

URBACT



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Interreg

GreenPlace



## TESTING ACTION CARDS

July 2024

## INTRODUCTION

### The GreenPlace network

GreenPlace is an URBACT network consisting of ten partners who aim at developing a set of activities for "recycling" unused urban areas, using social participation tools. The project takes into account not only the regional specificities and conditions of each of the partners but also introduces greenery as a key factor in limiting climate change in urban areas. It is running from July 2023 to December 2025.

It is led by the City of Wroclaw (Poland) and is composed of 9 project partners:

- Boulogne-sur-mer Développement Côte d'Opale - France
- Bucharest Metropolitan Area Intercommunity Development Association - Romania
- Cehegín - Spain
- Limerick - Ireland
- Löbau - Germany
- Nitra - Slovakia
- Onda - Spain
- Quarto d'Altino - Italy
- Vila Nova de Poiares - Portugal

More information and contacts : <https://urbact.eu/networks/greenplace>.

### Overview of Testing Action Cards

The initially Planned Testing Actions were presented and discussed during the Core Network Meeting of the GreenPlace Network which took place on 18-19 June 2024 in Bucharest, Romania.

The compendium aims at presenting the learning and testing journey of the Project Partners of the GreenPlace network, while sharing a tool – Testing Action Cards – which can be of use for other cities.

As for any journey, the following weeks and months saw readjustments of the Testing Actions to fit better with local realities and needs to design the local IAPs.

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## TESTING ACTION CARD

### Title of the Action (+ Location)

One-day event on the brownfield around the station

### Rationale

*Why do you want to test this?*

- Strong history on the site
- But not acknowledged by the inhabitants
- The site is not accessible at the moment
- We need to reinvent a new story on this site

### Your name and city

Boulogne-sur-Mer, France

### Objectives

*What do you expect to happen?*

- Bring people to the site (discover 1)
- + discover the history of the site
- First step to present the project and include the local population
- A date base of people we can contact later

### Process

*How will it take place?*

- One day event
- Exhibition on the history of the site (archives on the factories, testimony)
- Workshop on calligraphy
- Written/ recorded testimonies of former workers
- Street out ? Topic : nature
- Questionnaire

### Indicators

*How will you assess the results of the Action?*

- Number of participants
- Number of filled questionnaire
- Number of people interested in being contacted again in the future

### Timing

*When will it take place? For how long?*

During the Heritage days

### Budget

*How will you fund it?*

Budget from local and Greenplace's funding

## TESTING ACTION CARD

### Title of the Action (+ Location)

Organising a depot visit for the Urbact Local Group and the Urboteca Fellowship Team

### Rationale

*Why do you want to test this?*

The Urboteca Fellowship Project have chosen as a site for their project the Victoriei Tram Depot. The project's aim is to explore public interest themes in neighborhoods through participatory diagnosis of public spaces and facilities, advocating for community initiatives to influence resource.

The site visit will allow the Urbact local group and a team of fellows to physically experience a space they have not yet seen, despite its relevance to their studies on green regeneration. Since the depot is still operational and less visible within the city, this visit provides a unique opportunity for all involved to directly engage with the site.

### Process

*How will it take place?*

Because the depot is still working, it is not accessible to the public. Before the visit, participants will receive an informational brief about the depot, including safety protocols, objectives of the visit, and any specific areas of focus. This helps ensure everyone is on the same page and understands the goals of the site visit. We will contact the administrators of the Depot and have a person with more knowledge on the history of the depot, to offer relevant information on history, technical aspects to the visitors. The group will be taken on a guided tour around the depot. During the tour, participants could be encouraged to observe, ask questions, and discuss among themselves. They might be prompted to think about specific problems or opportunities related to green regeneration.

### Timing

*When will it take place? For how long?*

20 May, 2-3 hours

### Your name and city

Cristina Pavelescu, Bucharest, Romania

### Objectives

*What do you expect to happen?*

Being on location can inspire more effective and creative strategies as they can better understand the spatial and environmental context, potentially leading to innovative solutions for the depot's future. Participants will have their first direct exposure to the site. This experience is likely to enhance their understanding of the specific challenges and potentials of the location. Being physically present may spark creative thinking and innovative ideas, as they can visualize and discuss real-world applications of theoretical concepts they have studied. Additionally, the visit could foster a collaborative atmosphere among the group, leading to a more cohesive and inspired approach to developing future strategies for the depot's use and regeneration.

