Città metropolitana di Milano

METROPOLITAN CITY OF MILAN

DEPARTMENT FOR EU PROGRAMMES AND FUNDS

GENERAL DIRECTION

Funded by the European Union

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THE METROPOLITAN CITY OF MILAN

Covers 133 municipalities with a combined population of approximately 3.2 million.
The territory extends across 1,575.65 km².



It coordinates policies and services of metropolitan interest, with key responsibilities in strategic and spatial planning, mobility, environment, economic development and upper-secondary education.

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MAIN AREAS OF COMPETENCE

STRATEGIC PLANNING

ECONOMIC AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT

DIGITALISATION

ENVIRONMENT

EDUCATION

SOCIAL POLICIES

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MAIN EU PROGRAMMES OVERVIEW

- HORIZON EUROPE
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- INTERREG EUROPE
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- INTERREG CENTRAL EUROPE
- ESPON
- CERV
- LIFE
- ERDF

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HORIZON EUROPE

horizon europe
Le programme européen pour la recherche et l'innovation

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation.

It tackles global challenges like climate change and Sustainable Development Goals while boosting EU competitiveness, economic growth, and job creation by advancing collaborative research and technology across Europe.

Our projects:

- WATER4ALL
- AWARD
- MICAD

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WATER4ALL



Water is central to all human activities, to all component of the EU Green Deal and to several UN SDGs.

The WATER4ALL Partnership aims at **enabling water security for all on the long term through boosting systemic transformations and changes** across the entire research - water innovation pipeline, fostering the matchmaking between problem owners and solution providers.

Period: 2023 - 2025

Role: Partner

Total Budget: € 290.000.000,00

Water4All
Water security for the planet

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AWARD



AWARD addresses the **urgent challenges of water scarcity and climate change** by linking society, science, and policy for strategic water planning.
The initiative provides **evidence-based solutions** to incorporate Alternative Water Resources (AWRs) into water supply strategies through socio-political engagement. AWARD aims to deliver reliable, affordable, and acceptable AWR solutions to effectively adapt strategic water planning to ongoing global changes.

Period: 2024 - 2027
Role: Partner
Total Budget: € 3.300.000,00

AWARD

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MICAD



MICAD - Metropolitan Inclusivity in Climate and Digital Transitions - is a European research and innovation project that supports metropolitan authorities in designing policies and strategies, which combine sustainability and digital transformation, while promoting social inclusion.

Through research, participation and collaboration, it develops tools and strategies for more resilient, sustainable and equitable urban transitions.

Period: 2025 - 2028

Role: Partner

Total Budget: € 2.780.000,00

MICAD
Metropolitan Inclusivity in Climate and Digital Transitions

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ESF+

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

European Union
European Social Fund

The European Social Fund is the EU's main financial tool for investing in people, promoting employment, improving skills and supporting the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

It has been updated and upgraded to a new version, the ESF+ (European Social Fund Plus), for the 2021–2027 funding period.

Our project:

SEAV

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SEAV



The SEAV Programme aims at the creation of multiple European projects regarding different fundamental themes, such as social inclusion, culture, safeguard of the environment, digital knowledge and sustainable mobility; the projects are expected to be achieved through formative and thematic sessions.

Period: 2018 - 2022

Role: Partner

Total Budget: € 2.000.000,00

Lombardia Europa 2020

Progettazione, modellizzazione e start-up di *Servizi Europa d'Area Vasta (SEAV)* nei contesti lombardi: essere competitivi in Europa

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Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

ERASMUS+

Erasmus+ offers mobility and cooperation opportunities in education, training, youth and sport.

The 2021-27 programme promotes young people's participation in democratic life and places a strong focus on social inclusion, green and digital transitions.

It also supports lifelong learning and skills development, helping individuals and organisations adapt to a changing European society and labour market.

Our project:

RELOAD

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RELOAD



RELOAD aims to strengthen Europe’s logistics workforce resilience and competitiveness by establishing four Regional Centres of Vocational Excellence across Greece, Cyprus, Slovenia, and Italy. The project develops specialized training, microcredentials, and Living Labs uniting VET providers, industries, and research centers.

