

Interreg IPA ADRION Project starts in Bologna

First Meeting of Bologna TERRAIN Living Lab

Thursday, 30 January 2025

On January 30 2025, the first meeting of the Bologna TERRAIN Living Lab took place, gathering key stakeholders to discuss the progress and future directions of the TERRAIN project. The role of the Living Lab was highlighted as a key space for collaboration, awareness-building and input from various stakeholders. It will serve as an essential platform for analyzing challenges, designing solutions and monitoring the effectiveness of the Bologna pilot. Stakeholders, including representatives from the **Emilia-Romagna Region, Bologna Metropolitan City, TPER** (public transport operator), the **Italian Federation for Environment and Cyclability (FIAB)**, local **primary schools**, the **Consultative Committee for the Overcoming of Disability** and employees of the **Municipality of Bologna**, were directly involved during the meeting and they will be essential in supporting the implementation and ongoing evaluation of the project, contributing to the overall development of Bologna's Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP).



The discussion centered around the goals and priorities of the TERRAIN project, with a particular focus on the Bologna pilot action. This initiative, centered on the **Ciclobus**, is part of the broader “Bologna a scuola si muove sostenibile” program, which aims to reduce car usage near schools and promote safe, sustainable mobility for students. The pilot project seeks to engage children in active mobility and encourage greater independence in their daily commuting to school.

An overview of the European mobility framework was also presented, explaining how Bologna's efforts align with the EU's climate-neutral cities mission. The incorporation of sustainable school mobility management into Bologna's Climate City Contract was emphasized, reinforcing the connection with the goals of the TERRAIN project.

Following the presentations, a Q&A session allowed participants to discuss specific issues related to the Ciclobus initiative. Questions were raised about the vehicle's accessibility for people with disabilities and the potential challenges in selecting representative test groups. The discussion also covered aspects of the vehicle's usability, including its size, operational areas and the importance of parental acceptance.

The meeting also included an in-depth overview of Bologna's school mobility initiatives, including the Pedibus program, which encourages children to walk to school in groups, contributing to safer and more sustainable commuting practices.

The session concluded with a discussion on intermodality, with an emphasis on Bologna's key role in integrated public transport and multimodal solutions within the TERRAIN project.

The main outcomes of the meeting confirmed that the Living Lab is an essential space for advancing discussions on sustainable mobility and will play a critical role in the design, monitoring and improvement of the Bologna pilot action. Key priorities include ensuring that the Ciclobus encourages children's autonomy and promoting active mobility, while synergies with other European mobility projects, such as URBANE and SPINE, were also identified. Moreover, intermodality was recognized as a crucial element for both the success of school mobility initiatives and the broader goal of reducing car use in the city.



To know more on Bologna involvement and role in TERRAIN, on the project itself and on Interreg IPA ADRION Programme, you can visit:

[TERRAIN on the website of the Municipality of Bologna](#)
[IPA Adrion TERRAIN website](#)
[Interreg IPA ADRION Programme](#)

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