
Actors involved in public spaces	P. 9
Taking initiative – a step-wise guide	P.10
Taking initiative – tips and tricks	P.15
Best case practices	P.16
Pictures of the project	P.23





# WELCOME to

## *Re-NEWed Spaces*

***Do you often think about transforming those unused places that you come across while walking around your city?***

***Do you have creative ideas for these places that would benefit your community and transform the image of your city?***

Starting a movement for the betterment of a community may be intimidating at the beginning. Perhaps by sharing our experience, we might help you take the right step. During the ERASMUS+ project “Re-NEWed SPACES” held in Maiori, Amalfi coast we talked about abandoned spaces.

<https://youtu.be/GYYZ41JEPGI>

Re-Newed Space  
Maiori – Amalfi  
Coast

17.10.2019 – 24.10.2019



# Public spaces

*Abandoned or commonly abandoned*

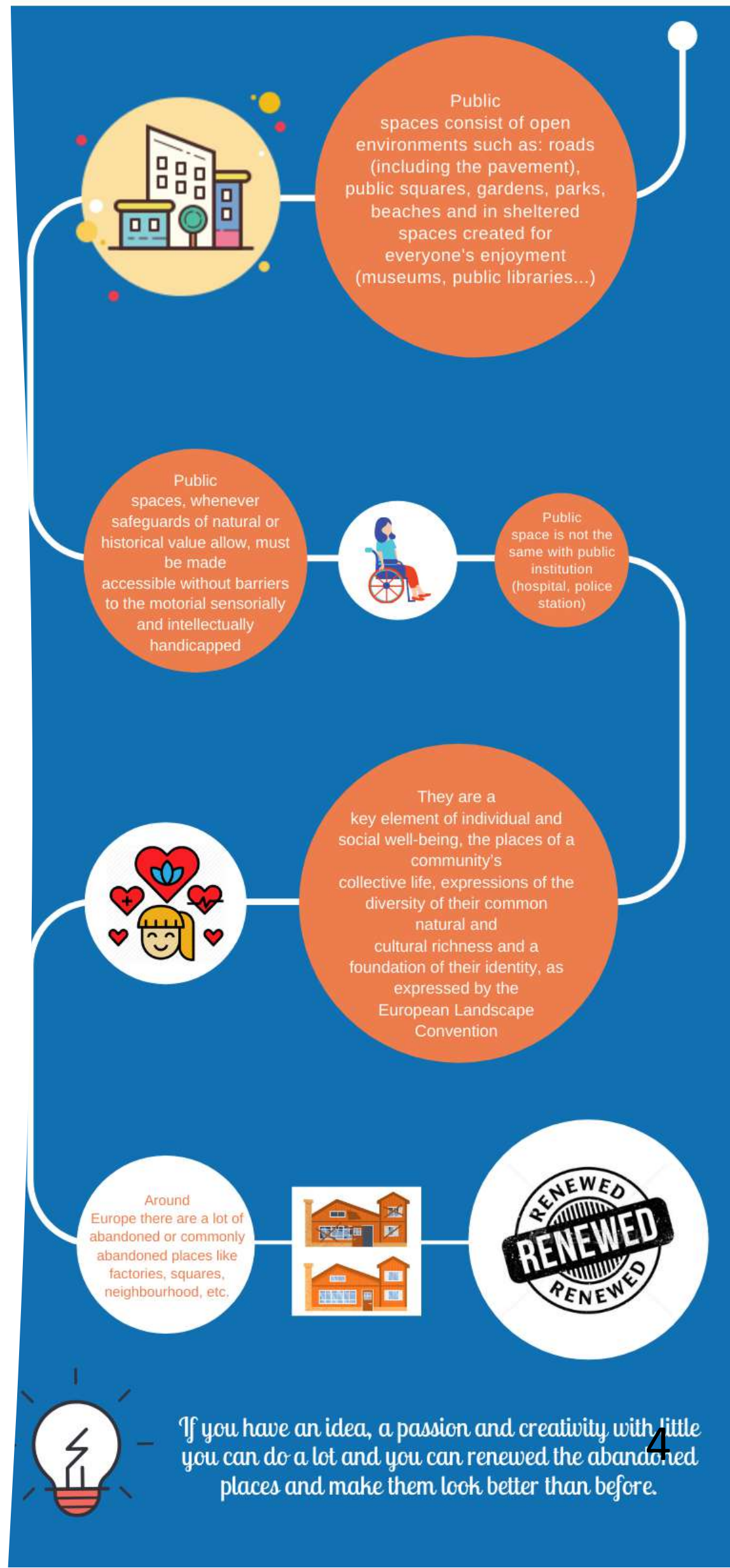
*"Public spaces are all places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive." (Biennale spazio public 2013)*

“

***Public Spaces are all places publicly owned or of public use. They are accessible and enjoyable for free and without a profit motive. Each public space has its own special, historic, environmental, social & economic features.***

- Charter of public Space, Istituto Nazionale di Urbanistica (INU), 2013

”



# Importance of public spaces

## INTRODUCTION

The importance of public spaces lies in their ability to improve the quality of life, providing opportunities to all the members of a community.

They can have a positive impact on the community by regenerating it and providing benefits to its members.

This impact has three basic aspects: social, cultural and environmental.

## CULTURAL

Local events, activities, music and art, markets  
Enable people to exchange ideas, knowledge, or political opinion.

Examples: Parks, markets, open space theatre and art, craft, historical places and squares, traditional cultural or religious events, political expression – such as through demonstrations, etc.

## ENVIRONMENTAL

Improving the quality of life being sustainable and accessible

Air quality, recreational benefit, temperature balance effects in summer, practicing agriculture, saving biodiversity

Examples: Gardens, parks, green streets, ponds, community gardens

## SOCIAL

Social inclusion, social interaction, cohesion, social networks, sense of belonging, playgrounds for children, sport activities, place to meet

Employability, giving the opportunity to create social entrepreneurship

Examples: Parks, playgrounds, squares, chess groups, jogging meetings, streets with meeting points, play/living streets



# Importance of public spaces

A public space in order to fulfill its functions needs to be open and accessible. Historically, the marketplaces in ancient Rome were important public spaces – spaces to meet, discuss, exchange opinions and goods or just gossip. Therefore, public spaces are different from public institutions.

Public spaces also serve important social, cultural, economical, environmental and political functions.

There are a lot of abandoned places around Europe and that if you have an idea, a passion and creativity, with little you can do a lot and you can re-new the abandoned places and make them look really better than before.





