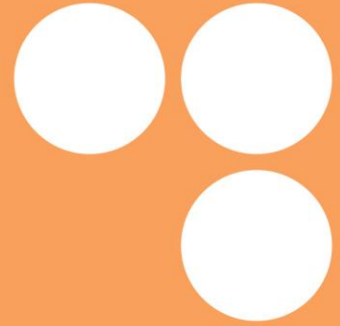


TWIN2EXPAND



RESEARCH MANAGEMENT TRAINING M10

OCTOBER 16-18, 2023

DECEMBER 15, 2023

TORINO, ITALY & online

Online

twinning towards
research excellence
in evidence-based planning
and urban design



Twinning towards Research Excellence in Evidence-Based Planning and Urban Design

The TWIN2EXPAND project, funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe WIDERA program, brings together a consortium of leading European research institutions, including University College London (UCL), Polytechnic University of Turin, Chalmers University of Technology and Space Syntax Limited. The project aims to stimulate research excellence and innovation capacity in the field of EBDP at UCY and to promote interdisciplinary research and networking in the EBDP field.

The project will have a significant impact on the broader scientific community, specific planning and design stakeholders, and urban societies at large, towards understanding and addressing urban challenges, as well as valuing and exploiting opportunities afforded by cities and urban communities.

TWIN2EXPAND will run for three years and will involve a series of training activities, staff exchanges between partners, industry internships, and intensive summer workshops, aimed at enhancing the scientific competence and research capability of UCY staff and early-stage researchers.

For more information about the TWIN2EXPAND project, please visit the project website at <https://twin2expand.surf.com.cy/>

Partners



Grant Agreement 101078890

TWIN2EXPAND – HORIZON-WIDERA-2001-ACCESS-03

Work Package 2 Capacity Building in Research and Management
TASK 2.5 Deliver research management and administration training

Responsible: POLITO

Dates:

16th- 18th October 2023

Location: Politecnico di Torino/ Castello del Valentino and on-line
15th December 2023
On- line

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Assess gaps and needs in managerial and administrative support skills, including grant writing, identify suitable training, secure participation of selected UCY staff, organize ad hoc training with senior experts from the leading institutions

Results:

1° Research management training M10 @POLITO

2° Research management training M22 @POLITO

AGENDA OCTOBER 16-18, 2023

Mon Oct 16th	Training	POLITO STAFF
09:30-13:00 CET Officine Grandi Riparazioni (<u>OGR</u>) close to POLITO Main Campus	Welcome Visit to FULL (Future Urban Legacy Lab) and presentation of FULL activities <u>Link</u> Visit to OGR	Marco Trisciuglio Valentina Romano Loris Servillo Caterina Barioglio Daniele Campobenedetto Elena Vigliocco [in presence only] Michela Barosio
13:00-14:00 CET Snodo (<u>OGR</u>)	Lunch	
14:30-16:30 CET Sala delle Feste e dei Fasti Castello del Valentino Teams link: Open Science training- Twin2expand	Overview of open science. Data Management Plan in HE projects. POLITO best practices in Data Management Q&A/Discussion	Speakers: Mauro Paschetta Valentina Romano Giorgia Novajra
Tue Oct 17th	Networking	
09:30-12:30 CET Sala dei Gigli Castello del Valentino	Introduction Homers and other activities Urban Lab Fondazione di Comunità Porta Palazzo <u>Link</u>	Marco Trisciuglio Michela Barosio Matteo Robiglio Piero Boccardo Chiara Lucchini Santiago Gomes
12:30-14:30 CET	Break for Lunch	
14:30- 16:30 CET Sala dei Gigli	Analysis of previous proposals not funded and	[in presence only] Marco Trisciuglio

<u>Castello del Valentino</u>	input from POLITO research support staff on revision actions	Valentina Romano Antonella Castellani
16:30-18:30 CET	A morphological tour of Torino	[in presence only] Marco Trisciuglio
20:00-22:00 CET	Research Partners' Dinner	
Wed Oct 18th	Training	
9:30-13:00 CET Sala delle Feste e dei Fasti <u>Castello del Valentino</u> Teams link: Impact training-Twin2expand	Impact in research proposals and EU projects. Impact canvas and KPIs. Best practices at POLITO Q&A/Discussion	Silvia Tabotta Giuseppe Roccasalva Valentina Romano

ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTION

The Research Management Training, a collaborative effort held at Politecnico di Torino (POLITO), Italy, from October 16 to 18, 2023, aimed to design, organise, and manage the enhancement of UCY's research capabilities. It served as a platform to ensure effective capacity-building activities in research management, bringing together POLITO members (Marco Trisciuglio, Michela Barosio, and Valentina Romano), Iliara Geddes and Ana Ricchiardi from UCY, staff from POLITO's Research Offices (RIMIN), and guests from local research centres and associations operating on architectural and urban scale.

