



# Call for Participation in Competition

## 2nd ERUAHackAThon 2023

### WP5 Re-imagining campus

### University of the Aegean & Paris 8 University



**2nd #ERUA HackAThon**  
ERUA Being Inclusive  
Living with difference in urban neighbourhoods: Saint-Denis, Paris

17-19 October 2023 Paris 8

UNIVERSITÉ PARIS8 RUC Universität Konstanz UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN NEW BULGARIAN UNIVERSITY

**ERUA**  
European Reform  
University Alliance

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

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When	17 - 19 October 2023
Where	Université Paris 8 Vincennes-Saint-Denis, Paris
Who can participate	Students of the ERUA Universities, citizens, NGOs and community organizations from the ERUA regions.

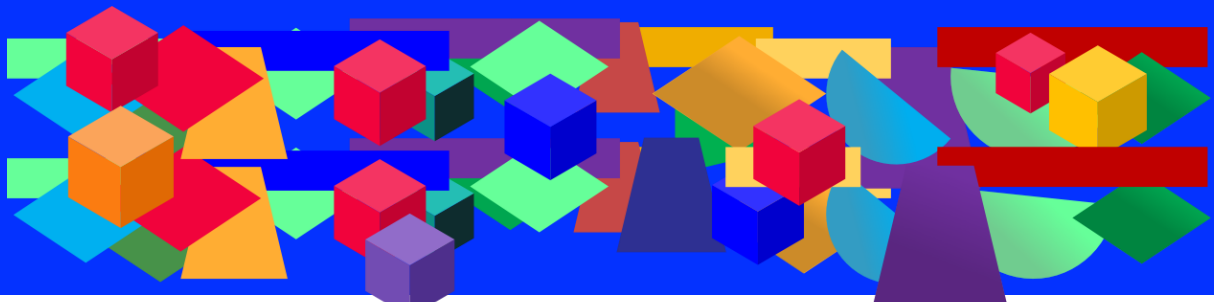
The "European Reform University Alliance" (ERUA) consists of five young reform universities located in France, Denmark, Germany, Greece and Bulgaria that have joined forces to form a European University Alliance. On behalf of the ERUA, we would like to invite you to participate in the [#2nd ERUAHackATHon 2023](#) competition of "[ERUA Being Inclusive: Living with difference in urban neighbourhoods: Saint-Denis, in Paris](#)".

The competition takes place at Paris 8 University in Saint-Denis and focuses on addressing challenges in the urban neighborhoods of Saint-Denis. It aims to promote social diversity, inclusion, and cohesion while exploring innovative initiatives in urban mobility, sustainable environment, cultural expressions, and entrepreneurship. By working collectively, the competition aims to discover possible solutions and achieve social change.

This is a challenge-based hackathon open to ERUA students, citizens, NGOs and community organizations. The goal is to collaboratively create more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable neighbourhoods.

### ERUA's interests in promoting inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods

- **Collaborative solutions:** Encourage interdisciplinary teams of students, citizens, residents, NGOs, community organizations, entrepreneurs, policy actors, to collaborate and develop comprehensive solutions for urban neighbourhoods.
- **Address Local Challenges:** Tailor solutions to the unique needs and characteristics of the community members in Saint-Denis.
- **Prioritize Inclusivity:** Develop solutions that provide equitable access and opportunities for all community members, regardless of their backgrounds or abilities.
- **Foster Social Entrepreneurship:** Inspire participants to think creatively and come up with innovative ideas that have the potential for scalability, economic viability, and positive social impact.
- **Embrace Sustainability:** Integrate nature-based solutions and environmentally friendly practices that have long-term impacts, resource efficiency and replication in other neighborhoods or cities.
- **Celebrate Local Culture:** Leverage local culture, traditions and community assets to create inclusive, cultural and creative solutions.
- **Sustainable Implementation:** Ensure that the hackathon outcomes are not limited to ideas on paper but provide support and resources for the implementation of selected



solutions. Connect winning projects with relevant stakeholders, resources, networks, funding opportunities, to ensure that the proposed solutions have the opportunity for practical application, real-world impact and long-term success.