# NEEDS AND ENGAGEMENT OF THE YOUTH

As a youth worker, you should be aware of the needs and engagement of the youth. This section aims to educate you on how to engage the youth by understanding their particular needs.

We have categorised the needs by age groups as well as the social, cultural and environmental needs that they may have.

Please find below a detailed guide to the relevant age groups.

You must take into consideration many different factors, not only age groups but also that vulnerable groups [minorities, youth with disabilities, migrants/refugees, youngsters who left school early, single parent, youngsters with addictions.] need to be catered for. You should understand that it is not easy to get the youths attention you can use a variety of different tools. You can put up posters around schools/in classrooms, in community centres, in local billboards, in newspaper sections, you can also print the poster out in a small form so that you can hand them out as leaflets/flyers at events that attract the youth. On the second page you can find an example of a poster/leaflet/flyer.

The youth have different needs according to their age groups and social environment. We should try to get the different age groups to mix and learn from each other e.g creative and practical solutions.

## Age 5 – 10 years old,

This age group will be dependent upon their parents to take them to public spaces and most often they will visit and use the park with or without swings and slides. Some children with disabilities may not be able to use their local park because it is unsafe/damaged.

## Age 10 – 15 years old,

This age group begins to become independent from their parents. They often walk to and from school alone or with friends and so they may want to hang out with their friends after school. They need a place where they can gather, complete homework, play games.

## Age 16 – 20 years old,

This age group includes people who are most often completely independent. They may need public spaces for activities that give them a sense of autonomy e.g separate to their parents/siblings. They will want to meet with friends, socialise, develop any interests/hobbies/sports, maybe read/study.

## Age 21+

This is a very big age group, we can call their needs mature needs. They may need public spaces for meetings, cultural expressions, political gatherings, community events, exhibitions. They may also use the spaces purely for recreational purposes e.g walking the dog, enjoying the view, sports.

**SOCIAL needs:** To allow mixing of age groups and social groups e.g foreigners with locals; the old and the young.

**CULTURAL needs:** Theatre, cinema, pantomimes, cultural expressions, historical exhibitions, artistic exhibitions.

**ENVIRONMENTAL needs:** A clean green space, a space with fresh air e.g trees/greenery. There maybe a need for solar powered energy e.g lights.



# ABANDONED PUBLIC SPACES! WHERE SHALL WE GO?

**LET'S MOVE TOGETHER!**



**THE YOUTH NEED A PLACE TO HANG OUT  
FROM OPEN GROUNDS FOR CRICKET AND  
FOOTBALL TO BENCHES IN THE COMMUNITY OR  
QUIET SPOTS FOR MEET UPS!**



**THE YOUTH ARE THE FUTURE! LET US WORK  
TOGETHER TO RENEW AND RENOVATE OUR  
COMMUNITIES SO WE FEEL MORE AT HOME  
IN OUR HOME TOWNS!**

**Do you know of any abandoned public spaces that could be put to good use? Or dim and hazardous locations that could easily be improved?**

**If so, then get involved!!**

**We are surrounded by abandoned public spaces, areas with so much potential. All we need is motivation, passion, initiative and a little bit of imagination to transform these places from cold, unusable areas to bright and beautiful public spaces!**





# Social Actors needed when YOUTh wish to Re-New Abbandoned Public Spaces

## Youth groups

The youth have their NEEDS as well as RIGHTS to have ACCESS to the public spaces

**when they wish to Re-New them**



## Public Authorities

The Public Authorities - MUNICIPALITIES, LOCAL AUTHORITIES ect. have the responsibility to ENSURE the youth access to the abandoned public spaces



Donators, Social Responsible Companies Funding programs,

They provide financing support for the transformation of the youth IDEAS to PRACTICE



SOCIAL ACTOR

01



## Youth Organisations

They assist and facilitate the youth groups to identify their own needs and to develop their ideas how to transform the abandoned public spaces into safe youth environment

02

SOCIAL ACTOR

03



Social entrepreneurs

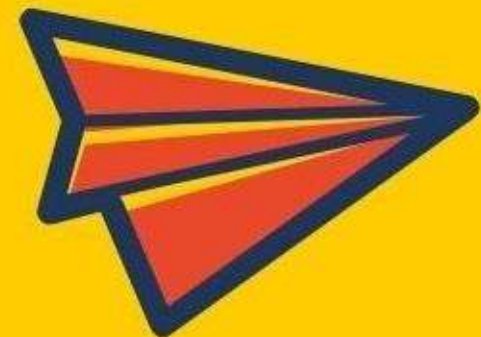
Assist the youth groups and youth workers to put into practice their ideas.

04

SOCIAL ACTOR

05

SOCIAL ACTOR



**I want to get active.**

- Who is involved, who can support, who are colleagues and peers?
- Who do I HAVE to contact or notify?

**Be sure to be well aware of the institutions responsible and the people already involved, to make sure that you really can act or to find synergies. And always keep your personal motivation!**



# Taking initiative

## A manual for successfull renewing and retaking of public abandoned spaces

### Motto:

“

„If you plan cities for cars and traffic, you will get cars and traffic. If you plan for people and places, you will get people and places.“

”

