

COST Action CA18126

*writinG urban places*

**COST core group**

27.11.2020

Klaske, Carlos, Jorge, Sonja, Angeliki, Marcel, Susana, Lorin, Kinga, Luis

**1. Announcements**

-Update website – all most all the bio's are complete

-please send the bio's and photo's per group by wetransfer to Jorge

-Official confirmation that the official grant period is extended. More space to plan meetings (Porto – April or later, and Tallinn – prefer to be moved to early summer)

**2. Post-webinar outcome: participation certificates, minutes and pdf book (WG2)**

Very happy how it went! It was wonderful and very interesting.

Report is finished – will be send to Klaske for final check.

52 participants

Nice gender balance

Three very interesting sessions

Program was good 😊

Next step. After the report, we start the pdf document

- Report: general Process webinar

- PDF booklet: Content of presentations and discussions

Planned to finish the booklet in January or February

By Monday we already will receive some material from the keynote speakers.

Recordings will be placed on blackboard [website]

Booklet for output. [website]

Action points:

-Willie and Salma produce the participant certificated for the participants of the 17/11 webinar

-Sonja and Angeliki will send the general report (general outline of the meeting, participants, balance gender/young researchers, ITC participants) to be uploaded to e-cost and to the Writing Urban Places website

-Sonja and Angeliki, with Willie and Klaske will compile the pdf book with the content of the webinar.

### 3. Next webinars: fix dates and preliminary programme (WG4 January, WG3 February)

#### WG4

Luis shares the current state of affairs:

The next webinar will focus on the discussing the projects, and therefore will have a different set-up from WG2 webinar. Possible to 1 or 2 days in which we discuss all the work among the CORE group. The suggested format is to have round tables with 3-4 project presentations and focused responses on the basis of the project material. Intended outcome of the webinar: webinar report; further development of the projects toward the exhibition

A bit worried about the input from WG members– the material from the second call for projects will be received on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December. But some participants already mentioned that this time-frame will be difficult for them. There are 15 projects. 12 accepted and from 3 really more information is needed.

Some confusion about the possible exhibitions.

- one online and
- one in Porto.

Will all the projects be presented? Yet, we first need to check the material received on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Comment by Klaske:

preliminary structure for the webinar could already be made. How the 15 projects will be divided in sessions and how the respondents from other working groups will be divided. A trajectory can already be set.

Ideally the projects discussed in the sessions will be placed in the exhibition in a more elaborate form.

From every working group an element in the discussions.

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the members page ('blackboard') of the website can be used to upload and share preparatory material for the website

Action points:

-*Luis and Slobodan* will propose a date for the 2nd webinar in January in discussion with their active WG4 members, and send the proposal to the core group early next week.

-When the date is set, *the group leaders* of the other working groups will inquire which WG members would be available to act as respondents in the webinar

-After Dec 10<sup>th</sup> (when projects are submitted) *Luis and Slobodan* will share a preliminary structure for the meeting.

-Willie and Salma can assist with the practical organisation of the webinar.

#### WG3

Lorin explains the ideas of WG3 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> webinar:

Use the webinar also a tool to develop a link between practice and theory > how to extract methods from the theory and put into practice. Could be easily done as we reflect on the webinar by wg4's projects.

Aim: With suggestions, critical responses on real situations. The webinar will be intended to bring the different working groups together and specifically to discuss methodology in relation to the projects and theory, with the aim to come to a reflexive methodology that relates to practice and

that can bring forward strategies and public policy on mid-size cities in Europe. Possible academic output of the webinar: a shared paper on this methodological position of the network

Lorin and Carlos set projects and through these reached out to active members to establish two "task forces":

- Strategy of the webinar
- To the repository of methods

Comment Carlos:

Doubt for the role of respondents in the webinar: when we ask people to respond on the spot people can propose their own projects which is not connected to the overall project.