- **Knowledge Sharing and Networking:** Provide opportunities for participants to share their knowledge, experiences, and insights throughout the hackathon. Facilitate networking and collaboration beyond the event, creating connections and partnerships that can further drive inclusive mobility, nature, culture, and entrepreneurship in neighborhoods.
- **Promote Awareness and Engagement:** Use the hackathon as an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of diversity and inclusion. Engage the broader community through outreach events, public presentations, and media coverage to foster understanding and support for the initiatives developed during the hackathons.
- **Measure Impact:** Establish mechanisms to measure the hackathon's impact and the implemented solutions.

## 4 Challenges

### #Challenge1

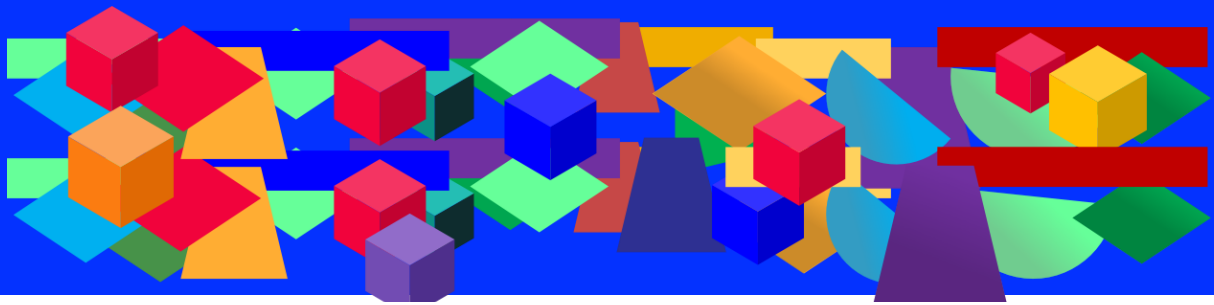
**Inclusive Urban Mobility: The neighbourhood as a key to promote sustainable mobility**

*"Uniting Neighbourhoods through Inclusive Mobility Solutions"*

The concept of inclusive urban mobility emphasizes the importance of reimagining transportation to meet the needs of all individuals within cities. We need to rethink urban mobility, supporting an ecological transition which ensures that all vulnerable populations (elderly and people with disabilities, as well those who might face financial constraints in purchasing electric cars, or buying bicycles, personal scooters and accessing alternative means of transportation).

Key elements:

- ✓ **Neighborhood-Centered Approach:** by focusing on improving accessibility, connectivity, and transportation options within neighborhoods, the goal is to create inclusive communities where everyone can easily access essential services, education, employment, and recreational opportunities.
- ✓ **Social Equity and Accessibility:** by ensuring that transportation systems are accessible to all individuals, regardless of age, gender, income, or physical abilities.
- ✓ **Multi-Modal Transportation:** by creating networks of transit systems that connect different parts of the neighborhood and by offering diverse transportation options, that are easier for people to choose sustainable modes of travel that best suit their needs.
- ✓ **Participatory Planning and Design:** by involving local communities, residents, and stakeholders in the planning and design processes, that transportation infrastructures and services are tailored to meet the needs and preferences of the neighbourhood's inhabitants.
- ✓ **Data-Driven Decision Making:** by collecting and analyzing data on travel patterns, transportation demand, and user preferences to identify areas for improvement and



allocate resources effectively. This approach ensures that mobility solutions are customized for the neighborhood and its residents.

