

COMMUNITIES AT THE CENTRE

From Collaboration pacts to
the Neighborhoods Plan,
10 years of civic innovations
of the Municipality of Bologna



Comune
di Bologna

fondazione
innovazione urbana

The history of Bologna is a symbol, a set of values and innovations that precede us. For this reason, every year, thousands of people choose our city to study, work or carry out life projects. Each time Bologna did something to support or promote people, it proved to be up to the task: it is a democratic and progressive city. It has a generating power that fosters citizenship and emancipation that some have called "right to the city", others the construction of the "common good". For us, keeping the community cohesive and open at the same time means making a creative gesture, taking shape from the desert we oppose, quoting Italo Calvino.

Shared projects between citizens and institutions aim at offering new mutual solutions and services. In the past, for example, we invented nurseries or new co-housing solutions. From conflict we generate draft bills or field trials. That's how we faced the pandemic or the risk of job and housing impoverishment of the neighbourhoods. Through investments we seek scientific and technological answers, placing ourselves at the forefront of research around global phenomena. Through politics and commitment to the polis we intend to generate hope and new bonds of reciprocity and trust. For this reason we recently joined the 100 European cities that will have to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030, to save the planet. We are the first in Italy who issued the challenge of the 30km/h speed limit in the city to reduce road deaths to zero. Together with Barcelona, we will create the first digital twin of two cities united by 20% of the continental computing power. All this would be in vain if it did not rest on solid roots and a determined and concrete path. We developed a vision and a culture of the city, with communities at the centre. The civic imagination approach was for us a fundamental method, a paradigm.

This publication is a concise and explanatory review of the steps we have taken in this direction. As Mayor, it's my pleasure to present it, warmly thanking all the people who have contributed with their skills and their time. The gentle push is only at the beginning.

Matteo Lepore

Mayor of Bologna

In recent years, crises have exposed and exacerbated the widespread contradictions on which our societies are based, amplifying and exacerbating inequalities and further weighing on the weakest sections of society, those who already suffer from a condition of fragility. In the last 50 years, global superstructures have had a strong impact on people's lives, but at the same time local actions can transform global dynamics and have a significant impact on them.

It is in the city, the place of citizenship and therefore of democracy, that one can perceive the signs of this change, but also reread the power relations and the transformative capability of local action. The emergency has put in crisis the most unshakable certainties of our systems, but perhaps it offers us the possibility of producing significant changes, triggering new energies to re-imagine the future as a common good. To do so, we need to nurture the collaborative and collective though. We need to completely rethink the development model by carrying out the experimentation of civic and social innovation practices that are strongly and obligatorily anchored to neighbourhoods. We need therefore to place communities at the centre of policy planning and services design, as well as to rethink urban spaces as places of connection between people and institutions, inclusion and qualification, past and future times.

What has been experienced since 2014 in terms of civic innovations - as shown in this publication - gives us the awareness that social and environmental justice will only be fully achieved if we manage to actively involve citizens, with constant strategy and determination, in the creation of a large community, which hands down the memory of places and people and which produces new forms of knowledge by building collective processes of re-appropriation of spaces, alliances and networks. Together, we need to identify the tools to respond to the challenges of our time.

Erika Capasso

President of the Foundation for Urban Innovation

Delegate of the Municipality of Bologna for Civic Imagination

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/ Introduction

With this publication we intend to tell the story of the most recent innovations with civic impact of the city of Bologna. A story that begins in 2014 with the introduction of the first “Common Goods Regulation” in Italy and the birth of the Collaboration pacts, and then with the preparation of the Neighbourhoods Plan: a new tool that will allow the Municipality and the citizens to manage and interpret policies, projects and construction sites by taking into account citizens' needs and proposals, informing and involving citizens, area by area.

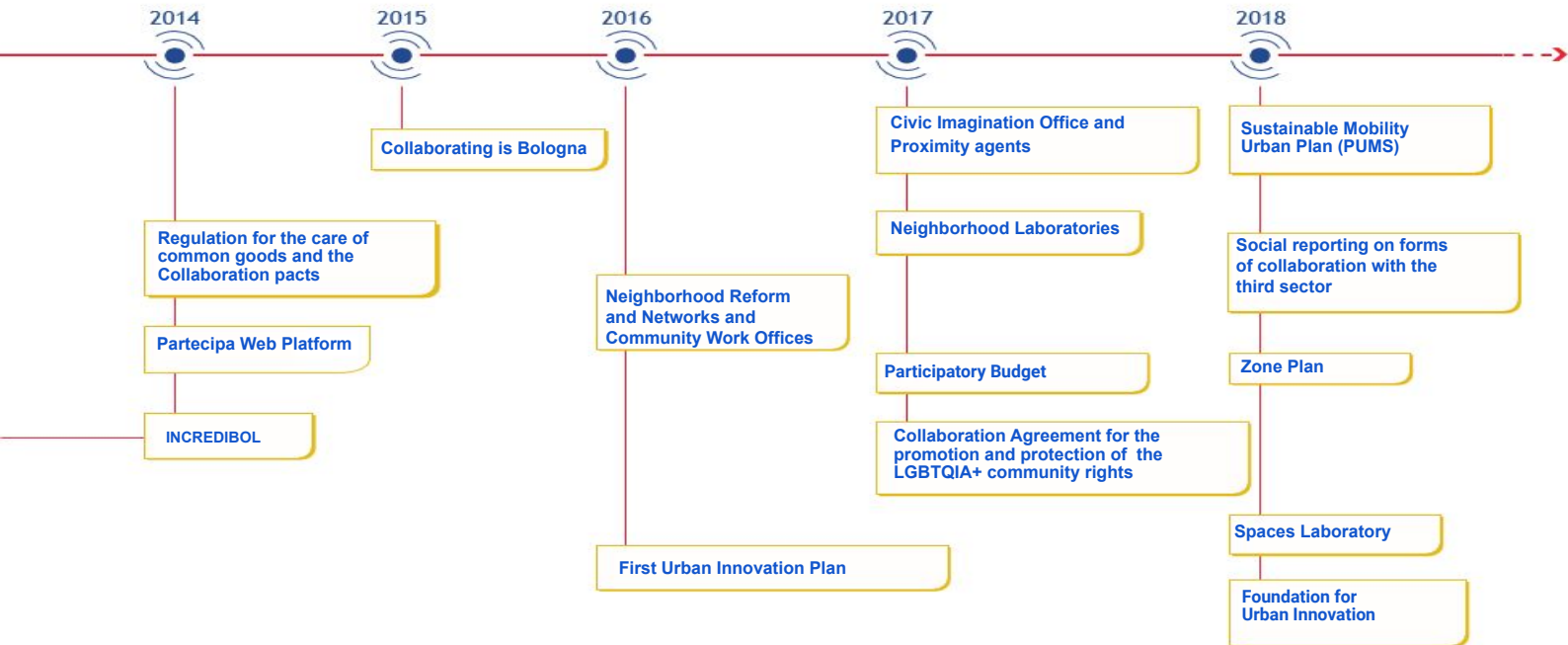
Going over the history of the many experiments that year after year have settled, it is possible to observe how Bologna is a vanguard city in Italy, thanks to its ability to continue to renew approaches and methods that, today more than ever, must focus on public action - with and without the collaboration of institutions - to put citizens, their needs and their desires at the centre of political action again.

