

re-value



re-value

Through collaborative urban design and planning, Re-Value makes the urban transition to climate neutrality irresistible in support of the EU Mission for 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030



Re-Value Exploitable Results 1

Funded by the European Union

Re-Value Deliverable D8.6



Report information

Deliverable: D8.6 Re-Value Exploitable Results 1

Submission date: December 2025

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Front page photo: Re-Value and UP2030 cities at 'Expo zone', Vilnius 2025 (@Slađana Lazarević, NTNU)

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Horizon Europe Grant Agreement No: 101096943



**Funded by
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Executive Summary

The 'Re-Value' project showcases a comprehensive, multi-city, multi-scalar approach to achieving urban climate neutrality and improving urban quality through waterfront revitalisation, leveraging **innovation** cycles, participatory **processes**, data-driven **tools**, and integrated planning **methods** and strategies.

This report [D8.6 - Re-Value Exploitable Results 1] presents the first set of exploitable results from the Re-Value project. It provides an overview of Re-Value-driven innovations and highlights "Re-Value Stories" delivered across cities in the first two years of the project implementation (2024-2025). In the final report [D8.10 - Re-Value Exploitable Results], all co-generated and co-qualified results across three Innovation Cycles, including co-developed and co-generated Re-Value Scenarios, and the Investments and Partnerships models, will be documented.

The progress of exploitable results and innovations development, as well as their implementation across cities, has been assessed through Re-Value's systemic challenges loops.

Building on experiences using the NEB Impact Model as a dialogue tool on climate-neutral actions in Re-Value and during nine in-person city workshops in 2024, WP1 Leader (NTNU), together with the non-city work packages, launched a "sister space" format in 2025 to frame specific discussions for Innovation Cycles 1 and 3, while Innovation Cycle 2 continued bilateral collaboration with cities. In parallel, "TTPs Talks" were introduced within the sister spaces format, creating reflective spaces to map city strategies and measures, clarify outcomes and needs, and identify gaps and emerging insights related to Re-Value's systemic challenges. The results of such discussions will support cities in developing Territorial Transformation Plans (TTPs), which integrate pilot-level findings into more systemic local planning and policy processes, yielding significant, exploitable results and public-sector innovations with great potential for further scalability and replicability.

The next edition and the final report on Exploitable Results [D8.10 - Re-Value Exploitable Results] will summarise all exploitable results and innovations co-created and developed during the project, showcasing the potential scalability and replicability of exploitable results, focusing on public sector innovations at waterfront urban context. The final edition of this report will capture 27 Re-Value Stories, 23 Scenarios, and 18 Investment and Partnership models. The results will be disseminated to reach a wider audience through different EU platforms, including the Knowledge Repository on the NetZeroCities Portal [\[1\]](#) and the NEB The New European Bauhaus Hub For Results & Impact - NEB Junction [\[2\]](#).

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose and Scope of the Report

Re-Value is a Horizon Europe partnership with nine waterfront cities and multiple knowledge and practice partners working to align climate neutrality with urban quality through integrated planning, community engagement, and innovation cycles inspired by New European Bauhaus (NEB) values and principles and the EU Cities Mission (Cities Mission). The partnership aims to “revalue” urban spaces by demonstrating how waterfronts can become climate-neutral, inclusive and attractive places while strengthening urban quality. The project aligns with the European Commission’s Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission (Cities Mission) [3] and the New European Bauhaus initiative [4]. The report consolidates insights on first exploitable results and innovations, including policies, tools, methods, processes, and governance models, emerging from city pilots, capacity development, and the three Innovation Cycles, with emphasis on Story-building, data-driven Scenario-building, and Investment and Partnership-building. The narrative also integrates outcomes and methodologies from three rounds of Innovation Camps [5,6], local communication and dissemination plans [7,8,9,10,11], and a detailed waterfront pilot roadmap for each Re-Value city [12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20] as important exploitable results to illustrate transferability, barriers, and next steps for validation, replicability and scaling.

The exploitable results and innovations generated within the Re-Value project aim to accelerate the transition of European waterfront cities towards climate neutrality while enhancing urban quality, within the framework of the NEB and Cities Mission. In addition, this report outlines the methodology for identifying and evaluating innovations (tools, methods, processes and approaches) which propose a Survey for data collection and validation in the last year of the project implementation. It explains how such outcomes emerge and will be refined within Re-Value’s Leading and Replication cities by the end of the project. The *Re-Value Exploitable Results (ER) and Innovations Survey* has been created to collect and document all relevant information from the last year of project implementation ([Appendix 1](#)).

The ambition is to provide information on the scalability and replicability of exploitable results at the project level and innovations at the city level, including their societal readiness level (SRL), and thus to develop a scalable model for sustainable, resilient, just urban transitions across diverse contexts, synthesising lessons for both practitioners and policymakers.

1.2 Methodological Approach: How to Make a Re-Value Impact Echo?

The methodology follows principles outlined in the Grant Agreement and is operationalised through cross-cutting project deliverables that document exploitable results developed across all work packages

(WPs) at the city and project levels, showcasing the main impact drivers. It combines mixed qualitative and quantitative approaches, leveraging iterative cycles of co-creation, piloting, and peer exchange. Data sources include project deliverables, such as Detailed Waterfront Pilot Roadmaps, workshop summaries, survey outputs, communication and dissemination activities, monitoring and evaluation processes, and direct stakeholder engagement.

Maturing societal readiness (SR) [21] in innovation actions aims for greater responsiveness to societal values, needs, and expectations. Assessing Societal Readiness Levels (SRL) [22] of identified Re-Value innovations will be conducted in the last year of the project implementation. SRL framework spans nine levels of maturity, similar to wider use Technological Readiness Level (TRL) which is used to facilitate cooperation among a diverse set of stakeholders, including designers, engineers, funding agencies, and regulators, assessing improvement in technological maturation from the initial scientific validation of an idea to its full commercial application, with each level indicating progression [23,24].

The SR concept (Figure 1) will be used to document inclusive partnerships among various stakeholders, foster positive social, environmental, and economic outcomes, identify negative impacts, reflect on the values underpinning respective systemic challenges, and, finally, assess exploitable results and innovations using the NEB loop. The NEB Impact Model [25, 26] will be used to assess specific impact dimensions across cities and at the project level.

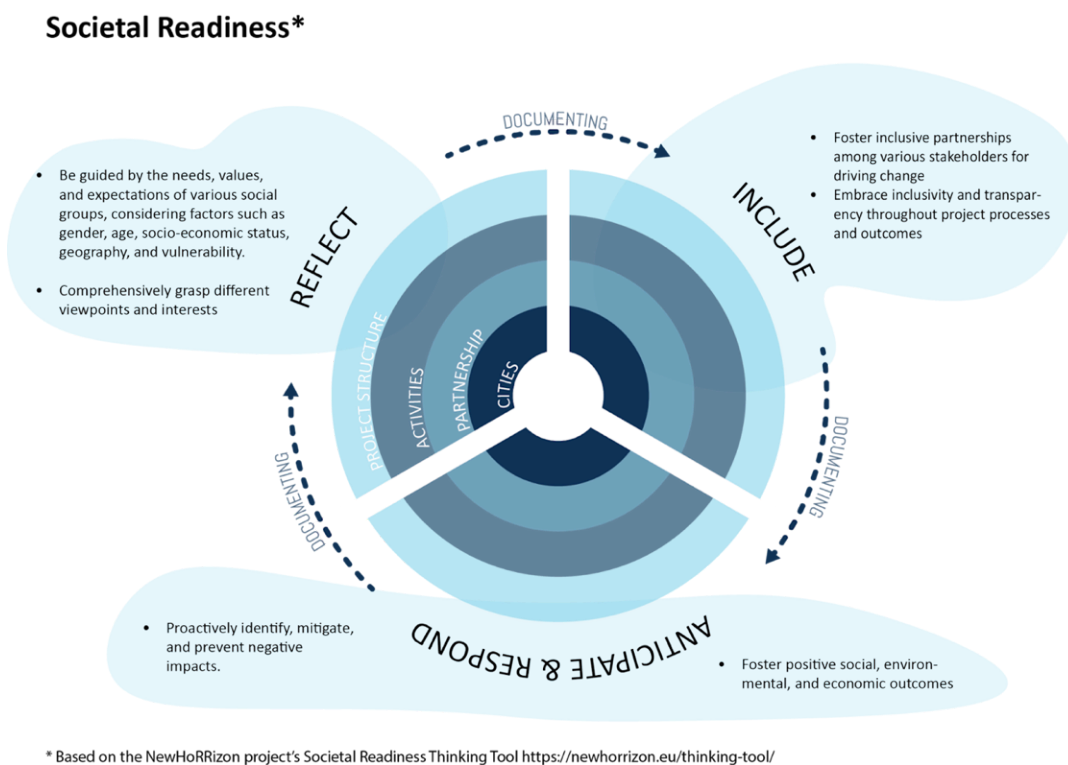


Figure 1: SR framework based on the NewHoRRizon project's Societal Readiness Thinking Tool (source: <https://newhorizon.eu/thinking-tool/>, Illustration Author: Deborah Navara, NTNU)

In Re-Value, **Societal Readiness Levels (SRL) toward climate neutrality** refers to the extent to which innovations are mature in terms of scalability and replicability (Table 1). This assessment will be conducted in the final year of the project implementation, based on the adapted methodology, and data will be collected through two iterations of surveys, and complemented by information previously collected via TTPs talks, and sister cities dialogues in 2025. In addition, to document its progress beyond the state of the art, exploitable results and innovations will be assessed through IM, the NEB Self-Assessment Method, and the loop of the Re-Value systemic challenges into its planning, piloting, or policy frameworks, while incorporating NEB values and working principles. Readiness is anticipated through the SR concept (Figure 1), comprising **SR 1** (include), **SR 2** (anticipate and respond), and **SR 3** (reflect), and the **SRL framework** which encompasses nine readiness levels as presented in Table 1.

Table 1 Societal Readiness Levels (SRL) defined according to Innovation Fund Denmark

SRL 1	Identifying a problem and identifying societal readiness
SRL 2	Formulation of problem, proposed solution(s) and potential impact, expected societal readiness; identifying relevant stakeholders for the project
SRL 3	Initial testing of proposed solution(s) together with relevant stakeholders
SRL 4	Problem validated through pilot testing in the relevant environment to substantiate the proposed impact and societal readiness
SRL 5	Proposed solution(s) validated, now by relevant stakeholders in the area
SRL 6	Solution(s) demonstrated in the relevant environment and in co-operation with the relevant stakeholders to gain initial feedback on potential impact
SRL 7	Refinement of project and/or solution and, if needed, retesting in the relevant environment with relevant stakeholders
SRL 8	Proposed solution(s) as well as a plan for societal adaptation, complete and qualified
SRL 9	Actual project solution(s) proven in relevant environment

However, in the two years of the project implementation, assessing SRLs has been challenging due to a noticeable misalignment between the activities described in the Grant Agreement and the priorities emerging from the cities' Waterfront Pilots. Such deviations are common in complex, dynamic and multi-variable research contexts, where local needs evolve and implementation pathways are adapted. This has required the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) team (VITO, NTNU), to interpret societal readiness in a more flexible and context-specific manner, drawing on qualitative evidence and city-driven learning processes rather than strict alignment with predefined indicators, as elaborated in last M&E report (D7.8: Re-Value Monitoring & Evaluation Report 3, p86) developed in the framework of WP activities [27].

The Re-Value "Impact Echo" concept intended to employ further alignment of the NEB Impact Model (NEB IM) and Innovation Cycles (ICs) into a practical loop: build shared stories, assemble data-driven scenarios, and convert them into investment and partnership propositions, iterating through city dialogues, artistic

missions, and youth-led Innovation Camps to amplify the effects across various contexts. Practically, this means using IC1 to construct narratives and learning artefacts, IC2 to test technology data pipelines and scenario frameworks, and IC3 to shape finance dialogues and partnership canvases, each pass “echoing” improved problem framing, evidence, and coalition building at city and project levels. In the final year of the project implementation, these processes will be summarised, presented and documented in D1.5 Re-Value Impact Model (final version), D1.6 Re-Value Innovation Cycles experience-based (report 3) and D8.9 Re-Value Innovation Camps (Report 3). These and other processes across the project support the cities’ exploration and the generation of exploitable results and innovations, touching various NEB IM impact dimensions (i.e., environment, healthy living, social-cultural, economic, governance) and systemic challenges (namely, the 6 identified in the project: Governance, Regulatory Structures & Advocacy; Societal & Spatial quality; Financial and Circular Value Chains; Data-driven co-creation & Digital Twins; Energy & Mobility; Nature-Based Solutions).

Using the NEB IM as a tool for dialogue and for discussing actions toward climate neutrality in Re-Value and after the implementation of nine individual Impact Model workshops in Re-Value cities in 2024 [28] using the NEB Impact Model Dominoes Game [29], WP1 (NTNU), in collaboration with all the other non-city WPs, co-created and launched a ‘sister space’ in 2025. Four sister groups were formed consisting of one LC and one (or two) RC according to the cities’ own choices to further exchange and replication among the cities. The sister space format was proposed to all ICs among which Innovation Cycles 1 and 3 participated in it. This format helped further the discussions and exchange on co-creating and co-generating Re-Value stories and investments and partnerships (Figure 2).



