

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



Newsletter 3 – April 2024

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 third newsletter of the INCEPT project provides an update on the project's progress and activities. It highlights 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.

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 UAUIM

Dear INCEPT Community,

We are pleased to share with you the latest milestones in the INCEPT project. One of the significant achievements during this period is the completion of Deliverable 2.1: *Report on the concept, methodology, and structure of the Compendium*. Coordinated by UAUIM within A.2.1, this deliverable focuses on the creation of the Compendium on the green transition to affordable and clean energy in buildings, sustainable cities and communities, and climate resilience for architecture students. This foundational document outlines the concept, methodology, and structure of the Compendium, setting the stage for its development. Key sections were defined, covering the main elements of the Compendium's structure and content. Additionally, we established the main steps of the elaboration process, along with the responsibilities of the project consortium and the timeline for the work.

In collaboration with our project partners, we have also made significant progress on Deliverable D2.2: Report on the Initial Versions of the Compendium and the compendium-related lecture course for architecture students. These deliverable details and enhances the lecture modules, lists of references, and annotated bibliography. It also includes a tool for collecting the most relevant national and international examples on the green transition to affordable and clean energy in buildings, sustainable cities and communities, and climate resilience.

Moreover, in the second semester of the current academic year (March 2024), UAUIM launched the Climate Neutral Building Design Atelier within the curriculum for 5th-year students at the Faculty of Architecture. Coordinated by Daniel Armenciu, this course has been adapted to the content framework of the INCEPT project, following the concept proposed by UNIZG in February 2023 under Work Package 3: Creation of Climate Neutral Buildings Atelier for architecture students. The atelier is currently in the evaluation phase, assessing the projects of the 100 participating students.

Our dedicated UAUIM project team includes Prof. PhD Arch. Angelica Stan, Assoc. Prof. PhD Arch. Mihaela Hărmănescu, Lect. PhD Arch. Daniel Armenciu, and Asist. Urb. Sorin Manea. In March 2023, we welcomed three new colleagues to our team: Prof. PhD Arch. Rodica Crisan, Lect. PhD Arch. Adrian Vidrașcu, and Asist. Arch. Laurentiu Pîrvan, who have joined us in advancing the Climate Neutral Building Design Atelier. For covering the tutoring needs of the design atelier, other professors or professionals were involved: Assoc. Prof. PhD Arch. Zina Macri, Lect. PhD Arch. Oana Avram, Lect. PhD Arch. Oana Mihăescu, Lect. PhD Arch. Andreea Prelipcean, Asist. PhD. arch. eng. Cătălin Neagoe, Asist. PhD. arch. Roxana Axinte, Arch. Lucian Călugărescu, Lect. PhD. eng. Alexandru Iatan + Lect. PhD. eng. Gabriel Dănilă.

We invite you to continue following the progress and development of our INICEPT project as we work together towards a sustainable future.

Warm regards,

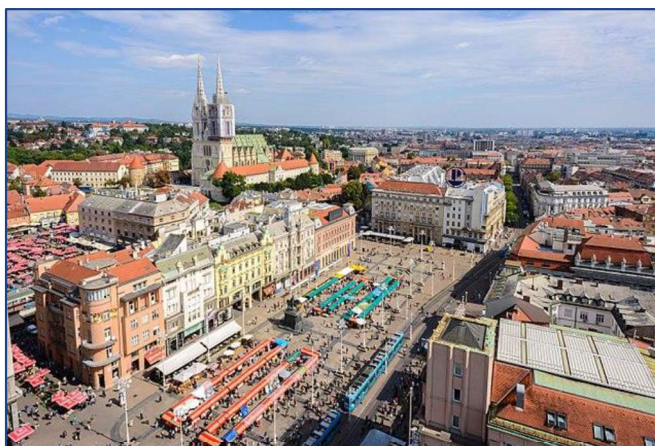
Angelica Stan
INICEPT Project Coordinator
UAUIM



Images from the "Living Lab" Climate Neutral Building Design Atelier developed for 12 weeks, between March and May 2024 at the UAUM – Bucharest.

INCEPT PROJECT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The third live Consortium Meeting will take place in Zagreb on 10 & 11 September 2024.



INCEPT PROJECT DELIVERABLES

The Deliverable 2.2.: "Report on the Initial versions of the Compendium and the lecture course for architecture students" is finalised.

The Deliverable 3.1.: Report on the concept of the design training atelier is finalised.

The Deliverable 3.2.: "Guidelines on the methodology, content, stages and context inclusiveness of the design training atelier" is finalised.

The Deliverable 4.1: Report on the validation of the compendium-related lecture course is finalised.

The Deliverable 5.2.: Informational materials and online presence of INCEPT Project is in progress.

The Deliverable 5.3.: Report on the digital university platform concept and tools is finalised.

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:

- [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 (online).
- The INCEPT project by Erasmus+ program was the background of discussion during Prof. Angelica Stan's [participation at the University of Liechtenstein Studio SS24 Danube Delta](#), led by Arch. Dietrich Schwarts and David Kloeg, and supported by the young Ph.D. student, arch Alina Dinu, former UAUM student.



