

CROSS-disciplinary network for research excellence in Regenerative Economy  
Innovation eco-Systems  
CROSS-REIS

101136834 — CROSS-REIS — HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-03-01

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH AND DATA SHARING AMONG  
WIDENING PARTNERS:

VISIT TO Co-PLAN and DSA, Tirana

## AGENDA

Where: Tirana, Albania

When: 12-14 February 2025

Contacts:

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### DAY I

#### Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Polis University, MAD Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

[Rruga Bylis 12, Autostrada Tiranë-Durrës, Km 5, Kashar, Sh2, Tiranë](#)

<b>09:30-10:00</b>	Registration & Welcome Coffee	
<b>10:00-10:15</b>	Institutional Welcome & Presentation of the Program	Anila Bejko, <i>Executive Director, Co-PLAN</i> ,
<b>10:15-10:30</b>	Presentation of Co-PLAN's history and synergy with Polis University	Prof. Dr. Besnik Aliqaj, <i>Rector, Polis University [TBC]</i>
<b>10:30-12:30</b>	Co-PLAN's project portfolio and Green Agenda for the WB	<a href="#">GreenFORCE</a> Foster research excellence in WB Green Transition research (Dr. Fiona Imami, Expert on Planning & Regional Development, Co-PLAN)

		<p><a href="http://WBC-RRI.net">WBC-RRI.net</a> Embedding RRI into the WB innovation ecosystems (Dr. Kejt Dhrami, Territorial Governance and Spatial Planning Expert, Co-PLAN)</p> <p><a href="#">GreenAL</a> Empowering environmental CSO-s / <a href="#">GreenLUNGS</a> environmental monitoring platform (Enkela Poro, Environmental Expert, Co-PLAN)</p> <p><a href="#">Circular City Labs Tirana</a> (Assoc. Prof. Merita Toska, vice Rector, Polis University)</p>
<b>12:30 – 13:30</b>	Lunch break - Cocktail	
<b>13:30 – 14:30</b>	Visit to research facilities: Innovation Factory	Dr. Elona Karafili, vice Rector, Polis University
<b>14:30 – 15:00</b>	Innovation ecosystem in Albania – an overview	
<b>15:00 – 15:30</b>	Synergies across innovation actions: case of <a href="#">URDATA project</a>	Claudia Romelli, researcher, Poliedra / Politecnico di Milano
<b>15:30 – 15:45</b>	Coffee Break	
<b>15:45 – 19:00</b>	<i>Field trip Tirana: Green Investments in the context of climate vulnerability</i>	
<b>19.00</b>	Social Dinner STILL FISH, <a href="#">Rruga Qamil Guranjaku, Tirana 1001</a>	

## DAY 2

<b>Thursday, February 13, 2025</b>		
Study Tour – regenerative prospects in rural communities: case of Belsh Municipality		
<b>09:00-10:15</b>	Travel to Belsh municipality (departure from <a href="#">Tirana City center</a> )	
<b>10:15-11:00</b>	Institutional Meet&Greet with Municipality representative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Florenc Tafani, <i>Director of Planning Department</i> – Regenerative practices integrated into urban planning in Belsh</li> <li>Alberto Hysa, <i>EU Integration corner</i> – Smart mobility promotion in the municipality</li> </ul>	
<b>11:00-12:00</b>	Discussion on farm productivity and implementation of hybrid forms of wheat @Fetah Elezi Farm	Prof. Dr. Fetah Elezi, Senior researcher at Agricultural University of Tirana Assoc.Prof. Edvin Zhllima, expert in agri-food economics, DSA

<b>12:00-15:00</b>	Exploration of rural tourism opportunities Lunch Break	<a href="#">Sofra e Liqenit</a> Agritourism facility
<b>15:00-16:00</b>	The <a href="#">Black Horse Initiative</a> - Innovative farming solutions for extra virgin olive production / Farm visit	Assoc.Prof. Drini Imami, expert in Agricultural Policies, DSA Denis Agolli, farmer
<b>16:00-17:30</b>	Return to Tirana / free time	