Figure 2: A brief snapshot to the innovative work done with Re-Value cities using the Impact Model and the Innovation Cycles in 2024 and 2025, (Author: Marjan Khaleghi, NTNU)

Meanwhile, in 2025, the IM as a tool for discussing actions has been looked at through the lenses of the six systemic challenges more strongly, also following the wish from Re-Value cities to explore them further. This was done by introducing, as part of the beforementioned series of sister spaces, the so-called 'TTPs Talks' - spaces to map and reflect on key strategies and measures from the cities, outlining outcomes and needs and surfacing potential new insights and gaps in existing strategies (Figure 3).

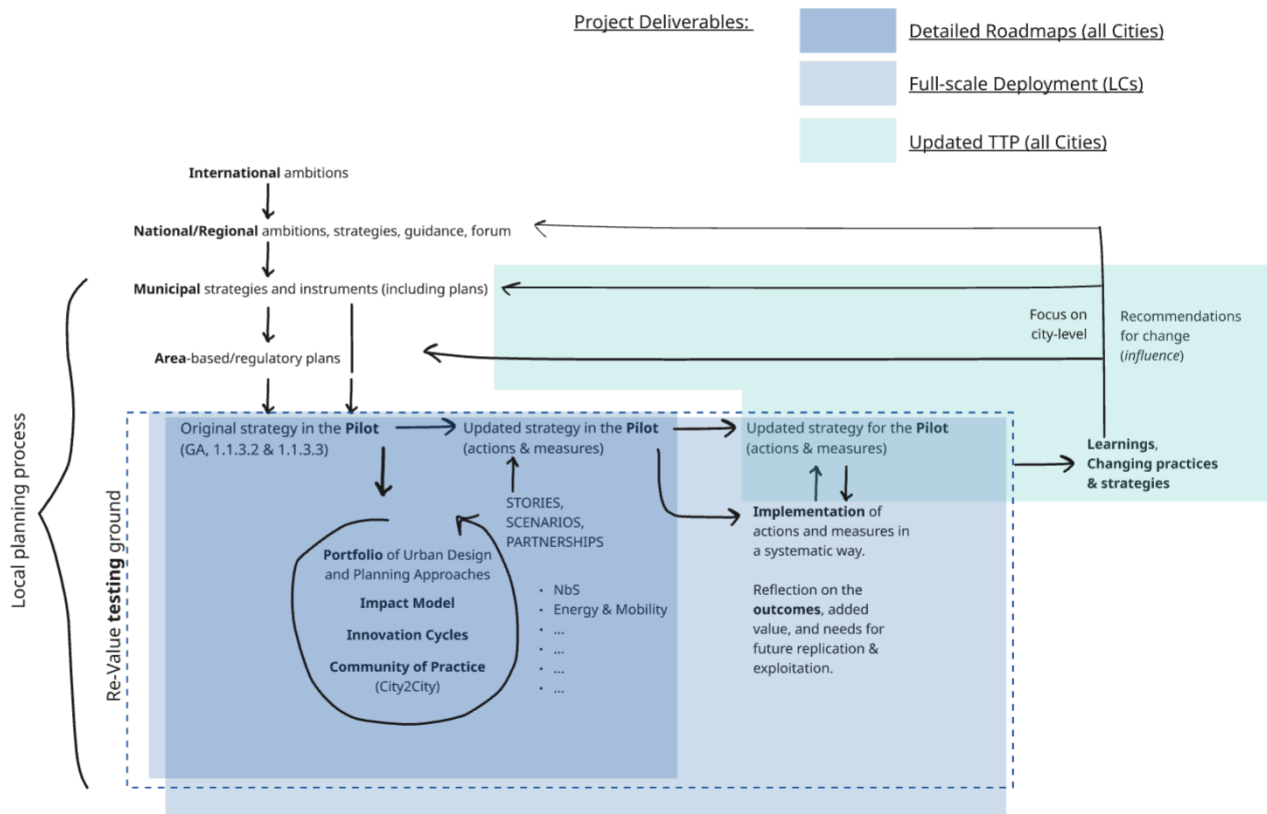


Figure 3: Re-Value path towards updated TTPs and its connection with local planning processes. First version (to be further developed in the project). (Author: Giulia Vergerio, NTNU)

Innovation Cycle 2 decided to move forward with the cities bilaterally, not using the sister space format. In the middle of the execution of the sister spaces with Innovation Cycle 1 and 3, Innovation Cycle 2 introduced a plan for developing a simple scenario-building tool which was constructed based on the relationships among the three Innovation Cycles (Figure 4). All this should support Leading Cities in the full deployment of their Roadmaps toward climate neutrality and development of their updated Territorial Transformation Plans (TTPs) as potential new exploitable results aiming to show its scalability and replicability across Europe. The definition and scope of updated TTPs has also been clarified as part of this process thanks to the collaborative work and conducted co-creation processes of Ålesund, Bruges and NTNU, with outcomes that could be part of the project legacy.

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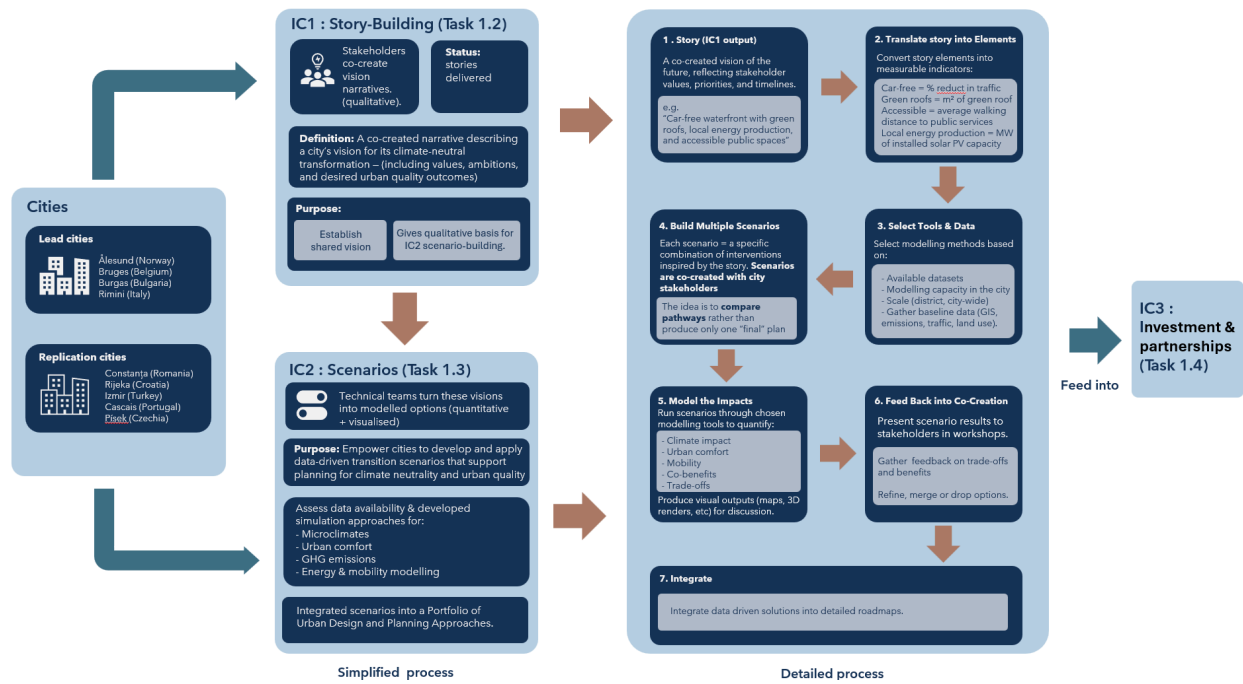
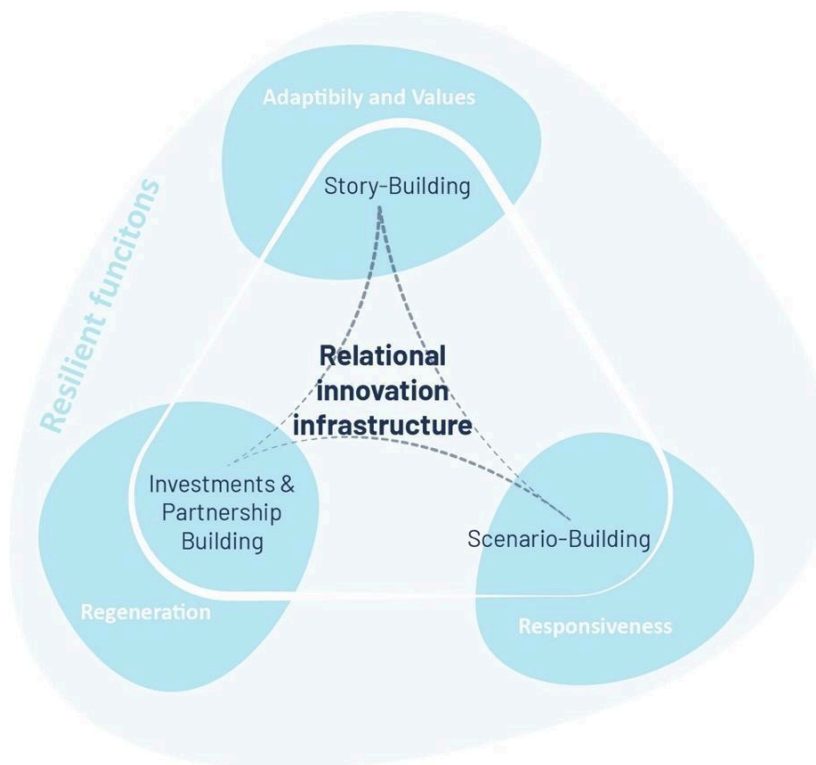


Figure 4: IC2 Re-Value Diagram (Author: Scott Young, AugmentCity with contribution from Mohsen Sharifi, VITO & Sagnik Bhattacharjee, ECOTEN urban comfort)

Rather than being a set of fixed tools, the Innovation Cycles offer flexible frameworks and strategies that support ongoing experimentation, challenge, and evolution (Figure 5).



Each Innovation Cycle contributes to a distinct **resilience function**:

- **Adaptability** is cultivated through Story-Building, which enables reflection, creativity, and value alignment.
- **Responsiveness** is strengthened through Scenario-Building, which supports cities in adjusting to changing data and conditions.
- **Regeneration** is anchored in Investment & Partnership Building, which enables long-term value creation through inclusive, context-sensitive governance and blended finance strategies.

Figure 5. Relational innovation infrastructure (Author: Deborah Navarra, NTNU)

By the end of the project, Re-Value cities will produce Re-Value Stories, narratives generated during story-building cycles that capture local visions, values, and potential co-benefits of interventions. They have been already disseminated through artistic outreach and serve as input for scenario building.

Re-Value Scenarios are data-driven simulations that explore different development pathways (e.g., microclimate mitigation vs. grey infrastructure) to inform decision-making. Such findings will then be used to explore investment and partnerships. Stories, scenarios, and investment and partnerships will finally feed into the Impact Model and help prioritise actions in the updated Territorial Transformation Plans, thus strengthening relational innovation infrastructure (Figure 5).

3 Re-Value Exploitable Results and Innovations in the Waterfront Pilots

Exploitable results comprise interconnected assets, including **policy strategies, tools, guidelines, and social innovations**. Going beyond these results, the Re-Value project intends to deliver more than 40 innovations at different societal readiness levels, including digital twin platforms, microclimate and energy evaluation tools, scenario frameworks, story-building and innovation camp methodologies, governance models, and city-specific approaches for planning and design, all curated for replication and impact. The Innovation Cycles plan to deliver 23 tailored scenarios in support of the Impact Model by the end of the project. The Re-Value Urban Planning and Design Approaches Portfolio [30] presents an early articulation of approaches and tools across cities, such as Bruges’ City Atelier and Digital Twin Neighbourhood Renovation Tool, Ålesund’s intermediary model and digital twin usage, Burgas’ Smart Burgas platform, and İzmir’s co-production and sponge city linkage, framed as **policy, method, tool, and governance** assets suitable for replication and uptake. Those listed above are just some of the novelty this Innovation Action will offer to European cities for exploitability at the end of the project.

In this chapter the most mature Key Exploitable Results (KER) have been presented.

3.1 Re-Value Key Exploitable Results (KER)

During project preparation, several Exploitable Results (ERs) were envisioned and classified into Policy/Strategies, Tools, Insights and Guidance, and Societal Innovation (Table 2).

