

URBAN EMPATHY – Working Package 3

RESULT INFORMATION FILE – Phase 1

Description of the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY

1. Partner's description

(Summary information of the partner presenting the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY)

Name of the institution presenting the result	Malaga City Council
Type of institution (city, region, agency, tech institute...)	City
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2. Project description

(Summary information of the project corresponding to the result)

Name of the project	Changing the Mediterranean Metropolis Around Time
Acronym of the project	CAT-MED
Starting date	2009-04-01
Ending date	2011-11-30
Project status (finished, execution...)	Finished
Project type (standard, targeted, strategic, ...)	Standard
Lead partner of the project	Malaga City Council
Project website	http://www.catmed.eu
Programme (MED, Interreg...)	MED programme
Programme Priority	2. Environmental protection and promotion of a sustainable territorial development
Programme Objective	2.4. Prevention and fight against natural risks

EU 2020 Strategy (choose the most suitable one from the following options)

- Smart growth
- Inclusive growth
- Sustainable growth
- Economic governance

Description of the **PROJECT**. Main topic and objectives. (300 words approx.) *(Describe in more detail the project's main thematic and objectives, providing relevant information about the contents addressed in it and where does the result to be capitalized come from)*

CAT-MED project aims to prevent natural risks related to climate change, thanks to the convergence of metropolitan strategies and actions, connecting natural risks prevention and climate change with the development of sustainable urban models.

Thus, the main objective of CAT-MED is the promotion of sustainable urban models which are based on the classical Mediterranean city: compact, complex and with proximity to basic services, following an integrated approach.

The classical Mediterranean city combines these complementary concepts that lead to increase mobility and accessibility at a pedestrian scale. These characteristics have a clear connection with the ability to save natural resources and energy efficiency in urban areas, and consequently, CO₂ emissions reduction and its relation to prevent possible future natural risks related to climate change.

More specifically, the CAT-MED project is made up of 5 main elements that are closely linked together:

The first element of the project involves the idea of sustainable urban model and its relation with Mediterranean cities. This is followed by a second element which consists in the definition of a common system of urban indicators to measure whether established objectives or targets have been achieved or not.

A pilot project called the Green Apple makes up the third element, with the objective of showing the main characteristics of the proposed urban model, both at a planning and building level.

The fourth element of the project consists in the definition of Metropolitan Groups, involving people interested in the development of a Green Apple, residents of the selected pilot areas, urban developers and local key actors.

Finally, the political commitment and the continuity to the project's aim is achieved by the signing of the Malaga Charter and the constitution of the CAT-MED platform. On the 7th of February 2011, the Mayors and representatives of the 11 cities participating in the project signed the Malaga Charter, expressed their interest in the

development of a platform for sustainable urban models in order to continue the works carried out during the project.

3. Result description

(Summary information of the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY)

Name of the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY	Malaga Charter and Platform for Sustainable Urban Models
Type of result (operational tool, recommendations, good practices, guideline, ...)	Operational Tool > Structure
Current status of the result (under development, completed, not started...)	Completed
Type of deliverable (document, website, database, ...)	Website
Specific URL link	http://www.catmed.eu
Publication date	7 th February 2011
Language	English, Spanish

Description of the chosen **RESULT** to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY. Result objectives. Utility and purpose. (200 words aprox.) *(Brief description of the result's most relevant characteristics, pointing out the main objectives and purpose.)*

The setting up of the Platform for Sustainable Urban Models is based on the Malaga Charter originally signed by the maximum political representatives in the framework of the CAT-MED project. It is considered as a way of consolidating and institutionalising the network that has been developed and matured over more than ten years of collaboration in European cooperation projects.

The aim of the platform is to join together all Mediterranean organisations that are interested in sustainable urban models and policies, with the external support of other European Cities who are experts in the working themes of the platform.

The more specific objectives of the Platform are the implementation of the principles established by the Malaga Charter on Sustainable Urban Models, like the development of urban configurations that take into account the main common features of sustainable cities, as well as give voice and visibility at European level to

Mediterranean initiatives that promote sustainable urban models able to reduce the effects of climate change.

Finally, the Platform allow members to be part of a network of cities committed to urban sustainability, whose main utility and purpose are the reinforcement of their political commitment, ensuring the durability and transferability of the results achieved by the different cities or institutions and bringing the partners the possibility to participate in high level political discussions on urban sustainability and related policies.

