D6.2 Liaison with other initiatives, Advisory Board

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URBANE

CIVITAS 2030
Sustainable and smart mobility for all

Project & Document Information

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Executive summary

URBANE (Upscaling Innovative Green Urban Logistics Solutions Through Multi-Actor Collaboration and PI-Inspired Last Mile Deliveries) is a Horizon Europe project that promoted more sustainable, efficient, and resilient last-mile urban logistics. URBANE project key goal was to develop and test innovative delivery solutions in **four Lighthouse Cities** (Helsinki, Bologna, Valladolid, Thessaloniki), two **Twinning Cities** (Barcelona, Karlsruhe) and promote their replication project's 6 **Follower Cities** across Europe.

A core component of URBANE's liaison and dissemination strategy has been the active engagement and clustering with other research and innovation initiatives. URBANE partners have proactively established connections with ongoing and completed projects, particularly within the urban logistics domain, to build on lessons learned, share best practices, and enhance the visibility and relevance of URBANE's work. Notably, URBANE has collaborated with sister projects such as **DECARBOMILE**, **GREEN-LOG DISCO,** and participated in the respective **urban logistics project cluster** alongside **LEAD**, **SENATOR**, and **ULaaDs**. Strong cooperation was also developed with the **CIVITAS initiative**, particularly through the **CIVITAS MUSE Coordination and Support Action**, ensuring alignment of activities and maximisation of synergies across initiatives addressing sustainable urban mobility. URBANE has also organised dissemination activities in collaboration with Physical Internet Related projects such as **Shift2Zero** and **IKIGAI**.

In addition, URBANE Tools, Living Labs results and other outputs have been communicated to relevant stakeholders' audiences through numerous European and international events including conferences (e.g. Transport Research Arena, Road Transport Research Conference etc.), workshops, seminars, information days (e.g., ALICE Logistics Innovation), and online formats such as webinars, e-trainings, and virtual meetings. Through these engagements, URBANE effectively disseminated project results, fostered stakeholder dialogue, and strengthened collaboration among cities, industry representatives, and policymakers, thereby contributing to an active ecosystem of knowledge and innovation uptake.

Moreover, a key liaison activity led by the URBANE project was the coordination of technical meetings with its sister projects to explore collaboration opportunities in the areas of data, digital tools, and services interoperability. These exchanges specifically examined potential synergies between the URBANE, DISCO, GREEN-LOG, and DECARBMILE tools, which among others included Data Spaces, Digital Twins, and simulation scenarios. As a result of these structured discussions lead by URBANE, the projects were able to identify and demonstrate concrete examples of interoperability between their digital infrastructure and solutions, validate their applicability across diverse use cases outside their projects, and highlight the added value of reusing and extending existing tools, models, and data-sharing mechanisms.

In parallel, the **Advisory Board (AB)** has played a crucial role in supporting URBANE's strategic direction and liaison efforts. Each AB meeting identified priority topics, included presentations from project partners, and gathered expert feedback that was channelled back to the consortium and reflected in project activities. The AB meeting has been held every 6 months online. At each AB meeting, specific topics of strategic relevance have been identified and discussed in depth. These meetings typically included presentations from project partners to showcase ongoing work, key results, and upcoming activities. The AB members have been invited to provide feedback, expert insights, and recommendations based on their experience and perspectives. The collected inputs are systematically summarised and shared with the project partners to inform ongoing tasks, improve deliverables, and strengthen the project's overall direction. This process ensured that the advice of the AB was effectively integrated into the project's work and contributed to its continuous improvement and alignment with broader policy, research, and innovation priorities.

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Form
AB	Advisory Board
ALICE	Alliance for Logistics Innovation through Collaboration in Europe
CERTH	Centre for Research and Technology Hellas
CINEA	European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency
CIVITAS	City-Vitality-Sustainability
DG MOVE	Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (European Commission)
DT	Digital Twin
EGUM	European Commission's Expert Group on Urban Mobility
EPA	European Parking Association
EITUM	European Institute for Technology and Urban Mobility
FIT	FIT Consulting
IPIC	International Physical Internet Conference
INLE	INLECOM
ITL	Institute for Transport and Logistics
ISO	International Standardisation Organisation
KoM	Kick Off Meeting
KLU	Kühne Logistics University
LL	Living Lab
LSP	Logistics Service Provider
NORCE	Norwegian Research Centre
PI	Physical Internet
POLIS	Network of Cities and Regions for Innovative Transport Solutions
RTR	Road Transport Research
SKEMA	SKEMA Business School
SULP	Sustainable Urban Logistics Plan
TRA	Transport Research Arena
UFDS	Urban Freight Data Space
UOC	Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
VLTN	VLTN Consulting
VUB	Vrije Universiteit Brussel

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1. Introduction

URBANE (Upscaling Innovative Green Urban Logistics Solutions Through Multi-Actor Collaboration and PI-Inspired Last Mile Deliveries) is a Horizon Europe project launched in September 2022, running until February 2026. Its mission has been to accelerate the transition towards more effective, resilient, safe, and sustainable last-mile urban logistics. URBANE achieves this by deploying and validating innovative green delivery solutions in diverse urban contexts, combining physical, digital, business, and social innovations.

Key elements of URBANE included:

- **Lighthouse Living Labs (Wave 1)** in four cities: Helsinki, Bologna, Valladolid, and Thessaloniki. These serve as testbeds for prototyping and demonstrating advanced last-mile logistics innovations.
- **Twinning Living Labs (Wave 2)** in two additional cities, Barcelona and Karlsruhe, to replicate and adapt successful solutions from the first wave.
- Engagement with **six early adopter "Follower Cities"**, which participate in feasibility studies to extend and scale up adoption of the project's innovations.

URBANE combined physical, digital, business, and social innovations, supported by digital tools such as:

- Digital twinning tools.
- Open models.
- Smart contracts governed by blockchain.
- A data-driven "Impact Assessment Radar".

The liaison activities carried out within the URBANE project aimed to ensure that the project not only develops innovative solutions in urban logistics but also maximises their relevance, visibility, and long-term impact. A primary objective has been to strengthen collaboration and create synergies with other EU-funded projects, research initiatives, and international organisations, thereby avoiding duplication of efforts and promoting complementarity. Special attention was given to synergies with sister projects such as DECARBOMILE, the CIVITAS initiative, and the wider urban logistics project cluster, including LEAD, SENATOR, ULaaDs, DISCO, UNCHAIN, Green-log.

Another key objective has been to enhance knowledge transfer and capacity building. The project fostered the development of a broad ecosystem of stakeholders, enabling the sharing of knowledge, tools, and best practices. This included facilitating exchanges between Lighthouse Cities, Twinning Cities, and Follower Cities to accelerate the replication and scaling up of successful solutions. Liaison activities also included participation in conferences, workshops, online trainings, and scientific publications to disseminate results effectively across multiple audiences.

URBANE's liaison efforts also aimed to support policy and standardisation dialogues. By engaging with policymakers and standardisation bodies, the project ensured that its results contribute to shaping regulatory frameworks and policy agendas in sustainable urban mobility and logistics. Evidence-based recommendations are provided to European and international stakeholders, including the European Commission's Expert Group on Urban Mobility (EGUM), C40 Cities, NetZeroCities, ISO Committees.

Increasing visibility and outreach formed another crucial objective. URBANE contributed to joint dissemination activities coordinated by CINEA, thereby strengthened its visibility within the Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020 community. The project positions itself as a reference initiative in sustainable urban logistics through strategic communication, clustering events, and international networking.

Finally, the liaison activities leveraged the expertise of the URBANE Advisory Board (AB), which comprised leading international experts and organisations in the field of urban logistics. The AB provided critical input that helped validate project outcomes, improve exploitation strategies, and guide adoption and replication activities, ensuring that URBANE's innovations have long-term relevance and impact.

1.1 URBANE Outputs Mapping to GA Commitments

This section maps URBANE's Grant Agreement commitments, both within the formal Deliverable and Task description, against the project's respective outputs and work performed.