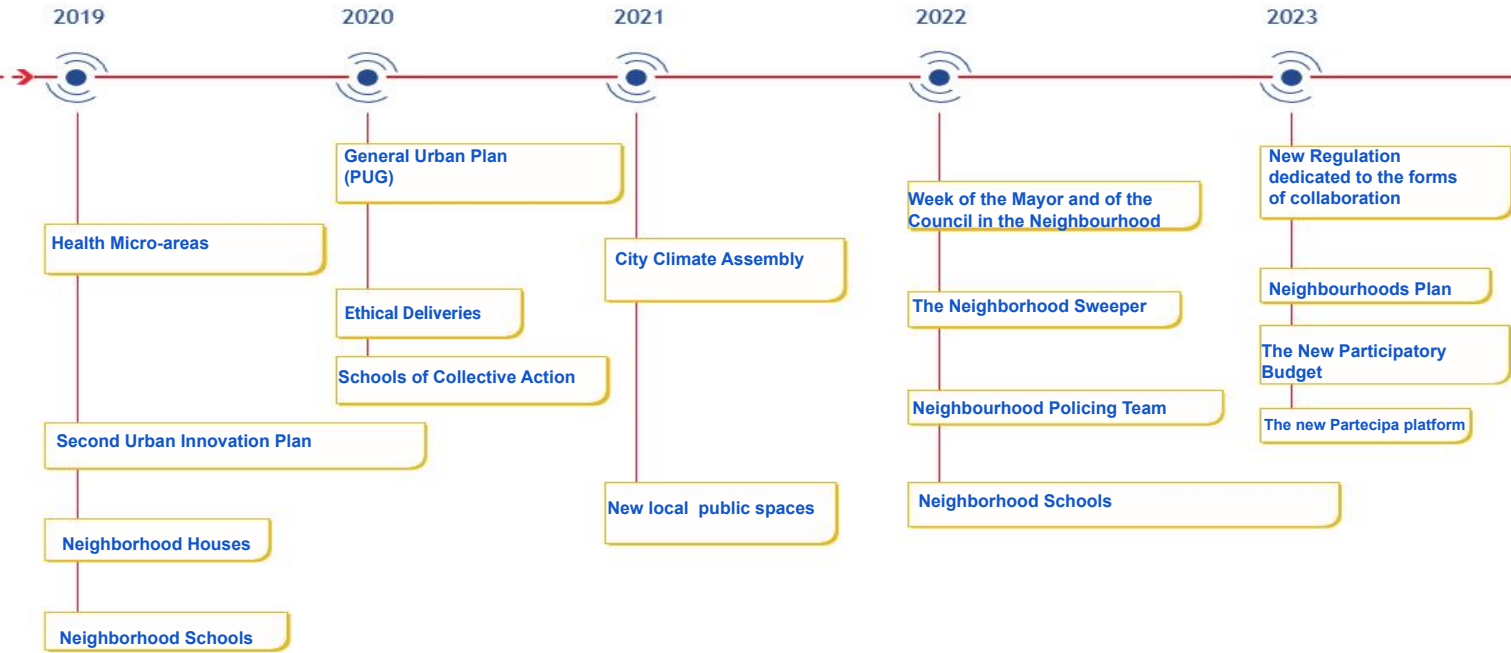
In the set of initiatives described in this publication, it is possible to trace a constant process of innovation and institutional learning that, in the face of the most important urban challenges of our time, does not replicate traditional approaches but adapts and invents new solutions by finding a solid foundation in the constitutional principles of subsidiarity, and at the same time enabling new approaches, which we have defined as “civic imagination”. This last expression, as evocative as complex, represents the ability to combine listening to the needs of the city, administrative skills, civic activation and public action, in order to design new urban development strategies that put human and social capital at the centre of local strategies and policy design.

Thanks to this approach, since 2014 the city of Bologna has not only been experiencing a process of administrative and social innovation but it has also been contributing to rethinking and expanding the margins of urban democracy and social welfare. Participation and collaboration become stable processes of listening to, comparing and co-planning public initiatives, thus replacing the logic of competition. Laboratories, schools and neighbourhood houses become social infrastructures open to citizens. At the same time, new professional figures and institutions are born - such as the Foundation for Urban Innovation - which become local points of reference and engines of the construction of new imaginaries. The Foundation in particular is the subject through which most of the innovations described here are implemented in the municipal territory, through transversal work to support the Municipality in terms of relations, coordination and processes development.

The experience recounted, therefore, also in the light of the historical context in which we are living, indicates that in Bologna the dialogue between local government and citizens (and therefore the practices and processes of representation) no longer responds exclusively to traditional logics but it is regenerated starting from an awareness: the involvement of citizens and civic networks strengthens institutions, increasing their authority and effectiveness.

