

Align architectural education with the paramount energy and climate goals of the green transition in Europe



Newsletter 2 - October 2023

SPOTLIGHT ON

Launched on October 1st, 2022, the project “Introducing Sustainability and Energy Efficiency Principles in Architectural Education: Towards Designing Climate Neutral and Inclusive Buildings” (INCEPT) is being implemented under the Erasmus+ Programme of the EU. The project strives for climate-neutrality and inclusiveness of the built environment by incorporating sustainable and energy efficient building concepts into architectural education with knowledge and skills at building design stage.

The project consortium consists of the Department of Architecture at the New Bulgarian University (NBU), the Faculty of Urban Planning at the University of Architecture and Urbanism “Ion Mincu” (UAUIM), and the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Zagreb (UNIGZ)

This second newsletter of the INCEPT project provides an update on the project's progress and activities. It highlights both online and in-person meetings that have taken place, the development of several key deliverables, and provides an overview of the contributions of the project's partners and the roles they play in advancing the project's goals. Finally, the newsletter offers a preview of upcoming activities and milestones that the project will be working towards in the coming months and dissemination activities, those held and announcements of future ones.

The first reporting period of INCEPT Project has been successfully completed without remarks by the national funding agency of the Erasmus+ Programme.

INCEPT PROJECT OVERVIEW

“Introducing Sustainability and Energy Efficiency Principles in Architectural Education: Towards Designing Climate Neutral and Inclusive Buildings” (INCEPT)

Funding: European Union’s Erasmus+ Programme, Call KA220-HED Cooperation partnerships in higher education, Grant Agreement number: 2022-1-BG01-KA220-HED-000089080

Timeframe: 1 October 2022 - 30 September 2025

Contractors: New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria (Coordinator); University of Architecture and Urbanism “Ion Mincu”, Romania; University of Zagreb, Croatia



Erasmus+

The INCEPT Project has received funding from the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union under grant agreement no. 89080

FOREWORD BY THE WP LEADER UNIZG

As the WP3 “Creation of Climate Neutral Building Design Atelier for architecture students” Leader, University of Zagreb Faculty of Architecture team is delighted to introduce the WP 3 activities and provide some background information about it and about our team.

WP 3 consists of the following activities: Development of the concept of the design training atelier;

Development of the methodology, stages and content of the design training atelier; Development of the transdisciplinarity of the design training atelier.

Since October 2023, the Atelier „INCEPT – Scales of Re-Use“ has been taking place at the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Architecture. The Workshop within the project (WP 3 Creation of Climate Neutral Building Design Atelier for architecture students) represents the testing phase. The experimental Atelier explores various topics and approaches that equally consider the broader scope and the impact of spatial integration on the immediate context and community. Within this scope, it deals with the repurposing of existing built stock with the aim of promoting circular economy. On a smaller scale, it develops innovative solutions for the contemporary technical requirements of climate-neutral buildings. Mentors from three departments, along with several guest experts throughout the semester, will guide three groups of students after collective problem analysis and programming. These student groups will later focus on different aspects of reuse.

Program of Atelier:

1. Introduction to the task, site visit;
- 2-4. Seminars: Lectures, individual research on topics U+A+C;
- 5-7. Collaborative work: Synthesis, programming, group assignments;
- 8-14. Group work: Workshop U+A+C;
15. Final presentation and exhibition.

UNIZG Project team members are Assoc. Prof. PhD Mia Roth-Čerina, Assoc. Prof. PhD Arch. Ana Mrđa, Prof. PhD Arch. Zoran Veršić, Ivona Cvitković. In March 2023, two of our colleagues joined the UNIZG Team to work with us on Activity A 2.2. These are Senior Lect. Stanka Ostojić and Senior Lect. Marin Binički. Welcome to the INCEPT Team!

We invite you to continue to follow the progress and development of our INCEPT project.

INCEPT PROJECT MEETING

The second of three live Consortium Meetings took place in Bucharest on 18 & 19 September 2023. The location of the first day was University of Architecture and Urbanism “Ion Mincu”, Senat Room. The location of the second day was Romanian Order of Architects - Bucharest Branch. The project partners presented results of the project so far, including the dissemination. They clarified the aspects related to the deliverables being developed (A.2.2., A.3.2., A.3.3.) and discussed the aspects related to the implementation of the courses based on the compendium in the following period. One of the topics was dedicated to project management.



