

European **S**chool of **U**rbanism **A**nd **A**rchitecture

European School for Urbanism and Architecture

Mission Statement

adapted from original application

MISSION STATEMENT

The ESUA project brings together initiatives in several European countries, to create a European network teaching tertiary level modular vocational courses, to be known as the European School of Urbanism and Architecture (ESUA). This project will develop innovative measures and instruments to promote a recognised European qualification in urban design and architecture.

The project's university and lifelong learning partners will design, test and assess a develop a transnational curriculum of teaching modules for tertiary students, in a pilot program intended to establish version 1 of a European Curriculum for Urbanism & Architecture (ECUA). Course modules will be developed to address areas that are particularly sought after by governments and the market. These include but are not limited to: community involvement in planning by the "Charrette"/Enquiry by Design process; spatial analysis using "Space Syntax"; design for walkable neighbourhoods; transport-oriented development; urban sustainability; building conservation; urban regeneration; adaptive re-use of abandoned buildings; transport planning; regional vernacular architectures of Europe; infill development in historic centres; redevelopment of social housing estates; traditional building crafts and architectural design to enhance historic environments.

The project partners believe that Urbanism and architecture should be taught as an integrated discipline that brings multiple technical expertise to the complex problems encountered in city and town design. Present European courses in Architecture and Urban Design are divided into separate disciplines, with European urbanism as a topic mostly excluded from architecture and taught in specialised schools. Both students and eventually practitioners have little contact with each other's ideas during education and professional life. As a result of the separation of disciplines, many good practices developed over years of urban development are now incompatible with conventional engineering and planning standards. The ESUA project (and eventually the ESUA school) will reintroduce urban design as a main curriculum topic from first year, to form the basis for all design and architecture.

The ESUA project will develop course modules able to be taken as units for Continuing Professional Development (CPD), as a Bachelor of Architecture, as components for a part-time Master of Arts (MA) in Urban Design, or as required precursors for Doctoral study. The first target group is new students from the age around 19 who wish to educate themselves to become urbanists and/or architects. The secondary target group is in the field of post graduate education for planners, architects and various professionals related to community development, as well as for practising skilled artisans wanting to broaden their range of skills.

The ESUA project aim for our courses to become available as modular curricular for other universities to adopt, or as accredited units for students to take as part of other courses across Europe. To this end, we will encourage their applicability for continuous training of teachers as well as practitioners. Modules will focus on specific issues relevant to each country, and the aim is to add more modules and more countries to the project in the future. The project results are also transferable to others, such as town planners, politicians, and people interested in the future development of their cities and villages. The results will further be applicable in a wide range of regions covered by the worldwide INTBAU Network. The valorisation process will include dissemination of the course curriculum free to others worldwide.

The partners will develop a common quality assurance framework and procedures in accordance with ENQA (European Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education) procedures and the Bologna Process. The pilot project will also involve validation through the transnational network of educational institutions.

The resulting ECUA curriculum will be jointly owned by the partner organisations with joint academic and technical reference groups drawn from the faculty and staff of participating institutions. Websites will be used to disseminate the curriculum to facilitate distance learning (e-learning).

Towards the end of the pilot project a conference will present and discuss the project results. The partners will invite key decision makers in the public and private sectors, key local and national authorities, major universities, trade associations (especially architect's associations like the RIBA) and industry representatives (major architecture firms, developers, etc). The curriculum's innovative programs and broad outreach will allow it to continue to have an impact in the urbanism and architecture sectors at the completion of the Community funding period.

European School of Urbanism & Architecture

<i>Result</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>When available</i>	<i>Target groups</i>	<i>Languages</i>	<i>Medium used</i>	<i>Didactic methodology</i>	<i>Number of copies</i>
Project communication network	Web-based communication system	Oct. 2006	Project partners, future modular course providers and affiliated organisations	English	Internet and email, public lectures, articles	Public lectures, Internet articles, Journal articles, website	Unlimited free Internet downloads
Regional Network	Reports on the individual partner's regional networks	Jan. 2007	Project partners, dissemination WP, universities, SMEs, NGOs, regional authorities and trade groups	English	Internet and email, public lectures, journal articles	Public lectures, Internet articles, learned articles, website	Unlimited free Internet downloads
Academic & Practitioners Advisory Boards	Guidance and advisory reports	Nov. 2006 Dec. 2007 Jul. 2008	Project partners, future modular course providers and affiliated organisations	English	Internet and email, short academic publications	Academic reports of processes, website	Unlimited free Internet downloads, paper copies as requested
Reports from Student Reference Group	Student feedback reports	May 2007 Sep. 2007 Feb. 2008 May 2008 Aug 2008	Project partners, future modular course providers and affiliated organisations	English	Internet and email, journal articles	Personal weblogs of student experiences, website	Unlimited free Internet downloads, paper copies as requested
Curriculum Hypothesis Conference	Symposium style conference	Nov. 2006	Project partners, future modular course providers and affiliated organisations, universities, SMEs, NGOs, regional authorities and trade groups	English	Conference	Paper presentations Panel sessions Working groups	2 days
Mission statement	Mission statement document	Dec. 2006	as above	English German Norwegian Italian Romanian Swedish	Report		1000 copies, unlimited free Internet downloads
Test courses	Educational courses	April 2007 to Jul. 2008	Project partners, test students	English	Taught courses	Seminar, workshop, lectures, projects, website	One or two each in Norway, Germany, Italy, UK, Romania
Curriculum Development	Reports on test courses	May 2007 Sep. 2007 Jan. 2008 May 2008 Aug. 2008	Project partners and affiliated organisations	English	Internet, short academic publications	Academic reports of proceedings, website	500 copies per workshop, unlimited free Internet downloads
Curriculum delivery	Conference	Sept. 2008	Project partners, future modular course providers and affiliated organisations, universities, SMEs, NGOs, regional authorities & trade groups	English	Conference	Paper presentations Panel sessions Working groups	2 days
Curriculum handbook	Published curriculum handbook	Continuous process, Sept. 2008	as above	English Norwegian German Italian Romanian Swedish	Internet, Printed booklet	Descriptive report, website	2,000 printed copies to be freely distributed, unlimited free Internet downloads
E-learning system	Web-based electronic network	Continuous process, June 2008	as above	English	Internet	Electronic system, website	NA
Dissemination	Publicity, learned articles, discussion & comment	Continuous Oct. 2006 to Sep. 2008	Project partners, future modular course providers and affiliated organisations, universities, SMEs, NGOs, regional authorities & trade groups, & general public	English Norwegian German Italian Romanian Swedish	Internet & email, public lectures, journal articles, conference papers, & other media	Academic papers, general articles, Internet news items, leaflets, website	Leaflets: 2,000 copies per language, unlimited free Internet downloads