Table 2. Exploitable Results proposed by the project in the initial project phase

Exploitable Results			
Policy / Strategies	Systemic changes in governance (Cities, NTNU, ICLEI)	Special-Purpose Vehicles for Urban Regeneration (SUAS, GIB)	Regulatory & Advocacy mechanism (Cities, NTNU, ICLEI)
	Advocacy to reduce or eliminate energy & mobility poverty (Cities, NTNU, ICLEI)	Local Energy Communities, modal shift, urban routes, shore power (Cities, Universities, and RTOs)	Climate City Contracts (Cities, NTNU, ICLEI)
Tools	UrbanSense Data platform, AugmentCity digital twin, VITO Urban Energy Pathfinder, Environmental Atlas, ECOTEN urban comfort model (VITO, AC, ECOTEN)	Re-Value Innovation Cycles on story-building, scenario-building, and investment & partnership models (ECOTEN, TV, SP, GIB)	PaRo system of participatory budgeting (MP)
	Community of practice, with replication team (ICLEI)	Re-Value Impact Model (NTNU)	Renaturing Urban Plans, Urban Forests (RIM)

Insight and Guidance	Position Papers, Advocacy (WP9) (NTNU)	Social Innovation Camp reports (WP8) (JAE)	Portfolio of Urban Planning and Design Approaches (WP6) (ICLEI)
	Replication recommendations (WP6) (ICLEI)	Detailed Cities Roadmaps / Full-Scale Deployment Reports (WP6) (ICLEI)	Exploitation recommendations (WP8) (ICLEI, NTNU)
Societal Innovation	Circular use & interweaving of spatial assets (NTNU, UNIBO, LNEG, IZTECH, UNG, IFLA, SU, GIB)	Cultural Corridor, Cultural Harbour (AK, RIJ)	Innovation Camps for youth (JAE)
	Climate Alliance, United Future Lab (AK, SUAS, NTNU, AC)	Climate Festival, pop-up events in regeneration areas (TV, SP)	Travelling theatre, value-building cultural centre (TV, SP)

The Grant Agreement mandates the delivery of **Re-Value exploitable results** through two deliverables (D8.6 Exploitable Results Report 1 and D8.10 Exploitable Results Report 2) and tasks cities and partners with visioning, co-creating, and co-documenting an overview of policies, tools, guidance, and societal innovations. Starting from what was originally envisioned (shown in Table 2) and aware of all the activities carried out and documented in the projects, this chapter summarises the main actions and extracts the most advanced key exploitable results. This chapter captures some of the KER developed by cross-cutting partners (Table 3) but also presents innovations developed across cities, by individual cities with their local partners, in their very specific contexts, where a need for moving beyond business as usual faced them with key Re-Value systemic challenges which serve as framework to present and document an impact while moving beyond the state of the art (subchapters 3.2.1-3.2.6).

3.2 Moving beyond business as usual

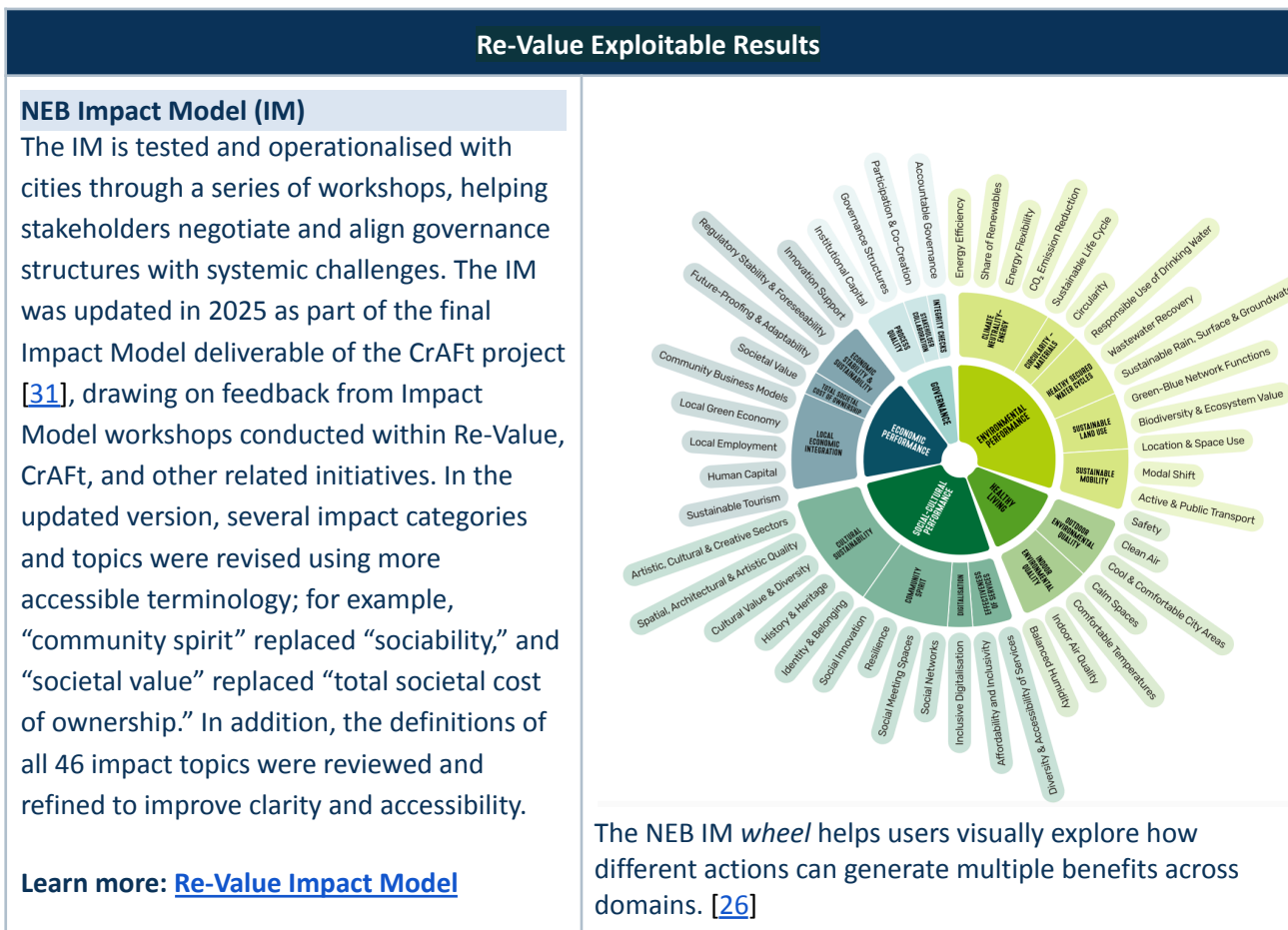
Replication Teams within each city and across cities worked to move beyond business as usual in addressing the following six systemic challenges in urban planning and design:

- **Governance & Regulatory Structures**
- **Cultural and Spatial Quality**
- **Financial & Circular Value Chains**
- **Data-driven Co-creation**
- **Energy & Mobility**
- **Nature-Based Solutions**

Some of the approaches and processes under systemic challenges are new to the cities and their countries. Some are not new individually but are combined into integrated solutions for the first time. Some have been tested in preliminary processes and are, in Re-Value, be deployed on a full scale through Detail Cities Roadmaps. Some have already been tested in the city, but their results have never been documented.

To explore new forms of collaboration and rethink institutions to create social value that has a profound and lasting impact on our society, the bottom-up approaches, cultural sensitivity, participatory decision-making, interdisciplinary teams, arts and culture, has been offered by Re-Value cities, grounding an unprecedented environment for creativity, empowerment and collective mobilisation. Re-Value addresses today’s situational context (pandemics, wars, economic and political crises, etc.) by experimenting with existing and new co-created methods to achieve societal transformation. The project has mapped various initiatives and provided a structure for the emergence of additional ones (Table 3), with the intention of assessing their scalability and replicability across different communities and contexts. The solutions developed within Re-Value have the potential to shift the impact of ongoing climate-neutrality actions in cities and the social issues they create into positive transformations, creating additional value for all stakeholders.

Table 3. Moving beyond Business as Usual: Example of the KER co-developed in the Re-Value project



IM co-developers: Han Vandevyvere (VITO / NTNU), Annemie Bertha Marcella Wyckmans (NTNU)

Re-Value Exploitable Results Description

The **NEB Impact Model Dominoes Game** offers an interactive and accessible format for engaging with the New European Bauhaus (NEB) values of **sustainability, beauty, and inclusivity**, in line with the ambitions of the **European Green Deal**. Drawing on the NEB Impact Model's systemic framework for understanding and strengthening transformative processes, the game connects themes including environmental performance, social and cultural dimensions, economic performance, and governance. Tested in 12 European cities, the tool uses gameplay to spark conversation on co-benefits and conflicts. [28]

Learn more: [NEB Impact Model Dominoes](#)
Game developer: Marjan Khaleghi (NTNU)

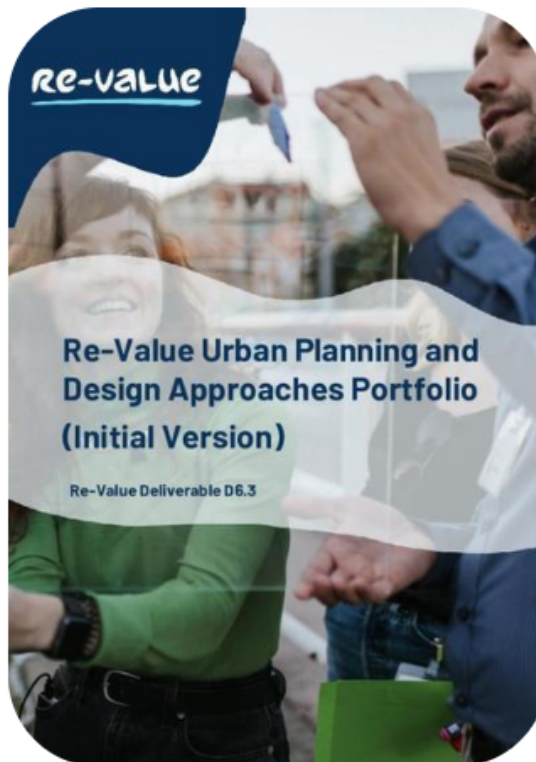


NEB Impact Model Dominoes Instruction booklet [29]

Portfolio of Urban Planning and Design Approaches

The Portfolio is a living collection of good and emergent urban planning and design practices, approaches, methods and tools being captured in Re-Value Cities for further replicability and transferability. It aims to inform, inspire, and encourage collaborative learning within the Re-Value Community of Practice, and eventually with other European cities as they work to update their urban policies, processes, and practices to help achieve the European Green Deal's ambition to become the first climate-neutral continent in the world. The Portfolio is yet to harvest the innovations and other contributions from the ICs and other work streams.

Learn more on exploitable potential within the [Urban Planning and Design Approaches Portfolio](#) **developer:** ICLEI



Re-Value Urban Planning and Design Approaches Portfolio [30]

JA Europe Innovation Camps

The **Innovation Camps** aim to promote active citizenship while addressing Re-Value systemic challenges.

The **camps are aligned with city-specific roadmaps** to maximise their relevance to local climate neutrality objectives. Feedback mechanisms, including surveys and focus groups, are employed after each event to assess outcomes and refine approaches, ensuring continuous improvement and alignment with project goals. The Innovation Camps are planned in three rounds in each city, and organised per year.

Learn more on exploitable potential of the Re-Value Innovation Camps: [D8.3: Re-Value Innovation Camps](#) [5], [D8.5: Re-Value Innovation Camps](#) [6]

Innovation Camp developer: JAE



İzmir Innovation Camp 23/10/2023, youth are in action. Photo: JA Turkey. [5] [6]

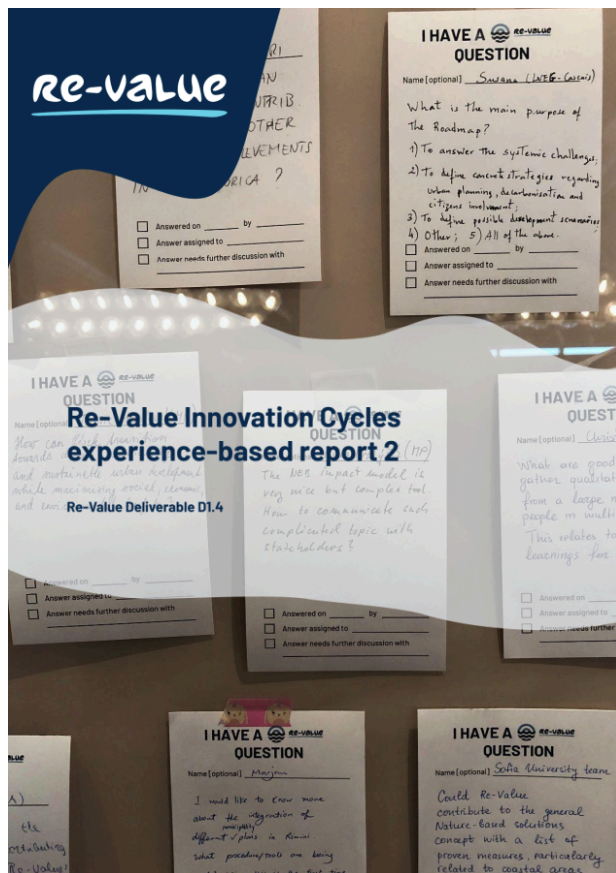
Re-Value Exploitable Results Description

Re-Value Innovation Cycle on story-building

In the first innovation cycle (IC1), NTNU with TV and SP used innovative story-building techniques to support public administrations in redefining their approach to urban development. By challenging conventional perspectives, IC1 facilitates co-creative processes that enable cities to experiment, reflect, and iterate toward transformative solutions. In its second phase (July 2023 – June 2024), IC1 worked with the waterfront cities to explore the multifaceted potential of story-building through initiatives like Short-Term Artistic Missions, reimagined reporting formats, and waterfront pilot "hacking" activities. These efforts aim to equip cities with practical tools and strategies for crafting impactful narratives that inspire and drive sustainable urban change.