RELOAD equips logistics workers, coordinators, and supervisors with key skills to effectively anticipate, manage, recover from, and transform after supply-chain disruptions.

Period: from 2026
Role: Partner
Total Budget: € 4.672.151,97

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INTERREG

EUROPE

Interreg Europe
European Union | European Regional Development Fund

Interreg Europe supports regions in strengthening public policies through cooperation, knowledge exchange and the sharing of good practices, with a focus on innovation, competitiveness, sustainability, climate action and social inclusion.

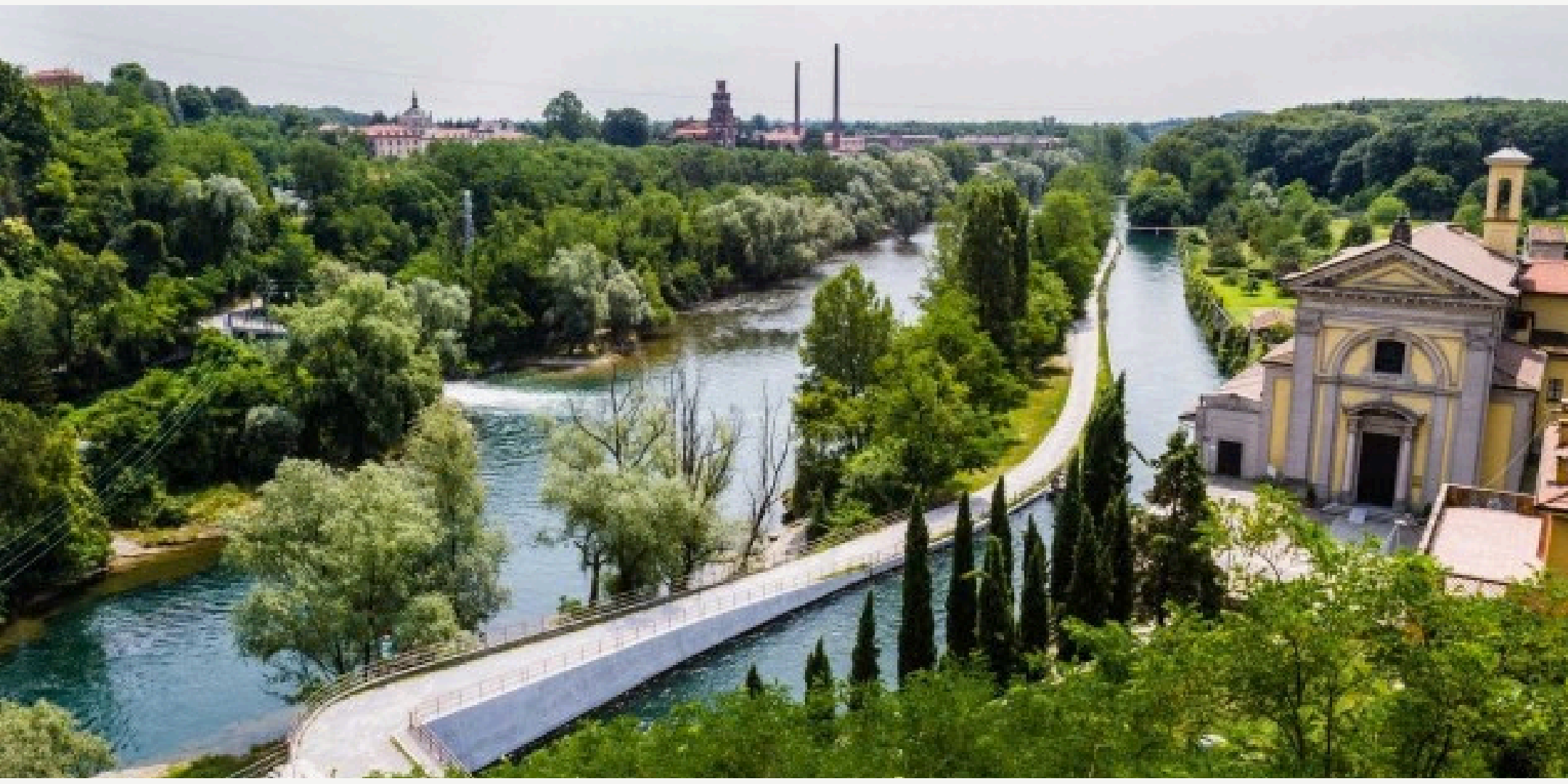
Our projects:

- SWARE
- LUIGI

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SWARE



The core of the SWARE project is preserving the unique natural and cultural heritage of the waterway regions involved.

What SWARE strives for is **achieving a better balance between protection and sustainable exploitation of the valuable natural and cultural resources** through improving the development programmes and policies of the partner regions, based on the transfer of good practices of other participating regions.

Period: 2016 - 2018 | 2018 - 2020
Role: Partner
Total Budget: € 1.365.338

SWARE
Interreg Europe

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LUIGI



LUIGI – Linking Urban and Inner-Alpine Green Infrastructure is a European project focused on developing future-oriented solutions to strengthen green infrastructure networks and enhance ecosystem services across six Alpine countries.

By connecting urban and peri-urban green spaces with inner-Alpine ecosystems, the project promotes biodiversity, supports ecological connectivity, and highlights the environmental, social, and economic benefits of nature-based solutions.

Period: 2019 - 2022

Role: Leader

Total Budget: € 2.534.452,73

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INTERREG

EURO-MED

Interreg Euro-MED is a European Territorial Cooperation Programme that aims to make the Mediterranean region smarter and greener while improving governance among its stakeholders.

The programme provides funding for projects developed and managed by public administrations, universities, private companies, and civil society organisations.

The Interreg Euro-MED cooperation area encompasses 69 regions across 14 countries on the northern shore of the Mediterranean, including 10 EU Member States and 4 countries from the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA).

Our projects:

ESMARTCITY

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ESMARTCITY



ESMARTCITY, an Interreg MED project, promoted Smart City innovation through the adoption of digital and energy-efficient technologies to improve urban sustainability and public services.

The project developed smart solutions for public buildings and urban lighting, helping cities improve energy efficiency, optimize resource use, and reduce environmental impact. It also fostered collaboration among local stakeholders, strengthening innovation ecosystems and supporting the transition towards more sustainable and efficient cities.

Period: 2018 - 2020

Role: Partner

Total Budget: € 2.500.000,000

Interreg Mediterranean ESMARTCITY

INTERREG

ALPINE SPACE

The Interreg Alpine Space programme co-finances and supports cooperation projects across the borders of seven Alpine countries.

Since its creation in 2000, it tackles common challenges and improves the quality of life of the 80 million inhabitants of the Alpine region.

Within the current period 2021-2027, we are at the forefront of the transition to a unique, carbon neutral and climate resilient European territory: the Alpine Region.

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INTERREG

CENTRAL EUROPE

The Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE programme supports transnational cooperation for cohesive regional development across Central Europe.

It addresses shared challenges such as climate change and the digital transition by bringing together public institutions, businesses, and civil society.

Building on a strong tradition of cooperation, the programme aims by 2027 to fund over 100 projects and support more than 1,000 organisations, contributing to a more resilient, connected, and future-ready Central Europe.

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ESPON

EUROPEAN SPATIAL PLANNING OBSERVATION NETWORK

ESPON is an EU funded programme that bridges research with policies.

It provides territorial analyses, data and maps to:

- support EU development policies with facts and evidence;

- help public authorities to benchmark their region or city, identify new challenges and potentials and shape successful development policies for the future.