TABLE 1 - ADHERENCE TO URBANE'S GA DELIVERABLE & TASKS DESCRIPTIONS

URBANE GA	GA Description	Del. Chapters	Justification
DELIVERABLE			
D6.2: Liaison with other initiatives, Advisory Board	Report for liaison activities/events including the results of the collaboration with the CIVITAS initiative.	*Chapter 2, 3 and 5*	The report presents the activities organised as part of the URBANE liaison strategy. These initiatives included hosting webinars, participating in conferences, and attending events organised by European Commission authorities.
TASK			
T6.2	T6.2 will develop an ecosystem of stakeholders around URBANE to maximise knowledge transfer. URANE will contribute, upon invitation by the CINEA, to common information and dissemination activities to increase the visibility and synergies between HE/H2020 supported actions.	*Chapter 2, 3 and 4*	Through participation in major Transport & Logistics and EC organised events, structured liaison within the CIVITAS Urban Logistics cluster, and active engagement of the AB, URBANE effectively built a stakeholder ecosystem, strengthened cross-project synergies, and maximised knowledge transfer.
ST6.2.1	Clustering and liaising with other initiatives and RDI projects. Project partners will build upon lessons learned from and establish synergies with past and ongoing projects, including other projects funded under this same topic, urban logistics initiatives, and platforms/networks. Cooperation	*Chapter 2*	Chapter 2.2 details the flagship events attended and actively supported by the project consortium. Key conferences include RTR 2025, RTR 2026, UMD 2025, and CIVITAS 2026. The project team also participated in Open Innovation Logistics Days, as

URBANE GA	GA Description	Del. Chapters	Justification
	will be established with the CIVITAS Coordination and Support Action CIVITAS ELEVATE as well as the sister project DECARBOMILE and the urban logistics cluster of projects (LEAD, SENATOR and ULaaDs). URBANE will participate in events, such as conferences, meetings, workshops, seminars, info days etc. Online activities (webinars, surveys, e-trainings, web-meetings) will be encouraged. The subtask also supports the URBANE-related outreach activities on an international scale.		well as high-profile international conferences such as TRA and IPIC. Through these events, URBANE effectively engaged targeted audiences and key last-mile logistics stakeholders. Chapter 2.3 presents URBANE's liaison activities with sister projects and the CIVITAS Urban Logistics cluster. These coordinated efforts enhanced synergies, ensured alignment of objectives, and facilitated the transfer of innovative solutions across projects.
ST6.2.2	Advisory Board (AB). The direct cooperation among relevant actors at an international level will create a sustainable meta-cluster that will promote knowledge transfer. For this purpose, consortium members will invite AB members from International Organisations and Associations, also including a representative from the CIVITAS initiative. AB members will participate in the exploitation and innovation activities by providing input towards adoption and take-up actions. The interactions with the AB are expected to be threefold: (1) in the form of communicating best practices from different member states and countries), (2) in the form of technical and strategic meetings to discuss standardisation matters and use cases, and (3) in the form of presentation of main results validation from the LLs.	*Chapter 3*	Chapter 3 introduces the Advisory Board and its members, who possess extensive, long-term expertise in urban and last-mile logistics. This chapter outlines all structured AB meetings and highlights the critical discussions and strategic feedback provided. The AB's contributions played a pivotal role in guiding the project's development, strengthening its strategic direction, and ensuring the relevance and robustness of its technical and operational outcomes.

1.2 Purpose of this report

The purpose of this deliverable is to summarise all liaison activities carried out within the URBANE project, including engagement with relevant projects, organisations, platforms, and initiatives, as well as the outcomes and estimated impacts of these activities. The report also provides a detailed account of the AB of URBANE, highlighting its composition of key experts in the urban logistics field and their active involvement in guiding and supporting the consortium.

This document corresponds to Task 6.2 – Liaison with Other Initiatives and Advisory Board (M1–M42), led by ALICE with contributions from INLE, EITUM, ITL, and POLIS. The overall objective of Task 6.2 was to develop an ecosystem of stakeholders around URBANE to maximise knowledge transfer, synergies, and the long-term impact of project results. In this context, URBANE also contributed to common information and dissemination activities coordinated by the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA), thereby strengthening visibility and fostering cooperation with other Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020 actions.

The report reflects the implementation of two core subtasks:

- ST6.2.1 – Clustering and Liaising with Other Initiatives and RDI Projects: Activities under this subtask focus on building synergies with past and ongoing EU-funded projects (e.g. LEAD, SENATOR, ULaaDs, DECARBOMILE), initiatives such as CIVITAS ELEVATE, and international organisations. Liaison activities include participation in conferences, workshops, info days, and online events, as well as contributions through scientific publications and policy dialogues.
- ST6.2.2 – Advisory Board: This subtask establishes direct cooperation with international organisations and associations through the URBANE Advisory Board. Members contribute expertise by sharing best practices, participating in strategic and technical discussions, and validating project results. Their involvement helps ensure relevance, replicability, and uptake of URBANE's outcomes in wider urban logistics and mobility contexts.

Overall, this deliverable aims to document the scope, outcomes, and added value of URBANE's liaison activities in fostering collaboration, strengthening knowledge transfer, and supporting the long-term adoption of sustainable and innovative urban logistics solutions. Last, the Appendix provides the agendas and list of speakers across key organised events.

2. URBANE Liaison Activities

2.1 Summary of activities

A core part of URBANE's liaison efforts has been clustering and liaising with other research and innovation projects. Project partners actively established connections with ongoing and past initiatives, particularly within the urban logistics domain, building on lessons learned and sharing best practices. This included engagement with sister projects such as DECARBOMILE, as well as participation in the urban logistics project cluster comprising LEAD, SENATOR, and ULaaDs. Strong cooperation was also developed with the CIVITAS initiative, notably the CIVITAS MUSE Coordination and Support Action, to align project activities and maximise synergies. In addition, URBANE also collaborated with PI related projects such as DISCO, IKIGAI and Shfit2Zero projects for technical development.

Key activities included:

- **Conferences:** Engaged in conferences' sessions and exhibitions with other ongoing projects to exchange updates, align activities, and identify areas for collaboration.
- **Technical Coordination and Collaboration**: coordination meetings with other ongoing projects to foster technical collaboration on use of data, co-development of digital tools.
- **Collaborative Events**: Co-hosted and contributed to joint workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns to enhance outreach and promote shared objectives.
- **Joint Training and Knowledge Exchange:** Participated in and co-organised online training sessions and e-learning activities with partner initiatives to build technical capacity and promote cross-project learning.
- **Joint demonstration:** partnered with the DISCO project to integrate Physical Internet (PI)-inspired last-mile logistics, focusing on data sharing, digitisation, and co-creation in Thessaloniki and Helsinki.

The following chapters present these activities in detail. They provide specific meeting details, agendas, and speakers or participants from the URBANE project. Furthermore, they outline how URBANE contributed to key events and conferences, while highlighting their relevance to the project.

2.2 Conference participation

2.2.1 Transport Research Arena 2024, Dublin

In April 2024, the URBANE project participated in TRA2024 in Dublin. A featured special session, **"Innovation in Urban Logistics: Public and Private Sectors Thriving Together,"** took place on 16 April and brought together representatives from projects such as URBANE, DISCO [1], SENATOR [2], UNCHAIN [3], DECARBOMILE[4], GREEN-LOG[5], and LEAD[6]. The session was moderated by Octavia Stepan (CINEA) and included presentations from project coordinators and urban-mobility experts. Detailed description of the session is shown in Appendix A.

FIGURE 1 - THE OPEN SLIDE OF THE SESSION

Key messages emerging from the session included:

- The transformative potential of innovation in urban logistics to advance sustainability and mobility goals.
- The essential role of **public–private collaboration** in scaling and integrating logistics solutions in cities.
- An increased focus on **light logistics vehicles** and cargo bikes, and the need for strategically located **micro-hubs** and lockers in dense urban cores.
- The challenge of optimising urban space use to host logistics infrastructure (e.g. micro-hubs) in city centres.

[1] https://discoprojecteu.com/
[2] https://www.senatorproject.eu/project/
[3] www.unchainproject.eu/
[4] www.decarbomile.eu/
[5] http://www.greenlog-project.eu/
[6] https://www.leadproject.eu/

By engaging in this forum, our project gained exposure to parallel initiatives, strengthened its network within the urban logistics research community, and gleaned valuable insights for future planning of infrastructure, collaboration, and innovation pathways.

FIGURE 2 - GROUP PHOTO OF MODERATOR, SPEAKERS AND ORGANISERS OF THE SESSION

The URBANE project also jointed the ALICE exhibition area named 'Logistics Innovation Village'' that gathered all key research and innovation projects on urban logistics. Discussions, knowledge exchanges and collaboration have been facilitated through the joint stand.