/ The process of civic innovations





The Regulation for the care of common goods and the Collaboration pacts

2014

In 2014 the city of Bologna was the first city in Italy to adopt the "Regulation on collaboration between citizens and the Municipality for the care and regeneration of urban commons", giving concrete application to the principle of subsidiarity enshrined in art.118 of the Constitution.

The Regulation was designed in collaboration with Labsus - Laboratory for subsidiarity - and its adoption represented a paradigm shift in the support and enhancement of community care and activation initiatives, which were followed by dozens of other municipalities throughout the country. Through the Collaboration pacts, the local government enables

and encourages bottom-up action and the sharing of responsibilities for the care of urban common goods: citizens, individually or collectively, can take care of tangible assets - such as roads, squares, green areas and buildings - or intangible ones - as projects for inclusion and social cohesion, education, culture, environmental sustainability and, finally, digital projects oriented towards individual and, above all, collective well-being. This shows the value of formal and informal associations, third sector bodies and economic-entrepreneurial entities that, not for profit, collaborate for the common good by fostering a positive sharing of relationships, experiences and skills.

Sources: <http://partecipa.comune.bologna.it/percorso-e-il-regolamento>

- Collaboration pacts signed from 2014 to 2022: 1,034
- Collaboration proposals received: 1,304
- Proposals that did not reach the signing of agreements: 202
- Proposals under evaluation/co-design: 79

The Agreements signed concern, by way of example:

- care interventions, additional and deep cleaning, supplementary maintenance, redevelopment and decoration/improvement and shared management of green areas, flower beds and road tiles
- cleaning and redevelopment of streets, squares, arcades, school areas, degraded buildings (redevelopment and restoration of street furniture, even historical areas; contrast to graphic vandalism; enhancement of playground areas also for educational purposes; forms of aerosol art; etc.)
- modifications to roadways with the aim of eliminating architectural barriers
- interventions related to the theme of integrated urban security; workshops aiming at socialization,

inclusion, sustainable mobility and environmental sustainability, with dedicated training-educational purposes characterized by an intergenerational and intercultural approach embracing the entire population; activities related to the Municipal Employment Desk

- activities to support social integration and integration into the labour market of third-country nationals; digital literacy and facilitation activities; support actions and social support during the Covid-19 pandemic (delivery of basic goods)
- listening activities; fragile people transportation activities related to the “Patto per la Lettura”, a pact that brings together associations, citizens, informal groups and business entities to promote reading and knowledge.

It should be noted that most of the Collaboration pacts signed do not deal with a sectoral, single theme but, precisely for their intrinsic nature, they include multiple, cross-cutting areas of intervention.



Partecipa Web platform

2014

Since 2014, the Iperbole civic network - founded in 1995 as the first civic network promoted by the Public Administration in Italy - has been equipped with a space dedicated to participation and digital collaboration.

The Partecipa section is redesigned as a social network with civic objectives, which allows citizens to take action in different ways: create a personal blog or the profile of an association, activate Collaboration pacts and tell the developments, participate in public consultations, consult the Municipality's open data, offer support for transparency and information on public decisions, stay informed, register at the Neighbourhood

Laboratories and send and vote on projects for the municipal Participatory Budget.

Over the years, the Partecipa Web platform has widespread thanks to live participation and collaboration initiatives, supporting and enhancing their value and reaching more than 50,000 registered profiles.

In 2023, the platform will be updated and will integrate other sections of the site, digital services and open data, which are transversal to policies.

Sources: <http://partecipa.comune.bologna.it/>

INCREDIBOL!

2014

INCREDIBOL! l'INnovazione CREativa DI BOLogna - was born in 2010 to support the development of cultural and creative enterprises. Through periodic calls, the program provides guidance, training, advice and the assignment on free loan of spaces and properties owned by the Municipality of Bologna, as it happened for the Serre dei Giardini, Dynamo and Mercato Sonato, three properties assigned in 2014. With the public notices related to the Free Forms of Association, INCREDIBOL! has helped to create a network of more than 100 public buildings spread across the city, co-managed by communities, associations and businesses.

- Number of editions from 2010 to 2022: 11
- Number of projects received from 2010 to 2021: 1,030, including associations, companies and freelancers.
- Number of projects selected from 2010 to 2021: 175
- Total properties and assigned spaces: 33



Collaborating is Bologna

2015

- 6 listening meetings, one for each neighbourhood
- 1 online consultation through the Municipality's website
- 1,200 people involved
- 473 individual files and 73 group files collected
- 1 international event “The feast of civic collaboration” to reward citizens and communities signatories of the Collaboration pacts
- 1 travelling exhibition and 1 publication to illustrate the main care experiences of the city and the community as a result of the collaboration between local government, citizens, companies and associations

Between 2015 and 2016 the Municipality promoted "Collaborating is Bologna", a path of listening and involvement of citizens to promote civic collaboration. Thanks to Collaborating is Bologna - the first strategic plan of the Municipality to make the principles of collaboration and participation increasingly transversal to the activity of the Municipality - the local government has involved citizens in the definition of priorities to guide European and local funding, collecting more than 550 proposals for all the neighbourhoods of the city. Based on the data collected and the experience of Collaborating is Bologna, European funding was allocated and important strategies such as the Urban Innovation Plan and the Neighbourhood Laboratories were born.

Sources: <http://www.comune.bologna.it/collaborarebologna/collaborare/>

Neighbourhood Reform and Networks and Community Work Offices

2016

In 2015, the local government approved the Neighbourhood Reform, modifying the institutional context to support the enhancement of the role of Neighbourhoods for the care of territories and communities. The Reform identifies Neighbourhoods as strategic points for the support of new forms of urban democracy and territorial welfare, strengthening the principle of horizontal subsidiarity through the inclusion of two articles in the Municipality Statute, which are dedicated to active citizenship and to the Participatory Budget. The aim is to enhance the methods of governing the city by promoting the citizens' attitude to feel actively involved in the construction of the answers to the community needs. Neighbourhoods are the

closest institutions to citizens, they are antennas capable of identifying the needs and vocations of local community. Following the Reform, the Neighbourhoods have taken on a new organisational structure, at the centre of which there are a multidisciplinary team capable of bringing together the different functions carried out by the Neighbourhoods and a Community Networks and Work Office, a point of reference for the implementation and development of community policies dedicated to networking and the care of local bodies active in the municipal territory. The Reform has fostered a process of institutional learning and the creation of new skills within the local government and the creation of new generation community-based services for the whole city.