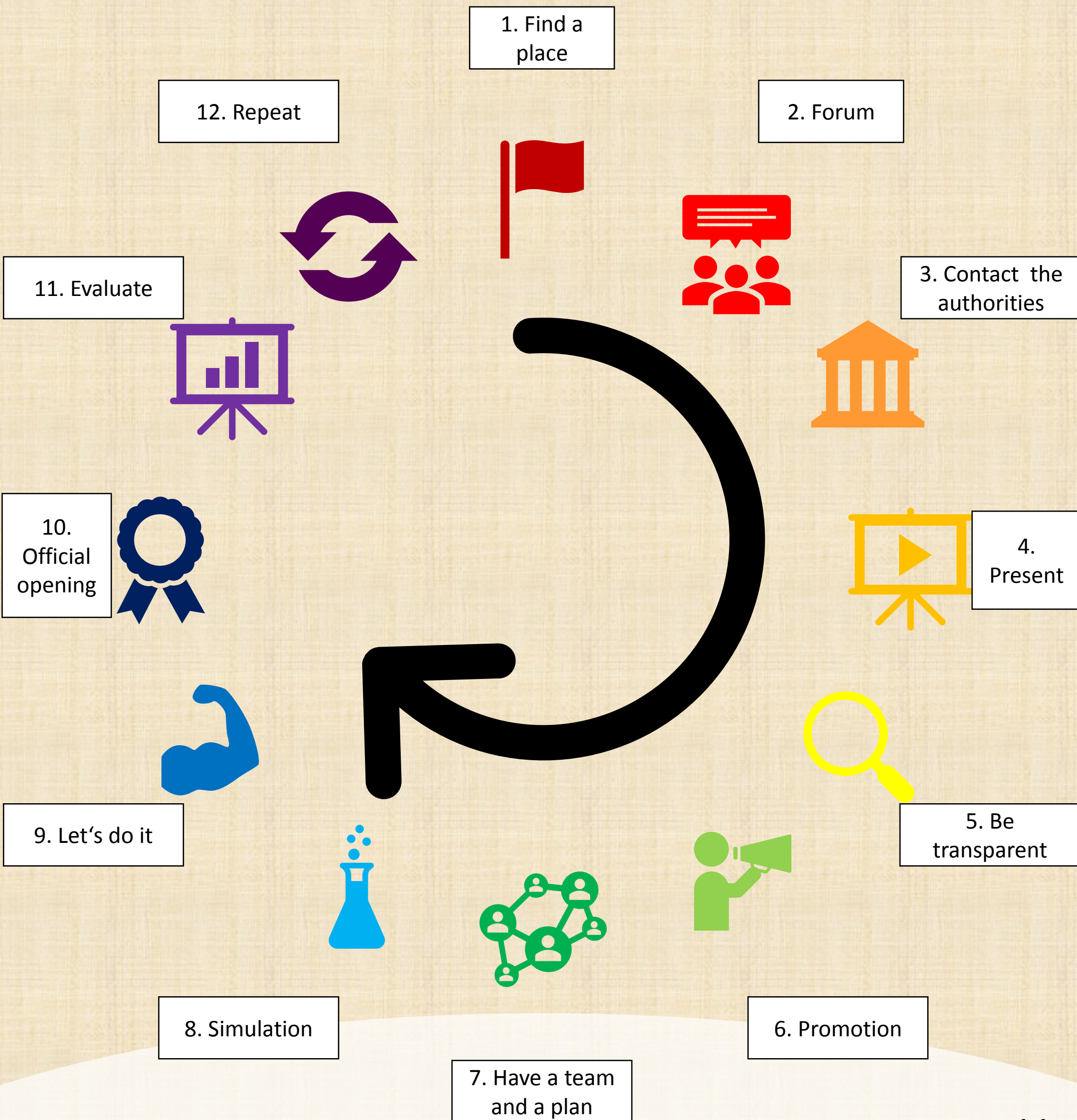
**Social mission of the project.** This project is meant to facilitate the renewing the abonded spaces and create the dynamic within the community. On one hand, it allows to revitalize the abonded spaces, on the other hand, it includes participants into the the socially meaningfull activities. It contributes active and responsible citizenships of members of community and instills them with the sense of owership of the place, though it significantly shows the needs of the commmunity period. Therefore members of the community can address the issues collectively and participate in common actions to improve the living standards of

the community. Moreover, the participation in such events contributes to the personal development of whose engage and it creates positive social changes.

Furthermore, the initiative is intended to link urban development to social development; promote community organization and participation; increase community safety and prevent antisocial activity; and help strengthen the sense of community belonging, social cohesion, and equitable relationships among genders.



# Taking initiative





## 1. Find the places that needs renewing!

Think about all the different ways we get around our community - streets, sidewalks, greenways and waterways. Ask yourself what would make it easier, safer or more fun to use.

Public spaces are complex, organic things. You can't expect to do everything right initially. The best spaces evolve by experimenting with short-term improvements that can be tested and refined over many years. Places to sit, a sidewalk café, a community event, a garden, painted crosswalks are all examples of "Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper" (<https://www.pps.org/article/lighter-quicker-cheaper>) changes that capitalize on the creative energy of the community to efficiently generate new uses and revenue for places in transition. If one thing doesn't work, try something else. If you have a success, build on it.

- Ask first the friends, family, your environment abandoned spaces in surroundings,
- If you founded the place, search about the places backbround, history.
- If you found the places,
- Define why it is important for this target group (see the paragraph Social, Cultural, Enviromental Importance of the Public Spaces)
- Define how it will differ from the other

spaces, find the unique points of your plan



## 2. Forum

Make a presentation about the abandoned places, open minds and start the brainstorming

Organize a forum/brainstorming with locals (Youth Asociations and other NGOs, students, schools, local government, and companys which can contribute to the project with goods, echipment, etc.) (see the paragraph Needs and Engagement of Youth)

define the target group of this public places. Example: age between 10-17 years or children.



## 3. Contact the authorities!

- City hall, police department, local NGO-s, owner, etc.,
- Ask official permission,
- Ask support, budget.
- Look for the finacial support (project calls)





## 4. The presentation of the project

When you contact the authorities and possible supporters, you have to present your idea in the way it will convince them about the necessity of renewal.

How to make a presentation?

- It should be as short as possible containing the following:
  - Emotional impact: good presentation contains graphics, images, facts in a way that they are easy to remember. Try to be motivating, bring the audience members to the point where they want to „buy” your idea
  - INFORMATION – put into the presentation all the information relevant and connected to the chosen place: history, opportunities, info about the neighbours, locals' opinions etc.
  - Tell your story – tell to the audience what is your personal connection to the place you want to renew. The private emotional stories take the audience to an emotional journey that creates a reason to decide right here, right now (permission and financial support, help)



## 5. Be transparent!

- Inform people about the plan, supporters, schedule,
- Free access to everything.
- If community knows the details of your plan, they can choose a part from that:  
example: If you need to build something, you can invite a mason to

supervise the volunteers' work.



## 6. Promotion!

- Offline: articles and interviews with the actor, teaser events including the press conference, first steps off the activity plan, etc.,
- Online: Official pages on social media platforms, co-host the events, partners



## 7. Have a team and a plan!

The starting point in developing a concept for any public space agenda should be to identify the talents and resources within the community -- people who can provide historical perspective, insights into how the area functions, and an understanding of what is truly meaningful to the local people. Tapping this information at the beginning of the process will help to create a sense of ownership in the project that can ensure its success for years to come.

- Make the board, subgroups, responsible for each action group.
- Important competences/skills which determine the success of the project: passion, clear vision, commitment, creativity, critical thinking, empathy, persistence, communication skills, courage, gut feeling, taking risks
- Calculation connected with equipment, time and other resources that you need.
- Clear instructions, make sure that everybody knows the tasks





## 8. Simulation

- Simulation is the important social interactions' tool for a work with the youngsters. The simulation gives them the understanding of the flow of the project. They get to know where they contribute, how much and how.
- Choose one object from the collected, known abandoned spaces for the simulation.
- Bring together young people who are involved in the present project, introduce them to the project and set the target
- Provide the young people with the instructions
- Let them check that the idea is SMART: specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, timebound
- Make the SWOT analysis: strong points, weakness, opportunities, threats
- The aim of the simulation is active participation, understanding of decisions that affect their future and the future of the community they live in



## 9. Let's do it!

- Clear instructions, make sure that everybody knows the tasks,

- Provide equipment and the needs for the volunteers like food, water, coffee, etc.
- Start working!



