



DARING Cities URBACT Innovation Transfer Network (ITN) INVESTMENT PLAN



Piraeus
Development organization

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1. The Policy content

The Municipality of Piraeus aims to implement an integrated urban regeneration policy focused on sustainability, climate resilience, and cultural heritage preservation. The policy prioritizes the transformation of underutilized urban spaces into inclusive, green, and multifunctional environments that improve quality of life and strengthen the city's attractiveness.

A key pillar of this policy is the redevelopment of the historic old railway station, an important landmark inaugurated in 1884, which once connected Piraeus with Athens and the Peloponnese. The project aligns with broader European objectives on sustainable urban development, green transition, and citizen engagement.

The policy also promotes:

- Sustainable mobility (pedestrian and cycling infrastructure)
- Climate adaptation and mitigation measures
- Cultural identity enhancement (e.g., Rebetiko heritage)
- Participatory governance through stakeholder and citizen involvement
- Smart and digital urban infrastructure integration

2. The investment plan

The total planned investment amounts to **€2,500,000**, funded by the Regional Programme.

The investment will focus on:

- **Redevelopment of the old railway station** into a multi-purpose cultural and social hub
- **Construction of a 2 km pedestrian and cycling path** to promote sustainable mobility
- **Establishment of a Rebetiko Museum** to host exhibitions, events, and performances

- **Creation of a Climate Change Laboratory**, enabling collaboration among stakeholders to develop innovative climate solutions
- **Urban greening and bioclimatic upgrades**, including the use of sustainable materials to improve microclimate conditions
- **Digital infrastructure development**, connecting the port area with public spaces and enhancing visitor experience

Despite strong strategic alignment, the Municipality faces challenges due to limited financial autonomy and reliance on regional funding approval processes, which are often bureaucratic and time-consuming.

3. The adapted innovation project

The proposed innovation project focuses on transforming the old railway station area into a **living lab for sustainable urban development**.

Key innovative components include:

- **Climate Change Laboratory (Living Lab):** A participatory platform where citizens, students, researchers, and stakeholders co-create and test climate solutions
- **Smart urban infrastructure:** Integration of IoT technologies and digital tools to monitor environmental conditions and improve urban management
- **Sustainable mobility solutions:** Promotion of walking and cycling through green corridors
- **Cultural innovation:** The Rebetiko Museum as a dynamic space combining heritage with contemporary cultural expression
- **Community co-design:** Active involvement of residents and local communities in planning and implementation processes

The project combines environmental sustainability, digital transformation, and social innovation, making it a model for resilient and inclusive urban regeneration.

4. Budget

Total Budget: €2,500,000

Financing Source: Regional Programme

We don't have specific analysis about the exactly cost of every renovation that will take place

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

The project will be monitored through a set of quantitative and qualitative indicators:

Social Impact:

- Number of citizens participating in the Climate Lab
- Number of students involved (primary and university level)
- Level of community engagement in co-design activities

Economic Impact:

- Number of new enterprises investing in the surrounding area
- Number of cultural events, festivals, and stakeholders involved

Environmental Impact:

- Measurable improvement in local microclimate conditions
- Increase in green areas and use of sustainable materials

Urban Attractiveness:

- Number of visitors to the pedestrian area and museum (residents, tourists, cruise passengers)
- Increased use of sustainable mobility options (cycling, walking)

Safety and Quality of Life:

- Improvement in perceived and actual safety in the area
- Overall enhancement of public space usability

6. The area