List of keywords related to the result (10 words max.) *(Please provide a short list of keywords related to the result to be capitalized in Urban Empathy, e.g.: urban planning, sustainable growth, mobility, energy efficiency, renewable energies, governance...)*

Sustainable urban models; Political commitment and durability; Urban planning, Compactness and complexity; Multi-level approach, Integrated approach

Describe the potential benefits or improvements that the result may generate through the capitalisation process (200 words aprox.) *(Describe improvements either in your result or those that it may generate due to the capitalisation process)*

Potential benefits in the result:

The main potential benefit in the result would be the consolidation of the platform for sustainable urban models, by the strengthen of the current partnership and the possible incorporation of new members to the platform, creating a permanent capitalization process.

In addition, the capitalisation process could bring the possibility to collaborate with other European initiatives and projects, which could lead to the enrichment of the urban model through concrete expertise, as well as the identification of inputs to update the Malaga Charter.

Potential benefits that the result may generate:

The main potential benefits that the result may generate through the capitalisation process could be the ability to influence policy makers at different levels in a more strongly way, for a better development of urban policies that take into account real problems identified by cities and regions, linking the technical and citizen's criteria with the political criteria.

At a European level, the capitalisation process could reinforce the possibility to be used as a taskforce for European programmes and institutions to support them in terms of sustainable urban models.

4. Result evaluation

According to your own criteria, which are the main strong points of your result?
Which are the weak ones? (300 words approx.) *(Describe the strengths and weaknesses of the result to be capitalized in Urban Empathy)*

Main strong points:

Among the main strengths of this result, we could highlight first the inherent benefits of networking, such as the ability to share experiences within a common framework, being able to learn from each other and being able to share innovative tools and results.

The platform provides an entity which can guarantee the durability of different MED space projects' results under a common structure that can facilitate their dissemination and transferability to other areas, which may not only use them, but also contribute to their improvement or further development.

The second strength that can be highlighted is the ability that comes from being a platform of cities as a way to gain more visibility at European level in order to submit to the political representatives common concerns of different Mediterranean cities in a more effective way.

Finally, another strong point that may be considered is the working methodology used in the setting up of the Platform, following a multi-level approach: a scientific basis backed by mayors/presidents with a common strategy (Malaga Charter).

Main weak points:

Among the main weakness of this results, we could highlight the potential risk of not having a permanent and consolidated political commitment by the cities or regions joining the Platform, in the sense that political or organizational changes that are taking place in the cities (election of new mayors, local representatives replacement...) can affect the partnership involvement in the Platform. This risk may lead to a situation where most partners do not have an active participation in the activities of the Platform, which turns out to be a theoretical showcase.

On the other hand, there is also the risk of not being able to have a real impact on political representatives to whom common concerns and recommendations are going to be submitted. This risk may lead to a situation where the dialogue established with decision makers ends up in a simple statement of intent with no real effect on urban policies.

How do you think your result can affect the main aspects to be considered in a sustainable urban model?

(300 words approx.) (Describe the capacity of the result to fulfil the sustainable urban model main principles)

Cross - cutting aspects

- Territorial management and urban design
- Social and Economic cohesion

Sectorial aspects

- Sustainable mobility
- Energy efficiency

The Platform for Sustainable Urban Models follows an integrated approach where all the main aspects of urban sustainability are considered. It comes originally from the four working areas established in the CAT-MED project: territorial management and urban design, mobility and transport, management of natural resources and social and economic cohesion.

Cross-cutting aspects are considered in the sense that the promotion of a sustainable urban model is based on the idea of the classical Mediterranean city: compact, complex and with proximity to basic services. This type of organization directly relates to urban planning (enough population density, compactness and complexity, balance between building construction and green areas), and social cohesion (pedestrian scale, proximity to basic services, mixture of land uses and different types of housing, promotion of social housing).

Sectorial aspects are also considered as a direct result from addressing the cross-cutting aspects. The promotion of a compact and complex city also means the promotion of an efficient city with less energy consumption requirements and a more sustainable mobility.

In the compact and complex city, average distances are shorter, more likely to be covered on foot or by sustainable ways of transport, which means less energy consumption and a more balanced modal split of urban journeys.

To summarize, the main goal of the platform is to promote all these features that isolated do not make sense but all together constitute what we mean by a sustainable urban model through a comprehensive approach.

