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Edited by
Sabina Pulawska and Silvia Rossetti

Applying Accessibility Tools to Address Urban and Transport Planning

The Case of the Eurocity of Valença-Tui and
the Euroregion of Galicia-Norte de Portugal

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APPLYING ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS TO ADDRESS URBAN AND TRANSPORT PLANNING

**The case of the Eurocity of Valença - Tui and the Euroregion
of Galicia-Norte de Portugal**

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COST funds pan-European, bottom-up networks of scientists and researchers across all science and technology fields. These networks, called 'COST Actions', promote international coordination of nationally-funded research.

By fostering the networking of researchers at an international level, COST enables break-through scientific developments leading to new concepts and products, thereby contributing to strengthening Europe's research and innovation capacities.

COST's mission focuses in particular on:

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COST's budget for networking activities has traditionally been provided by successive EU RTD Framework Programmes. COST is currently executed by the European Science Foundation (ESF) through the COST Office on a mandate by the European Commission, and the framework is governed by a Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) representing all its 35 member countries.

More information about COST is available at www.cost.eu.

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The Naples JRN Scientific Training School STS 2012- COST Action TU1002

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The Scientific Training School 2012¹ of the COST Action TU1002 “Accessibility Instruments for planning practice” that took place in Naples from 17th to 22nd June 2012 has gathered for the first time the group of JRN members of the Action who had been working during a week under the supervision of a group of MC members. This constituted an important occasion to create a stronger scientific connection. In particular, the Action TU1002 proposes a multidisciplinary approach to evaluate the incorporation of accessibility instruments in common planning practice. This broader approach may benefit more from the focused work of the JRN as a group on different issues related to the Action’s theme, rather than from isolated contributions. In this sense the Naples STS was a unique occasion to train the group of JRN members on the methodologies that have been later implemented during the field work of the Action, specifically in the WUs, with the promotion of a better understanding of

¹ The STS was organised by three MC members: Enrica Papa, Enrique Calderon and Nuno Norte Pinto, with the support of the Department of Urban Planning of the University of Naples Federico II. Four other MC members took an active role in the STS; these were: Cecilia Silva, Pierluigi Coppola, Marco te Brömmelstroet and Dimitris Milakis. A total of 22 Junior Researchers representing twelve different countries and different backgrounds participated in the STS: Jeroen Cant (Belgium), Hugo Repolho (Switzerland), Benjamin Büttner (Germany), Avgi Vassi (Greece), Elena Masala, Enza Chiarazzo, Floriana Zucaro and Valentina Pinto (Italy), Janko Vollmer (Netherlands), Lene Bjørnø (Norway), Sabina Pulawska and Wojciech Spyryka (Poland), Ana Amante and Tiago Patatas (Portugal), Matija Polajnar (Slovenia), Alberto Domínguez Sarabia, Mariemil Carrasquel and Silvia Rossetti (Spain); and finally, Saleem Karou and Carol McKenzie (UK). Three local students from the University of Naples, Gennaro Angiello, Gaia del Giudice and Pasquale Inglese, completed the rest of the group.

the methodologies and providing some standardization of the work developed in each case study by each WU, as JRN members were belonging to the WU teams. In this sense, the STS was a great opportunity to tune in different aspects of the methodology. The work was focused on a simulated test of the entire WU methodology with the JRN, whose members have been divided into different groups and played a specific role, impersonating a potential participant in the workshops of a WU (developers, planning or decision-making officials, stakeholders) and some others worked on the pre-, on-going, and post-evaluation procedures.

The accessibility instrument which has been tested is the “SNAP – Station network Accessibility Planning” developed by the Work Unit of Naples, which combines accessibility network measures and the Node-Place model (Bertolini, 1999) to define TOD scenarios. The test area was the metropolitan area of Naples, Caserta, and Salerno. During this work, the JRN members were guided by invited Trainers belonging to the TU1002 Cost Action and in particular Cecilia Silva from the University of Oporto, Nuno Norte Pinto from the University of Oporto, Marco te Brömmelstroet from the University of Amsterdam, Dimitris Milakis, from the University of Athen and Enrica Papa, from University of Naples.

Furthermore the first experience of STS within the TU1002 Action offered a unique training for PhD and Master students by lectures from leading international experts in the field and also a high knowledge of the test site area: prof. Ennio Cascetta from University of Naples Federico II, prof. Agostino Nuzzolo from the University of Rome Tor Vergata, prof. Pierluigi Coppola from the University of Rome Tor Vergata, prof. Francesco Domenico Moccia from the University of Naples Federico II and Francesca Pagliara from the University of Naples Federico II. Topics included accessibility planning, transport impacts on land use, transport modelling, urban and regional planning.

Moreover, in the STS programme some walking tours in Naples were included, in order to better understand the urban context in which the participants had to develop their project.

Finally, the Naples Training School, within the framework of the Action topic, had the main effect of wider the knowledge of the Action activities, of providing intensive training on a new and emerging subject, and of offering familiarization with unique know-how, not only to the JRN members, but also to the trainers and the lecturers guests. All the participants come from a diverse set of academic origins covering urban and spatial planning, transport planning, civil and environmental engineering, computer sciences, architecture, and geography. This diversity constituted an important asset in line with the spirit that supports the concept of the JRN, of the STS and in general of the COST Action.



Figure 1.1 JRN at work. STS Naples 2012

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