## 10. Official opening

- Inform the public about the new functions of the renewed place offline/online
- Saying thanks: diplomas, champagne
- Entertainment program parts: concerts of the local bands, games, corner for children, foodtrucks, drinks, lottery, party, fireworks



## 11. Evaluate!

- Invite the representatives of the actors and evaluate the project.
- Make it visible!



## 12. Repeat

- Take care of the place and repeat it next years!



# Taking initiative

**A Do-It-Yourself experience – a list of useful things if you don't know where to start.**

- **Use old wooden pallets** – ask at shops and supermarkets! They might give you some for free / low costs
  - To make **flower pots, furniture, and more**
- **Paint, lots of paint in white and different colours.** Pay attention to whether they are for walls outdoor/indoor, wood, pavement, etc. If you want to paint colours, you might have to prepare the walls (scratch old paint, whiten the background, etc.)
- **Use natural materials** – wood, sand, straw, bamboo and more - for your renovations. It is more sustainable and more cheap!
- Have a look at different **tutorials on the internet** – many things have been done already!



# Best practice Examples

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- A platform about the topic, including some methods on "how to": <https://placemaking-europe.eu/tools/>
- An online journal from a master program: <https://www.4cities.eu/category/field-notes/>
- Presentation of 30 projects in the US: <https://www.socialworkdegreeguide.com/30-inspiring-urban-renewal-projects/?fbclid=IwAR...>
- A European project across many countries about rural development, reclaiming public spaces, neighborhood programs, citizen participation, and more: <http://humancities.eu/>
- With a guide, manual and toolbox: <http://www.uirs.si/pub/humancities2012.pdf>

## ITALY

- **Re-NEWed Spaces Project:** A full 7-days project and training course about the abandoned public spaces – the possibilities that exist and the many ways to act for creating a positive social change. A group of 24 people coming from 10 countries of Europe were gathered in Maiori working in this Erasmus+ project that was generated by the local Municipality. The concrete result: An abandoned yard in the center of Maiori was renovated in a day and a half after we have talked with the users of the space aka a group of children of 10 – 13 years. [www.acarbio.org/en/](http://www.acarbio.org/en/)
- **“Banchin'Arte”:** Project with a competition to make the city more beautiful by making art on the benches of the coastal promenade.
- **“Human Cities 2012-2014”:** Participatory planning project to enable people to use the public spaces in their neighborhoods: gardens, workshops, social lunch, after work meetings, playgrounds and more.





# Best practice Examples

## Greece

- Angelos Sikelianos Museum: An old abandoned building of the historical town of Lefkada turns to a museum about the Greek poet Angelos Sikelianos.  
<https://sikelianosmuseum.gr>



## Croatia

- Q'ART – Project Ilica: A 5-year project that took advantage of the empty shops and windows by creating art on them. It gave life to the buildings and changed the image of Zagreb's main street: <http://projektilica.com/>





# Best practice Examples

## Romania – Hungary

- **Oradea Fortress:** An old fortress with much history that it was almost ready to collapse, but then with European Funds it was renovated. Now it is used for numerous cultural events of the city, from medieval festivals to film screenings. The Princely Palace inside the fortress hosts the Museum of the City of Oradea, with permanent exhibitions on the history of photography in Oradea, exhibitions of the Oradea Greek Catholic Church, Reformed Church, and Roman Catholic Church, as well as various temporary exhibitions. The city's art gallery, part of the museum, is also housed in the palace. Another permanent exhibition is the 'Bread Museum,' set up in a part of the building where a bakery was opened for over 300 years. Also part of the museum is the Bihor Resistance and Repression Memorial.

<https://www.wmf.org/project/oradea-fortress>,  
<https://www.facebook.com/cetateaoradea/>



- **"Barefoot trail project":** Creating a trail way in an unused part of a playground that gives the opportunity to young people and everybody to exercise and enjoy themselves.



- **"Access city project":** Exploring how accessible the city is.



- **"Youth in action project":** Repaint an old, ugly, concrete wall with beautiful colors and designs with local kids and volunteers.



- <http://uff.ro/rolunk/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/fiatalforum>



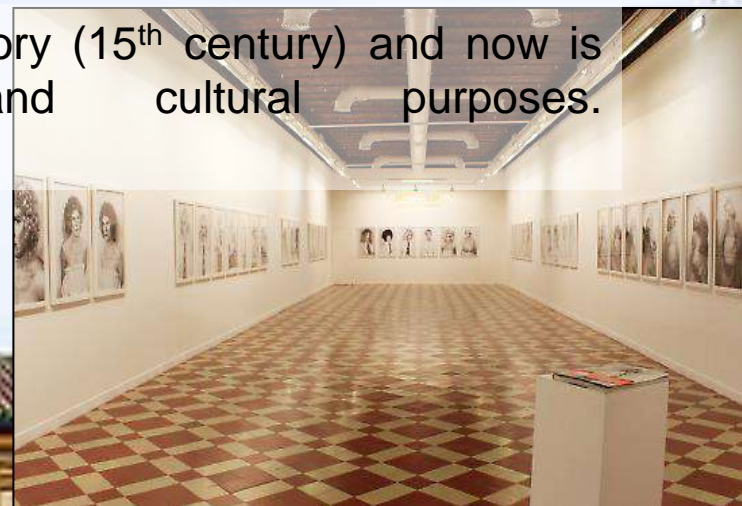
# Best practice Examples

## Spain

- **La Casa Invisible:** Renovated abandoned place to have flea market for local artists, political debates, social discussions etc. <https://www.lainvisible.net/>, <https://www.facebook.com/LaCasaInvisible/>, <https://www.youtube.com/user/LaInvisibleTV/>



- **La Térmica:** Old building that had many uses from history (15<sup>th</sup> century) and now is used for museum, conference room and cultural purposes. <https://www.latermicamalaga.com/>





# Best practice Examples

## North Macedonia

- **Fashion Weekend Skopje:** A building with offices that was abandoned and then was used for the project “Fashion Weekend Skopje”. With the help of volunteers of University of Macedonia they are making this new event of the official fashion weekend to happen there.  
<https://www.facebook.com/fashionweekendskopje/>,  
<https://fashionweekendskopje.mk>