### Indicators

*How will you assess the results of the Action?*

Feedback will be asked, using an online form and an indicator will be the amount of feedback received.

We can evaluate the quality and quantity of ideas generated during the brainstorming or workshop sessions.

We can track any follow-up actions taken by participants or the organization post-visit. This could include further research, proposal submissions, or planning meetings that indicate ongoing engagement and the practical impact of the visit.

### Budget

*How will you fund it?*

Internal budget

## TESTING ACTION CARD

### Title of the Action (+ Location)

Tree Planting, Johnsgate community/residents  
(alongside section of city wall)

### Rationale

*Why do you want to test this?*

- Bring people together for a fun family event that links Limerick's 'forgotten' history with biodiversity
- Opportunity to present the GreenPlace project to the community
- Plant native fruit trees to enhance the biodiversity in the area

### Your name and city

Sarah O'Malley, Limerick city, Ireland

### Objectives

*What do you expect to happen?*

- Explore the views of the community regarding the city wall and Limerick's history
- Discuss with residents their ideas for GreenPlace to inform 'inhouse' plans for the area
- Plant a number of fruit trees that is community led, with opportunities for families to plant or 'name' their tree
- Manage the expectations of the community as to the purpose of the project and outputs

### Process

*How will it take place?*

- Meet with resident's association and co-create a plan for the event
- Advertise and promote event on social media and through the residents association
- Work with Parks Dept to purchase trees, and assist planting on the day
- Book a photographer
- Follow-up with residents after event for feedback

### Indicators

*How will you assess the results of the Action?*

- Number of attendees
- Level of feedback received (wishes, wants, needs of community)
- Ideas received for the project that;
  - Inform the overall 'inhouse' masterplan for the area
  - Indicate community 'buy in' for future events
- Refine ULG member list

### Timing

*When will it take place? For how long?*

Saturday, 12 – 2:30pm, 9/03/2024

### Budget

*How will you fund it?*

€300.00 (URBACT Budget)

## TESTING ACTION CARD

### Title of the Action (+ Location)

Medieval May Fair, Johnsgate community/residents (alongside section of city wall)

### Rationale

*Why do you want to test this?*

- Bring people together for a fun medieval themed event with walk/talk (Sarah McC, LCCC) and medieval games courtesy of actors/animators from King's John Castle
- Opportunity to update the community on the GreenPlace
- Bring Limerick's history to life in the community's 'backyard'

### Your name and city

Sarah O'Malley, Limerick city, Ireland

### Objectives

*What do you expect to happen?*

- Further explore the views of the community regarding the city wall and connecting with Limerick's history
- Discuss with residents their ideas for GreenPlace to further inform 'inhouse' plans for the area
- Explore how and what way future events like this could enhance the community's connection with the wall

### Process

*How will it take place?*

- Meet with resident's association/local businesses to assist with the promotion of the event on social media and community networks
- Book [King John's Castle](#) actors and animators (jugglers, musicians)
- Book a photographer
- Follow-up with residents after event for feedback

### Indicators

*How will you assess the results of the Action?*

- Number of attendees
- Level of feedback received (wishes, wants, needs of community)
- Ideas received for the project that reinforce community 'buy in' for future events
- Refine ULG member list

### Timing

*When will it take place? For how long?*

Saturday, 12 – 2:30pm, 25/05/2024

### Budget

*How will you fund it?*

€500.00 (URBACT budget)

## TESTING ACTION CARD

### Title of the Action (+ Location)

Competition for the test use

### Your name and city

Julia and Anna, Löbau, Germany

### Rationale

*Why do you want to test this?*

- competition to engage people to apply for a doing a test use
- find out:
  - what works well on the site?
  - what works well parallel?
  - what works well for the people in Löbau?
- is supposed to build the foundation for writing a concept for future use
- generate attention and engagement in general

### Objectives

*What do you expect to happen?*

- regular activities during test phase
- happy if people keep talking about it
- happy if we can attract many different target groups
- happy if we can create new networks between test users
  - maybe who will also be important for the factory in the future and get involved later

### Process

*How will it take place?*

- competition ended 10.03.2024
- jury decision in March '24
- jury contains of:
  - Mayor
  - Haus Schminke Foundation
  - Architects
  - Senior citizen
  - Young person
  - Culture Department Löbau
  - Experts on public participation
  - « kreatives Sachsen »
- April-June: test uses
- Will happen in several indoor rooms , courtyard, garage
- from 1 night to 4 weeks max.
- participants are:
  - test use organisers
  - test use users (audience, participants, guests...)