FIGURE 3 - PHOTO OF PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS AT THE ALICE STAND

2.2.2 Road Transport Research (RTR) Conference

The Road Transport Research Conference is a leading annual European event dedicated to showcasing the achievements of EU-funded research and innovation projects in the road transport sector. It serves as a central platform for initiatives funded under programmes such as Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe, attracting policymakers, industry leaders, researchers, and city representatives from across Europe.

The primary objective of the RTR Conference is to present project results, expected impacts, and future research priorities. The agenda addresses key themes including green vehicles, urban mobility, logistics, intelligent transport systems, road safety, automated transport, and battery technologies.

The URBANE project participated in the RTR Conferences in 2025 and 2026 to disseminate its key findings on sustainable urban logistics. At the 2025 conference, representatives from Kühne Logistics University (KLU) presented the project's impact assessments across the demonstrations of new last mile logistic deliveries undertaken in its four Wave 1 Living Labs. The presentation highlighted both physical interventions and digital innovations. In more detail key highlights included:

- Pilot results from Bologna, Helsinki, Valladolid, and Thessaloniki, demonstrating significant CO_2 reductions, fewer delivery vehicles, improved first-attempt delivery rates, and reduced operational costs. The presentation also introduced URBANE's digital ecosystem, including URBANE Digital Twin, blockchain and smart contract services as well as the Impact assessment Radar, framed under project's Innovation Transferability Platform, all designed to support data-driven decision-making and scalable replication in other cities.
- Participation in panel discussions alongside projects such as GREEN-LOG, DISCO, DECARBOMILE, and UNCHAIN, addressing the challenges of integrating digital platforms, micro-hubs, and cargo bikes into urban delivery systems.

Building on these results, URBANE delivered a presentation at the 2026 RTR Conference titled "New delivery methods and business/operating models to green the last mile," presented by the project coordinator, INLECOM. The presentation highlighted the main project achievements and further explored how Physical Internet principles, digital twinning, and shared urban logistics models can accelerate the adoption of sustainable last-mile solutions. It also detailed successful physical interventions, including collaborative micro-hubs and automated delivery vehicles, alongside key digital innovations embedded in the Innovation Transferability Platform. The presentation also referred to examples related to last-mile delivery with ADVs, collaborative delivery between last milers, and last-mile delivery with e-bikes, mentioned the three project patents and mid-long impact indicators.

A central element of the 2026 presentation was "Liaison in Practice," which emphasized hands-on cross-project collaboration and active networking. Through engagement with sister projects such as DISCO and GREEN-LOG, URBANE promoted technical integration, shared learning, and interoperability.

In conclusion, participation in the RTR Conferences strengthened URBANE's visibility and provided valuable networking opportunities with European institutions, transport researchers, funding agencies, and city stakeholders, opening pathways for collaboration in upcoming calls and initiatives.

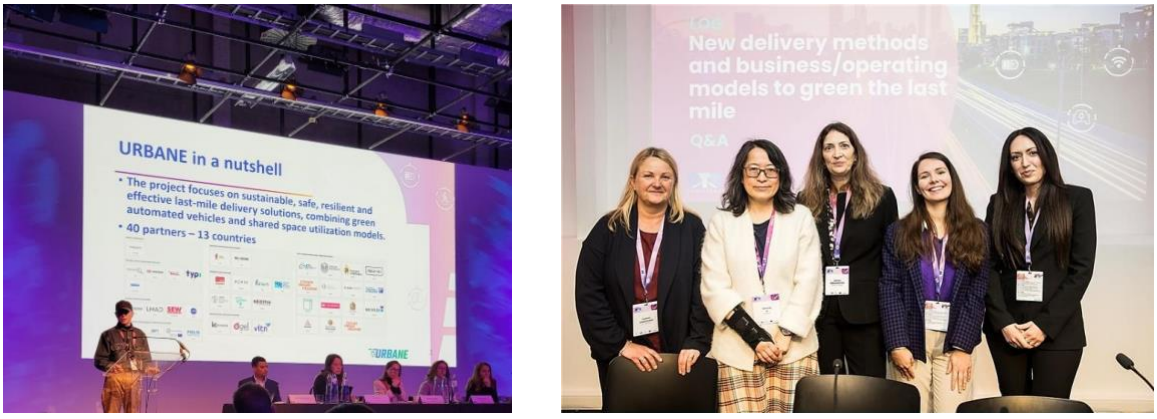

FIGURE 4 - URBANE PROJECT REPRESENTATION AT THE ROAD TRANSPORT RESEARCH CONFERENCE, FEATURING THE SPEAKER FROM KLU IN 2025 (LEFT) AND THE SPEAKER FROM INLE ALONGSIDE THE PROJECT GROUP IN 2026 (RIGHT).

2.3 URBANE technical coordination and liaison with sister projects and other initiatives

URBANE's liaison activities focused on fostering strong synergies with CIVITAS Urban Logistics projects around the digital and technical level of the different tools and assets each project developed. As detailed in the following chapters, URBANE worked closely with its sister projects, DISCO, GREEN-LOG, and DECARBOMILE demonstrating secure and trusted data sharing and reuse among project and UCs, alignment on design and interoperability issues, and coordinated use of tools. Overall, the joint activities, proofs of concept, and technical knowledge exchange described below have strengthened cross-project innovation and facilitated the replication and adoption of sustainable urban logistics solutions.

2.3.1 Technical Collaboration with the DISCO project

DISCO is a Horizon 2020 project with a central focus on urban freight management integrated with city planning, following a Physical Internet (PI) approach. In essence, the DISCO project demonstrates the benefits of data sharing and digitisation for more efficient planning and operations across eight European cities. DISCO is particularly relevant to URBANE due to their strong alignment in objectives, including the design and testing of PI-inspired last-mile logistics solutions and the promotion of collaboration between cities and logistics stakeholders to support sustainable and cooperative urban logistics processes.

The two projects have collaborated at multiple levels, particularly through their Living Labs, co-creation activities, and use case (UC) implementation, most notably in Thessaloniki and Helsinki, where both initiatives operated Living Labs. This collaboration extended beyond stakeholder engagement and pilot activities to include an in-depth exploration of the digital and technical components developed within each project.

A key achievement of DISCO is the development of the Urban Freight Data Space (UFDS), which enables secure, trusted, and interoperable data sharing among partners. In parallel, URBANE has developed an Innovation Transferability Platform incorporating a DT framework and a library of optimisation models designed to improve last-mile logistics operations. Following a series of cross-project technical presentations and workshops aimed at familiarising partners and development teams with each project's tools, capabilities, and use cases, a shared interest emerged in exploring potential synergies between the DISCO UFDS and the URBANE Digital Twinning platform.

An important area of joint exploration and discussions has been the reuse and exploitation of logistics data exchanged across cities and use cases in different operational contexts. For example, this could enable URBANE's digital twin applications to leverage real-time information made available through the DISCO Data Space in a secure and data-sovereign manner. In addition, by aligning their architectures and toolsets, the two initiatives have actively contributed to the establishment of a harmonised digital ecosystem for urban logistics in Europe.

This workstream resulted in a technical architecture integrating the two tools as displayed in Figure 5. The figure illustrates a high level overview of how last-mile delivery data originating within a data provider's network are securely shared through the DISCO Data Space to URBANE's CitIQore application, enabling digital twin services and optimisation applications to operate on interoperable, secure, and data-sovereign information flows.

