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Sustainable Accessible Future Environments

T 4.4

Developing results from ISPs
for future scenario work



SAFE

SUSTAINABLE, ACCESSIBLE FUTURE ENVIRONMENTS

The course is a collaboration between five European Universities

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WYŻSZA SZKOŁA GOSPODARKI Z SIEDZIBĄ W BYDGOSZCZ UCZELNIA NIEPAŃSTWOWA (WSG)

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T4.4. Develop results from ISPs for future scenario work

INTRODUCTION

The Intensive Study Weeks were a series of five international workshops held in different European cities: **Kranj** (Slovenia), **Kiel** (Germany), **Bydgoszcz** (Poland), **Vantaa** (Finland), and **Granada** (Spain) as part of a collaborative educational program focused on urban accessibility, safety, and inclusion. Students from Slovenia, Finland, Poland, Germany, and Spain, supported by their teachers and associated partners, worked together to analyze and redesign selected urban areas. Each workshop included Jane's Walk and Safety Walk with the representatives of vulnerable groups, giving students first hand insights into the challenges of urban life from the perspective of people with disabilities, parents with children, migrants, and individuals on the autism spectrum. Through mapping, observation, and dialogue, students developed proposals for improving accessibility, inclusivity, and safety in public spaces. The combination of analytical fieldwork and creative collaboration resulted in a deeper understanding of how urban design can shape social interaction, comfort, and equality in cities.

STUDY LOCATIONS

Across the five countries, participants explored a diverse range of urban contexts:

Kranj (Slovenia): the bus station, Brioni parking area, the old town, the area around Hotel Creina, and the municipal square.

Kiel (Germany): Vinetaplatz, Elisabethstraße, Karlstal, Gaarden Bridge, and the backyard housing complex near Vinetaplatz.

Bydgoszcz (Poland): Plac Piastowski, Stary Rynek, Ulica Chełmińska/Plac Chełmiński, Ulica Obrońców Bydgoszczy, and Ulica Wrocławska.

Vantaa (Finland): the Airport, Aviation Museum, Helsingin pitäjän kirkonkylä, Kuusijärvi, and Tikkurila.

Granada (Spain): the Train Station, Gran Capitán, San Juan de Dios and Rector López Argüeta, the Faculty of Law, the Cathedral, and Calle Elvira with Gran Vía.

FUTURE SCENARIOS

As part of each workshop, students developed three future scenarios, envisioning how the studied areas could evolve in the next **5, 10, and 20 years**. For each country, these scenarios combine the ideas and visions prepared by five student groups, each working on a different location within the city. The summarized versions presented in this task brings together their collective proposals, reflecting both local priorities and shared international goals: improving safety, accessibility, and inclusivity while fostering social cohesion and sustainable urban development.

Intensive Study Programme (ISP) in Kranj

6.11.2023 – 11.11.2023

Scenario 1 – 5 Years

In the first five years, Kranj will focus on small but meaningful improvements that will enhance daily life and accessibility for everyone. Across the city, ramps will be installed at public entrances to ensure equal access to services and spaces for people with disabilities, parents with strollers, and elderly citizens. Benches will be added along main pedestrian routes, especially in areas where people tend to rest, such as squares and near public buildings. Traffic safety will become one of the city's main priorities. Crosswalks will be redesigned to improve visibility, and speed bumps will help slow down traffic near schools and public institutions. Around the municipality and the school area, traffic organization will be improved with clearer markings and well-defined pedestrian zones, making movement safer for everyone. In addition, new parking arrangements will provide dedicated spaces for people with disabilities and families, while one-way traffic routes will ensure smoother and more efficient circulation. Public awareness and inclusivity measures will also improve. Multilingual signage in Slovenian and English will help migrants and tourists feel welcome, while cafés, theaters, and cultural buildings will begin adding ramps and barrier-free entrances. Signs indicating accessible toilets and facilities will be placed around the city center. These early actions will set the foundation for a safer, more comfortable, and inclusive urban environment.

Scenario 2 – 10 Years

Over the next decade, Kranj will take broader, coordinated steps toward a more sustainable and connected urban environment. The city will move from small adjustments to comprehensive redesigns of public spaces and infrastructure. The parking area in front of the municipal building will be transformed into a landscaped square with new paving, greenery, and water elements. Old and damaged materials will be replaced with durable, accessible surfaces that enhance both safety and visual quality. Along main roads, green buffers will be created to reduce noise and air pollution, while new drainage paving will help manage rainwater more effectively. The surroundings of the school and hotel will also undergo major improvements: the schoolyard will be expanded to provide more outdoor space for students, separated from traffic by vegetation and new pathways. In the city center, paved areas will gradually give way to green spaces filled with trees, shrubs, and flowers, improving both the microclimate and the character of public life. Public bikes will become a common and convenient choice for short distance travel, strengthening sustainable mobility. Architectural barriers will continue to disappear as buildings adapt to universal design principles. Kranj will preserve its historical character while evolving into a greener, safer, and more cohesive city that reflects the needs of its residents.