Learn more on exploitable potential of the [Re-Value Innovation Cycles Experience](#) [32]

IC1 Developer: Deborah Navarra (NTNU)



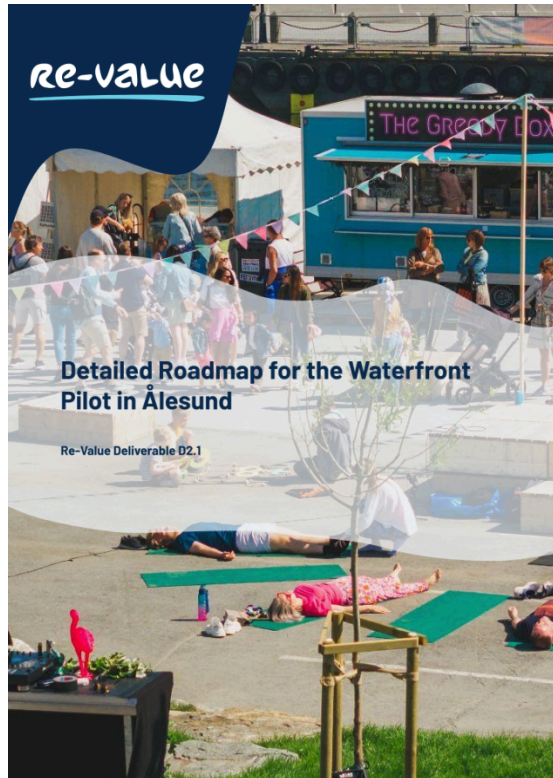
Re-Value Innovation Cycles experience-based report 2

Re-Value Exploitable Results Description

Detailed Roadmaps for the waterfront pilots in 9 Re-Value Cities

Detailed Roadmap for the Waterfront Pilot in Ålesund directed its focus at Kulturhavna (The cultural harbor), a pilot area for the Re-Value project (right, in the table). Through Re-Value, various methods for activating the area have been tested, both using temporary infrastructure and activating old buildings. The project is also influencing the ongoing discussions around future permanent infrastructure by highlighting the value of the existing infrastructure and industrial heritage of the area.

Learn more on other Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots in Bruges, Burgas, Rimini, Rijeka, Cascais, Constanța, İzmir and Písek:
 Ålesund [12] Bruges [13] Burgas [14] Rimini [15] Rijeka [16] Cascais [17] Constanța [18] İzmir [19] Písek [20]



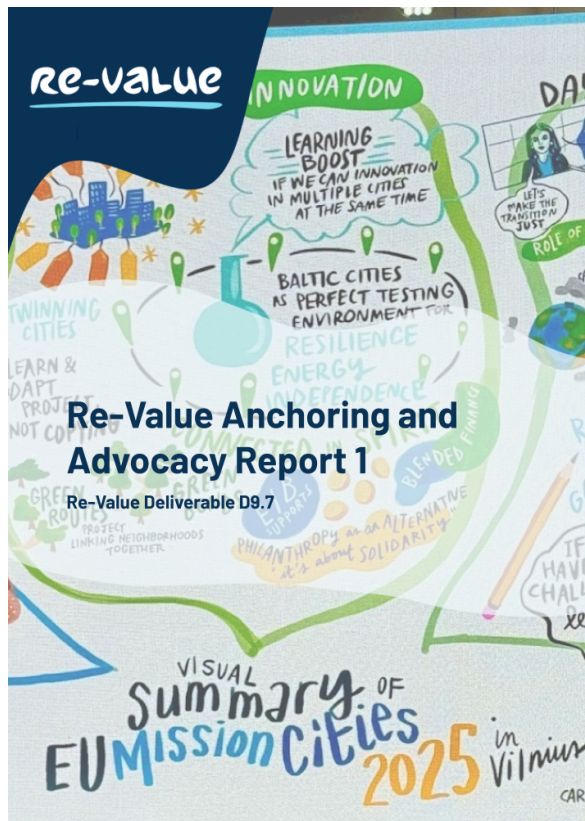
D2.1: Detailed roadmap for the waterfront pilot in Ålesund[12]

Position Papers / Policy Briefs

As a [Horizon Europe Mission Cities](#) project within the *Urban Planning and Design cluster*, Re-Value fully integrates the values and working principles of the [New European Bauhaus](#). By integrating technical and governance advances with cultural, social, and aesthetic dimensions, the project presents climate neutrality as a comprehensive shift in urban quality, public value, and collective well-being that extends beyond technological goals. Across nine waterfront cities, Re-Value explores how reconnecting urban life with rivers, coasts, and harbours can align decarbonisation with resilience, heritage, identity, and liveability.

Learn more on Re-Value Anchoring and Advocacy [40]

Position Papers and Policy Brief Developers:
 NTNU, all partners



Re-Value’s innovation portfolio is enriched by cross-cutting partners’ activities that provide data-driven tools, capacity building, and technical expertise that benefit all cities. These transversal results are summarised below to clarify roles and supporting tools applied across cities.

Table 3 Key exploitable results, partner roles and KER applications in cities’ ecosystems in the first two years of the project implementation across WPs addressing systemic challenges

Developer or Supporting Partner	KER, partners’ role and supporting innovations	Cities & project applications	WP	Primary Systemic challenges
NTNU	Impact model (IM) widely adoptable ER, and integration of the Participatory Story (IC1), Scenarios (IC2), Investment Partnership (IC3) building methods for all nine cities	All 9 cities, tested across project	WP1	Governance & Regulatory Structures
GIB	Financing and partnership approaches (models) for each city	All 9 cities to be developed	WP1, WP6	Financial & Circular Value Chains
NTNU	Inclusiveness Protocol : for universal design, energy/mobility poverty mitigation, vulnerable group inclusion	All 9 cities, applied across project	WP9	Governance & Regulatory Structures
NTNU	Policy Briefs for each city, as actionable, scalable outcomes	All 9 cities to be applied	WP9	Governance & Regulatory Structures
ICLEI	Portfolio of Urban Planning and Design Approaches (minimum 48 tools): evidence-based guidelines, best practices	All 9 cities, across project	WP6	Governance & Regulatory Structures
ECOTEN	ECOTEN coordinates with VITO and Augment City to implement data-driven solutions and provides expertise on climate resilience strategies. Tools include microsimulation of heat comfort and vulnerability assessments for green corridors and shading strategies. Digital/data-driven tools for scenario building, planning, and citizen engagement.	Supports Písek (microsimulation) and İzmir (microclimate strategies) and advises other cities on.	WP1, WP6	Data-driven Co-creation Energy & Mobility
Augment City	Provides a digital twin platform and visualisation tools for smart, sustainable cities. Augment City supports AK and SUAS (Ålesund) using data-driven co-creation and participates in cross-cutting teams on digital twins .	Leads development of digital twin roadmaps for İzmir and Písek and contributes to Ålesund’s pilot area.	WP1, WP2, WP6	Data-driven Co-creation Energy & Mobility

Developer or Supporting Partner	KER, partners' role and supporting innovations	Cities & project applications	WP	Primary Systemic challenges
VITO	Provides technological expertise and data analysis to accelerate the transition to a more sustainable society. VITO provides technical expertise to BRG (Bruges) to support spatially efficient and sustainable regeneration of the Kaai District.	Leads impact dialogues with NetZeroCities and supports M&E across all cities.	WP3, WP7	Data-driven Co-creation Governance & Regulatory Structures
JA Europe (JAE)	JA Europe provides upskilling for 1 400 youth across the nine cities through 28 Innovation Camps , supporting communication, dissemination and exploitation.	All cities host annual innovation camps led by JAE, integrating story-building and co-creation into local schools and communities.	WP8	Cultural and Spatial Quality Governance & Regulatory Structures
TV, SP	Cultural engagement strategies (art/culture/creative entrepreneurship programs)	Supports Písek, Ålesund		Cultural and Spatial Quality
IFLA Europe	Provides expertise to ensure high-quality landscape planning (NBS design), climate change mitigation/adaptation and dissemination of project results.	Advises all cities on NBS design and contributes to inclusiveness and diversity management plans.		Nature-Based Solutions

These cross-cutting contributions ensure that digital modelling, microclimate analysis, capacity building and landscape design are consistently applied across Re-Value, supporting replication and scalability. Cities' work is also directly contributing to the delivery of exploitable results and innovations with the specific goal of going beyond the state of the art in several of the systemic challenges, advancing the SRL of certain strategies, as mapped in Table 4. Leading cities (Ålesund, Bruges, Burgas, and Rimini) are expected to demonstrate full-scale deployment, while replication cities (Cascais, Constanța, İzmir, Písek, and Rijeka) learn and adapt their own visions and scenarios. Each subsection below summarises some ongoing actions in order to extract and assess innovations and their readiness within each systemic challenge.

Table 4 Re-Values Systemic Challenges and Innovations Across Lead and Replication Cities

Systemic challenge	Innovations	Lead Cities			
		Ålesund	Bruges	Burgas	Rimini

Governance & Regulatory Structures	Climate Alliance for policy and governance innovation (SRL 2–9)		x			
Cultural and Spatial Quality	Cultural Harbour (Kulturhavna) concept (SRL 2–9)	x				
	Kaai District as an urban transformation pilot (SRL 2–9)		x			
	Regenerative, art-based citizen engagement (SRL 3–9)	x				
	Regenerative public space using multipurpose infrastructures (SRL 4–9)		x			
Financial & Circular Value Chains	Circular economy partnerships and investment models (SRL 3–9)	x				
	Circular and sharing value chains, including local food production and maker spaces (SRL 3–9)		x			
	Ecomondo event for circular economy innovation dissemination (SRL 4–9)					x
Data-driven Co-creation	Digital twin for urban data visualisation and scenario-building (SRL 6–9)	x				
	Urban Sense data platform for co-creative digitisation (SRL 2–9)		x			
	Data-driven district transformation (SRL 3–9)		x			
	Digital Innovation Hub and integrated urban systems (SRL 6–9)				x	
Energy & Mobility	Modal shift (sustainable mobility, autonomous EVs, waterfront access) (SRL 6–9)	x				
	Modal shift (biking, clustering, emission-free distribution) (SRL 5–9)		x			
	Modal shift projects (SRL 2–9)				x	
	Sustainable transport infrastructures and citizen engagement campaigns (SRL 2–9)				x	
	Energy retrofitting via municipal fund (SRL 6–9)				x	
	Velocity bike/cargo service, 15-minute city mobility (SRL 4–9)					x
Nature-Based Solutions	Parco del Mare - nature-based, car-free urban forest (SRL 5–9)					x
	Parco Marecchia - urban park regeneration with NBS (SRL 2–9)					x

Systemic challenge	Innovations	Replication Cities				
		Cascais	Constanta	Rijeka	Izmir	Pisek
Governance & Regulatory Structures	Local energy communities and PV production (SRL 3–6)	x				
	Partnerships for port-centred climate neutrality (SRL 6–9)			x		
	Strategic integration and administrative capacity building (SRL 2–6)		x			
	SECAP upgrading, Smart City ICT solutions (SRL 4–7)					x
Cultural and Spatial Quality	Innovation Camps	x	x	x	x	x
	Co-creation with residents' associations and schools (SRL 7–9)	x				
	Joint cultural centre for value system embedding (SRL 5–9)					x
Financial & Circular Value Chains	Investment models for energy and mobility infrastructure (SRL 3–6)	x				
	Partnerships for port-centred climate neutrality (SRL 6–9)			x		
	PaRo participatory budgeting integration (SRL 6–9)					x
Data-driven Co-creation	Digital twin, microclimate modelling for urban comfort (SRL 3–8)					x
	Environmental Atlas and online dashboard for NBS and flood management (SRL 6–9)			x		
	Data/impact infusion into mobility scenarios (SRL 1–4)		x			
Energy & Mobility	Local energy communities and PV production (SRL 3–6)	x				
	Data/impact infusion into mobility scenarios (SRL 1–4)		x			
	Urban Routes for multimodal waterfront access (SRL 7–9)				x	
	Riverbank cycling/walking path (SRL 5–9)					x
Nature-Based Solutions	Greenway trail restoration, flood resilience via NBS (SRL 7–9)	x				
	Urban regeneration approaches for port/sea shore (SRL 2–6)		x			
	Nature-based urban solutions linked with URBiNAT (SRL 7–9)			x		
	Sponge district concept for flood risk (SRL 4–8)				x	

3.2.1 Exploitable Results and Innovation in Governance, Regulatory Structures & Advocacy

Climate neutrality requires a mission-driven and cross-disciplinary approach. Not (only) based on the efforts of engaged individuals, but firmly embedded in organisational structures, reducing fragmentation of responsibilities, strengthening policy coherence across sectors, embedding them in innovative regulatory and political policies, and confirming them through Climate City Contracts of the Mission Platform. Re-Value cities are strengthening their local collaborative governance by testing and qualifying democratic tools to broadly empower civil society, businesses, students, media, politicians, researchers, public authorities and other stakeholders.

On-the-ground experiences and learnings on advancing towards climate neutrality are codified into updated policy and regulatory frameworks to prevent each city from needing to reinvent the wheel through time-consuming local dispensations. Regulatory and policy frameworks also need to be made as resilient as possible in the face of wars as well as energy and financial crises that demand a large part of cities' political attention and resources.

- In Re-Value, **Ålesund** works with institutionalised cross-cutting cooperation among municipal units and external partners to upgrade its long-term Territorial Transformation Plan and Waterfront Pilot. Re-value has followed the establishment of AK's Special-Purpose Vehicle SUAS, which will coordinate the development of the Sørsida District with a complex ecosystem of real estate developers, infrastructure developers, citizens and communities, artistic and cultural organisations, and other stakeholders.