## #Challenge2

### Nature Inclusive Neighbourhoods

#### *"Embracing the Beauty of Nature in Our Neighbourhoods"*

Nature inclusive neighborhoods, also known as nature-based neighborhoods or green neighborhoods are residential areas designed to integrate nature and green spaces into the urban fabric. These neighborhoods encompass diverse natural and semi-natural areas, including forests, wide range of flora and fauna meadows, gardens, small-scale farming plots, green roofs and bodies of water. Moreover, they play a central role in the cultural life of the community, offering recreational opportunities, spaces for relaxation, educational activities, and the chance to connect with nature for nearby residents. Access to green urban spaces promotes physical and mental health, creates feelings of safety, contributes to higher rates of employment and income in the area, and results in long-term benefits such as reductions in health care costs and energy consumption.

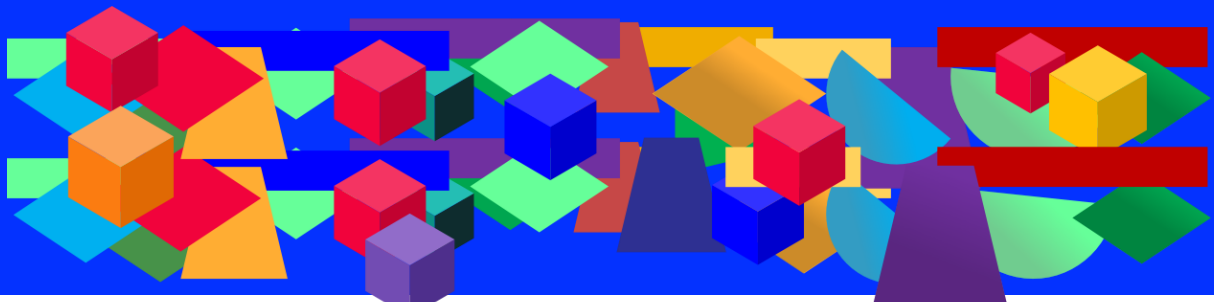
Key elements:

- ✓ Green Infrastructure: parks, tree-lined streets, and green roofs and corridors enhance the aesthetics of the neighborhood and also provide ecological benefits such as improved air quality, and biodiversity conservation. The presence of trees and vegetation helps to shade buildings, cool the air, and reduce energy consumption, creating a more comfortable and sustainable living environment.
- ✓ Access to Nature: by providing easy access to nature for residents. Walking and cycling paths, nature trails, and open green spaces, allow residents to connect with nature, engage in outdoor activities, and enjoy recreational opportunities, positively impacting mental health, and overall well-being.
- ✓ Urban Agriculture: community gardens, rooftop gardens, or vertical farming provide opportunities for residents to engage in sustainable food production, promote local food security, and foster community interaction and cohesion.
- ✓ Biodiversity: by providing native plants, nesting areas, food sources, these neighborhoods can attract a variety of bird species, pollinators, and other wildlife, contributing to overall ecological balance and strengthening residents' connection with nature.
- ✓ Community Engagement: by involving the community in the planning, design, and maintenance of green spaces, fosters a sense of ownership, pride, and social cohesion among residents. Residents actively shape their living environment, creating shared spaces for interaction and recreation.

## #Challenge 3

### Celebrating Cultural Diversity: Embracing Inclusion in Neighbourhoods

Embracing diversity and inclusion of cultural expressions is a transformative approach to building a cohesive and harmonious society that values the richness of human diversity. This collective process involves actively promoting and supporting the diverse cultural identities,



practices, and traditions of neighbourhood residents. It encompasses various forms of cultural manifestations, such as arts, music, literature, dance, theatre, crafts and more, representing the unique identities, values, beliefs, and traditions of individual with different backgrounds. The goal is to create an inclusive and welcoming community where everyone's cultural contributions are celebrated.