### Indicators

*How will you assess the results of the Action?*

- 3 uses per month at least
- all feedback posters are filled out with at least 10 opinions (20 stickers) for monitoring
- at least 5 newspaper articles/broadcast features / etc.
- reflect about at least 10 uses for writing the concept (at least 10 should be validated for the concept)

### Timing

*When will it take place? For how long?*

- April-June: test uses
- from 1 night to 4 weeks max

### Budget

*How will you fund it?*

This year's testing actions can be funded otherwise

## TESTING ACTION CARD

### Title of the Action (+ Location)

Open day in the Creative Centre on Martin's Hills

### Your name and city

Nitra, Slovakia

### Rationale

*Why do you want to test this?*

We need to make the area of the former barracks visible

We need to raise the visibility of the Creative Center, which begins its operation this year in the area on Martinský vrch

We need to involve the local community in the area

Having different generations (old people & families living in the neighbourhood are absent from questionnaire)

Since this is an important space not only for the inhabitants of the city, but also for the entire region, we therefore want to make it within the framework of the great celebrations of Cyril and Methodius, when there will also be many tourists in the city

### Objectives

*What do you expect to happen?*

We would like the area to be put on the map and people to see the possibilities that the whole area has to offer

We would like to make visible the possibilities offered by the Creative Center as a process accelerator in the locality and thus create local dynamics

We would like to find sustainable solutions for the future that suit everyone

We would like the area to remain active after the test event We hope to have 100 people on board and an edible bed planted

### Process

*How will it take place?*

- Communication campaign online on FB of the city and the website of the city as part of the campaign for the Cyril Methodist celebrations
- Involvement of ULG partners, exchange of experience
- Outdoor activities - a guided tour of the campus, an exhibition of the works of architecture students "how the former barracks could one day look like", a workshop on planting an edible flower bed and a flower bed for pollinators
- Indoor activities - tour of the creative center, creative workshop (e.g. sewing)
- Questionnaire

### Indicators

*How will you assess the results of the Action?*

- Number of people participating
- Surveys and questionnaires
- Local NGOs and organizations, local infrastructure builders

### Timing

*When will it take place? For how long?*

6.7.2024 (10:00 – 18:00)

### Budget

*How will you fund it?*

From URBACT fund



## TESTING ACTION CARD

### Title of the Action (+ Location)

Hackathon – circular marathon

### Your name and city

Municipality of Onda, Spain

### Rationale

*Why do you want to test this?*

- Get to know young people's ideas about the area (green lung)
- Involve young people in the project
- Raise awareness of the importance of sustainability in urban areas

### Objectives

*What do you expect to happen?*

- Having fun
- Participation and cooperation
- Positive attitude to the development of the project
- Massive participation
- Collecting ideas and sharing good practices

### Process

*How will it take place?*

We will do it in the 'campaneta' building. We will invite experts on the subject, students and professors from the university. We will combine work and leisure. The idea is to organise a content to get the better idea in which the participants will have to make a presentation.

### Indicators

*How will you assess the results of the Action?*

- N° PARTICIPANTS
- N° AND QUALITY OF THE IDEAS
- Satisfaction of the participants
- Level of knowledge acquired by the participants

### Timing

*When will it take place? For how long?*

The hackathon will last one and a half days.

### Budget

*How will you fund it?*

Public and private funding

## TESTING ACTION CARD

### Title of the Action (+ Location)

ENLIGHTENING ALTINO  
 Initiatives around the Altinate Civic Center

### Rationale

*Why do you want to test this?*

Since ULG / Municipal administration long-term post-Urbact goal is to harmonize the natural, environmental, and historical-archaeological aspects with heavy infrastructural intervention, now we want to create a light-tactical week of participatory events involving both young and older audiences. The chosen location, in line with GreenPlace's purpose (revitalization of the Civic Center), will be around the Civic Center itself, in the outdoor spaces, along the cycling and pedestrian paths, and in the archaeological areas: the events will allow the stakeholders, from the archaeological museum to restaurants, sports associations, and cultural institutions such as universities, to organize activities in those spaces.