Development of the physical infrastructure has occurred during the project period, providing a unique opportunity to influence it. The pilot has also been affected by many of the fundamental conflicts in port cities, as ports have undergone transformation. Cruise tourism, which is both area- and energy-intensive, has increased rapidly since the plan was approved in 2015, triggering divergent interests among municipal entities. Re-Value has had an important role in providing a knowledge base and advising ongoing processes. SUAS went through multiple changes in personnel and political processes, triggering a change of the entire board and top management in 2025. Re-Value has provided some continuity in this period. The structure and scope of SUAS will be further tested, documented, and upgraded in Re-Value to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness in managing the Waterfront Pilot, and the learnings will be shared with other cities for replication.

- Throughout the first three years of the project, **Bruges** experimented with an innovative governance model called "City Atelier". The **City Atelier** is a solution-oriented advisory body that

brings together representatives from different city departments to provide coordinated, timely, and integrated advice to developers and architects, particularly for large-scale projects with multiple dwellings or substantial floor space. It was established to address fragmented and sometimes conflicting advice across departments, previously used by developers to their advantage, and to streamline uneven timelines by creating a one-stop advisory process.

The City Atelier shifts advisory responsibility from permit officers back to the relevant departments, while the Re-Value team acts as a neutral facilitator, ensuring a clear agenda, shared understanding, and high-quality. Developers submit plans three weeks in advance, receive preliminary questions one week before the session, and present their projects during monthly plenary meetings, where cross-departmental discussions assess alignment with systemic city guidelines; projects may go through several iterations. Once the process is concluded, a structured advisory report is submitted to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, after which permit officers take over the formal follow-up. While challenges such as ensuring consistent engagement, clearer decision-making, better integration of external and political input, and stronger follow-up remain, concrete actions are underway to refine the format, improve internal coordination, and strengthen the City Atelier's long-term anchoring within the municipal administration.

- **Burgas** will extend its climate-neutrality strategies to other sectors and municipal units, identifying co-benefits and potential negative externalities across this broad set of strategies and action plans for climate change mitigation and adaptation, urban quality, and local collaborative governance models. In recent years, Burgas has built sustainable urban transport infrastructure, only to find that citizens' behaviour has not changed.
- **Rimini** is implementing a programme of public works and urban regeneration covering the city's historic centre, the waterfront, and other peripheral areas, to create a new, sustainable, attractive, and inclusive destination for tourists and improve the quality of life of its citizens. The experience with territorial strategic planning will enable the development of an updated framework of missions and objectives for the future Rimini, providing a clear orientation for concrete action in the years to come.

The Rimini "Parco del Mare" project, whose concept was developed within this strategic framework, characterised from the very beginning by a strong community-based component, and tried to give shape to this vision by creating a high-quality space where "natural" space is made available for functions dedicated to "well-being", capable of appealing to many different sections of society and already identifiable with Rimini, with its history and its vocation as a tourist city open to relationships.

However, Rimini's main challenge in the coming years will be covering the high maintenance costs, especially for greenery and irrigation, without putting too much pressure on the municipal budget. The city

also aims to improve coordination between public and private investments and raise awareness of the positive impacts for the whole community.

- **Cascais** will create public-private partnerships for energy communities and electric mobility solutions across the city, and will strengthen the empowerment of more than 100 families to upgrade social housing areas developed without any renewable energy production infrastructure, because, at the time of their construction, national housing regulations didn't mandate the installation of local renewable systems.
- From January 2021, all new buildings must meet at least 50% of their climatisation and domestic hot water (DHW) needs using renewable sources. This rule isn't mandatory for existing buildings, but the last version of the Energy Performance in Buildings Directive (EPBD III) is being transposed to Portuguese legislation, and its final version will be published by the end of May 2026. At that time, Cascais can determine if specific measures regarding renewable energy should be introduced for refurbished buildings in Cascais Municipality or if the new built environment legislation is enough to encourage their deployment. During Re-Value, specifically in December 2024, Cascais introduced a program called "Fundo Verde" that finances energy-efficiency measures in buildings for Cascais residents and the installation of photovoltaic systems for self-consumption.

Through IC3, Cascais worked with GIB to explore governance, partnership, and implementation models that could enable renewable-energy deployment in complex urban contexts. A bilateral meeting helped to identify the limitations associated with long-term ESCO contracts at the municipal level and reframed the discussion toward alternative collaboration models that could still unlock private-sector expertise and investment. An outcome of this collaboration was the joint development of the concept for a Renewable Energy Community (REC) around Carcavelos Beach pilot, using ESCO partnerships as an enabling mechanism. Building on insights from GIB and exchanges during the Sister Space cities meetings, the initiative explores how energy generated from photovoltaic installations on nearby residential buildings and existing PV systems at the Nova SBE campus could be shared with businesses and users within the pilot area.

To raise awareness of renewable energy and energy efficiency, through IC3, Cascais also explored the integration of small photovoltaic systems into urban furniture, enhancing comfort for users and visitors of the pilot areas. In parallel, the city engaged citizens through climate and energy literacy initiatives, including workshops such as the "Energy Cafés."

Regarding nature based solutions, Cascais is replacing invasive exotic species on the Guia coast with native species and is also protecting the Cresmina's dunes with several measures, like the installation of raised walkways, on the edge of the fully protected area, with platforms for visitors to stop and observe. A permanent southern fence was erected to prevent vehicles from entering in the dunes, thus halting the

constant destruction of native species such as *Armeria welwitschii* and *Juniperus turbinata*, and natural regenerators have also been installed, made from palisades of dead plant material, as the placement of these structures is crucial for reducing wind speed in that region and thus containing the advance of the sand. In the surrounding of the pilot-areas Cascais is also testing the Miyawaki forest concept, a high-density urban reforestation method that uses only native species to create self-sustaining ecosystems, growing up to 10 times faster and being 30 times denser than traditional plantations.

Regarding the connection with other cities, Cascais collaborated with the project's cities more closely in the TTP talk meetings (with Rimini and Constanța and Re-Value experts from the innovation cycles) in the last quarter of 2025, where each focused on a different theme, namely Nature based Solutions and Energy and Mobility. Cascais also has a partnership with the city of Aarhus within the framework of NetZeroCities. In addition to this, Cascais is working towards its climate neutrality goal and is part of the network of Covenant of Mayors' cities.

- **Constanța** aims to foster a culture of co-creation and communication among public authorities, citizens, and other local professional stakeholders.

In 2025, the city drafted its Climate City Contract through a participatory process involving public institutions, academia, businesses, and civil society, with technical support from World Bank experts. A local Net Zero Coalition of 44 entities was established to implement the CCC, and a digital platform, Constanța 2035, was launched to facilitate dialogue and engagement. In addition, Constanța is preparing to launch a user perception survey as the foundation for further engagement and transformation scenario development in the Peninsula area. The Constanța team has established the methodology and developed the questionnaire. The plan is to distribute the survey during the summer of 2026 in order to receive both the citizens and the tourists feedback on how they perceive the area. Further updates are expected in 2026.

- **İzmir** will mature local partnerships developed through the SECAP process into a more systemic mode of local collaborative governance. Integration of the İzmir Re-Value outcomes into formal planning instruments is ongoing. İzmir's SECAP is currently being updated, with the new version expected to be published by the IMM Climate Change Department in February–March 2026. Until then, alignment continues with the existing SECAP, particularly regarding urban heat mitigation and rainwater management measures. In parallel, the IMM Transport Department has designated Alsancak as a low-carbon zone and is advancing related actions in line with both the Transport Master Plan and the SECAP, reinforcing the policy context for the Re-Value pilot.

The İzmir Mediterranean Academy, operating within a network that includes the municipalities of Marseille, Vitrolles, and Nice, as well as AVITEM organisation in Marseille, works in coordination with the Re-Value project to capitalise on project experiences and assess their potential for replication across the network. The Academy aims to advance a vision of Mediterranean cities grounded in culture, art, and design, and to

promote urban innovation through democratic and participatory practices. It currently operates under the İzmir Metropolitan Municipality's Directorate of Culture, Arts and Social Services.

This collaboration has been strengthened through the participation of İzmir Metropolitan Municipality coordinators in workshops organised within the framework of the *Projet Territoires Cultivés-1* funded by the French Government, as well as through continued online coordination meetings. Building on its on-site and project-based experience, the İzmir Re-Value IMM team has also contributed to this process through workshops and a series of coordination meetings. In addition, the *Manifesto for a Mediterranean Region of Culture and Ecology* was signed by the mayors and heads of the participating institutions and by the Mayor of İzmir Metropolitan Municipality. The manifesto is closely aligned with the Re-Value approach, as it advocates culture- and citizen-driven territorial transformation, in which artists, local authorities, and communities co-create new spatial narratives and transition pathways. It further supports the integration of cultural intelligence, living labs, and participatory storytelling into planning processes to foster sustainable, inclusive, and regenerative Mediterranean territories.

Although the funding agreement for the next phase of the same project has not yet been finalised, consortium-level discussions are ongoing regarding the possible implementation of the proposed living lab within the İzmir Re-Value Waterfront pilot area.

- **Písek** will upgrade its SECAP and Strategic Plan and Development Concept for the City of Písek 2025, and refine regeneration plans for the city's waterfront area towards a more systemic approach with an improved organisational structure.

The City of Písek has been implementing the SECAP since 2020, and plans to update it in 2026 (postponed from an original plan to update it in 2024), with the main goal to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. The insights gained through pilot activities will directly inform the updated strategy.

The overall objective of this systemic challenge is to enhance governance and regulatory systems so that climate neutrality and urban quality become core mandates. This includes new planning regulations, integrated territorial transformation plans, and inclusive governance structures.

Readiness Assessment: Leading cities have begun aligning regulatory frameworks with the Impact Model (e.g., Bruges' integration of climate-neutrality into urban plans thanks to the City Atelier process and by developing IM-inspired project guidelines), but formal updating of TTPs is to be achieved in the last year of the project implementation.

3.2.2 Exploitable Results and Innovation Supporting Societal and Spatial Quality

Re-Value cities will enhance spatial planning by enabling multi-functional use of spaces and infrastructure for experimentation, innovation, and cultural expression in their Waterfront Pilots and long-term TTPs.

They will organise artistic, cultural, and creative activities to build capacity among local citizens and communities, and to generate inviting, attractive, and regenerative surroundings where people want to spend their time. By engaging stakeholders in concrete activities related to their daily lives and experiences, urban transformations will become more tangible and visible, and people will be engaged on a more personal level, empowering them to take on more active roles. Across all cities, **Innovation Camps** will empower school children to contribute.

Innovation camps were held in all cities. Several cities (e.g., İzmir, Písek) have experimented with the artistic mission concept, organising value-adding activities (see examples below).

In 2025, as part of a series of workshops (i.e., TTP Talks) and related preparatory and follow-up work, cities reviewed their original strategies and mapped out what they are actually doing in their Waterfront pilots to address this systemic challenge. In this space, several actions were mapped and discussed among cities and with Re-Value experts. For examples:

- Ålesund is actively engaged in developing and documenting the value of existing buildings (in particular the “Pink Building” in Nedre Strandgate 15, a neglected building with cultural value, which was at the centre of the latest innovation camp) and in numerous activities of early activation of the area and place-making. This work has been documented in a separate report. In addition, the building has been 3D scanned and can be included in the Digital Twin.
- Bruges works on this systemic challenge at two levels: urban transformation and community building. Alongside, information panels, historical research, and improvement of green spaces and urban furniture (built during the circular festival with circular wood and during the Kaaiparty with recycled plastic) play an important role in between. Their work with a City Atelier and with the development of NEB IM-inspired project guidelines for the masterplan’s development are important innovations for the city.
- Burgas plans aim to create diverse spaces and thematic zones in its Waterfront Pilot, meeting the needs of people of all ages. They also want to focus on activating the area with exhibitions and short-term events, making the pilot an important part of the city's cultural strategy.

- Rimini included Ecomondo (an annual circular economy international fair) in the Re-Value activities on this occasion, dissemination and public engagement actions were carried out, targeting schools and companies from the sector participating in the fair..
- Constanța worked with the refurbishment of Carol I park in collaboration with the relevant city department and organized initiatives to improve the cultural and spatial quality of the area such as free guided site visits, street closures to cars and others. Even if not under the Re-Value umbrella, the Peninsula area is also invested by the refurbishment of buildings with an important historical and cultural value (e.g., Casino building, the future Business Incubator, and others).
- Cascais sees as its greatest focus, as well as challenge, the engagement of various stakeholders via, e.g., co-creation workshops, innovation camps, the artistic mission, the IM workshop. They are adopting a step-by-step approach, with small actions to increase the quality of the pilot areas (e.g., urban furniture), towards the goal of reducing the space for cars in the future. The latest innovation camp produced innovative ideas on how to boost soft mobility and local businesses at once.
- Písek's aim under this systemic challenge is to transform the pilot in a place for people, creating communities and improving social life. They worked with microclimate simulations for outdoor comfort studies, tactical urbanism actions and local cultural events. They worked on connecting and building trust with the citizens through the mobile city laboratory, a colourful caravan moving around the pilot.
- All İzmir activities are designed to support an integrated design approach for the pilot area and to achieve green connectivity, climate neutrality and public accessibility. Valuable outputs for İzmir come from the innovation camps and artistic mission experiences that took place in the green park of the Pilot area.
- Rijeka's work in response to this systemic challenge is twofold: the renovation of an important historical building and its inclusion in the city's general strategic plan for a cultural corridor connecting key landmarks. NbS and tactical urbanism actions play an important role in the action plan to make this happen.