Sources: <http://www.comune.bologna.it/archivio-notizie/dal-prossimo-mandato-i-quartieri-passano-da-9-6-i-consiglieri-da-152-90-nueve-funzioni-e-pi>

The first Urban Innovation Plan

2016

The Bologna Urban Innovation Plan is a document drafted at the end of 2016 with the aim of equipping the city with an urban innovation strategy. Unique in Italy, the Plan connects municipal, national and European resources that contribute to promoting a sustainable, welcoming, attractive and collaborative city.

The Plan has stood out from other tools as it was born as an open document that should be nurtured over time through the listening and involvement of citizens in all the neighbourhoods of the city. It recognizes public heritage as an opportunity for community development through the use of new, collaborative spaces, social inclusion, education, rights and equal opportunities,

international attractiveness and local economy, the digital space and technologies at the service of the community. According to the Plan, a space for discussion and co-design of city priorities was created in order to connect public resources, territorial potential and decisions of the local government by testing new practices of urban governance and democracy.

Sources: <http://www.comune.bologna.it/pianoinnovazioneurbana/informazioni/>



The Civic Imagination Office and Proximity agents

2017

In 2017, within the Urban Centre Bologna, the Civic Imagination Office was created: a multi-professional team of experts in architecture, urban planning, sociology and policy that designs and supports the participation, collaboration and co-planning activities promoted in city by the local government.

The Office is meant to use new skills to imagine, together with communities and city stakeholders, new solutions to make the city management increasingly shared. With strong attention to collaborative tools and methods and to the engagement of citizens, the professional figure of the Proximity agents was created. The six Proximity agents, one per each neighbourhood, work in coordination

with the Networks and Community Work Offices of the neighbourhoods, organizing meetings, workshops, focus groups, establishing relationships with communities and citizens and enhancing existing civic networks and civic spaces, starting from libraries and neighbourhood houses. The activities concern both places in transformation (for example the use of buildings or projects on public space) and issues of citizen interest (for example mobility, air quality, management of public spaces, etc.). Such activities are increasingly oriented not only to mutual listening and collaboration, but also to the achievement of real forms of co-production of the decision on public policies involving the local government and the citizens.

Sources: <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/45-uncategorised/1759-imaginazione-civica>

Neighbourhood Laboratories

2017

Born in 2017, they are participation, discussion and decision-making laboratories that constantly involve citizens and neighbourhood communities, operating on a local scale.

Year after year, objectives and methods are formulated in order to facilitate comparison, bring out needs and imagine project proposals and collective solutions for the city. In the first edition, the Laboratories supported the Participatory Budget, co-designing the redevelopment of buildings and actions for communities financed by European funds.

In the second edition, in addition to the Budget, the General Urban Plan was co-designed within the Laboratories and priorities were collected to guide calls and funding in the social, educational and digital fields. The latest edition was launched in 2019 and interrupted due to the Covid-19 health emergency. Then, in 2020, the participatory budget process was resumed with the double amount of resources available.

At the end of each cycle, the Laboratories generate the Neighbourhood Agendas, documents with priorities, needs and proposals to support the decisions of the local government and the Neighbourhoods

Sources: <http://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/progetto/labquartiere>

- Over the years, in the Laboratories, more than **15,000 people have met** (online and offline) and more than **3,600 people** have been involved through **questionnaires**
- more than **550 meetings** have been organized all around the city and online
- **18 activities have been launched** (the Participatory Budget, the Urban Plan for Sustainable Mobility, the Zone Plans, the buildings to be regenerated under the PON Metro, etc.), in addition to the Municipality policies
- **18 projects**, launched in 2018, continuously monitored and dedicated to **public space**

- **€ 1 million allocated** to the pursuit of thematic priorities in the six neighbourhoods
- **11 projects to renovate** public buildings to create collaborative spaces, continuously monitored
- continuous **co-design** and cross-cutting support to the policies and projects of the Municipality and Neighbourhoods
- co-designed calls on the basis of the results of the Laboratories for an amount of more than 7 million euros





Participatory Budget

2017

The Participatory Budget is a tool of direct democracy that empowers citizens to report, design and vote on proposals for their neighbourhood. The most voted ideas and projects are then financed and implemented. Since 2017, the Municipality has been testing the Participatory Budget, progressively refining a model that stands out from the experiences already in place in other cities due to its collaborative nature in all the phases envisaged, including that of co-design. The goal of the Participatory Budget is to test new democratic practices, by using digital tools, understanding the territorial needs, bringing out bottom-up proposals, involving citizens in the co-design of public policy actions and in the direct vote on proposals to be

financed and implemented in the municipal territory (including non-resident citizens and people over 16 years of age). To date, the Municipality has supported three editions of the Participatory Budget, the last of which obtained twice the resources (2 million euros).

The new edition, which will be published in January 2023, will have a new formula with more resources and speed of execution: a total amount of 3 million euros, about 500,000 euros per district, which will finance the implementation of integrated regeneration projects on physical transformation of a public space accompanied and strengthened by intangible activities and initiatives (e.g. cultural, social, sports, etc.).

Sources: <http://partecipa.comune.bologna.it/bilancio-partecipativo>

Since 2017, 53,179 votes have been collected for a total of 422 proposals concerning projects dedicated to public space and priority actions in the neighbourhoods.

2017 EDITION

- 27 projects to be voted
- 14,584 votes collected
- 6 funded projects

2018 EDITION

- 33 projects to be voted
- 16,348 votes collected
- 6 funded projects

2019/2020 EDITION

- 80 projects to be voted
- 22,247 votes collected
- 6 neighbourhood priority projects and actions financed





Collaboration Agreement with the LGBTQIA+ community

2017

In 2017, the Municipality and the LGBTQIA+ communities signed the “General Collaboration Agreement on the promotion and protection of the LGBTQIA+ community rights”. 14 formal and informal groups took part in a collaboration and co-planning process, presenting 52 service and action projects, which are subsidiary and complementary to those of the Municipality, concerning three thematic areas: services for people, education and training, culture and socialisation. In 2022, the Agreement was renewed involving 27 formal and informal groups and promoting 104 projects, expanding to new associations and subjects and pursuing new challenges and languages.

