

Newsletter 4

May 2026



European Union

Interreg
CENTRAL EUROPE

CICADA4CE



IN THIS ISSUE

- Presentation of latest activities
- Urban Living Labs – Work in progress in:
 - Břeclav (CZ)
 - Dubnica nad Váhom (SK)
 - Kranj (SI)
 - Sosnowiec (PL)
 - Nichelino (IT)
- Project meeting in Dubnica nad Váhom (SK)

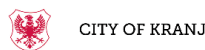
Presentation of latest activities

Anna Starzewska-Sikorska
Project coordinator

The fourth period of the CICADA4CE implementation marked a key phase for the final shaping of action plans addressing climate adaptation in partner cities. In line with the project's core objective, public involvement played a central role in the elaboration process. This approach was fostered through the Urban Living Labs established in each city at the outset of the project. The Action Plans present concrete examples of the ECbA concept applied in five urban climate adaptation cases.

Meanwhile, pilot cities have been advancing the technical and administrative preparation of investments, moving closer to implementation and ensuring the long-term sustainability and replicability of project results.

This phase has also been supported by regular coordination meetings among partners, including both on-line and in-person meetings, which have proven essential for aligning activities, sharing progress and strengthening cooperation across the partnership.



Urban Living Labs – work in progress

Břeclav (CZ)



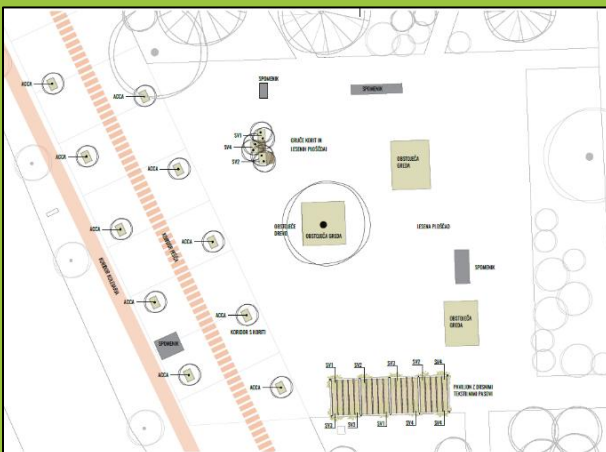
Implementation of the Urban Living Lab in Břeclav is advancing steadily. At the end of last year, a community planting event involved elementary school students and residents, fostering early engagement. Grass meadows are currently being shown to enhance biodiversity and ecological quality. Outdoor furniture and information boards have been ordered and will soon be installed. A weather station has also been set up in the school area, where students have already started collecting their first environmental data, combining project monitoring with hands-on environmental education.

Dubnica nad Váhom (SK)

Urban Living Lab in Dubnica serves as a collective experience of generating and sharing new ideas, enhancing teamwork and values of sustainability and community life. Proposals of the student workshop held at the Elementary and Middle School and Kindergarten ZŠ Centrum I in Dubnica nad Váhom went into deeper construction details, depicting diverse phenomena from mechanics, physics, biology or other subjects. These ideas were implemented into well-known environment of the Smart Community Park, making them a powerful educational tool in daily teaching and learning process. This unique experience serves not only as a learning tool, but is helping to make the Smart Community Park, the place of everyday activities more meaningful, scene of socialization for young people and enriching their cognitive and mental maps of the city where they were born and where they live.



Kranj (SI)



A pilot investment is under development for Slovene Square in Kranj, with a public procurement process currently underway for contractor selection.

As a protected cultural heritage site, the design integrates climate adaptation measures while respecting its historical identity. It introduces a combination of green and blue infrastructure to mitigate heat stress and improve microclimatic conditions.

The plan features a shaded 50 m² pavilion equipped with a misting system, complemented by planted containers along its edges. Additional elements include a small urban forest with seating platforms and a double row of trees in planters, reinterpreting a historic tree avenue.

The investment will enhance thermal comfort, strengthen biodiversity in synergy with the Interreg CE Urbio Bauhaus project, and improve the quality and usability of the public space.

Sosnowiec (PL)



Intergenerational Garden of Education and Biodiversity will be established next to Janusz Korczak High School in Sosnowiec. The site development concept was co-designed by students and seniors through participatory workshops guided by specialists from the Municipality.

The project includes planting, on an area of approximately 600 m², more than 1,200 shrubs, 180 ornamental grasses, and over 500 perennials, as well as establishing new lawns. The investment area will also feature permeable aggregate pathways and small-scale architectural elements, and two weather stations.

These green interventions will support biodiversity, improve water retention, and enhance the local microclimate.

Nichelino (IT)

The “soft” pilot action in Nichelino promotes community-driven climate adaptation by engaging schools, citizens and local associations. It involves 100 students, 20 associations and around 300 citizens in co-creation activities, alongside an open educational pathway accessible to all. The action also supports new participatory management of public spaces and the re-naturalization of the “Boschetto” Urban Park with up to 375 native trees and shrubs, replacing exotic species and enhancing local biodiversity and ecosystem resilience.



Project meeting in Dubnica and Váhom (SK)

The 4th consortium meeting of the CICADA4CE, held in Dubnica nad Váhom on March 26–27, 2026, brought together project partners and cities for a productive exchange on progress and next steps.

The first day opened with welcome remarks and an introduction by the Project Coordinator, followed by working sessions on the development of Action Plans (WP1) and the implementation of Pilot Actions (WP2), where cities and scientific partners shared their progress. In parallel, the CICADA Schools Network met, highlighting the project's educational dimension.



Afternoon sessions focused on key project tools and outreach activities, including the digital platform, the Network of Cities in the Green Deal context, and communication actions. The day concluded with a discussion on lessons learned and knowledge transfer (WP3), followed by an open Q&A.

On the second day, the Steering Committee meeting and a further Schools Network session took place, alongside a site visit to the Elementary School Centrum 1, showcasing local implementation. The meeting closed with final remarks, reinforcing collaboration and outlining the next steps of the project.



<https://www.interreg-central.eu/projects/cicada4ce/>



<https://www.facebook.com/cicada4ce/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13728273/>