Comments **Angeliki, Sonja**

Maybe we can already ask within the groups who is willing and has time to work and respond on the webinar.

In the end you create a session with the content you have gathered. It is maybe not such a problem that all the contributions are not so spot on.

It is important to set a structured briefing to the teams/projects in order to get valuable answers for the Action. The discussion will be within the network because it will set the field work for the second part of the COST action.

Action points:

- Lorin and Carlos will propose a date for the 3rd webinar in February in discussion with their active WG3 members.
- Other group leader will ask for respondents within their groups

#### **Dates webinars**

Wg 4: The next core meeting – we have a structure and a date > beginning next week we propose a date in the last week of January. Maybe we need more than one day.

Wg3: maybe last week February.

#### **4. More detailed planning grant period 2: deliverables and activities: looking ahead to Training school, Mid Term conference in Porto, journal issues, ITC grants... next steps.**

Porto – unfortunately, difficult to foresee. Wiser to postpone... probably May is better than April. So, into second half of May. Especially as the preparations should start 2 months before. Yet, we need to set a date already for the newsletter - 'save the date'

Conclusion: Porto meeting (MC meeting & mid term conference) will for now be scheduled 2nd half of May. As we would need at least two months to properly prepare, we will come back to this in January to see how the pandemic evolves and whether or not May is feasible for a physical meeting. If not, we have the possibility to postpone until September.

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Tallinn – was scheduled in March, but unfeasible. Especially important to be a physical meeting as this is a training for researchers- it is important to meet in real life and share experiences.

Thus, the training school in Tallinn will be postponed until early summer (June 2021)

#### **ITC conference grants**

-Marcel shares that finally some relevant applications have been made. There are 2 participants who fit in the scope of the Action. Marcel did all what was needed to put it in the system. Find the proposals in the e-costs. Please check e-cost as the core group should have received the applications to check.

-Marcel will update the call and send a reminder in January, as we would be able to support many more applications. There is no physical travel, so costs will be reduced. This means that we can even receive some more participants!

-Lorin will contact Marcel to discuss how researchers from Romania could apply

### **STSM**

-hoping that 'short term scientific missions' will be possible again this summer, we will launch a call early 2021

-Kinga will develop this call late January for STSM's in Summer-Autumn 2021

### **Other issues**

#### **Blog entries webpages:**

Jorge, Susana:

Maybe nice to think of another call to share experiences and to activate real membership beyond just being registered on a list... Ideas for new blog themes: 'writing urban places after covid-19'; projects in education.

COVID situation – (Susana)

Launch some discussions on the pandemic and our current projects. it would be good to activate the Action even if it is only through/on the website. Maybe now on the real urban environments rather than the 'homeworking-situation' . Susana will come with a proposal.

projects in education (Jorge)

Opening a window to open the discussion to our projects we are all involved in. what does a project relate to? What are common denominators in projects? How is this related to the students/education?

Susana and Jorge will formulate these calls.

**Calendar** on the website (Sonja, Jorge)

Calendar in the member's page. We should start filling it. WG activities could be listed here, call deadlines, and the upcoming webinar dates as soon as confirmed.

#### **Member page website**

At this moment everyone can enter the member's page. At the moment there is no data which need to be connected.

#### **Registration**

Susana, Angeliki, Sonja

Some members didn't register in e-cost. Remind new members to register through e-cost, otherwise they don't get all the information emails.

New members come through different channels. they need to be reminded to register in COST to be part of the official communication. Susana/Willie/Salma will reach out to those not yet registered in ecost

**Journal Issue WG3 / Writingplace**

- Most of the final drafts are received. Last editing round and then to proofreading.
- One interview with Alberto Perez-Gomez will be included.
- Early 2021 we will try to get it published so we can be present it before the wg3 webinar.

Next CORE meeting just after the 10 Dec deadline for projects: in the week of Dec 14?

Options: Monday 11:00 CET, Tuesday 16:00 CET, Friday 16:00 CET