The aim is to remove all forms of discrimination in order to protect and promote the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community, supporting the development of the community and the collaboration between the associations and the entities that are part of it, in coordination with local government's policies and the whole citizenry.

The Agreement consolidates and makes the thirty-year collaboration between the municipality and the LGBTQIA+ communities of the city increasingly effective, with actions and projects ranging from cultural promotion to training, services to people, actions to raise awareness and rights promotion.

Sources: <https://www.comune.bologna.it/notizie/nuovo-patto-collaborazione-lgbtqia-2022>

Sustainable Mobility Urban Plan (PUMS)

2018

In 2018, the Municipality launched an information and listening process on a neighbourhood scale to bring out priority issues and needs to be included among the strategic objectives of the PUMS, also useful for the General Urban Traffic Plan. Following five strategic axes - accessibility, climate protection, air health, road safety, liveability and urban quality - and framing the different points of view, the PUMS has the ambitious objective of reducing private transport by promoting cycle-pedestrian mobility and offering a greater and more effective metropolitan public transport based mainly on the Metropolitan Railway Service (SFM) and the future Bologna tramway.

Public presentation meetings, info points spread throughout the territory and workshops in each neighbourhood were organised: the objective was to inform the citizenry, collect reports and needs on a local scale to bring out different points of view.

Sources: <https://pumsbologna.it/> - <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/pums>

Social reporting on forms of collaboration with the third sector

2018

In 2018, the first trial of social reporting on forms of collaboration with the third sector was launched. This new model of integrated social reporting, developed and consolidated in the following years, collects cross-cutting data related to all the projects promoted by the Municipality with the third sector and active citizenry. The single framework of the existing collaborations between the local government and the community concerns Free Forms of Association, the Community Work that follows the guidelines approved by the Neighbourhood Councils, and forms of collaborations that started thanks to the Collaboration pacts on the Regulation on urban common goods.

It allows to verify and assess the results, effects and impacts of this synergistic action in response to the needs of the community.

Sources: <http://partecipa.comune.bologna.it/rendicontazione-sociale-rapporti-con-il-terzo-settore-e-cittadinanza-attiva>

2018 EDITION

- 457 projects, 91 of which are Collaboration pacts
- Allocated funds: 1.622 million euros
- Total cost of the initiatives: 11.455 million euros, 14% of which allocated by the Municipality of Bologna and 86% by the implementing bodies.

2019 EDITION

- 515 projects, 107 of which are Collaboration pacts
- Allocated funds: 2.224 million euros
- Total cost of the initiatives: 14.360 million euros, 15% of which allocated by the Municipality of Bologna and 85% by the implementing bodies.

2020 EDITION

- 383 projects, 95 of which are Collaboration pacts + 25 projects conceived to respond to the Covid-19 emergency
- Allocated funds: 1.763 million euros
- Total cost of the initiatives: 9.213 million euros, 19% of which allocated by the Municipality of Bologna and 81% by the implementing bodies.

2021 EDITION

- 510 projects, 166 of which are Collaboration pacts + 10 projects conceived to respond to the Covid-19 emergency
- Allocated funds: 2.278 million euros
- Total cost of the initiatives: 8.341 million euros, 27% of which allocated by the Municipality of Bologna and 73% by the implementing bodies (2021 data concerning the registry).

The Zone Plan

2018

In order to draft a common document for the Institutions and those who work in the municipal territory in the fields of social issues, inclusion and solidarity, between 2018 and 2019 a process dedicated to the drafting of the Zone Plan for health and social welfare was launched. The Plan is a district planning tool with which the local government, in agreement with the Ausl (local healthcare units), defines integrated social and socio-health policies, guidelines and objectives outlined by the regional social and health plan, at a local level. Through a phase of listening and co-planning within the Neighbourhood Workshops, the Plan, together with local associations and experts, has defined the social-health priorities

of the area, with a specific focus on the fight against socio-economic, relational and educational poverty, and on the reduction of socialization areas and cultural and sports opportunities.

Sources: <https://www.comune.bologna.it/servizi-informazioni/piano-zona-programmazione-sociale> <http://partecipa.comune.bologna.it/piano-di-zona>

The Spaces Laboratory

2018

In 2018, the Spaces Laboratory was launched. It is a path dedicated to redesigning policies and tools for assignment and management of municipal properties or temporary use properties. In particular, the Laboratory had the aim of highlighting the possibilities of innovation of administrative procedures by following the Regulation on collaboration between citizens and local government for the care and regeneration of urban common goods. It also aimed at outlining proposals to update the rules about the management of municipal properties and promoting the test of management models and temporary uses of spaces to be regenerated, also through forms of collaboration with private subjects

and the community. More than 50 formal and informal organizations have joined the process. Among the most important results of the path, the Municipality has tested a new tool for the assignment of public buildings that from Bologna has subsequently extended to other cities (for example Padua). Thanks to this experimentation, in 2019 5 unused public buildings were assigned, to be used for purposes of cultural and participatory interest, through an innovative co-design process based on territorial assemblies, which envisages calling on citizens to present projects further enhancing and strengthening the role and prominence of civic activism and the entire third sector.

Sources: <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/laboratorio-spazi>

The Foundation for Urban Innovation

2018

Continuing the activities of the Urban Centre Bologna, in 2018 the Municipality and the University of Bologna created the Foundation for Urban Innovation (FIU). The Foundation is a multidisciplinary centre for research, development, co-production and communication of urban transformations. FIU plays a driving role in the follow-up, promotion and experimentation of the city's transformation processes, in terms of policy planning, civic governance and design. Through innovative administrative approaches, FIU operates locally promoting ecological transition and cultural democracy, developing shared paths in constant dialogue with citizens, institutions, associations, movements and representatives of the economic, social and cultural world.

