

invite to a conference supporting

RESEARCH ALLIANCES FOR CLIMATE-NEUTRAL, SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE URBAN COMMUNITIES

ROME, 26-28 FEBRUARY 2025

Location: CNR NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
PIAZZALE ALDO MORO, 7 -ROME

I giorni 26 e 27 Febbraio sono aperti al pubblico
[On line registration](#)

It is with great pleasure that Institute of Methodologies for Environmental Analysis of the National Research Council (CNR-IMAA), Italian National Agency for the New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Development (ENEA), and Urban Europe Research Alliance (UERA) welcome you to the conference on Research Alliances for Climate-Neutral, Sustainable and Equitable Urban Communities.

In an era dominated by climate change, social inequality, and urban transitions, innovative and collaborative responses are more urgent than ever. These challenges demand technological solutions and diverse perspectives to create sustainable futures. The issues are global, transcending borders, and require integrated approaches addressing economic, environmental, and social dimensions.

Our mission is to explore how cross-disciplinary, cross-sector, and transnational collaborations can transform urban and vulnerable communities into resilient, sustainable spaces. Prioritizing climate neutrality, social inclusion, and equity, we aim to develop models balancing economic growth, environmental stewardship, and human well-being. This approach emphasizes local knowledge, cultural sensitivity, and grassroots initiatives while amplifying marginalized voices and addressing systemic inequities.

This event convenes experts from academia, government, industry, and civil society to foster interdisciplinary exchanges and strategize actionable solutions. Through workshops, panels, and case studies, participants will examine successful sustainability models, explore emerging technologies, and identify opportunities to scale localized solutions. Topics include circular economies, regenerative agriculture, smart cities, and renewable energy integration, offering practical insights to inspire new research and partnerships.

More than a conference, this gathering sparks ongoing dialogues and partnerships. Together, we will craft a roadmap for a sustainable, equitable future, turning shared challenges into opportunities for a healthier planet and society.

We look forward to the inspiring conversations and breakthroughs that will emerge from our discussions!

Scientific Committee:

Roberta Chiarini (ENEA), Paola Clerici Maestosi (ENEA), Carmelina Cosmi (CNR), Enza Lissandrello (DTU)

Organizational Board:

Monica Proto (CNR-IMAA); Michela Pirro (ENEA)

Siti istituzionali di riferimento

Per la Partnership DUT: <https://dutpartnership.eu/>

Per Capacities:

<https://capacities.eu/>

<https://dutpartnership.eu/capacities-events/capacities-at-the-european-climate-pact-italian-event/>

<https://dutpartnership.eu/capacities-events/the-role-of-capacities-ambassadors-discussed-during-the-13th-international-conference-on-sustainable-development-and-planning-wessex-sdp-2024/>

Per UERA

<https://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/uera/>

Agenda Day 1

9:00-11:00

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION: Research Alliances for Climate-Neutral, Inclusive, and Equitable Urban/Rural Communities

- CNR Gelsomina Pappalardo (TBC)
- Stefano PIZZUTI Head of ENEA TERIN SEN Division (TBC)
- Enza LISSANDRELLO University of Aalborg and Urban Europe Research Alliance UERA Coordinator

SESSION 1

Overview on climate neutrality: European emerging new directions

Moderator: Paola CLERICI MAESTOSI ENEA Researcher and Driving Urban Transition DUT Management Board member
Alberto ANFOSSI, segretario generale Compagnia di San Paolo

AIMS: Providing an overview of European emerging directions on climate neutrality is important because it ensures that the discussions and collaborations are informed by the latest developments in policy, innovation, and funding. It enables participants to strategically align their efforts with Europe's pioneering goals for a sustainable, inclusive, and climate-neutral future.