Scenario 3 – 20 Years

In twenty years, Kranj will stand as a model of sustainability, accessibility, and community centered urban life. The area surrounding the municipal building will evolve into a large, interconnected green park that brings together people of all generations. Shaded benches, picnic tables, and inclusive playgrounds will encourage relaxation, socializing, and play. Behind the municipal building, a new park with outdoor fitness equipment will promote active living and community interaction. Slovenski trg will be closed to car traffic and seamlessly integrated into the green park, offering comfortable seating areas and barrier free connections to nearby streets and institutions. New bus stops at both ends of the area will make public transport more accessible and further reduce the need for private cars. The hotel area will become a symbol of Kranj's environmental commitment. Solar panels, energy efficient heating systems, and green building technologies will be introduced, while the ground floor will open up to the public with programs dedicated to sustainable architecture and urban innovation. Across the city, tactile maps and information boards will guide people with visual impairments and provide insights into cultural landmarks. Through these long-term investments, Kranj will transform into a thriving, green, and inclusive city that places people and the environment at the heart of its development.

Intensive Study Programme (ISP) in Kiel

27.11.2023 – 1.12.2023

Scenario 1 – 5 Years

In the next five years, Kiel's Gaarden district will take its first steps toward becoming a safer, greener, and more inclusive neighborhood. Accessibility will improve through new ramps, benches, and designated parking for people with disabilities. Updated street lighting and added security cameras will make public spaces safer, while new litter bins and containers will help keep the area clean. The Solar Gaarden initiative will introduce solar benches with USB chargers and Wi-Fi access, combining sustainability with comfort. Bike parking and small community gardens, including one for the elderly, will encourage active and social lifestyles. Several streets will be closed to car traffic, transforming them into pedestrian-friendly areas enhanced with colorful pavement murals based on tactical urbanism principles. Around the Gaardener Bridge, a renewed café and meeting area will become a welcoming spot for locals and visitors alike. Through these small yet meaningful improvements, Gaarden will begin its transformation into a connected, people-oriented district.

Scenario 2 – 10 Years

Over the next decade, Gaarden will continue its transformation into a vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive neighborhood. Building façades will be renewed in bright, varied colors, bringing new energy to the district. Public spaces will feature fountains, a children's park, and flexible open areas for events such as open air cinemas, Octoberfests, and Christmas markets. Sustainability and accessibility will remain key priorities. More buildings will adopt solar panels and elevators, while electric parking spaces will expand. Parts of existing car parks will be converted into cafés and restaurants, adding new social and service areas. At Karlstal 31, the ground floor will be renovated to host community oriented programs such as school, gallery, prevention center, and small shops. The adjacent murals will use calming colors designed for people with Asperger's syndrome. Traffic calming will reshape the area, with the main road reduced from four lanes to two and new bus stops, public toilets, and improved waste management enhancing everyday life. After ten years, Gaarden will emerge as a colorful, safe, and socially connected district built around people, not cars.

Scenario 3 – 20 Years

In twenty years, Gaarden will grow into a vibrant and inclusive district that celebrates diversity, learning, and sustainable urban life. Vinetaplatz will transform into a welcoming meeting place where residents and visitors from all backgrounds gather to enjoy daily coffee, cultural events, and social interaction in a safe, family-friendly setting. Urban renewal will continue across the district. The upper part of Johannesstraße will feature new, pedestrian-oriented paving that supports school and residential life, while the completed Gaarden Bridge will strengthen the district's link to the city and become a local attraction. The nearby car park will gain an additional floor with public facilities such as a café, nursery, gym, and offices. Its rooftop terrace will offer safe, open views thanks to transparent fencing. In the southern area, a new educational facility will replace the existing one, surrounded by a small park, new pathways, and community furniture. A climbing wall and mural space will bring creativity and activity to the neighborhood, attracting more people and fostering a sense of security, especially for vulnerable groups. After two decades, Gaarden will stand as a model of inclusive and forward-looking urban development, where education, creativity, and community define the city's future.