The overall objective of this systemic challenge is to improve urban spaces for social cohesion, cultural heritage, inclusiveness and health, while ensuring high-quality design.

Readiness Assessment: The presence of inclusive tools (SR 1) and ongoing innovation camps (SR 2) demonstrates progress.

3.2.3 Exploitable Results and Innovation in Financial and Circular Value Chains

Under this systemic challenge, cities, with GIB, identify investment opportunities, create PPP partnerships, de-risk assets and monetize co-benefits between climate neutrality and urban quality.

- Ålesund

Ålesund mapped out a portfolio of interrelated waterfront development projects in the Sørsida area, including land reclamation linked to major transport infrastructure, the Cultural Harbour, and adaptive reuse of a protected industrial building. The mapping highlighted the role of a dedicated municipal development company in coordinating complex stakeholder constellations and sequencing projects.

Re-Value activities helped surface the long-term social and spatial value of temporary uses and heritage reuse, while also revealing persistent tensions between short-term financial returns and harder-to-quantify public value.

- Bruges

In Bruges, the focus is on governance-focused initiatives, notably the City Atelier as a cross-departmental advisory process for large urban development projects, alongside smaller pilot cases in the Kaai district. The City Atelier has improved early coordination between municipal departments and reduced conflicting guidance to developers. However, challenges remain in institutionalising the process, managing external advisory bodies, and aligning technical advice with political decision-making - for which IC3 provided guidance.

- Burgas

Burgas focuses on the Sarafovo Coastal Park project, a phased waterfront regeneration combining green infrastructure, active mobility, biodiversity protection, and recreational uses in a highly constrained coastal area. Early work demonstrated the necessity of resolving cadastral and regulatory inconsistencies upfront and adopting phased implementation to reduce risk. Stakeholder engagement strengthened support for nature-based solutions and reframed the project as a long-term ecological and social asset rather than a purely recreational intervention.

- Rimini

Rimini's focus was on the Parco del Mare waterfront regeneration, covering multiple sections of the coastline with extensive public-space and green-infrastructure interventions. The experience confirmed that green infrastructure generates significant ecosystem services and socio-economic benefits, supporting its treatment as strategic urban infrastructure. However, key challenges remain around long-term maintenance financing and structured involvement of private beneficiaries. IC3 works on providing guidance on how to involve the private sector in the financing.

- Constanța

With Constanta, we mapped out the Peninsula Business Incubator, focused on the adaptive reuse of a historic waterfront building into a creative-industries hub through a multi-actor partnership and blended financing. The project demonstrates how heritage-led regeneration can stimulate local economic ecosystems when supported by clear governance and diversified funding. It also highlighted the complexity of coordinating public funding, private financing, and cash-flow management in regeneration projects.

- Cascais

With Cascais, we mapped out a set of energy-related waterfront interventions: installing solar PV powered urban furniture, and exploration of a local renewable energy community (REC) model in the coastal area, and with support of the Nova Business School. The mapping showed strong technical capacity and strategic alignment with climate goals, but also revealed barriers related to regulation, low feed-in tariffs, long payback periods, and limited community acceptance. Partnerships with local businesses and energy service companies emerged as critical for scaling beyond pilots. IC3 provided guidance on how to structure this partnership within different governance and financing layers.

- Písek

Písek focuses on culture- and community-driven initiatives, including the adaptive reuse of the Křižík Power Plant, recurring city-wide engagement events, and a New European Bauhaus–inspired project assessment framework. The initiatives demonstrated how sustained cultural programming and participatory formats can build civic ownership around regeneration. IC 3 provides guidance on structuring of the emerging assessment framework as a transferable tool - further work is needed to better connect qualitative narratives with quantitative metrics.

- İzmir

The focus is on Alsancak Waterfront Pilot, connecting the waterfront, surrounding streets, and links to Kültürpark through green corridors and public-space upgrades, supported by a Digital Twin roadmap. It combines nature-based solutions, microclimate mitigation, and participatory co-design (incl. citizen design science and innovation camps). The mapping showed progress in cross-departmental coordination and support for interventions through data-driven tools. Key gaps remain around long-term maintenance financing and cost-sharing models, despite strong alignment with existing city strategies.

- Rijeka

The pilot evolved from the adaptive reuse of Exportdrvo into the broader “Rijeka Cultural Corridor,” linking cultural institutions, green spaces, and waterfront access through walkability improvements and tactical urbanism (e.g., Green Carnival and floating platforms). Exportdrvo remains the main testbed for scenarios and governance/partnership prototyping. The mapping undersigned an alignment of culture-led regeneration and climate-sensitive public space improvements. An early engagement (including workshops and youth innovation camps) helped surface priorities around identity, accessibility, and governance.

However, the implementation now hinges on defining workable partnership and management models for shared use and long-term operation, which is the focus on IC3 support.

The outcomes, needs, replication and exploitability potentials of these and other strategies will be further reflected upon by cities in 2026 as part of their Roadmaps, Full-scale deployment, and updated TTPs work.

Objective: To establish financial models and circular value chains that incentivise climate-neutral, high-quality urban development.

Readiness Assessment: Financial models are still under development (SR1). Cascais and Constanța have started feasibility studies and PPP exploration, moving towards SR2.

3.2.4 Exploitable Results and Innovation in Data Driven Co Creation & Digital Twins

Under this systemic challenge, cities exchange practices to obtain more-fit and better-quality data, improve understanding of how simulation and monitoring tools can be integrated in urban planning and design, and create participatory governance structures that reflect data into decision-making and actions, to help fulfill pilots and long-term TTPs.

- Ålesund

AugmentCity works to visualise the new Sørsida development and to improve how the project is communicated to local citizens, now that construction has begun. The Graphical Digital Twin was updated in 2025 to include concept building massing for Sørsida, along with two additional development sites further west along the shoreline. The Sørsida concept model was afterwards also upgraded to the architect's outline building models, providing greater fidelity and detail. AugmentCity is currently developing the 4D component of the Graphical Digital Twin, enabling the different stages of the construction process to be more clearly and effectively communicated.

- Bruges

In 2025, local partner VITO is in dialogue with Bruges to identify opportunities for strengthening data-focused scenario development. The analysis contained detailed energy performance modelling and simulation for KaaiDistrict to explore potential for investment in sustainable energy technologies. Energy demand for the district and solar energy, geothermal energy, and energy storage potential were explored. The current situation of the district was compared to an ambitious scenario for heavy investment on energy technologies and a moderate scenario targeting financially beneficial scenarios. Carbon emissions reductions were modelled and discussed for these scenarios to investigate local operational carbon emissions reductions achieved by the proposed scenarios. Moreover, the district was studied in smaller

building blocks to allow for more detailed and targeted reporting. This highly granular analysis allows the city of Bruges to engage the very developer of the building blocks and provide them with detailed and quality analysis tailored for their development

- Rimini

To support the development of a co-maintenance plan with private stakeholders, the city of Rimini is undertaking data collection to quantify and monitor the socio-economic impacts of actions already implemented. A socio-economic and environmental study of the southern waterfront is being commissioned to assess the effects of the Parco del Mare project. The resulting data will help evaluate benefits for local economic actors and inform future management and planning decisions.

- Písek

In 2025, local partner ECOTEN worked with the Písek to suggest ways to prepare the results of the data collected from the UAV digital twin for possible microclimate simulations assessment, as well as other applications. ECOTEN is also exploring possibilities to upgrade to the urban microclimate simulations tool to make results easier to use in decision-making, embedding data-driven approaches into long-term strategies

- İzmir

İzmir is using the Citizen Design Science (CDS) framework to structure all their engagement activities in Re-Value. It was also used in 2025 to support the co-diagnostic and co-design of a Digital Twin Roadmap for the city, which aims to support the integration of a climate-sensitive Digital Twin model that facilitates sustainable urban planning through data-driven decision making.

Objective: To leverage digital tools, data analytics and digital twins for participatory planning and evidence-based decision-making.

Readiness Assessment: Data-driven tools are mostly at **SR 1** (concept/roadmap stage) except in Písek and İzmir where pilot testing is planned (SR2). Integration into decision-making processes is still forthcoming.

3.2.5 Exploitable Results and Innovation in Energy and Mobility Performance

In 2025, as part of a series of workshops (i.e., TTP Talks) and related preparatory and follow-up work, cities engaged in reviewing their original strategies and in mapping out what they are actually doing in their Waterfront pilots around this systemic challenge. In this space, several actions were mapped and discussed among cities and with Re-Value experts. For examples:

- Ålesund has set plans for mobility in the area (e.g., new public transport hub which is now finished), but via Re-Value has performed relevant analyses to influence them. Other studies include the

impact of cruise ships and an LCA on the built environment. All those aim at providing new insights to influence the established strategies.

- Bruges is implementing a big shift for their local context consisting in moving car-parkings underground, away from the public domain, driven by the request to developers to provide 40% of the plots as green space.

This and other recommendations are part of NEB Impact Model inspired guidelines to developers, which also touch upon functional roofs and PV energy production. The city also works towards flexible use of the car space among various uses, with different patterns of use (i.e., agreement on a shared parking system) and better modal shift (e.g., extensive use of easy accessible and safe bike parkings for residents and visitors). With Re-Value, the cities performed several studies (i.e., mobility study roadmap; studies on several bridges) and collaborated with VITO on energy-related research (e.g., buildings energy efficiency).

- Burgas faces financial sustainability challenges in re-thinking mobility towards public marine transport. The main focus is accessibility, road public transport, walking and biking paths. The city has completed the (approx. 3 years-long) process of getting the ownership from the state over the seriously damaged bicycle lanes and they are ready to transform it 2026. The new bicycle lane will connect various attractions of the area and give access to the coastal park and new leisure opportunities for people in a sustainable way.
- Rimini has a clear direction on mobility thanks to their urban plan for sustainable mobility. With Re-Value they intend to evaluate the impacts of extensive actions, implemented for a long time or on the way, such as a regional network of bike and pedestrian paths and a fast electric bus with a dedicated lane, offering a reliable alternative to cars. The city is also working with energy communities in a section of their pilot area and a new underground parking lot with a park above.
- Constanța is working on a mobility plan for the pilot. They built on the momentum of previous projects to perform pilot actions to reduce the traffic, such as events and street closure. A more continuous stream of resources should support them in moving from pilot actions to radical change (car-free and zero emission area). They are building this path starting from the renovation of existing infrastructure (streets, historical buildings) to deliver more quality for people.
- Cascais is primarily engaged with the concept of energy communities and it is exploring the financial models to implement one in the pilot area. Smaller projects such as PV furniture have primarily an educational function. Accessibility to the pilots via soft and sustainable transport modes are a primary concern and an enabler to reduce car space and traffic in the pilot in the future.
- Písek is working to improve the public transport offer (more lines and km coverage) and educate the people about the change. This is an enabling condition to shift well-rooted behaviours and beliefs, which are a barrier towards freeing the public domain from cars and opening it to people.

All their activities (e.g., riverbank study, GHG emission simulation from mobility, microclimate simulations) are motivated by the wish to transform the streets into places to live and spend time, building (more than energy) communities.

- İzmir registered a dissatisfaction with unregulated traffic and parking in the pilot thanks to observations and an extensive survey in the pilot area. However, the main problems at focus in the pilot area are excess surface temperature and flooding caused by heavy rainfalls. While approaching the design, the city wants to use NbS and solve the mobility/traffic aspects at the same time. Concerning mobility, a starting point has been redefining the mobility-related strategy of relocating parkings as measure for outdoor comfort, as it reduces the heat island effect. Connecting more with the mobility department of the city would be a next step.
- Rijeka succeeded, after a 10-year process, to relocate the parking that was occupying the port area, in the pilot, giving back to the city and people a valuable space. The refurbishment of the heritage building in the same area opens interesting possibilities to work both with energy (energy efficiency, renewables) as well as mobility, if but in the context of the cultural corridor concept of connecting major city landmarks.

Objective: To decarbonise energy and mobility systems while enhancing urban quality and accessibility.

Readiness Assessment: Energy and mobility assessments are underway (SR1). İzmir and Cascais show progress towards pilot implementation (SR2), while adoption of innovative mobility services remains limited.

3.2.6 Exploitable Results and Innovation in Nature-Based Solutions (NBS)

During the project preparation the cities envision strategies around this systemic challenge, such as, for example:

- Data-driven co-creation of circular solutions, e.g. Green roofs, urban farming, etc. (Bruges)
- Qualification and implementation of NbS for local ecosystems regeneration; Urban forests (Rimini)
- Integrate innovative and inclusive nature into urban planning and design (Rijeka)
- Upgrade riverbeds (Písek)
- Greenway trail restoration; plantation of forest trees (Cascais)
- Experiment with the sponge city concept (İzmir).