### DAY 3

<p><b>Thursday, February 14, 2025</b>          Polis University, Aula C3 - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  <a href="#">Rruga Bylis 12, Autostrada Tiranë-Durrës, Km 5, Kashar, Sh2, Tiranë</a></p> <p>*possibility to join online via <a href="#">ZOOM</a>          Meeting ID: 825 7864 5069          Passcode: 865114</p>		
<b>09:30 – 10:00</b>	Highlights from DSA research portfolio	Assoc.Prof. Edvin Zhllima, expert in agri-food economics, DSA Assoc.Prof. Drini Imami, expert in Agricultural Policies, DSA
<b>10:00 – 10:20</b>	Coffee break	
<b>10:20 – 11:40</b>	<p><b>*Workshop:</b> Scientific Framework for measuring intellectual capital in HE institutions in widening countries (T5.3.2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation of draft framework by FEUN</li> <li>- Discussions lead by WP lead - OSLOMET</li> <li>- Contributions by all partners</li> </ul>	<p>Milica Jovanović Vujatović, Teaching Assistant, FEUN</p> <p>Prof. Claudia van der Laag, Professor of Urban Analytics, OSLOMET</p> <p>Prof. John Östh, Professor of GIS and Spatial Analytics, OSLOMET</p>
<b>11:40 – 12:30</b>	<b>*Strategic partnership</b> to foster innovation in Cross-REIS (Brainstorming on Joint Proposals)	Prof. Carlo Sessa, Senior researcher, EMEA
<b>12:30-13:30</b>	Lunch break @ POLIS Motown Canteen	
<b>13:30 – 17:00</b>	Follow up on project activities – collaborative group work	

## Some Logistic Insight

### Travel Information

#### *Transfer from the airport to the hotel and vice versa*

- Taxis at the airport

Tirana Airport taxi service is provided by Auto Holiday Albania (AHA). AHA specializes in transfers between Tirana Airport and all Albanian cities for both individuals and groups. The service offered is 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To reserve taxis in advance, online [please click here](#), select Tirana City from the drop-down menu, click 'book now' then enter your contact and arrival information. One trip with this taxi service is 20 EUR.

The licensed taxis are yellow, with the Auto Holiday Albania logo and the airport logo on both sides of the vehicle. At the airport, these taxis park in front of the terminal and also at the pick-up area of the terminal.

- Alternative taxi options:

Besides the AHA taxi service, there may be other taxis available at the airport terminal. Please note all state-licensed cabs are the ones that have a yellow Albanian license plate, therefore please make sure it is as such before commencing your trip.

If you hail a taxi directly at the airport or during your stay, make sure to negotiate a price before setting off and confirm the method and currency of payment you would like to use.

If you would like to book an alternative taxi, some possible taxi operators and their contacts are as below, with fees ranging from 1300-1500 ALL (13-15 EUR). You may use the links to reserve them online:

- o Green taxi: [Click here](#) or call 0800 2000;
- o Speed taxi: [Click here](#) or call +355 42 222 555 or +355 69 64 22 211; also available as Application.
- o City Taxi: [Click here](#) or call 0800 0000;
- o DOTaxi: [Click here](#) or call 0800 24 24;
- o MerrTaxi: [Click here](#) or call +355 800 5555.

Alternatively, you can use the app [PATOKO](#) for a reliable taxi service. You may use the code **Q5A2** for user discount.

- The airport shuttle bus:

This shuttle is located at the bus station in Tirana International Airport (TIA) right next to the TIA P1 parking space. Here you can find buses for Tirana which travel to Tirana and back every hour starting from 07:00 AM until 02:00 AM. This service is offered by LU-NA sh.p.k. every day. The rate for a single fare is 400 Albanian Lek (roughly 3.5 EUR). For more information regarding this, [please click here](#).

### Travelling in Albania / Tirana

The main method of transportation in Albania is via road. This includes by car, bus, and minivan. Uber, Bolt or Lyft are not available in Albania.

Should you be travelling in Tirana and would like to use public transportation [please click here](#) to view all of the public transportation lines in the city. You can pay for the bus ticket on the bus and it costs 40 ALL.

We recommend that you use taxis should you like to move within the city in mid/long distances. You may use the references listed above.

Taxis in Albania usually do not provide the option to pay with card. Moreover, you have to request the bill before starting the trip.