### Process

*How will it take place?*

We plan to organize:

- Bicycle outings along the banks of the Zero River (Path of Memory) with a program tailored for young audiences.
- Experiential naturalistic environmental outings (by bike or on foot) for a general audience to connect cultural aspects (the ancient, the memory) with the bodily dimension (breathing, heartbeats...).
- Themed outdoor movie nights near the Civic Center.
- "Under the stars" nights around the Civic Center, with observation of constellations and planets.
- Theme nights or afternoons with prominent personalities to draw public attention.
- Urbact workshops on participatory policy practices; the workshop will also be useful to engage further participants in our ULG.
- The creation of a potential panel on the theme of gender equality in cities for the use of public space, in collaboration with other Urbact projects from Italian cities.
- Participation of the Municipality of Treviso, engaged in Urbact IV with a project on public mobility, to discuss transportation connections and the importance of green spaces and areas for people.
- Other activities, to be defined.

### Timing

*When will it take place? For how long?*

We expect the initiatives to take place in the first two weeks of September 2024, with the most important day being September 14, 2024.

### Your name and city

Municipality of Quarto d'Altino, Italy

### Objectives

*What do you expect to happen?*

Organizing recreational, sports, and entertainment events is a good way to bring attention to the Altinate theme. It will be possible to engage young audiences in a participatory way by asking them to imagine how the future of those spaces should look, how they want to use them, and how their particularity can be communicated. We expect that through the meeting opportunities created, a deeper discussion can begin about the revitalization of the area. The meetings will also be useful for strengthening ties between existing associations that take part in our ULG.

### Indicators

*How will you assess the results of the Action?*

- Number of participants in the various initiatives.
- Collection of creative responses from the public.
- Creation of new multilevel policies for the revitalization of the Civic Center and the area.
- Collection of suggestions (quantity and quality).
- Organizational involvement of stakeholders.
- Social media feedback.
- Dissemination by the media.

### Budget

*How will you fund it?*

7000 euro approx from our budget

## TESTING ACTION CARD

### Title of the Action (+ Location)

Open days to take a tour of the future green park

### Your name and city

Jani Ferreira, Vila Nova de Poiares, Portugal

### Rationale

*Why do you want to test this?*

Open days are essential for fostering transparency connection, and collaboration.

These events serve as platforms for building trust, promoting dialogue, and strengthening community engagement.

Moreover, open days provide a forum for showcasing achievements, sharing knowledge, and soliciting feedback, ultimately leading to continuous improvement and innovation.

In Essence, embracing open days reflects a commitment to inclusivity, accountability, and mutual growth.

### Objectives

*What do you expect to happen?*

I will be happy if we:

- Create a local dynamics.
- Identify solutions for the future that fits all

### Process

*How will it take place?*

- Online campaigns through Facebook or website of the city.
- Involvement of ULG partners, exchanging experiences creating showcases of the benefits of a green park
- Guided hikes identifying the flaws within the ecosystem and highlighting the benefits of altering it for a better ecosystem, emphasizing the advantages for the surrounding population as well as the improvement of the area's health and well-being of the general population.

### Indicators

*How will you assess the results of the Action?*

- Number of people participating.
- Surveys and questionnaires during the hikes.
- Online questionnaires.

### Timing

*When will it take place? For how long?*

- April-June 2024

### Budget

*How will you fund it?*

- Urbact Fund

## TESTING ACTION CARD

### Title of the Action (+ Location)

Green Leisure Zone near the Boiler House

### Your name and city

Municipality of Wrocław, Poland

### Rationale

*Why do you want to test this?*

- To open the depot for the people making it a freely accessible urban area
- To raise the awareness of the Popowice depot
- To actively involve the stakeholders in testing actions

### Objectives

*What do you expect to happen?*

- Create the space for integration in greenery and silence
- Create a testing action in line with the participatory approach of the project
- Get people interested in the depot
- To provide parents waiting for their children in the parking lot an alternative waiting area (there are several extracurricular sports and activities happening on the depot premises).

### Process

*How will it take place?*

The action will be carried out by the chosen NGO through the open call for proposals and with the support of Wrocław Municipality and will include:

- Inventory of greenery and site organization
- Removal of the fence and creation of a barrier-free path
- Opening up the area around the boiler room for recreational/integrative purposes
- Creation of a community garden
- Introduction of small architecture (both permanent elements and light, mobile ones)
- Creation of a mural
- Utilization of rainwater for plant irrigation

### Indicators

*How will you assess the results of the Action?*

- Number of people visiting the place
- Feedback from people visiting the place
- The feedback of the NGO involved in the action
- Number of events held in the area

### Timing

*When will it take place? For how long?*

- December 2024 – May 2025

### Budget

*How will you fund it?*

URBACT budget