## Portugal (Azores Islands)

- **Palacete Silveira e Paulo (Direção Regional da Cultura dos Açores):** Ancient palace that now is used by the cultural department of the local government and as library at the same time (behind).  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palacete\\_Silveira\\_e\\_Paulo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palacete_Silveira_e_Paulo)  
<http://www.culturacores.azores.gov.pt/>

## Hungary

- **“Ruined bars”:** Old buildings that were left abandoned from the Jewish families during the WWII. Now, they were made into cultural bars mainly in the city of Budapest.  
<https://budapestflow.com/history-ruin-bars-budapest/>





# Best practice Examples

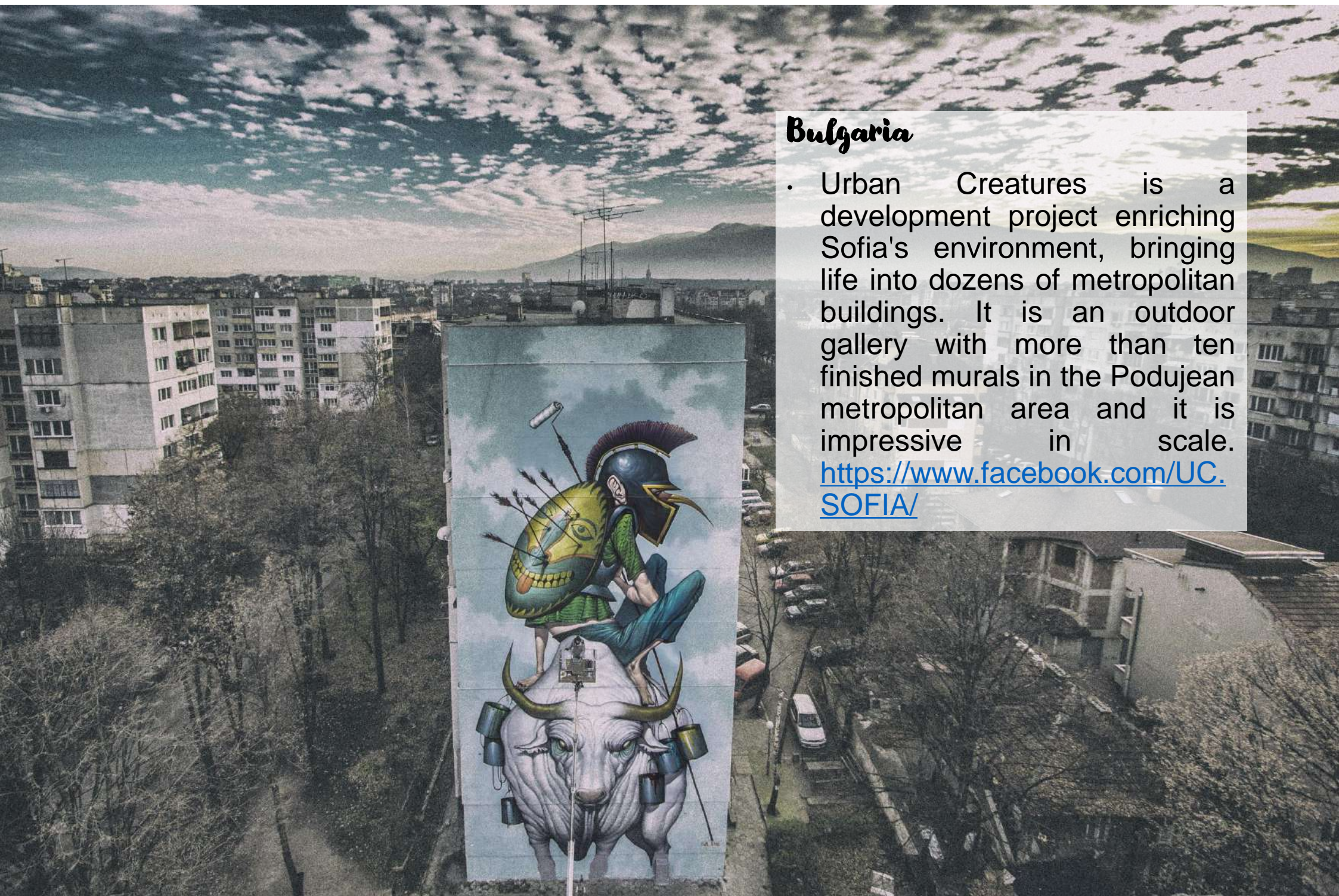
## Austria

- A case study about rural planning from Austria: <https://www.4cities.eu/seestadt-creating-a-livable-city-from-scratch/>



## Bulgaria

- Urban Creatures is a development project enriching Sofia's environment, bringing life into dozens of metropolitan buildings. It is an outdoor gallery with more than ten finished murals in the Podujean metropolitan area and it is impressive in scale. <https://www.facebook.com/UC.SOFIA/>





# Best practice Examples



## Estonia

- **Fahle Maja:** Previous Pulp mill and now it is – Fahle maja, an apartment complex. Some of the apartments have no windows at all because they are located in the middle/ center of the building.  
[https://et.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tselluloosi\\_ja\\_paberitootus](https://et.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tselluloosi_ja_paberitootus)

- **Telliskivi Creative City** - old factory complex that got new life and became the meet point for hipsters, local people and tourists. It includes theatre, cafes, bars, restaurants, food trucks.