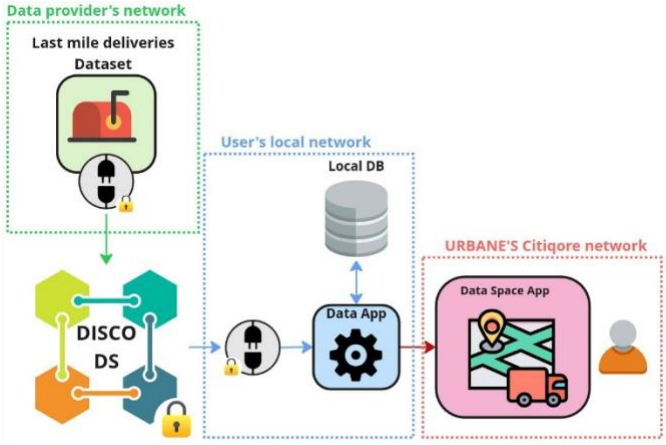

FIGURE 5 - CONCEPTUAL INTEGRATION OF THE DISCO URBAN FREIGHT DATA SPACE WITH URBANE'S DIGITAL TWIN ENVIRONMENT

Following this strategic alignment, the respective technical development teams from both projects worked closely to translate the conceptual design into operational solutions. In addition, through coordinated technical implementation and iterative development, the three use cases were materialised as Data Space-enabled applications, combining assets and components from both initiatives. These applications combine assets from both projects and serve as demonstrators of cross-project collaboration and technical integration. Specifically, they include:

- **Delivery-to-Customer-Address Synthetic Data Generator**, which produces realistic and privacy-compliant delivery datasets for simulation purposes by leveraging data from the UFDS catalogue together with assets from the URBANE Digital Twin model library.
- **Shareable Lockers Simulator**, which models the operation of shared parcel lockers to evaluate their efficiency, utilisation rates, and accessibility within urban environments.
- **Optimal Locker Number Simulator**, which determines the optimal distribution and number of parcel lockers based on demand patterns and key logistical parameters.

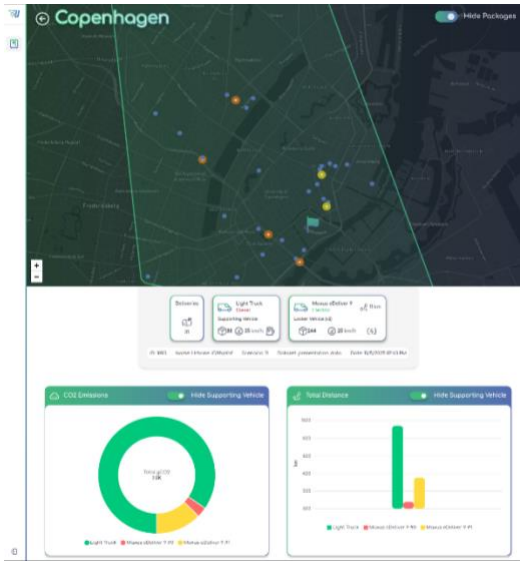

FIGURE 6 - CITIQORE SIMULATION RESULTS USING DISCO DATA SPACE DATASETS

Figure 6 shows the aforementioned actual implementation were CitIQore interface visualises last-mile delivery operations on a city map (in this example, Copenhagen), displaying delivery points, vehicle routes, and locker locations, utilising DISCO Data Space available data sets. More details on the integration of DISCO Urban Freight Data Space with URBANE CirIQore Digital Twin Application for running last mile logistics simulation scenarios can be viewed in this VIDEO.

Concluding, the collaboration among projects represents an emerging domain with significant potential. Data Spaces can provide structured, reliable, and interoperable data streams that Digital Twins require to enhance their accuracy, realism, and predictive capabilities. Potential further exploration can include the analytics, simulations, and insights generated by Digital Twins can feed back into the Data Space ecosystem, enriching the shared data pool and supporting improved decision-making across cities, logistics operators, and public authorities.

2.3.2 Technical Collaboration with the GREEN-LOG project

GREEN-LOG is the ''sister'' project, funded under the same thematic, testing and implementing solutions such as logistics-as-a-Service platform, automated delivery concepts, cargo bike innovations, and multimodal parcel systems—creating scalable, future-ready last-mile delivery ecosystems. URBANE as part of the liaison activities also collaborated at a technical level with the GREEN-LOG project. In more detail, the collaboration between GREEN-LOG and URBANE provided a valuable opportunity to demonstrate interoperability between independent data spaces, achieved through a federated approach.

First, a test environment was setup. The use of the Sovity Connector[7] enabled the application of the federation plugin developed in the DISCO project, allowing the establishment of a federation between two test Data Space Environments (Frontier's Data Space and INLECOM's Datacore). Through this federation, Inlecom's connector was able to securely discover, access, and exchange data with Frontier's connector, despite the fact that the two connectors were operating in different data spaces. This demonstrated the effectiveness of the federated architecture in bridging otherwise isolated data spaces and enabling seamless interoperability.

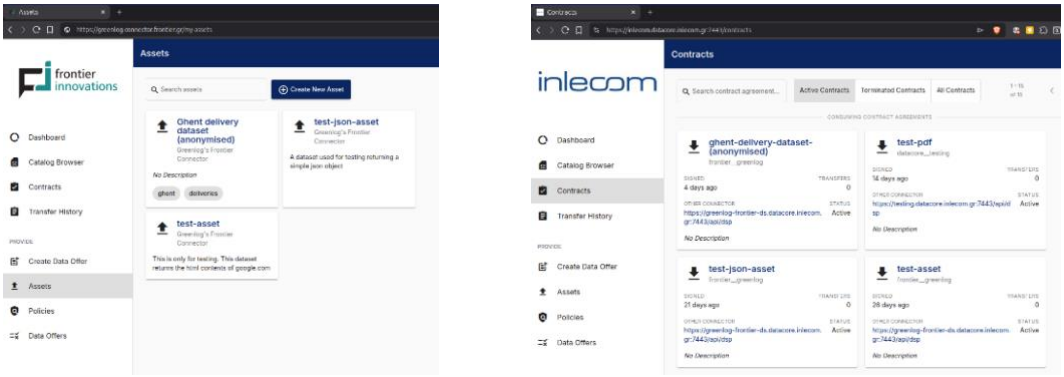

FIGURE 7 - SCREENSHOTS FROM FEDERATED DATA SPACE AMONG PROJECTS

At a second stage, the GREEN-LOG project contributed a real-world logistics dataset from the city of Ghent, via its LaaS platform. The dataset comprised approximately 300 delivery records, with the final delivery destinations anonymised to ensure compliance with privacy and data protection requirements. This dataset was made available through GREEN-LOG's Sovity Connector and published within Frontier's Data Space, enabling controlled and policy-compliant data sharing.

[7] ttps://ceur-ws.org/Vol-4007/08short.pdf

Building on the aforementioned Data Spaces federation, the CitIQore platform, connected with Datacore through Inlecom's connector, could access the shared delivery dataset and use it as input in its Optimal Locker Number Simulator. This tool was used to analyse the potential impact of transitioning from a traditional door-to-door delivery model to a hybrid delivery approach combining parcel lockers and home deliveries. Specifically, the analysis examined scenarios in which customers located near parcel lockers would receive their deliveries through lockers, while the remaining customers would continue receiving deliveries at their doorstep. The results of this process demonstrated how federated data sharing can directly support advanced analytics and decision-making tools, enabling stakeholders to evaluate alternative logistics strategies and optimise last-mile delivery operations

FIGURE 8 - SCREENSHOT ILLUSTRATING THE APPLICATION OF A DATASET FROM THE FEDERATED DATA SPACE WITHIN A DIGITAL TWIN SIMULATION ENVIRONMENT

2.3.3 Collaboration with the DECARBOMILE project

DECARBOMILE ensures the economic sustainability and scalability of urban logistics by developing socially integrated business models. These solutions are validated across four Living Labs and four Satellite cities to ensure they are adapted to local contexts, supported by a qualified workforce, and ready for replication throughout Europe. URBANE and DECARBOMILE engaged in a series of technical meetings to explore the potential integration of their respective infrastructures and to assess the feasibility of enabling CitIQqore to operate through DECARBOMILE's data space. In this context, DECARBOMILE provided technical guidance on the deployment and operation of their data space connector, the FIWARE Data Space Connector (FDC), and on how external applications such as CitIQore could interact with it.

However, as CitIQore had been originally developed to operate with the Eclipse Data Space Connector (EDC), specifically the Sovity Connector, integration with FDC was not straightforward and would have required additional development effort to ensure compatibility. Given the limited time remaining in the project, it was decided that pursuing a full integration would not allow sufficient time for proper implementation and validation. Instead, the focus shifted to defining a clear path towards enabling this integration in future activities.

This experience highlighted the importance of aligning developments with widely adopted and open technologies. The EDC Connector, which is fully open-source and distributed under the Apache 2.0 licence, is a key component of the European data space ecosystem and part of the Simpl middleware initiative supporting interoperability among Common European Data Spaces. Aligning CitIQore more closely with standard EDC interfaces is therefore expected to facilitate future integrations.