Our project:

IMAGINE

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Funded by the European Union

IMAGINE



IMAGINE - is an integrated territorial strategy within the Milan-Bologna area, which aims at developing joint spatial scenarios and policies to strengthen territorial cohesion and eventually deliver an experimental Integrated Territorial Investment proposal. The project develops a common narrative for the functional urban region, exploring new forms of cooperation and governance to address economic and socio-spatial changes and support a more integrated approach to territorial development.

Period: 2020 - 2021
Role: Leader
Total Budget: € 220.000,00

CERV

CITIZENS, EQUALITY, RIGHTS AND VALUES

CERV aims to protect and promote Union rights and values as inscribed in the EU Treaties and the Charter of Fundamental Rights. It contributes to sustain and develop open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies based on the rule of law.

Our projects:

- MEANING
- CAMELOT
- MULTISCALE EU
- SPUR
- TIME4ALL
- TIME4ALL 2.0
- TIME4ALL 3.0

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MEANING



Through the constitution of a network of European metropolitan areas, the MEANING project has established long-term cooperation to strengthen citizen participation in public decision-making processes. By exchanging experiences and developing new approaches to metropolitan governance, the project aims to empower citizens, increase their awareness of European policies, and foster more inclusive and participatory forms of governance.

Period: 2016 - 2018
Role: Leader
Total Budget: € 150.000,00

CAMELOT



The CAMELOT project – Cities And Metropolis in Europe Labouring Onward Together – aims at raising awareness and increasing civic participation in the decision-making processes of the European Union. By building a thematic network of European metropolitan areas, the project promotes the exchange of experiences on European funding and metropolitan governance, while strengthening cooperation between citizens, local authorities, and other stakeholders.

Period: 2020 - 2022
Role: Leader
Total Budget: € 148.680,00

MULTISCALE EU



Multiscale EU promotes a multiscale approach to European Citizenship Education across all subjects and school levels.

The project provides teachers with free online didactic materials, professional development via the VLEU platform, and international Summer School scholarships. By connecting schools, universities, authorities, and civic organizations, Multiscale EU drives academic research, advanced teacher training, and cross-disciplinary sustainable practices in citizenship education.

Period: 2022 - 2025
Role: Associated partner
Total Budget: no dedicated budget

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Funded by the European Union

SPUR



SPUR builds transitional cooperation to mitigate the pandemic's social impact on vulnerable citizens in peripheral urban contexts. The project addresses low civic participation and institutional distrust by fostering shared solutions. SPUR promotes practices for social resilience, inclusion of disadvantaged youth and elderly, local community strengthening, public-civil cooperation, and the creation of a solidarity-based European network.

Period: 2024 - 2026
Role: Partner
Total Budget: € 192.930,00

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TIME4ALL



TIME4ALL brought together European cities and regions to exchange and develop local time policies that improve how people access services and organise daily life.

The project promoted peer learning, good-practice exchange and citizen participation, strengthening cooperation between local authorities on the right to time.

Period: 2022 - 2024

Role: Partner

Total Budget: € 233.000,00

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TIME4ALL 2.0



TIME4ALL 2.0 promotes the right to time by supporting cities in integrating time policies into urban strategies and planning.

The project focuses on the 15-minute city, improving access to local services and promoting a more balanced and equitable use of time.

Through the exchange of good practices and cooperation among European municipalities, it encourages more inclusive, accessible, and people-centred urban environments.

Period: 2025 - 2026

Role: Partner

Total Budget: € 246.860,00

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TIME4ALL 3.0



TIME4ALL 3.0 is the third phase of a European cooperation initiative that moves time policies from awareness to concrete implementation.

It helps municipalities create inclusive time policies designed to reduce time poverty and give families and young people more time for civic and democratic engagement.

By utilizing participatory cultural activities like art workshops and festivals TIME4ALL 3.0 promotes equality, solidarity, and active European citizenship.

Period: 2027 - 2028

Role: Associate partner

Total Budget: € 344.845,00

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LIFE

PROGRAMME FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION

Co-funded by
the European Union

LIFE supports projects that protect the environment, address climate change and promote the transition towards a more sustainable, resource-efficient and resilient Europe.