In 2025, as part of a series of workshops (i.e., TTP Talks) and related preparatory and follow-up work, cities engaged in reviewing their original strategies and in mapping out what they are actually doing in their

Waterfront pilots around this systemic challenge. In this space, several actions were mapped and discussed among cities and with Re-Value experts. For example:

- Ålesund has implemented a small temporary park (hill with trees) on sealed pavements in the former Port area of its Re-Value Pilot (Kulturhavna), giving it back to youth and as a result of the Re-Value innovation camps. The people are using the new park, especially on sunny days and as a resting area on the occasion of social events. An architectural study to show possible interpretations of the plan is ongoing, input from the project on NbS will be important, in addition to input for the coming road-construction. On a more systemic scale, Ålesund looks into the future for NbS to clean the seabed to be integrated in existing tech-based plans.
- Bruges integrated nature and greening in their concept study, masterplan and evolving development guidelines for the pilot area, setting a requirement to provide 40% of the plots as green space, including the demand for green roofs and roof gardens. Thanks to strict rainwater regulations, Bruges will succeed in establishing a blue network in the Kaaidistrict, allowing rainwater to infiltrate naturally back into the ground. At a smaller scale, nature has been at the core of some community initiatives and workshops. Bruges looks into the future for nature-based tactical urbanism to reclaim public space.
- Burgas, facing geological risks and needing to stabilize land, is working on their pilot with forestation and “authentic” vegetation. Meanwhile, the pilot (a peri-urban park between a residential area and the shore) aims to be a green place for people, creating new opportunities for education, science, sport activities, relaxation and communication around nature and the sea.
- Rimini works with dunes along the coast and their integration with soft mobility lanes. The pilot is rich with new green areas. In its execution, particular attention was placed on the selection of innovative and draining materials.
- Constanța renovated an important park in the pilot area in close cooperation with the greening department. Consanta looks into the future for NbS solutions to mitigate heat and increase the overall quality and attractiveness of the area.
- Cascais has previous experience with Miyawaki forests that could be brought into the project to explore replication potential in the pilot area. Close to the university building in the vicinity of Carcavelos, Cascais worked on land conversion for water saving and native plants plantation.
- Písek, starting with the pilot, is implementing the 3-30-300 framework for a systemic approach to urban greening.
- İzmir plans have the Sponge City and Sustainable Green Zone concepts at the core. The innovation camps have provided as an output a catalogue of NbS that the city intends to present to decision makers. For the city, NbS are mostly a response to the challenges of flooding and heat waves, where

greening corridors and sharing networks are particularly important concepts. İzmir looks into the future for NbS solutions for coastal ecosystem restoration.

- Rijeka's approach is well captured by the concept of NbS urban seeds, where nature is used in tactical urbanism interventions, rising interests, awareness, reclaiming public space and marking a new cultural corridor in the city. On a more systemic scale, Rijeka looks into the future for NbS to renaturalizing the riverbank.

Objective: To integrate NBS such as green infrastructure, coastal restoration and biodiversity enhancement into urban planning and climate mitigation/adaptation strategies.

Readiness Assessment: NBS initiatives are primarily in planning stages (SRL 1) except for Písek's immediate measures (SRL 2). Implementation will rely on funding and stakeholder buy-in.

The outcomes, needs, replication and exploitability potentials of these and other strategies will be further reflected upon by cities in 2026 as part of their Roadmaps, Full-scale deployment, and updated TTPs work. The processes arranged in the project to support this work will allow the extraction of the innovations and ERs to be reported in the next version of this deliverable. Some preliminary examples are reported in Chapter 4 as Re-Value Stories.

4. Re-Value Stories

The portfolio of exploitable results reflects co-evolving governance mechanisms, methods, and tools that support mission-driven planning, with emphasis on inclusiveness, replicability, and local capacity building as cities co-develop pilot roadmaps and long-term territorial transformations.

Innovations are multi-scalar, combining neighbourhood design, citywide data infrastructure, and institutional arrangements. The Innovation Camps add a challenge-based learning pipeline for youth-to-city engagement, aligned with local roadmaps and systemic challenges.

The Impact Echo lens underscores iterative learning loops where **stories inform data inquiries, scenarios refine investment logic, and partnership-building translates proposals into feasible implementation steps.**

The innovations identified in the city roadmaps are summarised below by pilot area, indicating each **innovation, its type, the systemic challenge, and its category.** This table serves as a quick reference for readers.

City & Pilot area	Innovation / Measure	Type	Systemic Challenge & Category
Písek – Mezimostí & Portyč estate	3-30-300 rule for urban nature, microsimulation model (ECOTEN), Re-USE centre, mobile lab events; participation	NBS/Tool/Facility/Process	NBS; Data-Driven; Financial & Circular
İzmir – Alsancak Waterfront	Green corridors & microclimate strategies, Digital Twin roadmap, community-based narratives, co-design of public spaces	NBS/Tool/Process	NBS; Data-Driven; Societal & Spatial Quality
Constanța – Peninsula Area	stakeholder engagement, low-emission zone, cooperation with heritage casino	Governance/Policy	Governance & Regulatory; Energy & Mobility
Cascais – Guia Road & Carcavelos Beach	Coastal NBS for climate resilience, renewable energy potential assessment, building efficiency evaluation, participatory story-building	NBS/Assessment/Process	NBS; Energy & Mobility; Data-Driven
Ålesund (Leading city)	space reappropriation (Kulturhavna); will test and fine-tune impact model (not yet publicly reported)	Process/Approaches	Governance & Regulatory; Data-Driven
Bruges (Leading city)	Integration of climate neutrality into historic city planning; circularity; sustainable mobility; use of impact model to co-create scenarios; City Atelier; use of impact model to draw development guidelines (not yet publicly reported)	Policy/Process/Tool/Solution	Governance & Regulatory; Societal & Spatial Quality

City & Pilot area	Innovation / Measure	Type	Systemic Challenge & Category
Burgas (Leading city)	Forthcoming roadmap expected to address port greening and mobility;	Process	Energy & Mobility; Societal & Spatial Quality
Rimini (Leading city)	Focus on and coastal adaptation; replicates impact model for holistic approach and reports	Process/Approach/Tool	Societal & Spatial Quality; NBS
Rijeka (Replication city)	Cultural corridor concept; Re-use of culture infrastructure, circular approach to industrial gaps, digital public consultation platform	Process/Socio-cultural innovation/Tool	Financial & Circular; Data-Driven
All cities	Innovation camps engaging youth; Inclusiveness Protocol pathways; Impact Model & Community of Practice	Capacity-building/Process	Societal & Spatial Quality; Governance & Regulatory

To motivate stakeholders and celebrate local breakthroughs, Re-Value encourages each city to craft concise narratives that capture its unique co-creation journey. These **Re-Value Stories** serve as inspirational vignettes for peer-to-peer learning. This process was facilitated via two Innovation workshops, building on the expected innovation areas from the project description. One workshop was organised in May 2025 as part of the online consortium meeting and centred on the exchange of ideas and approaches. A second workshop was held in October 2025 in Cascais, bringing together Sister City groups for a dedicated story session. These efforts kicked off a process to gather innovation stories linked to six systemic challenges (see detailed in Table 5). This chapter reports stories as extracted from the project documentations and/or as created by cities and their partners in these two workshops.

Bruges – Balancing Heritage, Cultural sustainability and Climate. Participatory scenario workshops in Bruges integrated the Impact Model into Kaaidistrict, in the buffer zone of the UNESCO-listed **historic centre**, balancing heritage preservation with climate-neutral mobility (source: Grant Agreement and forthcoming detailed roadmap). The NEB **Impact Model** allowed Bruges (from the first workshop, basis of their roadmap, and going forwards) to look at the urban transformation in a holistic way. The **City Atelier** is its highest governance translation, bringing together all the relevant city departments and the developers before a formal permit request in order to discuss the transformation. It acts as an internal hub to reduce silos on transformational projects. Thanks to the renovated way of working and an extensive concept study, masterplan and evolving development guidelines for the pilot area, Bruges is a front-runner in **sustainable urban transformation**, where some identity and cultural traits (“we are the bike capital”) are enablers of change more than barriers. **NEB IM-inspired guidelines** for the development include recommendations on greening, comfortable bike parking (“your bike is closer than your car”) for soft mobility (reinforced by a slow network designed in the masterplan), renewable energy and much more. Next to the standard NEB

indicators, also less convenient NEB IM indicators, which are not embedded in other (Flemish) legal frameworks, are implemented in the guidelines and strongly taken into account, such as 'Identity & belonging' or 'Arts mobilisation'. All these have to be followed up by municipality-developers agreements, a next step in the commitment towards process innovation and anchoring from the city. Other notable results include deep integration of urban circularity in education (Kaaidistrict Innovation Camps), use of expert panels and entrepreneur engagement, and participatory scenario prototyping.

Písek – Art&culture and participation to enable change and increase the quality of life. Through events like Pískoviště and Earth Day, the **3-30-300 green-space standard** has been introduced, demonstrating that playful storytelling can galvanise support for the circular economy and green infrastructure. With art&culture (incl. **Mobile lab**), Písek goes beyond pure technical studies (**microclimate simulations**) to create a better place. It creates a safe place between game and reality to reach out to people to leverage on imagination and creativity, challenging beliefs, and build trust as enablers of change. Imagining a city without cars is a far-reach in Písek, but incentives like 15-min bike riding and education campaigns about a change in the public transport offer are on the way. Písek combines tactical urbanism (e.g., temporary use of abandoned buildings, innovation camp experience) and digital **participation** to bridge historical and emerging urban planning paradigms. Písek combined existing solutions (i.e., municipal participatory budget) with the Re-Value **innovation camps**, setting up a new process where students worked on project ideation, rethinking a piece of the city, and citizens voted for the project they wish to see implemented in the Písek of the future.

İzmir – Digital Twin Narratives. In İzmir, digital twin workshops and story-building sessions with local stakeholders helped design **microclimate mitigation corridors** and co-create public spaces along the Alsancak waterfront. İzmir is working towards a scalable digital twin guideline that can be replicated across different districts of İzmir and adapted for use in other cities. Using tools such as surveys and interviews, the approach combines spatial analysis with input from both citizens and experts, ensuring that social and spatial dimensions are addressed together. By working closely with residents, local partners, and institutions, the city adopts a participatory, citizen-design science approach that integrates lived experience into technical decision-making. A key challenge lies in maintaining continuity as political figures, department heads, and institutional priorities change over time. This raises an essential question about the long-term sustainability of the proposed innovations and how they can remain resilient, adaptable, and embedded within local governance structures beyond individual leadership cycles.

Constanța – Heritage-Driven Transformation. By weaving the story of the **historic casino** into planning dialogues, Constanța rallied residents around the **Territorial Transformation Plan** and associated **low-emission zone**, linking climate neutrality with cultural pride. **Constanța's** Peninsula-focused roadmap

details stakeholder engagement, impact model workshops, and low-emission zone considerations, linking historical centre revitalisation to sequencing of studies, university partnerships, and continued Innovation Camps for targeted challenges and improved accessibility and heritage-quality balance. **Constanța:** Emphasises heritage-sensitive, low-intervention upgrades; student-led proposals for the Peninsula district—bridging urban liveability with preservation.

Cascais – Coastal Walks and NBS Inspiration. Community walks along **Guia Road** and **Carcavelos Beach** inspired **coastal NBS designs** and renewable energy assessments, building a strong sense of ownership over the waterfront. **Cascais** integrates Innovation Camps with coastal resilience and green infrastructure efforts across sites such as Guia Road and Carcavelos Beach, emphasising awareness-building and roadmap linkages that can be strengthened through third-round integration with design and scenario workflows. Small NEB initiatives, such as pocket gardens (using the Miyawaki forest method), can be used to attract public attention and engage the community, while co-creation workshops provide a space for people to contribute with ideas for pilot projects, expressing themselves with different materials, including maps, postcards, and Lego®. **Cascais –Local energy communities and PV production.** Cascais planned to implement PV systems in urban areas to be able develop a Renewable Energy Community potentially using ESCO partnerships as an enabling mechanism. In parallel the integration of solar PV into urban furniture is being explored for **public awareness** and to provide information about the project’s produced energy and reduced emissions.

Ålesund – Creative Hub Storytelling. Ålesund’s **Sørsida** creative hub became a platform for education, digital twin demonstrations and youth theatre performances, turning climate neutrality into a citywide narrative (information drawn from city announcements and the forthcoming roadmap). **Ålesund** consolidates an intermediary development company model with an integrated planning authority role, combined with the use of digital twins and co-created business planning, to accelerate waterfront redevelopment while retaining public value capture mechanisms and structured cost-sharing models.

Ålesund – Cultural Harbour (Kulturhavna) concept focuses on hosting activities for people of all ages while effectively communicating these opportunities to the community, using a “microdosing” approach to introduce programming gradually. Existing buildings are repurposed to activate the area, drawing on strategies of space reappropriation, as seen in projects like Nedre Strandgate 15 and the Devold building. A key challenge is that older buildings and spaces that will be transformed may not easily accommodate contemporary arts and cultural activities, so efforts must also ensure that the spaces are appealing and engaging for visitors.

Burgas – Harbour Futures. Innovation camps in Burgas focused on **port greening and sustainable mobility**, empowering students to imagine a climate-neutral harbour (source: Innovation Camps Report and

forthcoming roadmap). **Burgas**: Focus on coastal biodiversity, nature-based solutions, and digital twin deployment for climate adaptation. Demonstrates best practices in digital experimentation and student engagement. **Burgas** and **Rijeka** operationalise scalable engagement via Smart Burgas and City Hub models, respectively, connecting Innovation Camps to regional ecosystems and blue-economy themes within iterative challenge-definition and mentorship processes.