At the same time, progress towards technological convergence is already underway. FDC has recently introduced support for interoperability with EDC-based connectors and the Data Space Protocol,

demonstrating a shared commitment to compatibility. These developments provide a strong foundation and a clear path forward for achieving full integration in future projects.

2.3.4 URBANE Liaison and Knowledge Exchange within the CIVITAS Ecosystem

The URBANE project implemented a comprehensive set of liaison, knowledge-sharing, and dissemination activities. These efforts ensured the visibility of project results, supported knowledge transfer, and fostered collaboration with other European initiatives and stakeholders in sustainable urban logistics. A key component of this approach was URBANE's engagement with the CIVITAS Initiative and the CIVITAS Urban Freight and Logistics Cluster.

FIGURE 9 - CIVITAS PROJECTS AND DIFFERENT CLUSTER THEMATICS

URBANE actively participated in the Cluster's periodic meetings, which brought together EU-funded projects addressing decarbonisation, digitalisation, and innovation in urban freight. Knowledge exchange occurred through thematic discussions, facilitating mutual learning and alignment across projects. Key thematic priorities included micro-consolidation centres, zero-emission vehicles, automated delivery, freight–passenger integration, and data-sharing governance.

In addition, the management team contributed to CIVITAS monitoring surveys, providing data on Living Lab activities, pilot developments, and lessons learned. These updates are available on the CIVITAS website under the "CIVITAS Projects: Highlights over the last six months" section. Furthermore, URBANE's key developments, milestones, and use-case results were regularly promoted through project and CIVITAS communication and monitoring channels. Throughout the project lifecycle, URBANE's progress was further communicated via CIVITAS website and communications means. These updates highlighted pilot activities, innovation testing, governance insights, and capacity-building actions, ensuring sustained visibility among European cities, practitioners, policymakers, and peer projects, while reinforcing alignment with broader European objectives for low-emission urban mobility and logistics.

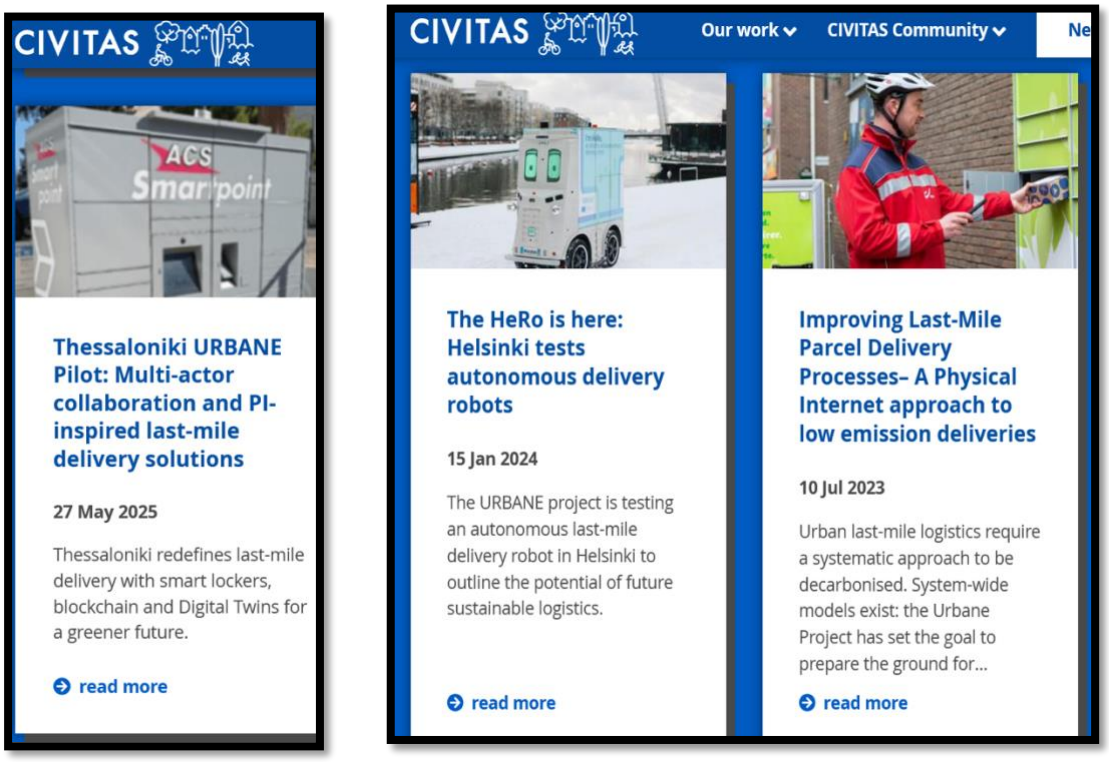

FIGURE 10 - EXAMPLES OF CIVITAS NEWS AND ARTICLES FEATURING URBANE PROJECT ACTIVITIES

From October 1–3, 2024, URBANE participated in the CIVITAS Forum in Parma, Italy—the flagship event for sustainable urban mobility in Europe. Under the theme "Join the Mobility Renaissance," the Forum gathered approximately 600 delegates, including city representatives, policymakers, and industry leaders. URBANE hosted a dedicated exhibition booth within the Urban Logistics Thematic Corner to disseminate results and engage stakeholders on governance models and replication potential.

FIGURE 11 - URBANE STAND AT CIVITAS FORUM 2024 PARMA

In addition, a workshop “Leading the Way: Transferring Last-Mile Logistics Innovations and Models from One European City to Another” took place during the CIVITAS Forum 2024 in Parma. It was co-organised by with CIVITAS and goal was a peer-to-peer exchange space for cities and regions leading the transition to more sustainable last-mile freight systems for the participants of the conference. The workshop

responded to growing pressures from e-commerce and rapid delivery services, which contribute to urban congestion, inefficient public space use, noise and air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions. Structured presentations and discussions highlighted city-level innovation and transferability, featuring insights from three European cities deeply involved in Horizon projects: Bologna (URBANE and MOVE21), Hamburg (DECARBOMILE, MOVE21) and Thessaloniki (URBANE, DISCO). The workshop served as a forum for dialogue among local authorities, practitioners and logistics stakeholders on innovative practices, recurring challenges and policy recommendations for advancing sustainable urban logistics across Europe.

FIGURE 12 - URBANE–CIVITAS CO-ORGANISED WORKSHOP8

Finally, through the CIVITAS Educational Network, URBANE shared high-level updates on its Living Lab experiences and integrated key findings into broader capacity-building frameworks. In parallel, URBANE is collaborating with CIVITAS on the development of comprehensive Policy Recommendations, scheduled for submission to the European Commission in May 2026. This process has already included a dedicated workshop with the cluster projects and a series of expert interviews, ensuring that URBANE's evidence-based insights were placed at the center of the emerging policy framework.


CIVITAS
Sustainable and smart mobility for all
2030

CIVITAS EDUCATIONAL NETWORK

Agenda

CIVITAS Educational Network Meeting

MS Teams

Date: Thursday 16 January 2025 (9:00 – 10:30)

Time	Agenda
9:00 – 9:05	Welcome and Agenda setting *Nina Nesterova (BUas), Chair CIVITAS Educational Network*
9:05 – 9:50	URBANE, GREEN-LOG and DECARBOMILE presentation and discussion of cooperation opportunities with CIVITAS Educational Network *Ioanna Fergadiotou and John Limaxis* (URBANE Project) *Clarissa Reali* (DECARBOMILE project)
9:50 – 10:05	Presentation Transport/Mobility Education at the University of the West of England (UWE) *Justin Spinney, Centre for Transport and Society*
10:05 – 10:15	Update Activities of the Educational Network *Don Guikink (BUas), CIVITAS Educational Network*
10:15 – 10:25	Future development of the Educational Network *Don Guikink (BUas), CIVITAS Educational Network*
10:25 – 10:30	Any Other Business and closure

FIGURE 13 - AGENDA OF THE CIVITAS EDUCATIONAL NETWORK MEETING (JANUARY 2025)

[8] https://civitas.eu/resources/workshop-agenda-transferring-last-mile-logistics-innovations-and-models-from-one-european

In conclusion, URBANE's multifaceted collaboration within the CIVITAS Initiative has strengthened its capacity-building efforts and extended the project's reach. Through active participation in clusters, the organisation of key events, and contributions to educational activities, URBANE supported practical knowledge exchange and peer learning across countries. This approach helped share validated solutions and encouraged the broader uptake of sustainable urban logistics models across the European network.