<https://www.likealocalguide.com/tallinn/telliskivi-creative-city>

<https://www.visitestonia.com/en/telliskivi-creative-city>





# Maiori: The

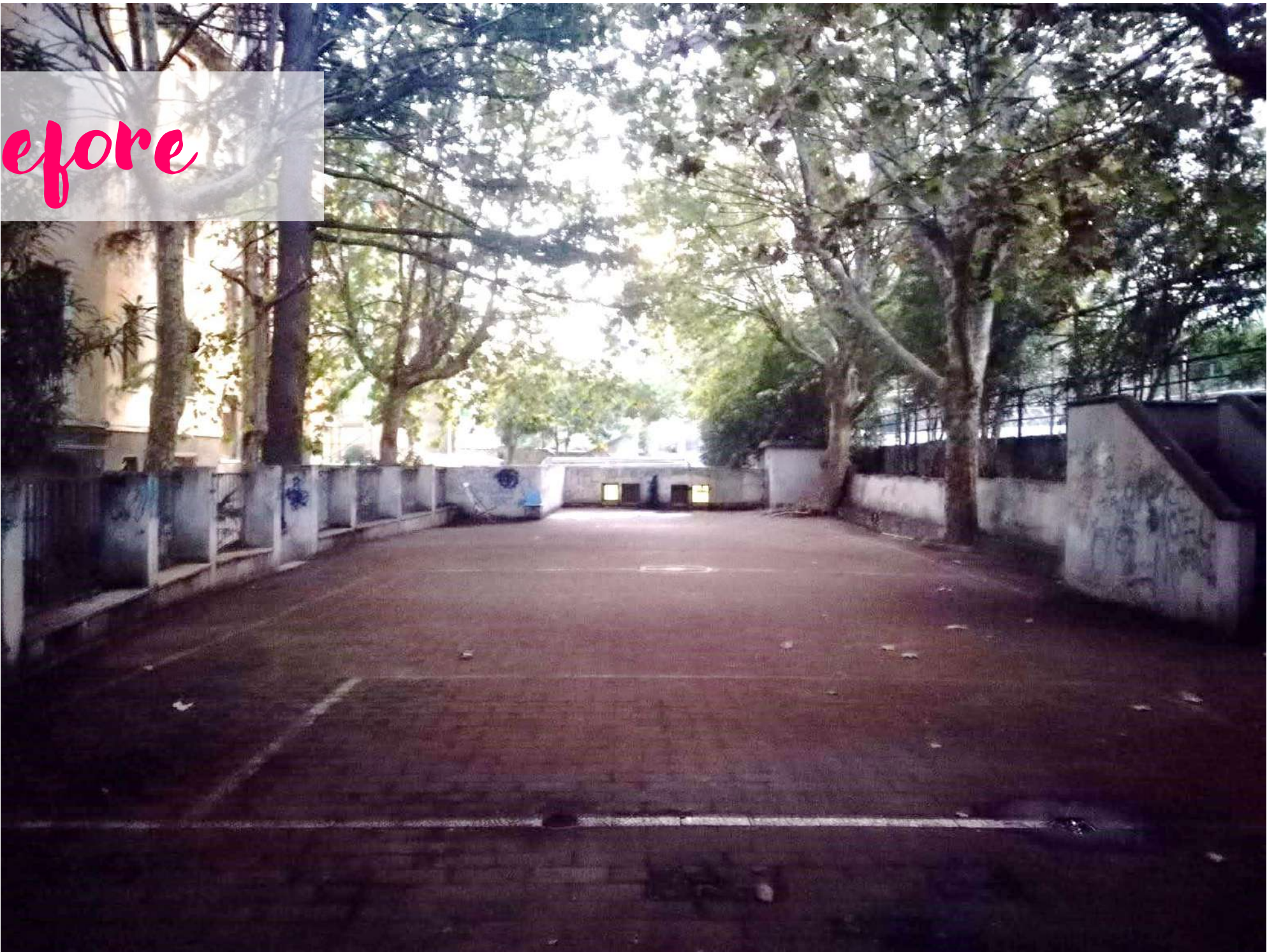
## „re-NEWed Space“

***During the Training Course, we reshaped a space in Maiori with creativity! A picture show.***

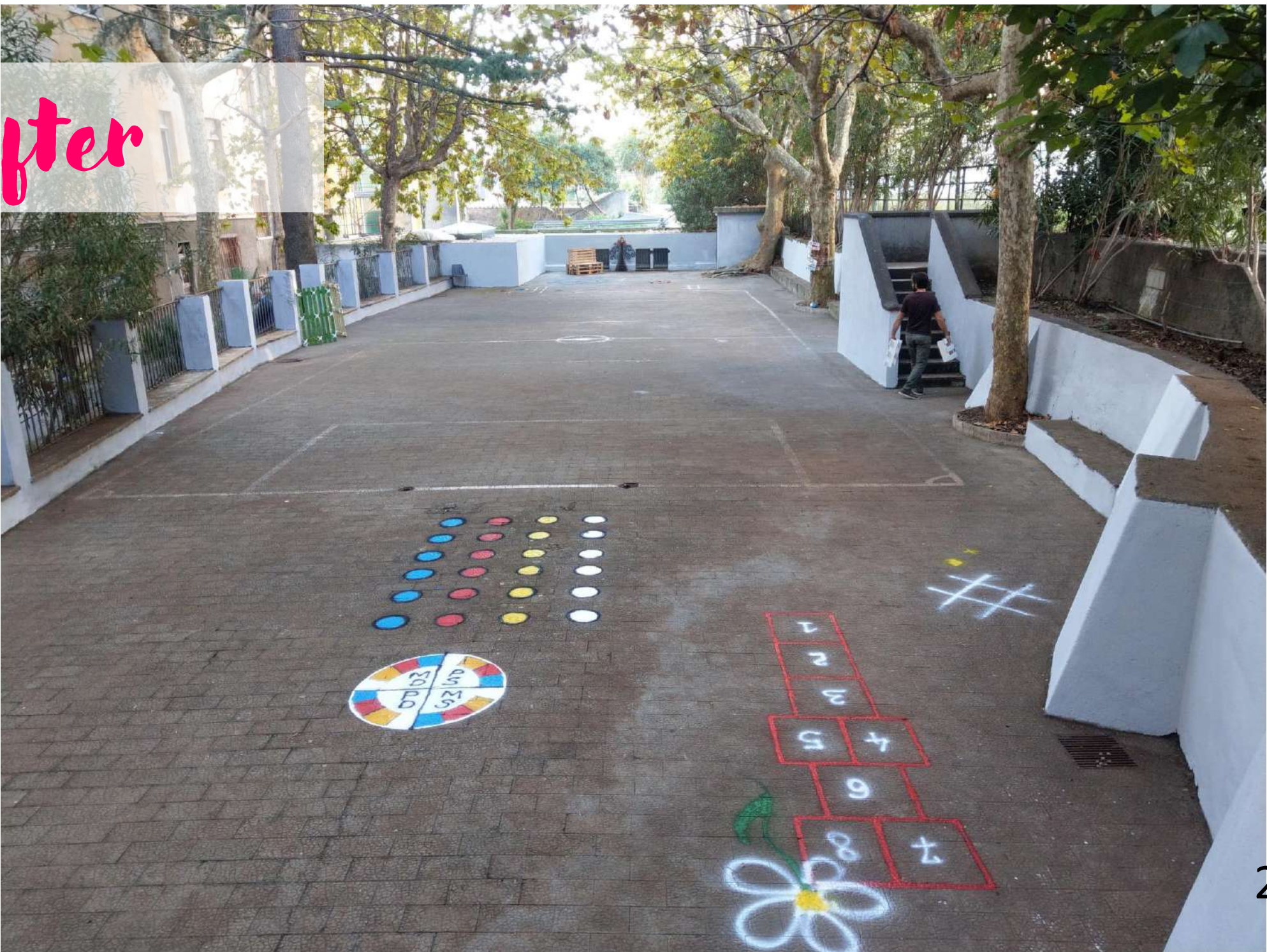




Before



After





Before



During



After







During



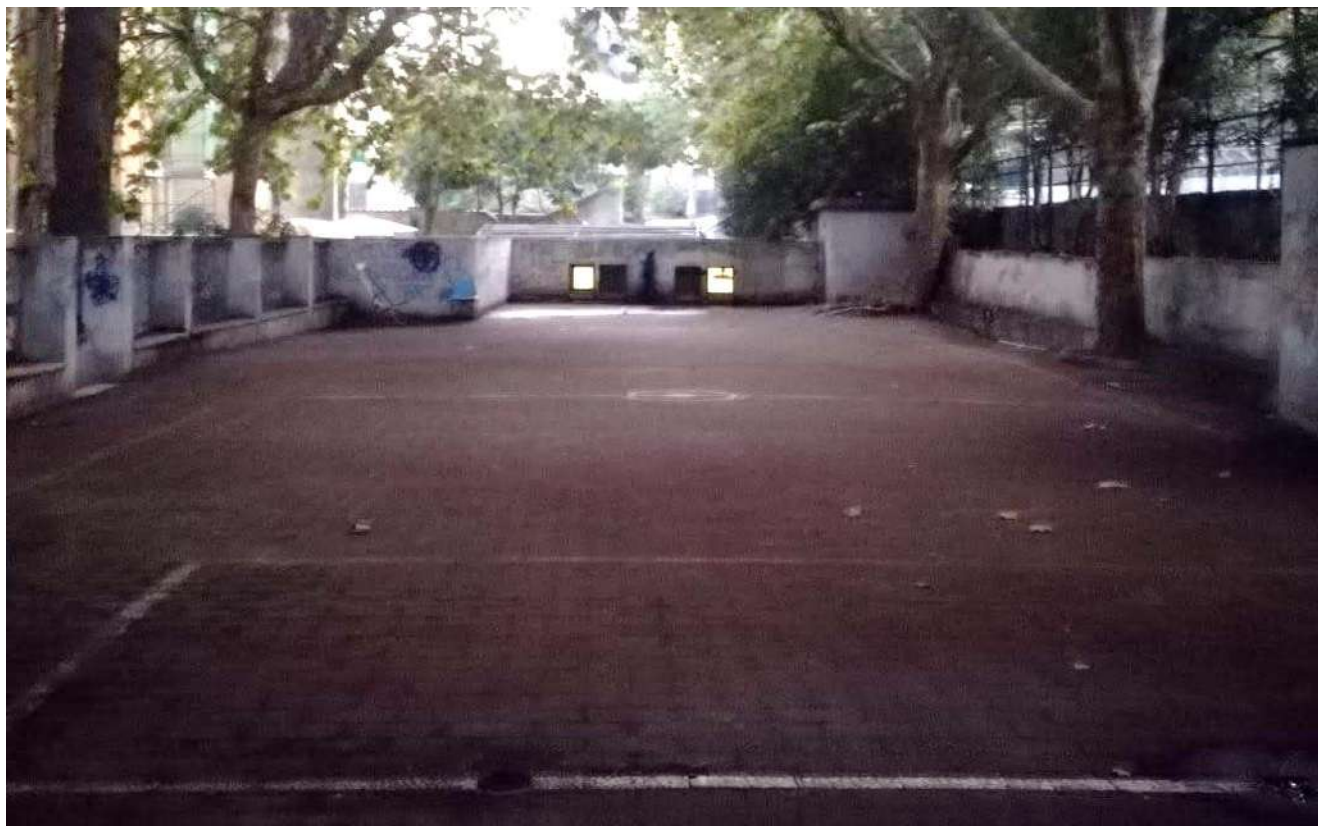
Before



After



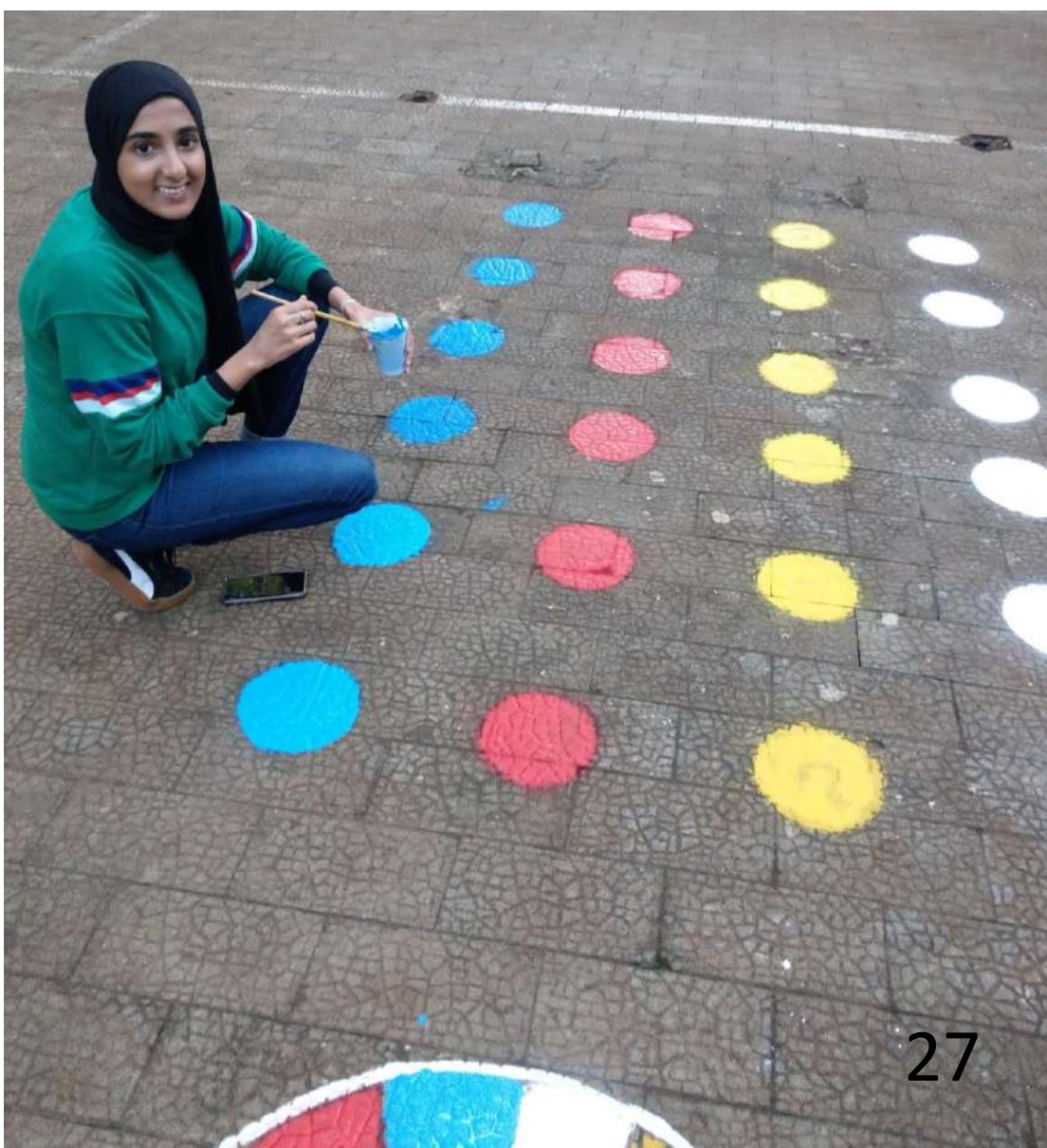
Before



During



After

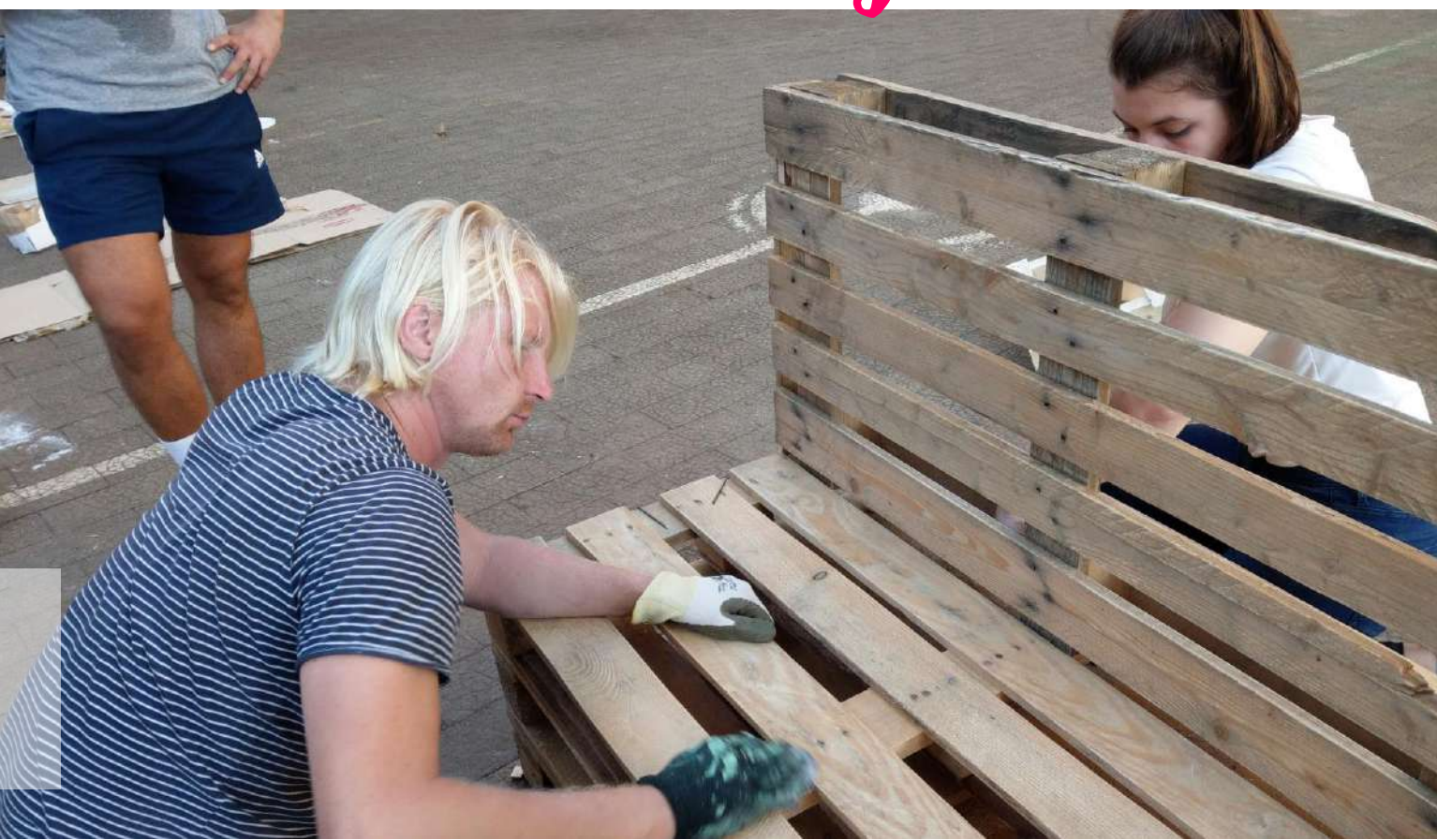




Before



During