- Mission 100 CNC Carlo Alberto Nucci (TBC)
- Mission Innovation UTM Urban Transitions Mission and UTMCentre (Elli Tzatzanis-Stepanovic, FFG)
- EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate (Mauro Buonocore CMCC press@cmcc.it; info@cmcc.it)
- Net Zero City Platform (Francesca Rizzo TBC)
- CapaCITIES (Elena Simion)
- NEC Platform Daniela Luise (TBC)
- Partnership CET Rachele Nocera (TBC)
- Partnership DUT (Peter Froelich/Eleonora Riva Sanseverino TBC)
- Partnership SBEP Margherita Cappelletto (TBC)
- European Urban Initiative (TBC)

11:00-11:30

Coffee break

11:30-13:00

SESSION2 National Platform and Ambassadors

Moderator: (Maria Tengvard, Viable Cities)

- General introduction on Platform Concept
- General introduction on Ambassador Concept

13:00-14:00

Lunch

Parallel SESSION A	Parallel SESSION B
<p>14:00-15:00</p> <p>SESSION 3 Ambassadors Workshop: inspiring actions within EU Climate Pact</p> <p>AIM: Present the main results of the CapaCITIES project, focusing on the National Collaboration Platforms, which are open areas of multi-stakeholder collaboration at the national level. An overview of the three groups of countries of the project, characterised by different stages of maturity, will be provided, giving examples of good practices to be possibly replicated in the Italian context.</p>	<p>14:00-15:00</p> <p>SESSION 3 UERA thematic working group</p> <p>The 2025 UERA conference is dedicated to examining current EU models that prioritize sustainable and climate-neutral urban communities. Its primary objective is to stimulate future research and innovation by exploring innovative strategies for urban transition.</p>
<p>15:00-15:15</p> <p>break</p>	
<p>15:15-16:15</p> <p>SESSION 4 Ambassadors Workshop: good practices in Italy</p> <p>AIM: Present best practices on engagement strategies. The focus will be on the experiences carried out in Italy by the Association of Italian Citizens and Ambassadors of the European Climate Pact</p>	<p>15:15-16:15</p> <p>SESSION 4 DUT Scientific Consultation Workshop: refining the roadmap towards innovative Climate-Neutral Cities</p> <p>Moderator: Peter Fröhlich (FFG)</p> <p>The DUT team will present the state of roadmap development and run several interactive sessions, in order to achieve tangible recommendations.</p>
<p>16:15-16:30</p> <p>Break</p>	
<p>16:30-18:30</p> <p>SESSION 5 Ambassadors Workshop: interactive section for a shared pathway</p> <p>Moderators: Monica Salvia e Filomena Pietrapertosa (CNR)</p> <p>Engage in hands-on activities and collaborative discussions to create inclusive, sustainable pathways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capitalizing on previous experiences for new projects • Fundings next steps • Action plan 2025-2027 	<p>16:30-18:30</p> <p>SESSION 5 DUT Scientific Consultation Workshop: refining the roadmap towards innovative Climate-Neutral Cities</p> <p>Moderator: Peter Fröhlich (FFG)</p> <p>The DUT team will present the state of roadmap development and run several interactive sessions, in order to achieve tangible recommendations.</p>
<p>18:30-19:00</p> <p>Joint wrap up</p>	

Agenda Day 2

The Day 2 will be dedicated to scientific presentation that delve into innovative approaches at the nexus of climate neutrality, sustainability, and social equity in urban settings. Submissions may take the form of theoretical frameworks, empirical case studies, or visionary proposals aimed at exploring urban sustainability paradigms.

Authors wishing to submit a paper or a work in progress must prepare an abstract in English, ranging from 200 to 300 words. Abstracts are welcome to advance new planning and governance perspectives and strategies for Europe's city-regions, generating a debate on challenges and opportunities in the context of Sustainable and Climate-Neutral Cities for Inclusive and Equitable Urban Futures promoting potential pathways for EU's spatial policy by scrutinizing critical aspects. UERA Conference 2025 will provide a forum for partnership and consolidation of collaboration for future Urban Europe Research Alliances and policies. All submissions will undergo a review process by the Scientific Committee.

Abstracts must articulate their connection to the conference themes, delineating the rationale, objectives, methodologies employed, and validation through relevant case studies (if applicable). Additionally, key findings and conclusions should be clearly stated. Authors are required to indicate their preferred mode of presentation (oral or poster). It is mandatory for at least one author to be present in person during the presentation.

Deadlines for abstracts:

Submission of abstracts deadline: 10th January 2025

Notification of acceptance by mail: 31 January 2025

CALL for PAPERS: ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Sbrb9Qb0b0msPgzxQ2HZNB-zxRkCfodPpnVwnh_eKvFUMLJDQTVVTjRGNVVRHQNTSTY2NU8yUDE3WC4u&route=shorturl