The Foundation focuses on two main macro-areas - Innovation in urban space transformations and Cultural innovation and urban economy - and acts through a method based on civic imagination, process design, local actions and research, identifying for each process and project the most effective methodologies and tools. Through the figure of Proximity agents, FIU nurtures relations with citizens, communities, institutions and local bodies, promotes the creation of territorial networks, follows up urban transformations on a local scale through active listening, intercepts opportunities (projects, initiatives, financing, etc.) from the territory and for the territory, to relate Communities, Neighbourhoods, the Municipality and other Institutions.

Sources: <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/chisiamo>

Health Micro-areas

2019

Tested since 2019 in the Croce del Biacco (San Donato-San Vitale district) and Pescarola (Navile district) areas, health micro-areas are based on public spaces dedicated to personal well-being and on multi-professional teams active on a local scale, with the aim of integrating local health and social services by increasing coordination among all health and welfare interventions.

Thanks to the collaboration between community nurses of the Local Health Authority, social workers of the Municipality and other professional figures hired in support of specific activities, the micro-areas are a concrete tool to improve services for citizens,

for the development of a social and health-related well-being conception and for the fight against fragility, ensuring fair treatment and forms of social cohesion.

Sources: <https://www.ausl.bologna.it/news/archivio-2022/auslnews.2022-05-27.3947257026>

Second Urban Innovation Plan

2019

Thanks to the stable and widespread territorial engagement process carried out since 2017, in 2019 the second edition of the Urban Innovation Plan was published: a multi-voice story that outlines future prospects for the city. Following the first volume, this version gives an exhaustive picture of the needs and lines of action shared with organizations, communities and the citizens of Bologna, focusing more on the themes concerning the neighbourhoods and imagining strategies and actions to be implemented in all the neighbourhoods of the city.

Sources: <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/progetto/pianoinnovazioneurbana>

The Neighbourhood Houses

2019

The Neighbourhood Houses were created with the aim of recognizing and promoting the importance of the 33 centres for the elderly, born in the 70s and spread throughout the municipal territory.

In 2019, the Municipality launched a process to rethink the role of Neighbourhood Houses as spaces for the community, with subsidiary activities and services to those offered by the local government, promoting self-management, building networks of mutuality and local welfare with particular attention to families, to the youngest, to the elderly.

In 2022, with a financing of 500 thousand euros, listening and support activities and a new coordinated image, the Neighbourhood Houses become a real new generation civic infrastructure at the service of communities, open to all generations and cultures and dedicated to well-being and networking.

Sources: <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/45-uncategorised/2884-riparte-il-percorso-di-accompagnamento-verso-la-rete-delle-case-di-quartiere-di-bologna>

Borgo Panigale-Reno District

- 1 IL PARCO
- 2 ROSA MARCHI
- 3 SANTA VIOLA
- 4 VILLA BERNAROLI

Navile District

- 5 CASA GIALLA
- 6 CROCE COPERTA
- 7 FONDO COMINI
- 8 KATIA BERTASI
- 9 MONTANARI
- 10 PESCAROLA
- 11 VILLA TORCHI

Porto-Saragozza District

- 12 COSTA
- 13 DELLA PACE
- 14 DUE AGOSTO 1980
- 15 SAFFI
- 16 TOLMINO

San Donato-San Vitale District

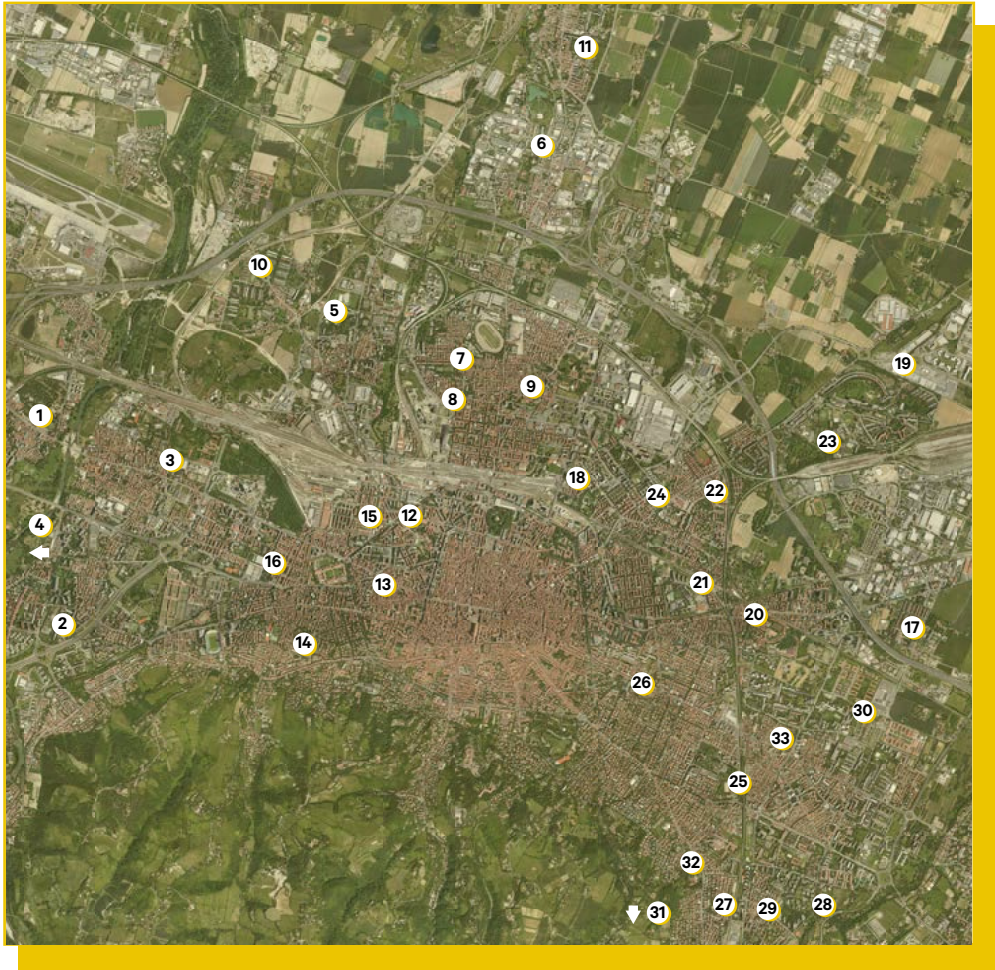
- 17 CROCE DEL BIANCO
- 18 ITALICUS
- 19 PILASTRO
- 20 RUOZI
- 21 SCIPIONE DAL FERRO
- 22 FRASSINETTI
- 23 CA' SOLARE
- 24 GRAF