### Accommodation

Below you can find a list of reliable accommodation options and prices for the set days.

Hotels	Location	Single room	Twin room	Booking Link	Contact	Official Website
<b>Hotel Opera</b>	Near the city centre, Urani Pano Street, 1016 Tirana, Albania	75-80 Eur/night	75-80 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	<a href="mailto:reservation@hotelopera.al">reservation@hotelopera.al</a> +355 (0) 68 20 07 374 +355 (0) 44 500 383	<a href="https://hotelopera.al/">https://hotelopera.al/</a>
<b>Hotel Colosseo Tirana</b>	Near the city centre, Durrës Street / Adem Jashari Square, 1000 Tirana, Albania	65-75 Eur/night	65-75 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	reservations@hotelcolosseotirana.com +355 04 222 0010	<a href="https://hotelcolosseotirana.com/">https://hotelcolosseotirana.com/</a>
<b>Mondial Hotel</b>	Muhamet Gjollësia Street, Tirana 1023, Albania	65 Eur/night	75 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	<a href="mailto:info@hotelmondial.al">info@hotelmondial.al</a> +355 4 22 32 372 +355 68 200 4642	<a href="https://www.hotelmondial.al/">https://www.hotelmondial.al/</a>
<b>Hotel Vila e Arte City Center</b>	Near the city centre, Qemal Stafa Street near General Prosecutor's Office, 1001 Tirana, Albania	46.5 Eur/night	54.5-65.5 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	<a href="mailto:info@vilaearte.com">info@vilaearte.com</a> +355 42 260149 +355 68 2042007	<a href="http://vilaearte.com/">http://vilaearte.com/</a>

<b>Sar'Otel Boutique Hotel</b>	Near the city centre, Street Kostandin Kristoforidhi Nr.1, 1001 Tirana, Albania	62 Eur/night	68.5-75.5 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	<a href="mailto:info@sarotel.com">info@sarotel.com</a> <a href="tel:+355672811111">+355 67 2811 111</a>	<a href="https://sarotel.com/">https://sarotel.com/</a>
<b>Ebel Boutique Hotel</b>	Near the city centre, Dureshit street, building 240, 1001 Tirana, Albania	starting from 63.5 Eur/night	starting from 72 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	N/A	N/A
<b>Allure Boutique Hotel</b>	Near the city centre, Street Fortuzi Building 137, 1001 Tirana, Albania	57 Eur/night	60 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	hotel.allure1@gmail.com	<a href="http://hotel-allure.al/">http://hotel-allure.al/</a>
<b>BELUX HOTEL</b>	Near the city centre, 19 Mine Peza St. 1001 Tirana, Albania, 1001 Tirana, Albania	44 Eur/night	54 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	N/A	N/A
<b>Tirana Central GuestHouse</b>	Near the city centre, Durres Street building 118, Ap. 8 - Near "Cafe Flora", 1000 Tirana, Albania	41.5 Eur/night	41.5 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	N/A	N/A
<b>Hotel Elior</b>	Near the city centre, "Reshit Collaku" street behind the Albanian Post Office No. 5, 1001 Tirana, Albania	60-79 Eur/night	60-79 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	N/A	N/A
<b>Oxford hotel</b>	Near the city centre, St. Xhorxhi Martini 10 , 1001 Tirana, Albania	58.5 Eur/night	65-140 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	N/A	N/A
<b>Lot Boutique Hotel by Hotels and Preference</b>	Near the city centre, St. Myrtezim Kelliçi 20, 1017 Tirana, Albania	83.5-99 Eur/night	89-126 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	<a href="mailto:info@hotel-lot.com">info@hotel-lot.com</a> <a href="tel:+35542200001">+355 4 22 00 001</a> <a href="tel:+355676038888">+355 67 60 38 888</a>	<a href="https://lot-hotel-tirana.com/">https://lot-hotel-tirana.com/</a>
<b>Prime Hotel</b>	Near the city centre, Ded Gjo Luli Street, 1001 Tirana, Albania	32 Eur/night	45 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	N/A	N/A
<b>Bujtina Shqiptare</b>	Near the city centre, Ded Gjo Luli Street, 1001 Tirana, Albania	35 Eur/night	35 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	N/A	N/A
<b>Hotel LONDON</b>	Near the city centre,	35 Eur/night	40-45 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	N/A	N/A