After









# Re-NEWed Spaces

This project was implemented by the Municipality of Maiori (SA), Italy (Comune di Maiori) with the support of the partners and co-financed by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.

“The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.”

**Comune di Maiori**

**Associazione ACARBIO.**

**Trainer: Antonio Di Martino**

**MONOPATIA ALLILEGIIS**

**Trainer: Reka Hosszu**

**KULTUR & ART INITIATIVE EV**

**EESTI PEOPLE TO PEOPLE**

**Institute for Creative Civil Strategies**

**ASOCIATIA DE TINERI DIN ARDEAL**

**Viaje a la Sostenibilidad**

**ASSOCIACAO JUVENIL DA ILHA TERCEIRA**

**Udruga gluhih i nagluhih Nova Gradiska**

**Mladinski Senat Strumica**

**Italy**

**Italy**

**Greece**

**Germany**

**Estonia**

**Bulgaria**

**Romania**

**Spain**

**Portugal**

**Cratia**

**North Macedonia**

## The Manual

**WEBSITE**

<https://www.acarbio.org/en/re-newed-spaces-erasmus-training-course/>

**VIDEO**

[https://youtu.be/\\_A2Oa8-eU-s](https://youtu.be/_A2Oa8-eU-s)

**MAGAZINE**

<http://www.acarbio.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/ReNewed-Spaces-Magazine.pdf>

Città di  
**MAIORI**  
Costa d'Amalfi



**Erasmus+**



ACARBIO