Santo Stefano District

- 25 LUNETTA GAMBERINI
- 26 STELLA

Savena District

- 27 SAN RAFEL
- 28 CASA DEL GUFO
- 29 FOSCHERARA
- 30 LA DACIA
- 31 PALEOTTO
- 32 VILLA MAZZACORATI
- 33 VILLA PARADISO



Neighbourhood Schools

2019

In 2019, Neighbourhood Schools were born with the aim of supporting the Bolognese educating community in activities to combat educational poverty and loneliness, testing new languages and new skills. With 24 active projects throughout the city of Bologna and particular attention to areas characterized by socio-economic and cultural fragility, the Neighbourhood Schools have so far involved more than 5,000 boys and girls in art, fashion, music, theatre, dance, crafts and new technologies workshops. With the aim of effectively programming the next European funding dedicated to education, in 2022 a listening and testing activity was launched to renew the Neighbourhood Schools, starting from the needs

of the youngest and putting communities, researchers, third sector and officials in dialogue, integrating the challenges introduced by the pandemic into the project.

Sources: <https://scuolequartiere.bo.it/>



BA FAMILY

General Urban Plan (PUG)

2020

From 2018 to 2021, the Municipality activated a review process of the General Urban Plan of Bologna through the listening and involvement of citizens and stakeholders, also carried out within the Neighbourhood Laboratories.

The project included moments of public listening, workshops, interviews, questionnaires, a web space for the collection of contributions, an information and communication campaign and more, and continued during the Covid-19 pandemic, putting in place new and experimental ways of digital involvement.

The collaboration about the Plan's revision enriched the reflection on the strategic and cross-cutting objectives of habitability and inclusion, resilience, attractiveness and work, as well as promoted 24 local strategies that define guidelines on transformation priorities in the different areas of the city and in the six neighbourhoods.

In the long term, the goal was to develop structured listening activities over time through which periodically validate, enrich and implement the local strategies described in the Plan. The tool is designed to be updated over time.

Sources: <http://dru.iperbole.bologna.it/piano-urbanistico-generale> | <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/progetto/pianourbanisticogenerale>

Ethical Deliveries

2020

Ethical Delivery is the first home delivery cooperative platform on the side of local merchants, delivery people, citizens and the environment. The project was born in 2020, during the toughest phase of the pandemic, thanks to two cooperatives, Dynamo and Idee in Movimento, at the instigation of the Municipality and with the support of the university centre for training and promotion of the AlmaVicoo cooperative company. The goal was to create a prototype to overcome the model of existing private platforms, demonstrating that an ethical alternative is possible. Following the principles of cooperation, through a co-design process with merchants, delivery people, trade associations,

entrepreneurs and researchers, it has clear pillars: a fair salary for riders, the use of vehicles that minimize environmental impact and a more direct relationship with small traders. The operational phase of deliveries began in October 2020, with an initial trial that led to more than 3,800 deliveries up to January. After this experimentation phase, a solidarity home delivery service of basic necessities goods and services is now active in two areas of Bologna (Savena district and Pescarola area, Navile district) and, in synergy with the Libraries of the Municipality of Bologna, a citywide book loan delivery service started.

Sources: <https://consegnetiche.it/>



VERDURE
GRATINATE
E CONTORNI
SEMPRE
FRESCI

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BIBIMICO

SALVIA

BIBIMICO

The School of Collective Actions

2020

Starting from the data collected in an survey on the impacts that Covid-19 has had on civic networks and mutuality practices, in 2021 the School of Collective Actions became operational to promote stronger solidarity and inclusive values and to catalyse new social alliances between the Institutional public and the Community public.

The aim is to support community projects through training activities. The remarkable Bologna urban development model should be the base of the answers to socio-economic needs and inequalities exacerbated by the crisis. 32 projects were selected because

of their high social, civic, economic, environmental and cultural impact: promoted by third sector bodies and informal communities, they have been supported with design thinking methods and techniques, with training modules - for example on new organisational models inspired by the principles of feminism, active listening and crowdfunding - and with funding of up to 30,000 euros for strategic projects and up to 5,000 euros for experimental projects capable of acting on central issues for the future of the city, such as environmental sustainability, digital skills, collaborative services, urban creativity and community well-being.

Sources: <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/progetto/collective>

City Climate Assembly

2021

In 2021, Bologna became the first city in Italy to hold deliberative assemblies for the climate. The Assembly will be convened during 2023 with the aim of defining and submitting proposals to the City Council to face the climate and environmental crisis and will be formed by citizens drawn by lot and representatives of stakeholders. The Assembly is a tool that arises within the framework of the Declaration of Climate and Environmental Emergency approved at the end of 2019, with which the Municipality has committed to undertake a series of very concrete actions that will have to lead the city "to a transition towards the zeroing of its impact on the climate".

Sources: <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/45-uncategorised/2706-bologna-prima-citta-d-italia-ad-inserire-lo-strumento-dell-assemblea-cittadina-e-la-tutela-del-clima-come-biiettivo-programmatico>

New local public spaces

2021

Since 2020, the local government has been supporting a program for the widespread creation of pedestrian, safe, habitable and playable areas, contributing to the increase and dissemination of nearby public spaces, with people, children and the environment at the centre of the attention. The program's goal is to implement temporary urban transformations through tactical urban planning and new infrastructure works that foster Pedibus and Bicibus and the increase of school roads.

