

Eurbanlab Newsletter



April 2014 Issue 4

Dear reader,

It has been two months since our last newsletter. Many things are “under construction” like our search for an entrepreneur. It is still a little early to send you news about this.

We do however have news about collaborations between Eurbanlab and other Climate-KIC initiatives, as well as details of recent and upcoming events where you can meet us.

In addition this newsletter shares updates on Eurbanlab contribution to education and introduces two new interns working for our project.

Enjoy reading!

Anne-Marie Spierings
Project lead

Content

- Events
- Other Climate-KIC initiatives
- Education in Eurbanlab
- I-Urban conference



I-Urban conference



Urban innovation Aspern Seestadt



Events

By Licia Jasperse (ARCADIS)

In the following months, Eurbanlab will attend and speak at several events.

13-14 May: During the [Smart City Event](#) in Amsterdam, we will host three round table sessions. During these sessions, we would like to discuss the Eurbanlab assessment methodology which helps to create a smart sustainable neighbourhood.

3-5 June: During the conference of [Provada](#) (a real estate meeting), Eurbanlab will be present on Wednesday June 4th in the stand of ARCADIS.

6-7 May: During the 'II Congreso de Edificios de Consumo de Energía Casi Nulo ([EECN](#))', Eurbanlab will give a presentation.

11-13 September: Eurbanlab will attend [VerSus 2014](#), International Conference on the Lessons from Vernacular Heritage for Sustainable Architecture.

28-30 October: Eurbanlab will attend the World Sustainable Building 2014 Conference ([SB14](#)).

Check our events page on www.eurbanlabevent.eu.

If you have any event that you think might be interesting and relevant for Eurbanlab to present at, please inform us by sending a mail to: eurbanlab@climate-kic.org.

Meeting other Climate-KIC initiatives

By Anne-Marie Spierings

Climate-KIC supports a number of projects and initiatives which work in the same space, or compliment Eurbanlab. In March we met some of the project leads and facilitators and the intention is to continue reaching the Climate KIC community to maximise our project impact.

The sustainable campuses project, led by TU Delft, collects the scientific knowledge supplied from a network of nine European university campuses.

The Blue Green Dream project, led by Imperial College, is researching the benefits of climate adaptation change through water and nature (blue and green) spaces in cities.

Eurbanlab is collecting good examples of systemic innovations in urban areas. Therefore we will share knowledge and experience in collecting this kind of information in a structured way and see if we could even use a common platform for collecting these examples.

Aled Thomas is director of the RIC's, Regional Innovation Centres. Eurbanlab has developed some services that could help the cities involved in the RIC's in their process of becoming more sustainable. We will look for a good opportunity to present Eurbanlab to the RIC-cities and discuss how our knowledge can be of help to them.

Education in Eurbanlab

Young people are our future

Fenn Artz, 24 years old, bachelor communications Fontys university of applied science Eindhoven the Netherlands. Internship at ARCADIS.



Why did you want to do an internship for Eurbanlab?

For my bachelor thesis I need a broad and extensive assignment. Eurbanlab is just that, with a dynamic, international twist. The international part is a nice addition to my thesis because in the past four years I have not had international experience. And last but not least; sustainability is the future so it's very nice to be a part of a project that accelerates urban sustainable innovations.

What is the topic you are focusing on?

My focus lies on the communication in the Eurbanlab community. I will research ways in which communication can best be used to develop the community further and to add value for the Eurbanlab community members.

Which urban innovation that you have come across is most appealing to you?

I still don't have one favourite but what I like and prefer the most is the 'recycling' and modernising of existing (old) buildings and houses. It's a very efficient way to create sustainability quickly and also has a less dramatic effect on the 'design' and the appeal of a city. For example sometimes it's even more beautiful to re-use an old factory and create new lofts or business space in it than creating new buildings.

Alfonso Fernández Morote, 28 years old, student at the School of Architecture, Valencia Internship at IVE



Why did you want to do an internship for Eurbanlab?

Since I started my architecture studies, I focussed my interest in urban sustainability and urban regeneration processes. I have no doubts about considering these issues as critical to make our cities more sustainable for the future. Consequently, Eurbanlab is a great opportunity for learning about these key topics, about urban innovations, low-carbon economies and resilient cities.

What is the topic you are focusing on?

I'm involved in several dissemination activities such as contributing to write abstracts, papers or articles about the Eurbanlab approach and its B4U assessment method. For example, we have just heard that one of our last papers was selected as an oral presentation in the next EECN Conference. Furthermore, I'm also working on the library of urban innovations. With respect to this task, I'm collecting information about urban innovation cases in Portugal and Hungary.

Which urban innovation that you have come across is most appealing to you?

I'm particularly interested in urban regeneration projects at a district scale such as one of the Portuguese regeneration cases collected for the moment: the Boavista Ambiente+ project. This urban regeneration project is an integrated plan for developing a sustainable neighbourhood through regenerating the existing district of Boavista and Alveira, in Lisbon.

The plan proposes new urban equipments, the renovation of the out-dated dwellings built between the 1940s and the '60s and the construction of new dwellings according to sustainable design principles. In addition, the project is supplemented by a socio-economic programme. In short, I'm interested in such a project because it is an integrated approach that includes environment and social improvements and doesn't leave undervalued other important aspects concerning to the economic viability of the project, the planning process or the communication strategies to engage the local community.

I-Urban conference

By Roger Toussaint and Licia Jasperse

Eurbanlab attended the I-urban conference on 9-11 April in Rotterdam, Netherlands, about 'innovative city strategies for delivering sustainable competitiveness'.

The iUrban conference was preceded on 9 April by a Global Urban Competitiveness Project (GUCP) meeting for researchers in urban development. The GUCP, which was founded in Ottawa in April 2005, aims to gather specialists and experts who research urban competitiveness.

Most interesting speaker on day 2 was Saskia Sassen, explaining the importance of the deep economic history of cities for their future development.

During the third day ARCADIS, PWC, Siemens and the Utrecht Development Board gave examples of the Pentahelix stakeholder collaboration, involving all stakeholders during the construction of the new Heathrow airport. Next to that, the possibilities of agile cities have been explained by e.g. Knowles Tiviendale, of the Melbourne City.



Urban innovation Aspern Seestadt



Urban innovation Boskant



Eurbanlab Accelerating Urban Innovations

Eurbanlab is co-funded by the European Climate Knowledge and Innovation Community (Climate-KIC). An initiative of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), Climate KIC has a mission to create sustainable growth by addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation. As Europe's largest public-private innovation partnership Climate-KIC integrates education, entrepreneurship and innovation. By bringing together a wide community of organizations, it helps transform knowledge and ideas into economically viable products or services that help to mitigate climate change.



Eurbanlab partners:



Contact information

Project Lead

Anne-Marie Spierings
Arcadis
P.O. Box 1018
5200 BA 's Hertogenbosch
The Netherlands

T +31 (0) 6 27 06 16 37
E annemarie.spierings@arcadis.nl

Communication

Licia Jasperse
Arcadis
P.O. Box 4205
3006 AE Rotterdam
The Netherlands

T +31 6 11347483
E licia.jasperse@arcadis.nl