Over three days, the discussions were not just theoretical but also focused on practical applications. The spotlight was on managing HE-related research practices, such as open science and impact.

16 Oct 2023

The morning session was held in the space of the OGR (Officine Grandi Riparazioni), a former industrial building that, after being refurbished, hosts, among other activities, the Future Urban Legacy Lab (FULL). FULL is an interdepartmental research centre of the Politecnico di Torino that operates in urban and territorial transformations. It analyses the processes of physical, economic, and social modification and provides design visions at different scales to support decision-making. The director of FULL, Loris Servillo (Full Professor at DIST POLITO), introduced the activities of the research centre, which revolve around three keywords: teaching, research, and engagement. On this basis, the speech highlighted four main challenges and scenarios that the research centre deals with:

- House and about;
- Territorial fragility and gaps;
- Implementing the transition (Anthropocene and Sustainability);
- The city of the future | the future within the city.

An overview of some ongoing research has been presented, including *Turin and the Rivers*, *TOWN & GOWN: Cities Shaped by Student Populations*, *Re-School*, *Social Movement in the Nightlife*, and *Agro Voltaic*.

After the first presentation, Daniele Campobenedetto and Caterina Barioglio (Tenure-Track Assistant Professors at DAD POLITO and member of FULL) presented the Re-School project, which was born from the collaboration between Fondazione Agnelli and FULL with a precise objective: to offer tools for the regeneration of the Italian school building heritage by addressing the issues of safety, the environment and educational innovation. The approximately 40,000 buildings that makeup Italy's school infrastructure are a stratified legacy that is widespread throughout the country and requires rethinking in light of recent decades' social, demographic and educational changes. The presentation describes the three phases of the research on Italian schools:

- Regenerating schools. In this phase, territorial data on school locations were collected, and a taxonomic model was developed to catalogue the most recurring forms of school buildings with

related information on their state of preservation and level of safety. The result of this phase is the drafting of a report for the territory's governing bodies, i.e. Italian regions and municipalities, particularly for Lombardy and Piedmont.

- App development. The previously collected information was catalogued and entered into a database in this phase. The app's purpose is to find school buildings according to their shape, show the potential of the building and some best practices that can help the regeneration of the individual case. The app also admits the input of community users, favouring bottom-up decision-making mechanisms.
- Writing a book. The publication brings together the main results of the research. It systematises some critical issues, such as exporting the method applied to schools in the regions of Piedmont and Lombardy to the construction of a nationwide database.

The final presentation, given by Elena Vigliocco (Associate Professor at DAD POLITO and member of FULL), concerns research funded by a private company (ENI) and PRIN funds (Projects of National Interest) on the design of new Solar Landscapes. The research includes identifying sites for installing solar and photovoltaic panels, particularly in southern Italy and designing a general master plan for these energy infrastructures. The first step illustrated involves collecting data through geolocation at various scales and engaging with the citizens of the involved sites. The second phase of the research focuses on identifying seven potential sites for constructing photovoltaic panels. Finally, the research involves drafting master plans for sustainable energy production plants. The presentation concludes with an analysis of the opportunities and challenges of the research. The former pertains to the production of clean and sustainable energy, while the latter includes the issue of the lifecycle and disposal of photovoltaic panels.

The morning session concluded with a Q&A segment that discussed data management and collection during the various research phases of the presented projects. Other issues raised by participants included obtaining the necessary funding for conducting the research and the degree of involvement of institutions and other stakeholders in the projects.

The afternoon training session was led by POLITO Research Office Staff (Valentina Romano, Mauro Paschetta, and Giorgia Novajra). It provided UCY staff with a comprehensive understanding of Open Science (OS) principles and practical guidance on implementation within the HE framework. By equipping participants with the necessary knowledge and tools to manage data effectively, adhere to FAIR data principles, and navigate grant requirements, the training empowered UCY staff to embrace open science practices and drive innovation in research.