Key elements:

- ✓ Celebrate: Organizing events and festivals that showcase the neighbourhood's cultural diversity, featuring music, dance, art exhibitions, food fairs, and other cultural activities.
- ✓ Create Inclusive Public Spaces: Designing public spaces that represent the neighbourhood's cultural diversity, through public art and inclusive gathering spaces that welcome all residents.
- ✓ Encourage Cultural Exchange: Facilitating opportunities for residents to share their traditions and learn from one another through workshops, classes, or cultural exchange programs.
- ✓ Challenge Stereotypes: Promoting positive narratives about diverse cultural expressions to challenge stereotypes and prejudices within the neighborhood.
- ✓ Encourage Dialogue and Respect: Creating spaces for open dialogue and respectful conversations about cultural diversity, fostering understanding and reducing conflicts based on cultural differences.

#### #Challenge 4

#### Diverse Entrepreneurs: Collaboration, Innovation, Diversity and Inclusion in Entrepreneurship

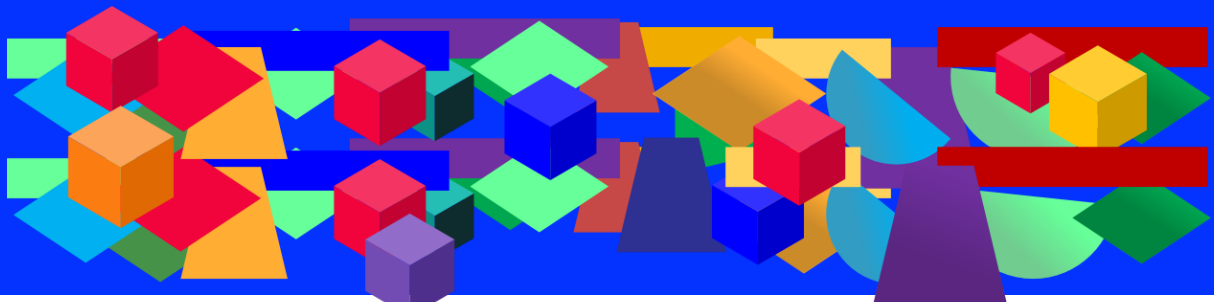
Neighbourhoods characterized by socio-economic deprivation and cultural diversity offer a unique platform for fostering creative, cultural, and social entrepreneurship, driving economic growth, innovation, and social impact.

Social capital plays a vital role in entrepreneurship, facilitating connections and collaborations within reliable networks. However, not all entrepreneurs have equal access to crucial resources such as mentorship, funding, and role models, leading to disparities in opportunities. There exists a notable disparity in funding, with a disproportionate share going to white male entrepreneurs, while women entrepreneurs and entrepreneurs of colour are underrepresented in major incubator and accelerator programs.

How to provide diverse entrepreneurs with opportunities to participate actively in economic activities, gain financial independence, and contribute to society?

To actively engage diverse entrepreneurs in economic activities, promote financial independence, and foster societal contributions, we focus on the concept of inclusive entrepreneurship, which:

- ✓ Ensures equal opportunities for all the individuals, regardless of their personal characteristics and background, to start and run their own businesses.



- ✓ Emphasizes providing access, support, and opportunities to diverse backgrounds, creating a dynamic entrepreneurial community that benefits both the economy and society.
- ✓ Recognizes the value of diversity in driving innovation, creativity, and economic growth, encouraging representation from underrepresented groups, including gender and ethnic communities, as well as individuals with disabilities.
- ✓ Improves community well-being through job creation, essential services, and addressing social needs that are often neglected by traditional markets.
- ✓ Involves collaborations among social enterprises, non-profit organizations, government agencies, and local communities to pool resources, share expertise, and collectively work towards social and economic goals.
- ✓ Explores creative business models, sustainable practices, and alternative financing mechanisms to generate social impact while preserving the well-being of future generations.

