

URBASOFIA – WHEN KNOWLEDGE GIVES DIRECTIONS



www.urbasofia.eu

URBASOFIA is a town and regional planning company created in 2011 which, albeit fairly young, is strongly endorsed by the experience in urban and territorial issues of the founder, employees and collaborators, as well as their involvement in design and management of EU-funded projects, especially in connection with smart cities, strategic integrated planning, urban regeneration as well as the social impact assessment of current urban issues and new ICT solutions under development.

The company's key expertise competences reflect in **(1) policy design, (2) promoting participatory planning and design processes and (3) assisting the public administration and stakeholders in implementing strategic planning documents.**

URBASOFIA played an important role in projects related to cultural heritage, such as the H2020 flagship project entitled **ROCK -Regeneration and Optimisation of Cultural heritage in creative and Knowledge cities**, in which we supported 7 Role Model cities (Athens, Cluj-Napoca, Eindhoven, Liverpool, Lyon, Turin and Vilnius,) and 3 Replicator cities (Lisbon, Skopje, Bologna) with the process of planning and implementing a portfolio of local actions, including also the integration of new technologies and tools in the local context.

Regarding **ISTER project**, besides its role as Work Package leader (Joining, Activating & Tutoring), URBASOFIA is involved in the project as knowledge provider (for baseline screening and policy framework and exploitation and long-lasting effects) and facilitator of the implementation process for the involved territorial and thematic partners, respectively cities and museums (mapping and promoting Roman network of routes and settlements and small-scale investment). Working closely with the Lead Partner (the National Museum of Transylvanian History), URBASOFIA is involved in project management and communication activities as well.

As already partner in H2020 projects (ROCK, NOMAD, BUILT-IN-WOOD, PROGIREG), UIA (SPIRE) and ERA.NET-RUS PLUS (CRISALIDE) URBASOFIA will use the accumulated experience and also gain extended knowledge and expertise in what concerns cultural-led regeneration, helping us to gain further experience in managing stakeholder participation processes at an international level. One of the lessons URBASOFIA has learned from its vast experience in past projects is that multi-level governance collaboration between all interested parties confronted with the same development challenges is the key to achieving a more sustainable territorial development. Therefore, within ISTER partnership, URBASOFIA will share its experiences in integrated participatory planning, as well as other best practice examples from all across the Danube Region.