	Boulevard Zogu I no. 53, 1000 Tirana, Albania					
<b>Jolly City Center Hotel</b>	Near the city center, the New Bazar quarter	36-53 Eur/night	37-63 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	<a href="mailto:info@jollyhotel.al">info@jollyhotel.al</a> <a href="tel:+35542250630">+355 4 225 0630</a> <a href="tel:+355673871715">+355 673 871 715</a>	<a href="https://jollyhotel.al/index.html">https://jollyhotel.al/index.html</a>
<b>ART Hotel Tirana</b>	Near the city center, Kavaja Street No. 96/2, 1001 Tirana, Albania	49.5-81 Eur/night	81-90 Eur/night	<a href="#">Click here</a>	info@arthoteltirana.com reservation@arthotel tirana.com +355686000212	<a href="https://www.arthoteltirana.com/en">https://www.arthoteltirana.com/en</a>

## Entertainment activities

- Walk around Skanderbeg Square and view the [Skanderbeg Statue](#), [National Historical Museum](#), [Et'hem Bey Mosque](#) and [the Clock Tower](#).
- Visit [BunkArt 2 museum exhibition](#) and which reconstructs the history of the Albanian Ministry of Internal Affairs from 1912 to 1991 and reveals the secrets of "Sigurimi", the political police. [Located here](#).
- View [The Cloud of Sou Fujimoto](#) in front of the National Gallery of Arts, [located here](#).
- Walk through [the 'Castle of Tirana'](#), located [here](#).
- Visit the [Post-Block Checkpoint Monument](#) which commemorates the victims of the Communist regime in Albania. [Located here](#).
- Visit the [Resurrection of Christ Orthodox Cathedral](#) of Tirana [located here](#).
- Visit the [House of Leaves](#), the notorious office of Secret Surveillance during the dictatorship regime. [Located here](#).
- Walk around the ex-communist block residential area and view the former villa of Enver Hoxha. [Click here for more information](#) and [here for the location](#).
- The building of the [Polytechnic University of Tirana](#) located [here](#).
- Visit [Arena Center and Air Albania Stadium](#) [located here](#).
- Visit the [Grand Park of Tirana](#), located [here](#).
- Visit the [New Bazaar](#), located [here](#).
- Visit Tanners' Bridge, a former 18th-century stone livestock bridge, now restored for use by pedestrians. Located [here](#).
- Visit [Dajti Mountain](#) via cable car with [Dajti Express](#).
- Visit the [Martyr's Cemetery](#) built in the year 1971, which holds the remains of the martyrs and heroes of Albania. It is located [here](#).
- For enjoying the nightlife of Tirana, the perfect areas are Blloku Area [located here](#) and 'Mustafa Matohiti' Street [located here](#)

## Additional information

- **Financial:** The currency used is Albanian Lek (lek). In larger towns they also accept Euros in payment, however, the exchange rate you'll get in these cases will not be ideal. Considering this, we recommend you exchange some money beforehand in exchange shops and always carry some lek with you.

For some additional details regarding money usage please click [here](#) and [here](#).

- **Receipts:** It may occur that you will not be given a receipt when getting a service. If that is the case simply ask the clerk/waiter for one and please check it when it is given to you. In the case of taxis, please ask prior to your trip if they will provide one.
- **Weather:** Albania has a Mediterranean climate, with hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters in the lowlands. During the period of your stay the temperature is estimated to vary between 13-15 °C during the day and between 5 - 7 °C during the night, with light shower on the first day and sunny weather during the next days and over the weekend. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Pharmacies:** Pharmacies are very spread out in Albania. You can find one (or several) in almost every main road.
- For Albania, there are two associated **plug types**, types C and F. Plug type C is the plug which has two round pins and plug type F is the plug which has two round pins with two earth clips on the side. Albania operates on a 230V supply voltage and 50Hz.

### Emergency services contact numbers

- Main emergency number: **112**
- Ambulance: **127**
- Firefighters: **128**
- Police: **129**