## Who can participate

Students and/or teams of students (Bachelor, Master, PhDs, Graduates), from the nine (9) ERUA member and partner Universities: the *University of the Aegean-GR, University of Paris 8-FR, University of Konstanz-DE, Roskilde University-DK, New Bulgarian University-BG, University of Social Sciences and Humanities-PL, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria-SP, University of Macerata-IT, European University Viadrina-DE, Mykolas Romeris University-LT.*

Citizens, residents and/or teams of NGOs, from the ten (10) European Regions: *EL41 - North Aegean, EL 42 - South Aegean, FR Seine-Saint-Denis, DE Konstanz, DK Sjælland, BG Sofia, PL Warszawa, ES705 Gran Canaria, IT133 Macerata, DE403 Frankfurt (Oder) Kreisfreie Stadt, LT02 Vilnius.*

## How it works

**1st Stage: Express your interest, until 30 September 2023**

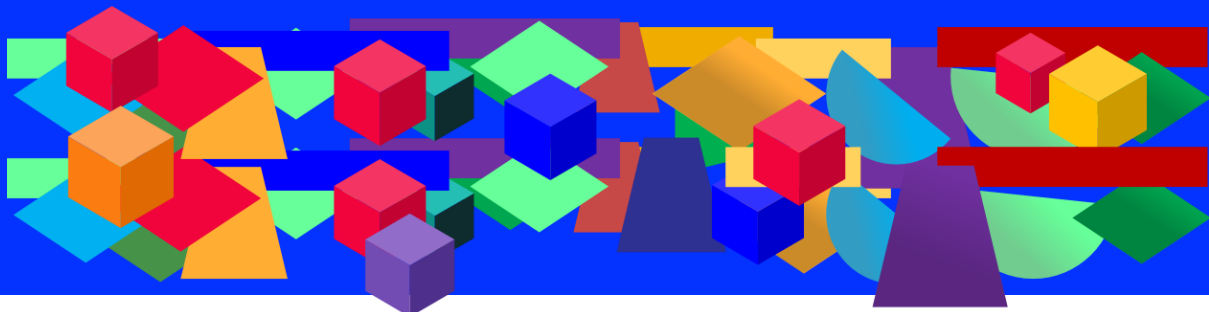
The applicants are called to express their interest in this [registration platform](#).

Applicants must include a short CV, a cover letter (describing the motivation to attend, research interests, as well as about particular challenges that would like to discuss during the 2<sup>nd</sup> ERUAHackAthon). Applicants will generate ideas and submit concept plans, in the registration platform. You will be notified for the status of your application after the submission closes.

One online workshop between participants and the project team will be organized in order to facilitate team building activities. Each team will consist of two to five applicants, students, residents, citizens, and NGO representatives.

**2nd Stage: Hack Days, 17 – 18 October 2023**

The teams will cooperate efficiently and effectively with the guidance of the coaches in order to develop coherent, viable, sustainable projects, initiatives and models. Each team will



present its ideas to the coaches in a preliminary meeting so to receive feedback and improve its proposals.

The procedure will be completed when participants will present their ideas to a jury panel, invited stakeholders, experts or active members of civic society and young students who will evaluate the proposed plans. The proposals as well as the presentations will be evaluated by the Jury Panel, based on the following, even, criteria: **Innovation - Team Composition - Presentation Perfection - Plan Adequacy - Proposal Sustainability.**

**3rd Stage: Celebrate, 19 October 2023**

By the end of the competition the winning teams and the awards will be announced.

### Travel costs

All participants from the ERUA partner universities are free of participation fee. Travel costs will be refunding through your universities Erasmus+ programme.

Please, contact your home university - ERUA Office about funding, taking into account the following contact information: Paris 8 University: [erua.eui@univ-paris8.fr](mailto:erua.eui@univ-paris8.fr), Roskilde University: [erua@ruc.dk](mailto:erua@ruc.dk), Konstanz University: [erua@uni-konstanz.de](mailto:erua@uni-konstanz.de), University of the Aegean: [erua-eui@aegean.gr](mailto:erua-eui@aegean.gr), New Bulgarian University: [erua@nbu.bg](mailto:erua@nbu.bg)

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