

ERASMUS CARE PROJECT - NEWSLETTER 4

News 1: Final Conference in Santiago de Chile

Between September 24 and 28, 2018, the partners of the CARE Project held our Final Conference. Invited by Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, representatives of all project partners traveled to Santiago to participate in this important event.

On Tuesday 25, the Final Conference formally began. After the formal greetings from the university authorities, Professor Cristián Henríquez from the PUC and Josefina López from UPO gave a contextualization of the week's agenda and the general topic of the project: Urban resilience to climate change and how to tackle it with innovative educational aspects.

The first panel was about one of the most important deliverables of the project: The Shared Knowledge Report. Jesús Vargas explained the structure of the document and invited the attendees to consult it. Then, Marcello Magoni and Santiago Arango explained the general structure of CARE Book that will be published soon and corresponds to a maturation of many documents worked during the two years of the project.

In the next morning session, Flavio Camerata, Santiago Arango, Betty González, and Víctor Arias discussed the most remarkable experiences during the project, related to the application of conceptual maps in the Quevedo, Quito and Medellín workshops. Finally, Mara Cossu and Jose Chira explained the details of how the Open Learning Modules (OTM) will work, which will be published soon as a result of the project. They clarified that the target audience of these modules is university students and staff of public administration entities.

On Tuesday afternoon, all the partners explained their experience during the project and the impact that the concept mapping methodology had on their institutions and on working with the students.

The third panel of the Conference was held on Wednesday morning. Paula Bianchi and Alessandra Gelmini discussed experiences of resilience in local urban governance. Subsequently, the organization Adapt Chile and the Mayor's Office of La Independencia presented local responses to climate change in Chile. Specifically, they presented the structure of the network, the main activities carried out and stressed that each municipality is the leader of its own adaptation processes and that the network does a process of accompaniment. With this activity, the conference formally ended.

On Wednesday afternoon, the participants of the project traveled to Valparaíso and Viña del Mar, where we could learn about the strategies developed by these organizations to deal with forest fires and swells that have occurred with intensity in recent years. The visit allowed us to understand the complexities that these cities face, as well as to take a brief walk through the representative sites of them.

On Monday 24, Thursday 27 and Friday 28, the members participated in internal meetings in which we discussed aspects to be developed in order to finalize the project.

News 2: Creation of the CARE Network

One of the objectives of the CARE Project is to establish a network between Latin America and Europe with the aim of improving their educational capacities in the field of urban and climatic resilience, as well as the transfer of project results from an operational policy perspective to different territorial levels. With this in mind, one of the commitments after the Intensive Course for Students in Medellín was to work towards the creation of the CARE + Network. The main purpose of this network is to facilitate the improvement of higher education in climate change and urban resilience. This network will promote the strengthening of holistic thinking in undergraduate and postgraduate students of participating organizations, will allow sharing methodologies, experiences / practices, and planning, management, monitoring and evaluation instruments in the field of urban resilience and will work towards the generation of agreements with public Administrations (at local and regional level) that favor the improvement of urban resilience training.

News 3: Open Training Modules soon to be released

One of the deliverables of the CARE project that the partners have been working harder on in the recent months is the development of the Open Learning Modules (OTM). The objective of these modules is to promote the interdisciplinary skills of HEI's staff and students through the development of innovative educational approaches. These modules will be based on the Interaction between the different disciplines (Territorial Planning, Environment, Engineering, Landscape, etc.) and will encourage collaboration with research, formulation of policies and training of professionals. Each module will focus on a specific topic and provide a theoretical overview of relevant concepts and principles. In order to connect theoretical knowledge with practical applications and complementary work, each module will include, if possible, case studies. The modules will be finished very soon. We look forward to sharing them with you.

News 4: Updates from UTEQ

Between June and July 2018, Universidad Técnica Estatal de Quevedo (UTEQ) held the workshop "Resilient Alternatives: the UTEQ enhancing Climate Change". This event was organized to publicize the results of research in the area of Climate Change in which the UTEQ is working. Through the application of methodologies based on resilience, the team from UTEQ wished to help people to become aware, face and coexist in an orderly and efficient manner with climate change. During this workshop, the team from UTEQ presented the achievements of the projects executed with internal and external financing, covering areas of urban-rural governance, the relationship between urban and rural areas in the face of climate change, rural and territorial development with a resilient approach to climate change.