



HARMONIA



Official Newsletter of the Harmonia Project

Open Letter

The uncertainties and threats of Climate Change and environmental risks in general are more and more impacting on our lives and habits and the cities we live in are among the most exposed and **vulnerable areas**. Scientific research is the first possible action to deal with this situation and especially research to support decision-making processes. This is what the **HARMONIA project** is all about: we have brought together a very broad and diverse consortium of universities, research institutes, SMEs, four pilots cities (Sofia, Milan, Piraeus and Ixelles) and NGOs from all over Europe to try and get as complete a view as possible of the problem. Our approach includes specific considerations of climate change and environmental risks, but also a social focus on the possible **impact on human health and well-being**. Our aim is to bring together the large amount of knowledge and technologies already available and to make them accessible to **citizens**, to make them aware and engaged through their **empowerment**, to administrations and **municipalities**, which can use them to guide **urban adaptation policies and preventive measures**, and finally to other researchers, who can in the future add their contribution to the common goal of **tackling climate change** and making our cities liveable and safe places.

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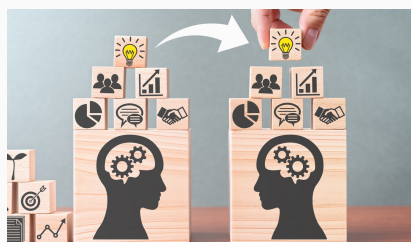
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Presentation of project Harmonia

HARMONIA will leverage existing tools, services and novel technologies to deliver an **Integrated Resilience Assessment Platform** working on top of GEOSS, using Satellite and data available on GEOSS, DIAS, GEP etc platforms. HARMONIA will focus on a **solution** for climate applications supporting **adaptation and mitigation** measures of the Paris Agreement. HARMONIA will test Remote Sensing tools and 3D-4D monitoring, Machine/Deep Learning techniques and develop a **multi-layer urban areas observation information knowledge base**.

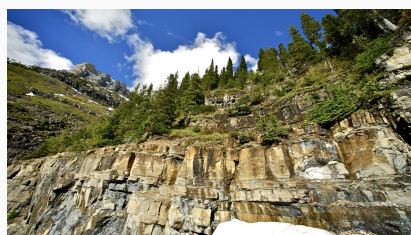
HARMONIA focuses on **natural hazards intensified by Climate Change** (urban flooding, soil degradation and geo-hazards) as well as **manmade hazards** (heat islands, urban heat fluxes, Air Quality, Gas emissions). Sustainable reconstruction of urban areas and the health of humans and ecosystems, are top priorities. HARMONIA will take into account the **local ecosystems of European urban areas**, following an integrated approach by incorporating the communities' participation initiative, which will involve the use of a **social platform**. Paying attention to Sustainable Urban Development, one of the Societal Benefit Areas posits that use of **EO is a crucial tool towards resilient cities** and the assessment of urban footprints, to promote **equity, welfare** and **shared prosperity** for all, feed indicators for the monitoring of progress towards the **Sustainable Development Goals** in an EU context. To do so, project HARMONIA will focus on four specific **objectives**:



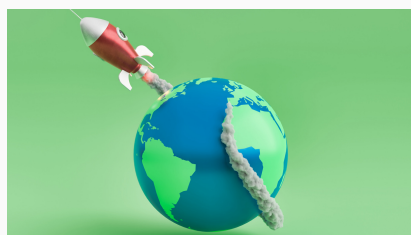
Incorporate multi-disciplinary assessments



Address hazards linked to Climate Change



Address geohazards



Define intervention necessity indices

Project Milestones

Beginning of the project

M1

M6

Data Management Plan v1 available

System requirements, specifications, design & evaluation metrics

M7

M24

Business Plan and Exploitation Strategy v1 available

Citizen-based and urban context datasets ready & Data annotation report available

M25

M30

Intelligence framework finalized, datacubes architecture implemented, datasets & services integration

HARMONIA field validation

M41

M42

HARMONIA platform assessment and successful project completion

exploitation of the results

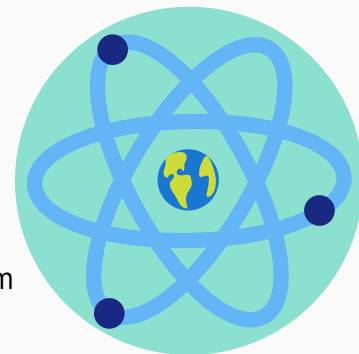
M44



How far are we?