2.3.5 URBANE Liaison and Knowledge Exchange within the EIT Urban Mobility Special Interest Group (SIG) on Urban Logistics

On 19 December 2025, the URBANE project participated in the Special Interest Group (SIG) on Urban Logistics organised by EIT. These periodic meetings serve as a dynamic forum for cross-sector collaboration, bringing together a diverse ecosystem of stakeholders engaged in sustainable urban mobility and freight. During the session, URBANE presented its key results, innovative solutions, and practical tools developed within the project, highlighting those that remain available for uptake and use beyond the project's lifetime. The meeting gathered approximately 20–30 participants, representing a balanced mix of city authorities, industry representatives, and academic institutions. This "triple helix" composition enabled a comprehensive exchange of perspectives and fostered constructive dialogue on current challenges and future directions for sustainable urban freight.

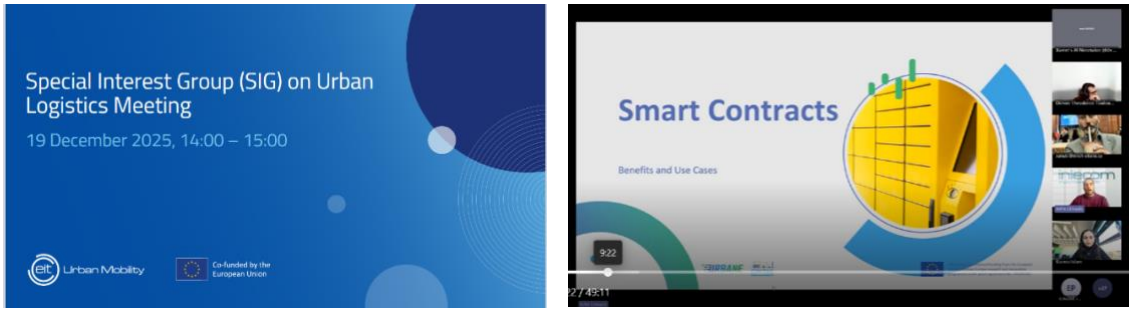

FIGURE 14 - URBANE PRESENTATION AT THE EIT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP ON URBAN LOGISTICS SCREENSHOT

2.3.6 Collaboration with the DISCO and ACUMENT projects (Helsinki Living Lab)

The URBANE project has collaborated closely with the DISCO and ACUMENT[9] projects to advance the development and application of the Helsinki Living Lab. A series of coordination meetings among the 3 project teams have been organised. All three projects maintain extensive urban mobility data and cover different areas of the city, and through this collaboration, they have enabled data sharing and interoperability across platforms.

This exchange has produced concrete results:

- Integrated Data Ecosystem: Each project's data is now accessible to the others, supporting more comprehensive analysis and modelling of urban logistics operations.
- Enhanced Digital Tools: ACUMENT and URBANE's digital twin frameworks have served as a foundation for joint tool development, facilitating scenario testing, simulation, and decision support for freight operations.

[9] https://acumen-project.eu/

- Collaborative Insights: The combined datasets and shared analytical approaches have allowed for improved understanding of city logistics patterns, supporting evidence-based recommendations for policy and operational improvements in Helsinki.

By leveraging shared data and complementary technical approaches, the collaboration has created a cohesive and scalable digital environment for urban mobility experimentation, directly enhancing the impact and usability of the Helsinki Living Lab.

2.4 Collaborative events

URBANE actively participated in a range of collaborative events, both in-person and online webinars, fostering knowledge exchange and partnerships across the urban logistics community. These events were organised jointly with other EU projects, research initiatives, city authorities, and industry stakeholders, creating opportunities for cross-project learning and co-development of solutions.

2.4.1 Participation in Urban Logistics Innovation Day 2023, 2024 & 2025

URBANE actively participated in both editions of the Urban Logistics Innovation Day, a key collaborative platform for EU urban logistics projects and stakeholders:

- First Edition (27 September 2023, Brussels): Held as the final event of the EU-funded LEAD project, the first edition brought together over 100 participants from across Europe. The event provided a forum for cities, industry, and research projects to exchange experiences, discuss innovative technologies, and explore collaborative solutions for sustainable urban logistics. The agenda is shown in Appendix C.
- Second Edition (4 June 2024, Brussels): Co-organised by POLIS and ALICE, the second edition focused on bringing together forward-thinking cities and private sector representatives. The in-person program included keynote speeches, presentations, panel discussions, group exercises, and roundtables, covering topics such as the adoption of innovative technologies (e.g., Physical Internet), emerging trends and challenges, opportunities for cooperation, and enabling policy frameworks for zero-emission urban freight. Participation allowed URBANE to showcase its digital twin framework, contribute to discussions on interoperability and data sharing, and strengthen collaboration with other R&I projects, cities, and industry partners. The agenda is shown in Appendix D.
- Third Edition (6 November 2025, Barcelona): As part of the URBANE Final Event, this edition served as a platform to present the project's key results, innovations, and policy recommendations after the course of the project's implementations. The event highlighted scalable solutions from Lighthouse and Twinning Cities, including digital twins, blockchain-based trust systems, AI-driven logistics models, and Physical Internet (PI) applications. URBANE led sessions on data-driven urban logistics, interoperability of digital tools, and business models for sustainable last-mile delivery, while also facilitating live demonstrations of its Innovation Transferability Platform. The day featured high-level panels with city representatives, industry leaders, and Advisory Board members, focusing on lessons learned, replication strategies, and future policy directions for zero-emission urban freight.

Collaborative workshops explored cross-project synergies with DISCO, GREEN-LOG, and UNCHAIN, reinforcing URBANE's role in shaping EU-wide standards for smart, resilient urban logistics ecosystems. The event also included a showcase of Follower Cities' adoption roadmaps, emphasising transferability and long-term impact. The agenda will be included in the final project report.

Through these events, URBANE reinforced its visibility and engagement within the European urban logistics ecosystem, promoting innovative solutions and supporting the alignment of projects toward sustainable urban mobility objectives.

FIGURE 15 - URBANE AT THE URBAN LOGISTICS INNOVATION DAY 2024

URBANE's Contributions:

- Digital Twin Framework: URBANE showcased its digital twin technology, highlighting its application in urban logistics planning and its role in facilitating data-driven decision-making.
- Collaborative Insights: The project contributed to discussions on integrating digital tools with urban logistics strategies, emphasising the importance of interoperability and data sharing among stakeholders.
- Policy Recommendations: URBANE engaged in dialogues aimed at aligning technological advancements with policy frameworks to support zero-emission urban freight initiatives.

Key Takeaways from the events:

- Collaboration is Essential: Achieving zero-emission urban logistics requires coordinated efforts between public and private sectors, logistics stakeholders, and citizens.
- Urban Space Utilisation: Cities should remain livable while accommodating logistics vehicles to ensure efficient delivery services.
- Holistic Integration: Urban freight transport must be fully integrated into the urban mobility policy framework to enhance competitiveness and quality of life.
- Technological Advancements: Embracing technologies like the Physical Internet can offer innovative solutions to urban logistics challenges.
- Data-Driven Planning: Effective data acquisition and sharing are crucial for the digitalisation and efficiency of urban logistics.

2.4.2 Speaking at POLIS – ALICE webinar series 2023, 2024 and 2025

The POLIS–ALICE webinar series on urban logistics has become a central mechanism for connecting European cities, research projects, and industry actors working toward more efficient and sustainable urban freight systems. Beyond simply sharing information, the series functions as an ongoing collaborative platform that bridges initiatives which might otherwise operate in isolation. Each session brings together diverse perspectives—from municipal authorities and logistics operators to researchers and technology providers—creating a structured space where practical experiences, pilot results, and emerging tools can be discussed openly. Through these webinars, lessons from EU-funded projects such as URBANE, DISCO, and MOVE21 are shared directly with city representatives and private partners who can adapt them to their own contexts. This exchange fosters transferability and accelerates the uptake of innovative logistics solutions, such as micro-hubs, cargo bikes, digital access systems, and shared infrastructure for freight and passengers. The discussions frequently extend beyond technical innovation, addressing the governance, regulatory, and spatial dimensions that influence implementation at city level. As a result, the series not only spreads awareness of what works but also helps identify the institutional and policy conditions required to make solutions viable elsewhere.