What influence do you consider that your project result could have on environmental governance and what could be its impact on urban policies? At which level? (Local, regional, national, MED or European level...) (300 words aprox.) *(Describe the level of influence of the result and its applicability on EU policies)*

One of the main objectives of the Platform for Sustainable Urban Models is precisely to be able to impact on urban policies, both from a local or regional point of view and also from the European point of view.

Firstly, the Malaga Charter establishes a set of principles that cities joining the platform agree by the signing of the Charter. This commitment defines an initial level of influence on policy makers and urban policies from a local perspective.

Secondly, the platform can act as a lobby at the political level in relation to the promotion of an integrated approach towards urban sustainability.

Thanks to the capitalization of the Platform, it is expected to submit to the European Commission common concerns resulting from the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation process. There is also the aim of being able to make recommendations to the European Commission for the new programming period and the aim of being able to influence the European Regulations with agreed criteria defined within the Platform related to urban development and sustainability.

What is the main target group the result is addressing to? (public administration, public sector, private sector, research groups, ...) How does it enhance public participation? (200 words aprox.) *(Describe the target audience that could use the result and if citizen participation processes have been considered)*

The main target group for this result is the public administration, although research groups focused on urban sustainability may also find it of interest.

Since the Platform for Sustainable Urban Models aims to gather mainly European cities or regions with local competences, with a common interest in urban sustainability and applicable policies, public administration at a local level is the most suitable target group this result is addressing to. Research centres, agencies or other public institutions linked to the platform's areas of activities can also be addressed.

Public participation is enhanced mainly by the methodology proposed for the establishment and implementation of the Metropolitan Groups, as an instrument to collect and contrast technical criteria with the impressions of local key actors and citizenship.

Is the result currently in use in the Europe/MED area? (150 words aprox.) *(Please provide further information on the usability of the result, pointing out if it has already been implemented or in use)*

The result is currently in use, mainly in the MED area. From the original 11 founding members of the platform, new members from the MED space have been joining the platform resulting in a partnership of almost 30 members at present.

The members come from the following countries: Spain, France, Italy, Greece, Portugal and Morocco. They are mainly cities, although some partners are regions or institutions.

In October 2012 the 1st Mediterranean Mayors Forum on Sustainable Urban Models took place, gathering public representatives and technical professionals from various European and North African cities. Furthermore, the platform has been presented in the European Parliament, making it available to define a collaborative strategy.

The platform plans to organize several meetings to show the technical activities to the new members and thanks to the capitalization process it is expected to consolidate contents from a technical, political and citizenship point of view.

According to your own criteria, what are the main innovative aspects of the result? (150 words aprox.) *(Please provide further information on the level of innovation achieved by the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY: new methodologies, etc...)*

The main innovative aspects of this result come from the methodology used in the creation and implementation of the platform. The working methodology considers three aspects as drivers of territorial and social cohesion, and is focused on trans-national cooperation across three different levels: political (Mayors' forum), technical (scientific committee) and participative (citizens and key actors in metropolitan groups).

In regard to the contents of the platform, more than being innovative by itself, the aim of the platform is to act as a container for innovative initiatives in the field of urban sustainability. This initiatives can be partners sharing innovative tools or results, discussion forums organized within the scope of the platform where to share expertise knowledge on this subject, etc.

How do you think your result could be implemented? Through which means? Do you think it is easily transferable? Estimated costs, resources, time needed for implementation, key actors involved... Please include any other relevant criteria you may consider important (300 words aprox.) *(Please provide further information on implementation and transferability requirements of the result)*

Since the platform for sustainable urban model is not a stand-alone MED result, but a meeting point to gather different results and partnership, transferability issues in strict sense may not make sense for this result. However the platform is an operational tool to transfer and share different results among its members, and disseminate them through the UE.

In regard to joining the platform, the potential new members are only asked to sign the adhesion to the Malaga Charter by the maximum political representative (as a way to formalize the political commitment) and to participate in political activities (such as the meetings of the Mayor's Forum).

From a technical point of view, new members are encouraged to participate through the calculation of the urban indicators defined within the platform and through the selection of a city area where to implement the Green Apple concepts and working methodology.

There is no specific cost associated with being part of the platform. The only requirements are strong political commitment and technical participation in the activities of the platform. In terms of resources and time needed for the technical activities, that depends on the particular situation of each city and it's an issue more related with the transferability of other individual results to be capitalized in Urban Empathy (e.g. costs associated with the calculation of the urban indicators, key actors involved in the setting-up of a metropolitan group, etc.).