Deliverable 2.1 (WP2) – Urbasofia Leader – Sept.2021

Deliverable 2.2 (WP2) – Urbasofia Leader – Dec.2021



The **Harmonia project** aims at **uniting the stakeholders** around the common **Climate Change** issues, in a co-design and co-participation process, allowing them not only to **understand the impacts** on their local environment but also to concretely **visualise** them.

To achieve these goals, Harmonia wants to engage a wide-ranging of stakeholders at the **local level**, from **professional experts** to **citizens** and it is precisely the responsibilities that lie from the WP2.1 (Deliverable 2.1 & Deliverable 2.2) and later with the activity WP3.1.



In September 2021, Urbasofia presented a **Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)**, which described the **methodology** and a set of **guidelines**, for identifying local stakeholders of each territorial partner.

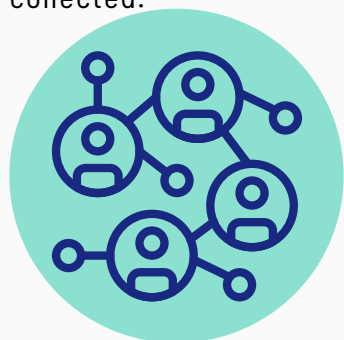
Thus, each local partner had the tools to identify and engage a wide-range of stakeholder through a **tailor-made and adapted strategy**. The stakeholders' engagement supports Harmonia's consortium to achieve **sustainable collaboration** with all those territorial actors affected and interested by the

project's outputs, but also to develop the **IRAP Platform** on **real-life needs** to provide high serviceability and usefulness.

With the support of the first **methodological framework** (Deliverable 2.1), the overall consortium of the Harmonia project has contacted a list of potential **interested stakeholders**, who form the comprehensive list of **relevant actors** and initiatives in Harmonia activities after they have confirmed their interest of **engagement**.



Once the **HARMONIA community** consolidated, each **pilot city** and their **local stakeholders** got the opportunity to express their local needs, as well as all the information that would help the consortium to understand specific needs for the **platform development**, what kind of data should be integrated into the database and where it can be collected.



The **agile method** implemented in Harmonia allows changing of the results expressed in this second report over the course of the project. Those deliverables play important roles in the overall **architecture** of the Harmonia platform development and become a **strong base** for the future **Harmonia Community**.

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Consortium presentation

Project Harmonia gathers a community of 22 partners, working together to help urban communities manage more efficiently climate change and its effects. This consortium includes 4 pilot cities : Milan (Italy); Sofia (Bulgaria); Piraeus (Greece); and Ixelles (Belgium) as well as 4 Academies, 9 Companies, 4 Research institutes, and 1 NGO.



Keep in touch with us on our website and social media!

<http://harmonia-project.eu/> HARMONIAPROJECT2021 harmonia.h2020 HARMONIA Project @ProjectHarmonia



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Upcoming events



PROJECT FIRE FOCUS
GROUP ON
INFRASTRUCTURE

March 24, 2022



Remotely



INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON
GEOSPATIAL BIG DATA
AND URBAN STUDIES

May 3-4, 2022



Rome, Italy



GEOSPATIAL WORLD
FORUM: GEOGRAPHY AND
HUMANITY - DIGITAL
CITIES

May 9-12, 2022



Amsterdam, Netherlands



ICLEI WORLD CONGRESS
2021-2022

May 11-13, 2022



Hybrid: Remotely &
Malmö, Sweden