The first trial was conducted in the university area with the new Piazza Rossini. Subsequently, in 2021, tactical urban planning was tested in via Milano (Savena district) and in 2022 the first two school squares in via Procaccini

(near the Testoni Fioravanti schools in the Navile district) and at the Tambroni Schools (in the Santo Stefano district) were tested. Finally, the neighbourhood square in Santa Viola (Borgo Panigale-Reno district) was tested with the new tram stop to be built nearby.

Sources: <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/progetto/spazioabologna>



BIEN VENIR A LA PLAZA

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BIEN VENIR A LA PLAZA

Week of the Mayor and of the Council in the Neighbourhood

2022

Since 2022, the Mayor and the City Council have decided to test a new work practice by moving the Mayor's Office to one of the six Bologna Neighbourhoods for one week per month. The objective of this initiative is to practice a neighbourhood approach, meeting communities, companies, operators and citizens of all age in the places where they live and work daily. Deepening the knowledge of the background with direct data and comparisons, the Mayor and the City Council highlight the need of the local government to find new organizational ways that take shape through neighbourhood practices, not only physical but also relational, in strong synergy with the offices of the Neighbourhoods.

The initiative marks a new management phase that allows institutions to stand next to and together with citizens, schools, libraries and local markets, listening and imagining new methods to enhance the civic fabric and the local bodies.

Sources: <https://www.comune.bologna.it/notizie/caro-sindaco-aspetto-quartiere>

The Neighbourhood Sweeper

2022

To improve the care of public space and to better organize waste collection, since 2022 the neighbourhood Sweepers have been operating by integrating already existing services and guaranteeing a complete and efficient control of all recycling areas. The Neighbourhood Sweeper work is carried out by territorial representative of the multi-utility company, in direct relationship with Urp (Public Relations Office), local Police, Presidency of the Neighbourhood and in close relationship with citizens and traders. It collects requests and needs and it intervenes quickly to ascertain problematic situations, identify solutions and solve anomalies with a view to continuous service improvement.

Sources: <https://www.comune.bologna.it/notizie/spazzino-quartiere>

Neighbourhood Policing Team

2022

In 2022, focusing on neighbourhoods, capillary actions and prevention, the Neighbourhood Policing Team was set up. In addition to guaranteeing ordinary services of citizens' interest, it operates daily in defined reference areas, in close contact with the community, through mechanisms of permanent dialogue with citizens, communication and presence, also through the "Ufficio Mobile (Mobile Office)" service, located in the most populated and popular areas of all neighbourhoods. It collects reports and complaints, it responds to requests for information with a closer relationship with citizens and traders. In response of requests and needs, it is aimed at more rapid interventions to ascertain particularly important situations or critical issues.

Sources: <https://www.comune.bologna.it/notizie/nasce-polizia-locale-comunita>

An Agreement for shared city management

2022

With this Agreement, the Municipality of Bologna, together with the Forum of the third sector, enhances the regulatory change, in accordance with the reform of the third sector and the European transpositions, by strengthening the relationship with the Bodies of the third sector and expanding the involvement and recognition of all informal entities, civic networks and active citizenship. With this goal, in 2022, listening and participation activities started, involving around 350 organizations and 500 citizens. Moreover, the shared planning document "A new agreement for shared administration" was drafted. The Agreement also represents a valuable framework for the new Regulation on urban commons, which was then revised in the same months the activities started. Among the innovative commitments: promotion of shared management as a privileged tool for public policy

co-definition; structural implementation of the impact assessment in all project phases, definition of new models of assignment, management and sharing of public spaces characterized by flexibility, civic collaboration and hybridization of uses; consolidation of the use and sharing of data as a method of the relationship between local government, third sector entities and civic networks; structuring of stable and continuous training courses that increase the specific and cross-cutting competences of Bologna local government, third sector and civic networks. Among the outcomes there is also the proposal of a permanent governance system for monitoring the Agreement commitments, which will be presented to the City by the end of 2022, through a promoting and monitoring Committee and an annual meeting of the stakeholders.

Sources: <https://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/progetto/terzosettore>



The new Regulation dedicated to forms of collaboration

2023

The new Agreement on shared City Management tries to innovate the collaborative relationship between local government, third sector and civic networks, defining the guiding values and the commitments needed to strengthen the co-definition of public policies. The New Regulation, in the wake of the values and commitments enshrined in the Agreement, provides the operational tools for the promotion of shared management, shared planning and design, and collaborative management. The objective is to include in a single framework different tools of participation and collaboration promoted by the city management, such as the Regulation on urban common goods and the Collaboration

pacts, the Regulation on free forms of association, the Neighbourhood Laboratories, the experiments of the Spaces Laboratory and the Neighbourhood Houses. The new regulation, which will enter into force in 2023, will make it possible to systematize and renew the city management collaborative approach, with more efficient facilitation practices and tools, forms of financial support, subsidies, rules on the use of real estate and communication promotion for all associations, social networks and other private entities that carry out activities of general interest, in collaboration with the Municipality, on a non-profit basis.

Sources: <http://comunicatistampa.comune.bologna.it/2022/communal-council-approved-modifiche-allo-statuto-e-il-nuovo-regolazione-sulle-forme-di-collaborazione>

The Neighborhoods Plan

2023

In 2023, the municipal administration will adopt a Neighbourhoods Plan, in order to encourage municipal bodies and offices to work with a new approach and to promote new work practices capable of placing citizens at the core of the City Council's work. Starting from actions in the Neighbourhoods - recognized as the closest institutions to the citizens, which is more and more crucial for decisions concerning basic services and for care services for the municipal territories and communities - the Plan wants to support the consolidation of a polycentric city. The Plan is an organizational and informative tool to understand, with an increasingly cross-cutting approach, the needs

and the potential of the city, area by area. It aims at developing the city together with citizens following the principles of environmental sustainability, proximity, solidarity and participation. Through a website, the Neighbourhoods Plan will also facilitate communication to citizens by making information on the strategies, projects and activities envisaged in their area of reference more accessible: from construction sites and urban transformations to social, educational and cultural projects.

/ Receivables

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