

ERASMUS+ BIP- Blended Intensive Programme
October 2-6, 2023
Iscte – Instituto Universitário de Lisboa

Title: From place to city: constructing collectively the habitat

Blended Intensive Programs (BIPs) are short and intensive teaching programmes developed by groups of higher education institutions from different European countries.

Short Description

The BIP “From place to city: constructing collectively the habitat” (6ECTS) aims to engage students to collaborative design approaches in diverse social, economic, and technological neighborhood contexts. The Northern Crown of the Lisbon Municipality, specifically the Ameixoeira area, is characterized by territorial fragmentation and a lack of social and urban cohesion.

The Lisbon municipality has implemented various strategies for its redevelopment; however, there are socio-urban precedents such as illegal settlements, the island effect and ghettoization of some resettlement neighborhoods, urban decay in the historic core, and the proliferation of vacant urban spaces and undeveloped land. These challenges are difficult to overcome using conventional approaches.

It is therefore urgent to rethink fragmented territories, their dynamics, and transformations, in more human, democratic, resilient, and sustainable ways through the creation of spaces for transdisciplinary ideation and innovative and collaborative urban creative practices. Only in this way can we promote and foster thought and spatial intervention practices associated with active community participation in the development of public policies for the urban common.

This fragmented territory also lacks a strategy and territorial model that adds value and identity. Public space can play a significant role as a unifying force through its contribution to the physical and functional qualification of the cores and by facilitating better integration between communities and the services provided by elements of the ecosystem - soil, vegetation, fauna, water, sunlight, open space, food production, etc. - promoting pedestrian accessibility, improving functions and activities, creating centralities, fostering innovation, adding value, and contributing to the construction of a more sustainable sense of community.

In this regard, both academics and non-academics should contribute to refocusing the collective construction of the habitat on mediating strategies inherent in negotiation processes in the design of public space.

It is under this perspective that Iscte - Lisbon University Institute (host institution) , in association with the Lisbon City Council DMU/DPU/DRAUGI, Instituto Superior Técnico, and Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon, are promoting an integrated and inclusive intervention in fragmented territories.

Starting Questions

What is the role of public space as a place of cohesion?

How migration is changing cities?

How can design build community?

How to integrate fragmented territories?

Objectives

Collective construction of a vision, strategy, and solutions through a sustainable, transdisciplinary, and integrated approach for fragmented territories. Contribute to the development of an Integrated and Inclusive Intervention Guide for fragmented territories through a Manifesto and Spatial Interventions. The Manifesto includes

principles, values, visions, and strategies that guide possible solutions for spatial interventions.

Participants

Groups composed by students from the all universities. Participants will work together in groups covering the entire area, with each group assigned a specific zone. The working scale is flexible, chosen by each group, but all groups must address the four starting questions and the topics discussed.

The aim is to train students with the necessary understanding and abilities to thrive in modern collaborative settings and adopt a transdisciplinary approach, adapting and responding thoughtfully and empathetically to the challenges, limitations, and possibilities presented by the design context and the interactions among individuals, materials, and technological processes.

The BIP activities are designed to further expose students to the theoretical framework, the tools, and methods needed: 1) to become adept in conceiving of, conceptualizing and communicating complex urban design challenges; 2) to develop theoretical, methodological, and practice- based approaches that will assist them in responding to such challenges through collaborative design practices initiating and developing a dialogue between all relevant stakeholders.

The aim is to involve all participants (academics, local community and students), as well as external stakeholders who play a role in the field of architecture, planning and urban development at the scale of the neighbourhood, such as representatives of local authorities and civil society, in the co-creation of urban knowledge. Local partners, communities and relevant stakeholders will be reached through their direct involvement with the learning activities, thus reinforcing the societal roles of academic institutions, as well as activating knowledge through interaction with society.

Preliminary Programme

The BIP will be part of a sequence consisting of pre-workshop, workshop and post-workshop activities. More specifically:

Pre-workshop activities will take place online (2 meetings) aiming at building knowledge about the object of study exposing participants to the different theoretical and methodological approaches. The preparatory activities in the participating institutions will facilitate the establishment of a network of relationships amongst the students and topics, facilitating the work performed collectively later in the onsite workshop.

The work initially developed at a distance will be then brought together through the onsite collaboration where teachers and learners can be involved in the development of urban strategies in multinational teams. The BIP will include lectures, collaborative thematic hands-on workshops and study visits to neighborhoods. Both teachers and learners will interact with local stakeholders to learn about and discuss the specific urban challenges in each context.

After the onsite workshop, the learning process will be continued and consolidated back at each institution, supported by one more online collaboration.

Online session - Pre-workshop activities

22nd September, 2023 Kick off . Team Introduction

29th September, 2023 Learning from each other and Q&A

BIP onsite activities

Venue: Iscte and Quinta Alegre - Palácio do Marquês do Alegrete

Monday, 2nd October 2023

10:00 Welcome

10:30 Introduction by Lisbon Municipality

Coffee Break

12:00 Introduction to activities and practical questions

Lunch

14:00 PM - 17:30

Field visit to the territory with local partners

Tuesday, 3rd October 2023

10:00 1st Masterclass: The Spirit of Place

3 or 4 Lectures

Coffee Break

11:15 Hand-on workshop

Lunch

14:00 - 16:00 Intervention Studio

Coffee Break

16:30 PM - 18:00 PM Presentation and Review

Wednesday, 4th February 2023

10:00 2nd Masterclass: Participatory Ground

3 or 4 Lectures

Coffee Break

11:15 Hand-on workshop

Lunch

14:00 - 16:00 Intervention Studio

Coffee Break

16:30 PM - 18:00 PM Presentation and Review

Thursday, 5th October 2023

10:00 AM 3rd Masterclass: Spaces in Motion

3 or 4 Lectures

Coffee Break

11:15 AM Hand-on workshop

Lunch

14:00 - 16:00 Intervention Studio

Coffee Break

16:30 PM - 18:00 PM Presentation and Review

Friday, 6th October 2023

10:00 AM Intervention Studio

Coffee Break

11:15 AM Intervention Studio

Lunch

14:00 PM - 16:00 PM Intervention Studio

Coffee Break

16:30 PM - 18:00 PM Final presentation

Online session - Pre-workshop activities

13rd October, 2023 Days after - Critical reflection about the results.