The training topics are:

- Understanding the concept of OS, emphasizing its role in promoting transparency, collaboration, and accessibility in research open Science and Data Management (SDM);
- The exploration of OS principles within the HE framework highlights key differences and novelties compared to its predecessor, Horizon 2020.
- Rules of the Grant Agreement and Template Requirements on OS to make participants aware of the obligations and template requirements related to data management, open access, and research dissemination.
- Writing a Data Management Plan (DMP) tailored to HE requirements: how to articulate data management strategies, address data sharing and preservation, and ensure compliance with FAIR data principles. A case study description from POLITO's experience helped participants understand how to deliver their project's DPM.

17 Oct 2023

The morning session featured three contributions from organisations working at the local level to improve the perception of the urban environment in various ways.

The first presentation, given by Matteo Robiglio (Full Professor at DAD POLITO and Head of Real Estate Development at Homes4all), showcased the work promoted by Homes4all. This startup addresses housing emergencies by fostering urban regeneration through its network of social impact investors. The presentation began by addressing the housing crisis in Italy, highlighting the need for housing for families and the underutilisation of properties across the country. In this context, Homes4all responds by creating an ecosystem involving communities of real estate investors and homemakers for housing emergencies, individuals with specific social needs, and co-housing. The ecosystem aims to develop a way of living with social and environmental impact by providing community support services (property search, market analysis, real estate evaluations, architectural design, facility and energy management, social support, strategic marketing, etc.). The participation of local and governmental entities, foundations, and private partners supports the startup's actions and services. The presentation concluded with an overview of several projects, including *Social Housing Borgata Tesso*, *Housing First Aurora*, *Social Manager "Vivo al Venti"*, *Co-housing Borgo Rossini*, *Co-housing La Casa Solidale*, and *Co-housing Reinventing Home*.

The second presentation of the session was given by two members of the Urban Lab of Turin, Chiara Lucchini (Architect and member of Urban Lab) and Piero Boccardo (Full Professor at DIST POLITO and Director of Urban Lab). Urban Lab is an independent association created to document the transformation processes of Turin and its metropolitan area. It is a centre for documentation, dissemination, and debate about the city, providing a space for dialogue and information for citizens, experts, and economic operators. The presentation focused on a project called *Geografie Metropolitane* (Metropolitan Geographies), a platform that describes the territory of Turin and its metropolitan area by linking its physical and socioeconomic

dimensions. Urban phenomena are georeferenced, meaning they are mapped to specific areas through maps and visualisations. Geografie Metropolitana operates as a connector and intermediary between various sources and data that differ in origin, depth, and specific orientations. Several territorial actors in the Turin metropolitan area have contributed to the platform by providing open data packages, analyses, and research. It is a freely accessible, dynamic, cross-disciplinary, and updated tool that explores six thematic areas: people, services, cultures, mobility, environment, and economies. It is available to those who wish to consult analyses, open data, and cartographic representations for public communication, storytelling, information, local system promotion, and support for urban analysis and planning activities.

The final presentation was given by Santiago Gomes (Assistant Professor at DAD POLITO and member of the Porta Palazzo Community Foundation - FCPP) and focused on forming community networks within small urban areas that promote social assistance and collective well-being projects. The FCPP is a community foundation that emerged from a grassroots radical process where citizens and activists aim to enhance the social capital present in the area. The scope and action of the FCPP are organised into four axes, four thematic pathways that aim to improve the values and issues recognised within the community: Housing, Public Space, Proximity and Solidarity, and Community Renewable Energy. In this context, project research supports the implementation of specific actions and promotes projects based on the knowledge and skills contributed by the Foundation. In particular, the bidirectional exchange between academic research and the work conducted by the FCPP provides an exceptional condition for transferring knowledge, skills, and data for formulating appropriate and inclusive projects. The presentation showcased some implemented and ongoing projects that include social activities for collecting data on neighbourhood residents, promoting energy communities, improving public spaces in the neighbourhood, and promoting initiatives aimed at housing through innovative and socially inclusive models.

The discussion concluded with a Q&A session, during which participants raised issues related to local contexts, citizen involvement in the projects, and specific conditions for managing the databases on which the research projects are based.