Rimini – Ecomondo event for circular economy innovation dissemination. Rimini uses eye-tracking, surveys, and school participation to gather behavioural data, highlighting how people engage with the project. Understanding both these patterns and the community's reception helps guide improvements and assess impact. **Urban regeneration approaches for port/sea shore** Rimini advances waterfront regeneration through green infrastructure and sustainable mobility embedded in long-term planning, using story-building and Community of Practice exchanges to test co-creative methods and scenario-building contributions linked to the IC2 pipeline. Rimini highlights innovative green infrastructure, sustainable mobility, and stakeholder co-creation within flagship urban redevelopments like Parco del Mare.

Rijeka – Cultural Corridor: repurposed Capital infrastructures + NBS/circularity Rijeka's proposed strategy focuses on improving pedestrian access and strengthening the connection between people and public spaces. Key tools include visualizing new access points to the water, organizing participatory events that allow citizens to experience and activate the space, and creating a strong visual identity for corridor spots. The approach is grounded in tactical urbanism, with an emphasis on integrating diverse uses across the area. The process involves linking unused or underused spaces with existing, successful spots to form a connected network. A major challenge is addressing concerns around the removal of parking spaces, highlighting the importance of building social capital and fostering citizen engagement throughout the project. **Nature-based urban solutions linked with URBiNAT** The proposed solution focuses on greening urban areas by introducing temporary and experimental green interventions. Key tools include hosting participatory events that engage citizens in meaningful ways, as well as developing prototypes such as floating platforms and mobile clusters of small trees or micro-forests. The approach emphasizes allowing people to experience new forms of green space firsthand, using tactical urbanism to test ideas before permanent implementation. A key challenge is that floating platforms are not permitted as long-term solutions, reinforcing the need to view these interventions as temporary, exploratory tools rather than permanent infrastructure.

Scalability and Replicability: Potential and Barriers

Common process assets, including IC methodologies, NEB Impact Model elements, Innovation Camps architecture, and dissemination, reinforce the process's replicability. Yet, it requires city-specific tailoring for

data governance, institutional roles, and local investment ecosystems. Barriers include variable data readiness, over-reliance on external consultants for digital tools, and challenges in transitioning from pilots to programmatic investment pathways without early finance dialogues and partnership models, which IC2 and IC3 explicitly aim to overcome. Early wins include stronger youth pipelines, internal governance hubs, and intermediary entities, while gaps remain in scaling scenarios into procurement-ready packages and aligning multi-actor risk-sharing for long-horizon coastal and heritage-sensitive interventions.

The criteria for scalability include flexibility of tools and methods, adaptability to governance and stakeholder configurations, cost-effectiveness, open data and pedagogical resources, and transferability across regulatory contexts. Barriers noted include capacity and resource limitations, varying engagement cultures, initial misalignment of city priorities, and legal/institutional inertia.

Identified success factors include strong mentorship (JA Europe/city partners), robust feedback mechanisms, visible city leadership support, and effective communication strategies.

5. Communication and Dissemination of the Exploitable Results

The Re-Value project advances climate neutrality in nine waterfront cities through collaborative urban design, generating early Exploitable Results (ER) such as the Innovation Camps toolkits (D8.3 and D8.5) [5][6], capacity exchange Rounds (WP6) [33] and Impact Model refinements from NetZeroCities dialogues [34].

Chapter 5 outlines targeted communication and dissemination (C&D) strategies for Exploitable Results, aligning with Re-Value's CDE Plans (D8.1, D8.4 and D8.8) [7] [9] [11], principles of co-creation, inclusivity, and impact maximization. Communication and dissemination of ER prioritises open access under CC BY 4.0 to support Cities Mission peers. Efforts build audience awareness, share lessons, and enable uptake, guided by the message: "Through collaborative urban design and planning, Re-Value makes the urban transition irresistible".

Key Channels and Activities

As described in Chapter 7 of the last CDE Plan (D8.8), high-impact dissemination have been prioritised through the following channels and networks:

- Website (www.re-value-cities.eu): 45,000+ visits to date.
- Social Media: LinkedIn with 85,000+ impressions to date and Instagram with almost 200 followers.
- NetZeroCities Portal: Contribution to the Knowledge Repository and Climate Transition Map.
- Partner and Mission Channels: Distribution via ICLEI, NTNU, and Urban Planning and Design cluster projects channels (UP2030 [35], CLIMABOROUGH [36], NEB Junction [2]); amplification through national platforms (e.g., Norwegian Cities Mission Forum, Romanian M100 Hub).
- Events: Exploitable results will be presented at the Urban Transformations webinars (27 national sessions) and at the Re-Value Final Forum.

Partner channels extend impact: JA Europe local chapters disseminated Innovation Camps planning across 9 cities, while ICLEI and NTNU integrated ER into New European Bauhaus events. Events drove a lot of engagement: 216 local workshops and 28 Innovation Camps engaged youth on systemic challenges (e.g., Ålesund's theatre-integrated Camp, Rimini's mobility pitches). Cluster collaborations at the 2025 Mission Conference in Vilnius, featured the Urban Planning and Design Cluster stand, distributing 250+ NEB Impact Dominoes kits.

Key Target Audience

ER targeted outside ecosystems (such as local governments, researchers, youth) as described in Chapter 5 of the last CDE Plan (D8.8). Local governments accessed roadmaps via Portal and webinars (27 national Urban Transformations planned). Researchers used M&E tools (136 Impact Model files). Youth (5-29) engaged via Camps in all cities, e.g., Burgas' blue economy focus, yielding intergenerational insights.

On the other side, ecosystems benefited locally: Constanța's tactical urbanism events and Písek's digital tools fostered buy-in. National platforms are amplified in Ålesund in Norwegian Forum, and Constanța in M100 Hub .

6. Monitoring and Evaluation of the impact through the Exploitable Results and Innovations

The Grant Agreement emphasises that cities must **participate in WP1 innovation cycles** to prepare stories, scenarios, investment plans and partnerships. Each cycle is supported by the Community of Practice (WP6) and feeds into communication and exploitation activities (WP8). After each cycle, results are documented and summarised in innovation cycle reports (D1.2 [37] and D1.4 [32]) and used to update the Impact Model (D1.3 [39], D1.5). The cycles also feed into **local communication plans** and **Re-Value stories** for dissemination.

Testing will focus on integrated IC1–IC2–IC3 sprints around selected waterfront use cases in each city, pairing story updates with scenario iterations and finance dialogues to converge on investor-ready propositions with documented co-benefits and risk mitigation narratives. Monitoring will leverage the project’s M&E framework and city roadmap milestones to track participation quality, data integration maturity, scenario decision support, and partnership formation, with Innovation Camps feedback loops continuing to assess skill-building and thematic specificity.

From the beginning of 2026, M&E indicators for exploitable results and innovation will be updated in the upcoming deliverable D7.9 Re-Value M&E Model (final version). Based on experience gained from tracking project progress, WP7 plans to hold one-to-one meetings with the respective partners to refine the M&E indicators and guide them in developing exploitable results and innovations within Re-Value. These updates will clarify the roles of city partners, central coordination, and external stakeholders while strengthening feedback and learning loops. The WP7 timeline foresees refinement of the M&E model by March 2026, followed by preparation for city interviews, and, in the fall, a focus on impacts on other cities and dissemination results.

Validation will prioritise follow-on experiments embedded in local plans, e.g., roadmaps, pilots, guided tours linked to design briefs, and university collaborations, documented through Re-Value Stories to capture process and lessons learnt. Develop a shared set of KPIs for innovation uptake, usability, stakeholder impact, and pathway to formal city adoption.

Quarterly reporting and peer review cycles spanning all 9 cities, using both digital tools (dashboards, city geoportals) and structured reflection in workshops.

Application of iterative experimental methodology: design, implement, evaluate, refine, and document innovations. The ‘learning journeys’ in both leading and replication cities for cross-case analysis will be captured.

7. Conclusions and next steps

An evidence-based synthesis of Re-Value exploitable results and innovations has been provided to support dissemination, exploitation, and replication across partner cities, aligning with the D8.6 “Re-Value Exploitable Results 1” deliverable outline and the broader Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation objectives. It aggregates city and work package level outputs into a structured account of approaches, methods, tools, processes, and governance mechanisms that demonstrate potential impact, transferability, and readiness for further testing and upscaling. The scope encompasses city results by leading and replication categories, with cross-references to Community of Practice learning, Innovation Camps practice, and local roadmaps.

The depth and diversity of Re-Value’s innovations demonstrate an emerging model for marrying technical solutions (digital twins, scenario tools) and social processes (co-creation, learning camps, artistic missions) in city transitions. Contextualization through leading/replicating city differentiation provides adaptive capacity for local realities while ensuring alignment with NEB/Mission objectives. The project highlights the importance of inclusive governance, robust stakeholder engagement, and feedback-driven policy innovation.

Re-Value has generated a rich array of exploitable results, novel tools, methods, and process innovations, across nine cities, with clear pathways for diffusion and scaling, but still with different levels of maturity and the progress. The evidence supports the utility of combining transdisciplinary approaches (digital, artistic, educational) with systems thinking and structured learning cycles. However, institutionalisation and replication will depend on systematic testing, ongoing refinement, and strategic dissemination within and beyond the partnership.

To document and assess Re-Value innovations based on their originality, applicability, scalability, and alignment with the NEB values (**sustainability, beauty, and inclusiveness**), mixed-methods, including both, qualitative and quantitative methods will be used in 2026, the final year of the project implementation. Evidence-based data on innovations co-created and co-generated across cities will be collected through the *Re-Value Exploitable Results (ER) and Innovations Survey* (Appendix 1) to capture **participatory** processes, enable **multi-level engagement** (across all nine of the cities’ ecosystems), and adopt a **transdisciplinary approach** (working with all transversal partners at the project level) in line with the NEB working principles.

The outcomes, needs, replication and exploitability potentials of the measures mapped in this deliverable will be further reflected upon by cities in 2026 as part of their Roadmaps, Full-scale deployment, and updated TTPs work. The project will set up supporting processes such that allow the extraction of the innovations and ERs to be reported at the end of the project.

RE-VALUE

Further recommendation for mix methods of qualitative and quantitative assessment tools such as NEB Self-Assessment Method and Tool [\[38\]](#) to evaluate the performance and NEB impact of project will be suggested at the end of the project.

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

AK	Ålesund Kommune (Norway)
BRG	Stad Brugge (Belgium)
BUR	Burgas Municipality (Bulgaria)
CDE	Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation
CoP	Community of Practice
Cascais EMAC	Empresa Municipal de Ambiente de Cascais
DMP	Data Management Plan
DTP	Digital Twin Platform
ECOTEN	ECOTEN Urban Comfort (microsimulation provider)
EU	European Union
GA	Grant Agreement
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
IC	Innovation Cycle
ICLEI	ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability Europe
IZPA	İzmir Planning Agency
IZTECH	İzmir Institute of Technology
JAE	Junior Achievement Europe
LC	Leading City (Ålesund, Bruges, Burgas, Rimini)
NEB	New European Bauhaus
NBS	Nature-Based Solution
NZC	NetZeroCities
PPP	Public–Private Partnership
RC	Replication City (Cascais, Constanța, İzmir, Pisek, Rijeka)
Re-USE	Re-Use Centre for circular materials
SRL	Systemic Readiness Level
TTP	Territorial Transformation Plan
TV	Regionteatret i Møre og Romsdal (Theatre partner)
VITO	Vlaamse Instelling voor Technologisch Onderzoek (Belgian research institute)

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Appendix 1

Re-Value Exploitable Results and Innovations Survey

This is a survey to collect data on innovations and exploitable outcomes co-created and co-generated by cities with the support of responsible transversal partners.

The purpose of the Exploitable Results (ER) & Innovation Survey is to systematise key information about innovations and document the impact of Re-Value Stories. The data will be used for reporting to the EU, for internal use by the partners to track the development of innovations over the last year of project implementation against six systemic challenges and IM pathways, and for external dissemination and exploitation purposes.]

This survey consists of two parts:

- 1) Pre-filled information based on Re-Value GA, deliverables and two Innovation Echo workshops (organised during the CMs, online in May and in-person in October 2025 in Cascais).
Please check and edit if needed.
- 2) Questions about the progress and status of the innovation.
Please complete all fields.

Link to the ERs Tracker and innovation IDs.

Expected time to complete is 30 minutes. Thank you!

About Re-Value – Re-Valuing Urban Quality & Climate Neutrality in European Waterfront Cities

The Re-Value partnership consists of nine European waterfront cities and selected European organisations that work to make the urban transition irresistible for everyone. This is done by demonstrating how climate neutrality and urban quality can be aligned, by revaluing cities’ connections to their waterfronts, strengthening co-benefits, and mitigating potential adverse impacts.

Ålesund (Norway), Bruges (Belgium), Burgas (Bulgaria), and Rimini (Italy) demonstrate how integrated urban planning and design can be optimally deployed to achieve climate neutrality and significantly reduce GHG emissions by 2030. In addition, Cascais (Portugal), Constanța (Romania), İzmir (Türkiye), Písek (Czechia), and Rijeka (Croatia) learn, replicate and develop their own participatory story-building, data-driven scenarios, and financial and partnership models on integrated urban planning and design to accelerate their journeys to climate neutrality.

The partnership is coordinated by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) and is funded by the European Union's Research and Innovation funding programme Horizon Europe under grant agreement 101096943.

Learn more about the partnership and the outcomes on re-value-cities.eu.

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