Intensive Study Programme (ISP) in Bydgoszcz

15.4.2024 – 19.4.2024

Scenario 1 – 5 Years

In the next five years, Bydgoszcz will focus on small but visible improvements that enhance safety, mobility, and accessibility. Pavements and roads will be repaired and levelled, with tactile paving, new ramps, and benches improving comfort for all users. Dedicated bike lanes, a speed limit zones, and one way traffic will make movement safer and more organized. Selected streets, such as Ulica Wrocławska, will be turned into pedestrian friendly areas with limited car access, new lighting, trees, and seating. CCTV cameras, SOS boxes, and clear signage in several languages will strengthen safety and inclusivity. Community life will benefit from small service additions such as pop-up cafés, a pharmacy, and bike-sharing stations. Playgrounds and outdoor fitness areas will be redesigned to include everyone. These first steps will lay the foundation for a more connected, inclusive, and people-centered Bydgoszcz.

Scenario 2 – 10 Years

Within the next decade, Bydgoszcz will continue its transformation toward a more inclusive and sustainable city. Market squares and public spaces will be renewed with leveled pavements, trees, cafes, and seating that invite people to meet and socialize while maintaining the city's historic character. New residential buildings with green roofs will improve air quality and offer shared rooftop spaces. A vertical parking garage will help reduce congestion, and an 11-story tower will reflect the city's growing international profile. On Ulica Wrocławska, an old factory will be renovated into an intercultural center providing multilingual services, community programs, and safe spaces for migrants and locals. Mobility will improve through one-way streets, two-way bike lanes, and a speed limit zones. Educational and sensory elements such as Braille signage, smell paths, and shaded areas will make public spaces more inclusive and comfortable. Environmental awareness and new services, including underground waste stations, small cafes, and co-working hubs, will bring new life to the district. After ten years, Bydgoszcz will stand as a modern, people-centered city that values accessibility, diversity, and sustainability.

Scenario 3 – 20 Years

In twenty years, Bydgoszcz will become a calm, inclusive, and sustainable city centered on people rather than cars. Most roads in the inner districts will turn into pedestrian zones, with barrier-free public transport ensuring affordable and accessible mobility for all. New residential and workspaces will feature renovated façades, green roofs, and sound insulation, while a noise blocking tunnel will shield nearby areas from train traffic. Companies promoting sustainable construction and efficient energy systems will play an active role in the city's growth. Former courtyards will transform into family friendly parks connected by new passageways. Public pavilions, toilets, sculptures, and quiet zones will provide spaces for rest, mindfulness, and community life. Following the success of the Intercultural Center on Ulica Wrocławska, equality and inclusion will define urban identity. With discrimination a thing of the past, the center will become a museum dedicated to diversity and social progress. As technology advances, Bydgoszcz will respond to sensory and environmental challenges with soundproof spaces and quiet areas, ensuring comfort for all residents. After two decades, the city will stand as a model of harmony between innovation, sustainability, and human well-being.

Intensive Study Programme (ISP) in Vantaa

13.5.2024 – 17.5.2024

Scenario 1 – 5 Years

In the next five years, Vantaa will focus on improving accessibility, safety, and everyday comfort. At the airport, tactile pavements, anti-slip flooring, better lighting, and clear signage will make movement safer for all travelers, especially the elderly. Redesigned bus stops and stronger links to tram lines will improve public transport connections. At Kuusijärvi Lake, renovated footpaths, wooden ramps, and leveled beaches will ensure access for everyone, while solar panels and new information boards will promote sustainability. Along the riverside promenade, public toilets, water points, benches, and pergolas will make the area more welcoming. A cafe terrace will provide a safe meeting space for migrant women, supported by better lighting and a noise barrier along the railway. In Helsingin pitäjän kirkonkylä, community and cultural life will thrive through expanded museum activities, interactive historical displays, and regular events such as Medieval Days, Christmas markets, and summer gatherings. These first improvements will make Vantaa safer, more inclusive, and connected across its diverse urban areas.

Scenario 2 – 10 Years

Over the next decade, Vantaa will continue improving accessibility, mobility, and sustainability across its key areas. At the airport, mid-term changes will focus on reorganizing traffic flow and enhancing connections with public transport. Car lanes and parking areas will be reduced, replaced with green rooftop zones and pedestrian friendly spaces. Access from outside the airport will be improved, and future expansions will be supported by a more efficient, eco friendly layout. A new electric bus system will connect currently isolated areas, offering direct, barrier-free transport where access was previously limited to footpaths. Charging stations for electric cars and bikes will be added, along with mini electric shuttles designed for people with mobility impairments. In Tikkurila and the riverside areas, additional amenities such as meeting points with phone chargers, picnic tables, and shaded resting areas will promote social interaction and comfort. Building on the early improvements of the five year plan, these spaces will evolve into active, inclusive environments that encourage outdoor life and community engagement. Together, these developments will position Vantaa as a forward looking, sustainable, and people-centered city, one that balances efficient mobility with social and environmental well-being.