The URBANE project has been presented by different partners in the following POLIS- ALICE webinars:

TABLE 2 - URBANE AT THE POLIS – ALICE WEBINAR SERIES

Webinar	Presentation from URBANE	Other project participations
POLIS – ALICE Urban Logistics Webinar Series 2023 #3: Logistics for Urban Construction Sites, 15th Dec, 2023	Satu Reijonen, Forum Virium Helsinki, *Piloting autonomous deliveries for construction sites*	Scott Wilding, Transport for London, *London's experience: logistics for urban construction sites;* Guillaume Bertrand, Mobility by COLAS, *presentation of use cases of regulation of truck flows generated by major construction sites: in Lyon Part-Dieu and in Athletes' Village for 2024 Paris Olympic and Paralympic Games*
POLIS – ALICE Greening Urban Freight Webinar Series 2024 #1: Physical Internet Led Urban Logistics, 27th March 2024	Alice Benini – Project manager at the Institute for Transport and Logistics (ITL), *The URBANE Living Lab in Bologna*	Urban Access Control living labs in DISCO project and Belgian cities, Dr. Bart Lannoo – Innovation Director at Be-mobile
POLIS-ALICE webinar series: Integration of Passenger and Freight Transport, 23 May, 2025	URBANE – Use Case in Karlsruhe: focuses on testing and evaluating the impact of using automated delivery vehicles (ADVs) using of urban rail network (tram) for the last mile delivery	DELPHI – Use Case in Madrid • Focuses on use of urban rail network (metro) for the last mile delivery. • Examines business models and regulatory frameworks that support co-modality. ULTIMO • Explores how autonomous passenger transport can be extended to urban freight logistics.

2.4.3 URBANE at the ALICE Logistics Innovation Summit 2024 and 2025

The ALICE Logistics Summit in 2024 and 2025 serves as a key platform for collaboration and alignment across the European logistics and urban freight community. Bringing together representatives from EU-funded projects, cities, industry leaders, and policymakers, the summits create a shared space for exchanging insights, presenting project outcomes, and identifying synergies between ongoing initiatives. By fostering dialogue among diverse stakeholders, the events help bridge research, innovation, and policy, ensuring that emerging solutions in logistics are better coordinated and more rapidly scaled across Europe. In this way, the ALICE Logistics Summits act as catalysts for building partnerships, harmonising strategies, and advancing the collective transition toward a more efficient, resilient, and sustainable logistics ecosystem. The URBANE project has joined the event with other urban logistics projects at the event's exhibition. In 2024, GreenTurn, GREEN-LOG, DISCO, DECARBOMILE, and UNCHAIN have joint the event with URBANE. In 2025, DISCO and UNCHAIN have shared a stand with URBANE.

2.4.4 Joint event for Physical Internet (PI) standardisation with ISO experts

A joint event with other PI related projects, such as DISCO, Shift2Zero[10] and IKIGAI[11], was held on 22nd October 2025 in Brussels. The event, titled "Towards Standards for the Physical Internet: Building the Foundations for Global Interoperability", invited international experts from Japan, South Korea and Europe, to present the current research and innovation, efforts in PI standardisations, and implementations. The workshop discussed ability to scale and replicate these urban Physical Internet solutions that depend critically on standardisation. Common standards are required to enable interoperability between systems and actors—for example, to allow parcel lockers to be shared across logistics service providers, platforms, and cities. Without harmonised standards for physical infrastructure, digital interfaces, data exchange, and operational rules, urban Physical Internet solutions risk remaining fragmented and location-specific. The workshop provided a set of specific recommendations. The agenda of the workshop is shown in Appendix.

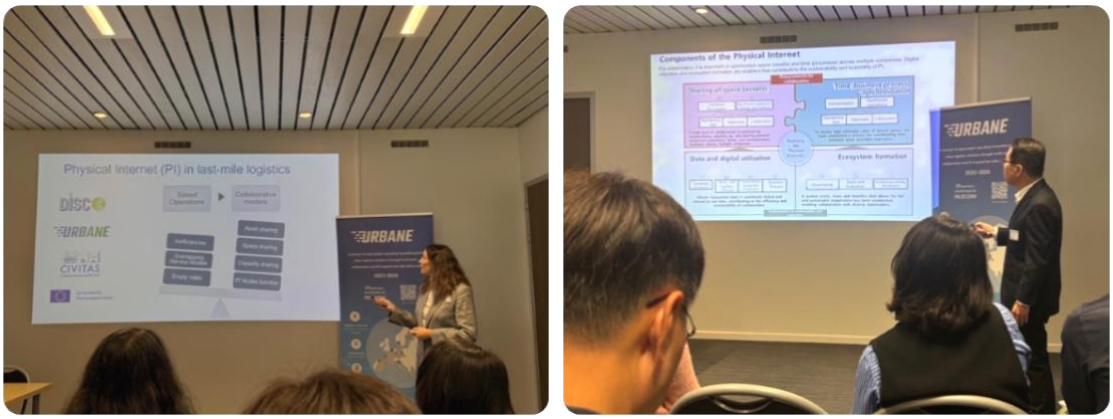

FIGURE 16 – PRESENTATIONS AT THE JOINT EVENT FOR PHYSICAL INTERNET STANDARDISATION

URBANE made a concrete contribution to this discussion by showing, through its presentation and demonstrator evidence, how PI principles can already be applied in urban last-mile logistics through collaborative micro-hub networks employing light electric delivery vehicles, smart contracts, optimised routing models and collaboration-management platforms. The slides highlighted URBANE's added value across several intervention levels (physical infrastructure, innovative vehicles, digital infrastructure and automation, business and governance, and social innovation and policy), and showed how these are connected through the project's transferability tools and replication pathway from Lighthouse Living Labs to Twinning Living Labs, Follower Cities, the City Platform and the final policy package (see D6.4 Policy

[10] https://shift2zero-project.eu/
[11] https://physical-internet.eu/

Package and Adoption Roadmap). In particular, URBANE showcased reusable assets and tools that are directly relevant for standardisation and interoperability, including the model library, simulation-aided decision-making tools, impact comparison and cost-benefit analysis functions, ADV route design, and the Smart Contract Generator for SLA monitoring.

The key takeaways from the event, particularly relevant to URBANE implementations, were as follows:

- International standards are needed for parcel lockers, notably regarding their physical dimensions and interfaces, in order to support shared use across operators, platforms and cities.
- Urban logistics represents a particularly important entry point for PI deployment, as cities provide a practical environment in which interoperability, collaboration and shared asset use can be tested and scaled.
- Shared assets such as micro-hubs and parcel lockers require both technical and digital interoperability, including compatibility of physical infrastructure, digital interfaces, data exchange and operational procedures.
- Standardisation efforts should be targeted and use-case-driven, focusing on high-impact areas where research and innovation projects such as URBANE can provide concrete evidence and validation from real-life implementations.

2.5 Training and e-learning

URBANE has cooperated with the SOLUTIONSPlus[12] project to promote the concept of the Physical Internet and digitalisation of urban freight to international cities and other stakeholders. The SOLUTIONSplus project, funded under the EU Horizon 2020 programme, aimed to accelerate the transition to sustainable urban mobility through the deployment of innovative and integrated electric mobility solutions. Spanning from January 2020 to June 2024, the project focused on demonstrating the viability of electric mobility in urban settings, enhancing operational efficiency, and integrating various types of e-mobility across diverse urban landscapes in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. A central component of SOLUTIONSplus was its Training Academy, which served as a comprehensive capacity-building initiative. The academy offered a global e-learning programme designed to equip local and national authorities, transport operators, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders with the knowledge and skills necessary to plan, implement, and operate electric mobility solutions. Through a combination of online courses, webinars, and peer-to-peer exchanges, participants were introduced to a range of topics to enhance technical capacity of policy makers worldwide.