- Following the [„20 Architectural Experiences”](#) held on 30-31 October 2023 in Bucharest, Romania, this year, there were published two papers in the conference proceeding book [20 ARCHITECTURAL EXPERIENCES: PROCEEDINGS. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN 30-31/10/2023](#), coordinated by Oana Diaconescu, Daniel N. Armenciu, Bogdan M. Ioniță, ISBN Editura Universitară "Ion Minicu", Bucharest - 978-606-638-341-7 & ISBN AA Edizioni, Italia - 978-88-99013-37-0

Mihaela Hărmănescu, Daniel Nicolae Armenciu, Sorin Vasile Manea, Angelica Stan (2024). "Exploring innovative teaching methodologies in architectural education for urban sustainability and energy efficiency" in *20 ARCHITECTURAL EXPERIENCES: PROCEEDINGS. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF*

ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN 30-31/10/2023, coord. Oana Diaconescu, Daniel N. Armenciu, Bogdan M. Ioniță, Ed.UAUIM ISBN 978-606-638-341-7&ed. AA Edizioni, Italia ISBN 978-88-99013-37-0, pp 66-71

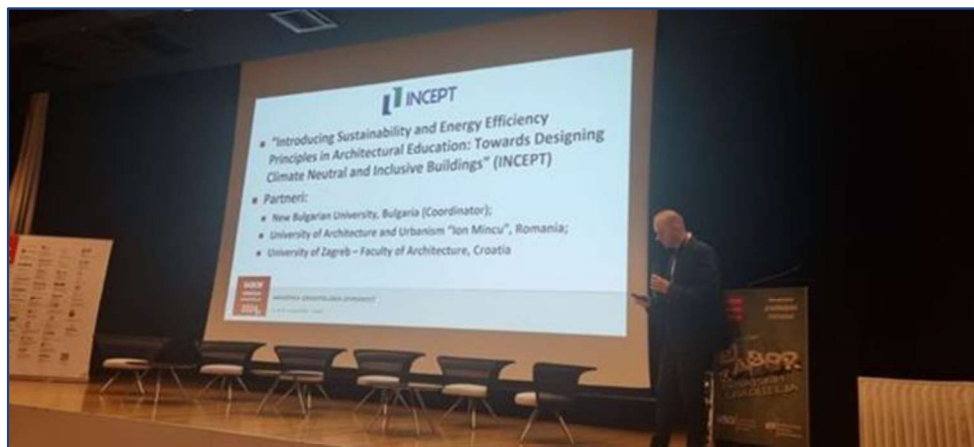
Angelica Stan, Mihaela Hărmănescu, Daniel Nicolae Armenciu, Sorin Vasile Manea (2024). "Resilient and climate-smart landscapes for transitional urban-rural zones and cities peripheries in eastern european countries" in **20 ARCHITECTURAL EXPERIENCES: PROCEEDINGS. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN 30-31/10/2023**, coord. Oana Diaconescu, Daniel N. Armenciu, Bogdan M. Ioniță, Ed.UAUIM ISBN 978-606-638-341-7 & ed. AA Edizioni, Italia ISBN 978-88-99013-37-0, pp 202 – 211



- INCEPT Project was presented at the 8th "nZEB 2024 Reconstruction and Modernization of Buildings" Conference, held on February 15 2024 in Zagreb, Croatia. Prof. Zoran Veršić, member of the INCEPT Project team, presented the goals and purpose of the Project with an emphasis on WP3 Creation of Climate Neutral Building Design Atelier for architecture students.



- The INCEPT project was presented at the 9th Congress of Croatian Builders taking place from 21 to 24 April 2024 in Cavtat, Croatia. More than 450 participants from different countries took part in the Congress.



- On 11 March, a public lecture with a joint presentation of the INCEPT and UIREKA SHIFT projects, dedicated to the transition to climate neutral and smart cities and funded by the EU Erasmus+ programme, took place in the UniArt Gallery of the NBU, attended by students and lecturers. The moderator of the event and the discussions was Dr. Zdravko Georgiev, and Prof. Dr. Georgi Georgiev, INCEPT project leader, presented the achieved interim results and the potential opportunities for collaboration between the two projects.



- The concept and methodology of Climate Neutral Building Design Atelier, developed in the framework of the INCEPT project, was presented and discussed during the research conference Arch&Urban'2024 of the Department of Architecture of New Bulgarian University with the participation of lecturers and students from various university departments.



INCEPT PROJECT DISSEMINATION-ANNOUNCEMENT

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

A new international conference will be in Bucharest, UAUIM, and the INCEPT team project will be present also – <https://www.uauim.ro/evenimente/conferinta-architectural-experiences/>

Incept project will be promoted at „18th Days of Civil Engineers“ in Opatija, Croatia. The Days will be held from June 13 to June 15, 2024. AF ZG team members will present the achievements and progress of the Incept project – <https://dani.hkig.hr/>

Incept project will be promoted at PromoArh fair in Poreč, Croatia. The Fair will be held from September 18 to September 20, 2024. AF ZG team members will present the progress of the project after 2 years of implementation – <https://www.promoarth.com/>

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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