Scenario 3 – 20 Years

In twenty years, Vantaa will have evolved into a city that seamlessly blends nature, recreation, and accessibility. At Kuusijärvi Lake, a new multi-purpose sports center will become the heart of outdoor activity, offering facilities for canoeing, kayaking, frisbee golf, and other recreational programs. New piers and docks will provide access to the water, while solar powered lighting integrated into the walking paths will ensure safety and sustainability throughout the area. Along the riverside, new amenities will enhance comfort and well-being. Grilling zones and fenced areas will provide safety and privacy, while the addition of a traditional Finnish sauna will invite visitors to relax and enjoy the natural landscape. These elements will turn the site into a year-round destination for both locals and tourists. Around the airport, green design will play a leading role. Nature inspired features and vegetation will transform the underground path between the station and the terminal into an inviting, calming space. A greenhouse displaying Finnish flora will serve as both a cultural and ecological attraction, positioning the airport area as a gateway to Finland's natural identity. By integrating sports, culture, and sustainability, Vantaa will become a model of how urban development and nature can coexist.

Intensive Study Programme (ISP) in Granada

21.10.2024 – 25.10.2024

Scenario 1 – 5 Years

In the next five years, Granada will focus on improving accessibility and comfort across its main public spaces. Around the train station, new green areas, benches, and water fountains will enhance the surroundings, while an abandoned section will be turned into a modern waiting area with coffee machines, trolleys, and clear travel information. Sidewalks and shop entrances in the city center will be widened and equipped with ramps or automatic doors to improve access for wheelchair users. Improved lighting, repaired pavements, and drinking fountains at different heights will make streets safer and more inclusive. At the Cathedral square, redesigned steps, ramps, and green areas with benches and trees will make the space more welcoming for families and tourists. In Calle Elvira, new lighting, handrails, and audible traffic signals will improve safety, while clearer signage and calm walking routes will make the university area easier to navigate. These early interventions will set the groundwork for a more inclusive and accessible Granada.

Scenario 2 – 10 Years

Over the next decade, Granada will advance toward sustainability, accessibility, and improved mobility. Around the train station, solar panels, green rooftops, and facades will reduce energy use, while merging the bus and train terminals will simplify travel and enhance connectivity. In the Gran Capitán area, a new green square with benches, a playground, and accessible paths will replace car traffic, supported by underground parking and cycling infrastructure. Plaza Pescadería will be redesigned with wider sidewalks for cafés, family areas, and urban gardens, while Calle Elvira will transform into a nighttime pedestrian zone, limiting traffic to residents and deliveries during the day. Some tourist rentals will be replaced by offices to support local life and employment. These mid-term changes will make Granada greener, more inclusive, and better connected, strengthening its identity as a sustainable and people-centered city.

Scenario 3 – 20 Years

In twenty years, Granada will become a greener and more people centered city. Around the train station, new underground parking and a bus terminal will improve mobility, while the surrounding area will transform into a lively public space with an outdoor gym and intergenerational playgrounds.

In the Gran Capitán district, new affordable housing and a rehabilitation center with a green rooftop will promote inclusion and well-being. University rooftops will become green terraces and community venues, while nearby streets will be fully pedestrian and shaded with trees. Public squares will turn into family-friendly parks with fountains, playgrounds, and flexible spaces for markets or events. Calle Elvira will be entirely car free, with former parking areas replaced by greenery and underground parking for residents. These long-term changes will strengthen Granada's identity as a sustainable, accessible, and socially connected city.

CONCLUSION

The five Intensive Study Programmes offered students a unique opportunity to explore the challenges and potential of contemporary urban spaces through the lens of accessibility, safety, and inclusion. By working directly with local communities, city representatives, and vulnerable groups, participants gained valuable insights into how urban environments can better respond to the needs of all citizens. **The combined scenarios for 5, 10, and 20 years** provide a collective vision for **more inclusive, sustainable, and connected European cities**. Although each location presents its own context and identity, all share a common goal: to create urban spaces that are open, safe, and welcoming for everyone.



T4.4 Develop results from ISPs for future scenario work