INCEPT PROJECT DELIVERABLES

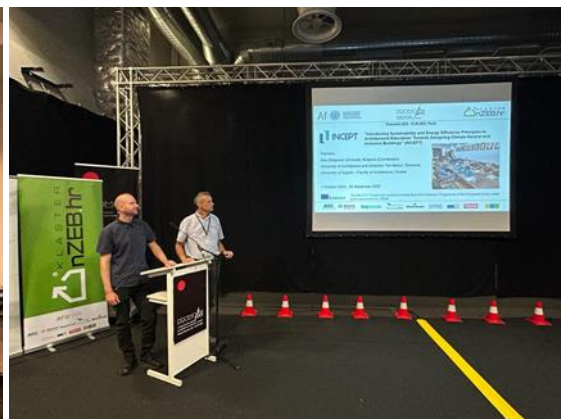
The Deliverable 2.2. “Report on the Initial versions of the Compendium and the lecture course for architecture students” is in progress. Deadline for this deliverable is 31.12.2023. The same deadline is for the Deliverable 3.2. “Guidelines on the methodology, content, stages and context inclusiveness of the design training atelier”. This activity is also in progress.

Activity 5.2” Informational materials and online presence of INCEPT Project” is in progress. The first Newsletter was published and sent to the partners' mailing lists. Members of the INCEPT Project team promote the project at various internal and international events.

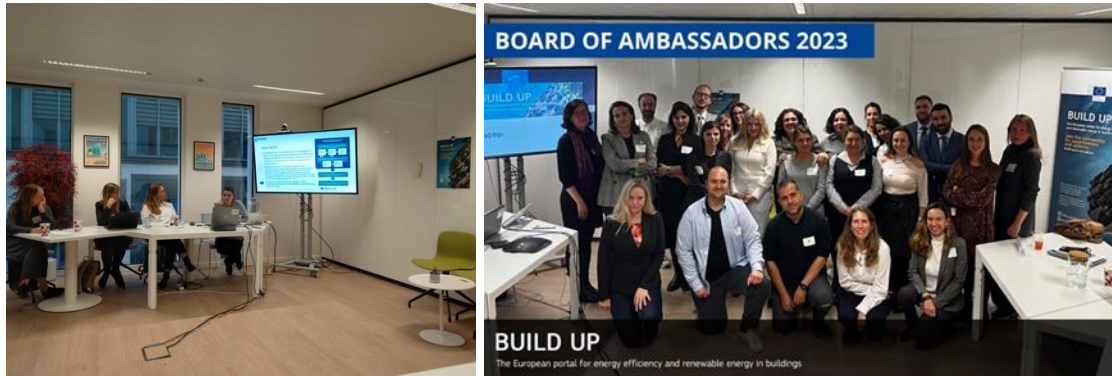
INCEPT PROJECT DISSEMINATION

The INCEPT Project was presented at conferences and fairs in the home countries of the project's partners and abroad. INCEPT Team presented INCEPT Project at:

- XVIII IBS International Conference “Sustainable Development – Circular Economy, Critical Infrastructures, Green Transition”, 18-20 May 2023, Sofia, Bulgaria
- XI International Scientific Conference on Architecture and Civil Engineering ArCivE 2023, 03 June 2023, Varna, Bulgaria
- 17th Days of Civil Engineers „Energy renovation of buildings / Comprehensive renovation of buildings” 15-17 June 2023, Opatija, Croatia
- 3rd Promoarh Fair „CO2 Neutral and Sustainable Building“, 20-22 September 2023, Poreč, Croatia



- [BUILD UP BOARD OF AMBASSADORS meeting](#), 23-24 October, Brussels, Belgium



- [„20 Architectural Experiences”](#) 30-31 October, 2023, Bucharest, Romania



INCEPT PROJECT DISSEMINATION-ANNOUNCEMENT

The INCEPT Project will be presented at the following conferences and fairs:

- [Cohesion Academic Conference](#) as part of the [Festival for Architectural Schools of Tomorrow FAST](#) 1-5 November, Timișoara, Romania
- [Balkan Architectural Biennale Conference 2023](#) GLOBAL VILLAGE – SHELTER FOR RESILIENT LIVING, Belgrade, Serbia, 1-22 of November 2023.

VISIT US ONLINE

For New Bulgarian University: <https://architecture.nbu.bg/bg/proekti>

For University of Architecture and Urbanism “Ion Mincu”: <https://www.uauim.ro/cercetare/incept/>

For University of Zagreb: <https://www.arhitekt.hr/hr/istrazivanje/istrazivacki-projekti/>

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