The afternoon session, led by Antonella Castellani and Valentina Romano from the Research Management Office in POLITO, was based on input from POLITO research support staff on proposal development and centred on revising three project proposals presented by the University of Cyprus (UCY) that the EU had rejected. In particular, CUP and Hands Up projects were analysed. Through a detailed analysis of the Evaluation Summary Reports, the research managers offered valuable recommendations and suggestions to improve the proposals for future submissions. This session was designed to be a learning opportunity for UCY, providing insights into the reasons for the proposal rejections and offering expert guidance on how to

enhance future submissions. By understanding the feedback from the European Commission and incorporating the advice provided, UCY can improve the quality and competitiveness of their project proposals. This, in turn, will increase their chances of securing funding from the European Commission and foster impactful research collaborations. The constructive feedback from POLITO's research support staff aims to help UCY refine their approach to proposal development, ensuring it addresses the key areas highlighted in the evaluation reports. As a result, UCY will be better equipped to meet the expectations of funding bodies and achieve their research objectives.

The last activity of the day included a morphological tour during which Marco Trisciuglio (POLITO) gave a moving lecture in the centre of Turin, retracing the steps of the city's formation. The itinerary started at Piazza Castello, where Turin's Roman origins and various urban expansions were explained. It then continued with the rediscovery of parts of the ancient walls hidden by the presence of modern buildings. The tour concluded with observing the city's ancient road axes and arriving at the old north gate.

18 Oct 2023

The last session of the RMT involved Valentina Romano, Silvia Tabotta and Giuseppe Roccasalva from the POLITO Research Office. The session focused on understanding and maximising the Impact of HE proposals. The training explored the meaning of Impact in the context of EU research and innovation. A theoretical session provided participants with a conceptual framework for understanding impact in the context of research and innovation projects. Through examples and case studies, participants were introduced to successful strategies and good practices for maximising impact in Horizon Europe proposals. Furthermore, participants were introduced to a practical session on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and the Impact Canvas as tools for structuring and visualising Impact strategies within project proposals in the second part of the training. Finally, they were invited to participate in an interactive exercise that fostered a deeper understanding of the importance of planning the impact of research results.

AGENDA DECEMBER 15, 2023 h 10-11:30 CET

- Pre-award @research, technology transfer and innovation dept

- Performance in EU/NRPP
- Pre-award services
- HE toolkit
- individual grants
- collaborative research

Speakers: Valentina Romano, Maria Crea, Maria Onorato (Research, Innovation and Technology Transfer Department, Politecnico di Torino)

Participants: Iliara Geddes, Nadia Charalambos, Ana Ricchiardi (UCY) Meta Berghauer Pont and Ioanna Stavroulaki (Chalmers), Maria Constantinou (UCY), Maria Celeste Donati Sarti (POLITO), Leonardo Del Romano (POLITO)

ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTION

POLITO's Research Technology Transfer and Innovation Department support researchers to apply through successful research projects especially concerning HE Programme. To reach this goal and enhance the success rate of the submitted proposals, several ad hoc tools have been created covering the entire project life cycle.

In order to let POLITO researches benefit of these tools, the Research Technology Transfer and Innovation Department created a "Horizon Europe Toolkit" composed by useful documents on participation rules and policies, handbooks, sample of filled-in templates concerning non-scientific sections of proposals and other cross-cutting issues.

POLITO offered to UCY an on-line training course focused on pre-award support, targeted to individuals and collaborative research teams aiming to secure funding from both EU and national research and innovation programs. The aim of the training is to share best practices and promote a discussion on the necessary skills, knowledge and tools to navigate the complexities of grant applications effectively. The training begun by providing insights into POLITO's performance in securing funding from EU and National Recovery and Resilience Fund (PNRR) programs. Participants gain an understanding of successful strategies employed by the institution, fostering an environment conducive to obtaining grants. Pre-award services offered by POLITO were then explained. This segment emphasizes the importance of planning and preparation in grant application processes. A highlight of the training is the exploration of POLITO's HE toolkit available on the institution's website. This resource serves as a valuable guide for individuals and collaborative research teams pursuing funding opportunities within the HE framework. Participants gain practical insights into utilizing this toolkit effectively to streamline their grant application processes. Whether participants are seeking individual grants or collaborating on research projects, the Toolkit addresses diverse needs. Discussion on case studies and good practices was finally encouraged.