It also contributes to the implementation and development of EU environmental and climate policies, supporting innovative solutions and best practices that can be replicated across different cities.

Our projects:

METRO ADAPT

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Funded by
the European Union

METRO ADAPT



METRO ADAPT aims to integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies into local governance, creating a prepared and coordinated approach shared by the local authorities of the cities involved.

The project promotes cooperation and the development of common planning tools to strengthen metropolitan resilience, reduce climate-related risks, and support sustainable territorial development.

Period: 2018 - 2021

Role: Leader

Total Budget: € 1.400.000,00

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ERDF

EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

European Regional Development Fund

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) is designed to strengthen economic, social and territorial cohesion in the European Union.

It aims to do this by correcting imbalances between regions, enabling investments in a smarter, greener, more connected and more social Europe that is closer to its citizens.

It supports projects and investments that foster innovation, competitiveness, sustainable development, and improved infrastructure across European regions.

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EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS



COR
EUROPEAN COMMITEE OF THE REGIONS

The Metropolitan City of Milan maintains a connection with the European Committee of the Regions, the EU's assembly of local and regional representatives, based in Brussels. A representative of the Metropolitan City of Milan in a member of the Committee of the Regions, who provides a platform for local and regional authorities to contribute to European policymaking, ensuring that their perspectives and priorities are taken into account in EU decisions.

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EUROPEAN MEMBERSHIPS

EMA

THE EUROPEAN METROPOLITAN AUTHORITIES

The European Metropolitan Authorities is a European network bringing together major metropolitan areas to exchange knowledge, share best practices and strengthen cooperation on common urban and metropolitan challenges.
It provides a platform for dialogue on metropolitan governance, sustainable development and the future of European cities.

Through its participation in EMA, the Metropolitan City of Milan contributes to European collaboration among metropolitan authorities, promoting the exchange of experiences and the development of shared approaches to more sustainable, inclusive and innovative metropolitan territories.

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EUROPEAN MEMBERSHIPS

METREX

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF METROPOLITAN REGIONS AND AREAS

The Metropolitan City of Milan is an active member of METREX, which promotes the exchange of knowledge and best practices in spatial planning, sustainable mobility, innovation, and urban development.
Through this network, it contributes to European cooperation and the development of shared strategies to address metropolitan challenges.

A representative of the Metropolitan City of Milan currently serves as President pro tempore of METREX, highlighting the City's commitment to European collaboration and metropolitan governance.

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EUROPEAN MEMBERSHIPS

LOCAL AND REGIONAL TIME NETWORK

The Metropolitan City of Milan is a member of the Local and Regional Governments Time Network, an international network established in Barcelona in 2008 that brings together municipalities, metropolitan areas and regions committed to promoting and developing time policies.

The network encourages the exchange of experiences and best practices, recognising time as a right of citizenship and aiming to improve quality of life by promoting a fairer balance between work, care, private life, mobility and social participation. Through its involvement in the network, the Metropolitan City of Milan contributes to the development of innovative and sustainable policies that help reduce inequalities and respond to citizens' everyday needs.

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10 YEARS HIGHLIGHTS

2016 - 2026

- 27 European projects developed
- Around €25 million in funding mobilized
- 70% Partner | 30% Leader

SWARE
2016 – 2020

MEANING
2016 - 2018

ESMARTCITY
2018 - 2020

LIFE METRO ADAPT
2018 - 2021

SEAV
2018 - 2022

LUIGI
2019 - 2022

IMAGINE
2020 - 2021

CAMELOT
2020 - 2022

TIME4ALL
2022 – 2024

WATER4ALL
2023 – 2025

AWARD
2024 – 2027

SPUR
2024 – 2026

TIME4ALL 2.0
2025 – 2026

MICAD
2025 – 2028

RELOAD
FROM 2026

TIME4ALL 3.0
2027 - 2028

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

IF YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
OUR PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES
VISIT OUR WEBSITE

WWW.CITTAMETROPOLITANA.MI.IT

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