[12] https://www.solutionsplus.eu/

3 Advisory Board Activities

In the URBANE project, the **Advisory Board (AB)** has played a key role in guiding the project's strategy, ensuring relevance, and connecting it to broader industry and city-level practices. The board brings together a mix of academic, industry, and municipal expertise, which has been instrumental in providing feedback, validating solutions, and linking project outcomes to real-world applications. Members of AB are:

- **Kosmas Anagnostopoulos (CIVINET Greece–Cyprus)** – Expert in representing city administrations in policy dialogue and an active member of the CIVITAS community. He contributed by liaising with cities, city networks, and the wider CIVITAS community to ensure strong engagement and knowledge exchange.
- **Elisabeth Hörnfeldt (Scania)** – Technical expert in urban logistics with strong experience in connecting technology providers (including SMEs) with investors. She contributed by guiding technology development to address real-world challenges while supporting the creation of viable business models.
- **Felicia Hökars / Jack Lu (CLOSER / Lindholm Science Park)** – Technical experts in urban logistics. Their contributions focused on guiding and supporting technology development in line with sector needs and innovation opportunities.
- **Fabien Nonnez / Mafalda Godinho (IKEA)** – Technical experts in urban logistics with expertise in scaling up innovation. They contributed by providing insight into the practical deployment and expansion of innovative logistics solutions in large-scale operations.
- **Jos Streng (City of Rotterdam)** – Technical expert in urban logistics with hands-on experience in implementing Sustainable Urban Logistics Plans (SULPs). He contributed practical knowledge on policy implementation and city-level deployment strategies.
- **Yingli Wang (Cardiff University)** – Expert in logistics and supply chain management, with a focus on the application of digital technologies in logistics. She contributed academic and strategic insight on digital transformation in logistics management.
- **Magnus Blinge (Trafikverket – Swedish Road Authority)** – Expert in public funding mechanisms for research and innovation in urban logistics. He contributed guidance on funding structures, policy alignment, and support frameworks for innovation.

The AB meeting has been held every 6 months online. At each AB meeting, specific topics of strategic relevance have been identified and discussed in depth. These meetings typically included presentations from project partners to showcase ongoing work, key results, and upcoming activities. The AB members have been invited to provide feedback, expert insights, and recommendations based on their experience and perspectives. The collected inputs are systematically summarised and shared with the project partners to inform ongoing tasks, improve deliverables, and strengthen the project's overall direction. This process ensures that the advice of the AB is effectively integrated into the project's work and contributes to its continuous improvement and alignment with broader policy, research, and innovation priorities. AB members also participated in the final project event in Barcelona.

TABLE 3 - AB MEETINGS

Number	Date	Focus
KoM	22nd June 2023	Introduce the project; identify expertise and interests of each AB members; discuss roles and engagement
2nd meeting	12th December 2023	Presentations from 3 living labs • Bologna • Helsinki • Thessaloniki Evaluation strategy -how will we measure the impacts
3rd meeting	17th June 2024	Digital tools: • Digital Twins in Urban Logistics, Aristea Zafeiropoulou KONNECTA; • Enhancing Security, Trust and Interoperability in Last Mile Delivery (Blockchain infrastructure), Rod Franklin, KLU • AL-Driven Models, Ade Fajemisin, SKEMA & Kostas Zavitsas, VLTN • Agent-based models (ABMs), Önder GÜRCAN, NORCE • Data-driving impact assessment radar, Zisis Maleas, CERTH
4th meeting	10th December 2024	Outcomes of first wave of the Living labs: • Bologna, Luca Bellinato, Commune Bologna • Helsinki, Satu Reijonen, Forumvirium • Thessaloniki, Zisis Maleas, CERTH
5th meeting	18th June 2025	Focus on exploitation, policy recommendations and 2nd wave living labs with presentations: • John Limaxis, Inlecom systems, Overview of the project progress • Alessia Padalino, FIT Consulting, Market, commercialisation & growth trajectory • Eduard J. Alvarez Palau, Associate professor, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), Barcelona Living Lab • Alonso Davila Graf, POLIS, Policy recommendations

3.1 Kick Off Meeting (KoM) key outcomes

At the Kick-off Meeting with the Advisory Board, several actions were agreed upon to ensure active engagement and collaboration throughout the project. An online questionnaire was used to collect information from the AB. It was decided that the project and the Advisory Board members will be formally announced through the project's communication channels, and that all consortium partners, including the participating cities, will be informed about the Board's composition and role. Advisory Board members will be invited to review deliverables whenever their expertise is relevant or specific advice is needed. To foster closer collaboration, they will receive personal invitations to join Living Labs and pilot activities, providing opportunities for first-hand experience and direct discussions with developers and implementing cities. Similarly, they will be invited to key project events to engage directly with consortium members and stakeholders. Finally, Advisory Board members will contribute to the exploitation of project outcomes by providing guidance on synergies, dissemination opportunities, and pathways for uptake of results.

3.2 2nd AB meeting key outcomes

The Advisory Board (AB) members expressed their appreciation for the insightful presentations delivered by the living labs, commending the exceptional performance, capability, dedication, and enthusiasm demonstrated by all three labs. While the concept of micro-hubs for last-mile delivery is not new, the technologies being employed are recognised as cutting-edge and at the forefront of current developments. If implemented effectively, these living lab solutions have the potential to make a significant impact on sustainability and contribute to Net Zero goals.

The Helsinki Living Lab (LL) was particularly praised for its strategic approach, iterative agile methodology, and successful public engagement. However, the AB members sought more details on the customers served, the nature of products delivered, and the scale of the challenges addressed in the piloted areas (requests that also apply to the Bologna LL). The AB members affirmed that, if executed well, these innovative solutions could pave the way for broader adoption across cities. They emphasised that future last-mile delivery systems will likely need to be highly automated, incorporating autonomous vehicles, unmanned lockers, and a hub-spoke model to achieve economies of scale and foster collaboration among shippers and carriers.

To ensure the transferability of URBANE outcomes to other cities, the LLs must clearly demonstrate positive social, economic, and environmental impacts for all stakeholders. Policy support, regulatory incentives, and the role of an "orchestrator" to consolidate parcel flows in densely populated areas were highlighted as critical for long-term success. The AB members also stressed the importance of post-project business models to sustain micro-hub operations beyond the project's lifespan, cautioning against reliance on government-owned consolidation centres, which have often failed after public funding ended.

Key suggestions included providing data on the percentage of freight transport flows addressed by the Bologna LL, clarifying the ownership and location of automated micro-hubs, and engaging additional stakeholders such as trade organisations, online retailers, and parcel delivery companies. The AB recommended developing a generic last-mile delivery model that accommodates diverse local contexts, along with a clear deployment roadmap.

For future meetings, the AB suggested that each Living Lab follow a uniform structure for updates, covering objectives, progress, successes, challenges, and future plans. They also proposed extending meeting durations to two hours for more in-depth discussions. Professor Wang noted the clarity of the Thessaloniki LL's approach, particularly its use case overview, and encouraged the inclusion of background data on parcel volumes and demand to enhance understanding. Staying informed about global best practices, such as China's advancements in autonomous delivery, was also advised.

3.3 3rd AB meeting key outcomes

The AB provided targeted feedback on several key components of the URBANE project, starting with the digital twins platform. They emphasised the need to tailor the platform's functionality to individual users, such as city authorities and Logistics Service Providers (LSPs), and suggested demonstrating its application in preparing pilots across the LLs. A major challenge highlighted was data acquisition, particularly from LSPs, and the platform's ability to deliver reliable results even with limited data. The AB also recommended evaluating the platform's user-friendliness and ensuring it can handle unexpected events like congestion and predict their impacts. Access to the platform can be extended to external users if needed.

Regarding the blockchain infrastructure, the AB acknowledged concerns about energy consumption but clarified that URBANE's limited transaction volume mitigates this issue. They advised distinguishing which transactions require blockchain to reduce costs during future scaling. Blockchain's role in fostering trust among collaborators (especially in ensuring data privacy among competitors) was underscored as a key advantage for encouraging information sharing, particularly among larger players. For AI models, the AB stressed the importance of defining clear optimisation objectives or KPIs, such as minimising driving distances or emissions. Safety in urban logistics planning was identified as an underaddressed priority, and the consortium was encouraged to balance efficiency with safety, including vehicle selection. They also recommended connecting with the CLOSER project on loading areas to enhance synergies.

On agent-based models, the AB noted the difficulty of data collection and the rapid evolution of behaviours, suggesting periodic data updates. They highlighted the potential of "nudging" to promote sustainable behaviours and proposed revising KPIs to replace "fuel consumption" with "energy consumption" and adding "traffic safety" as a metric. For impact assessment and city readiness, the AB recognised the challenge of identifying the most critical factors for innovation uptake and the role of full digitalisation, while acknowledging barriers to accessing LSP data due to business sensitivity. They advised estimating demand data as an alternative.

In terms of overall project activities, the AB emphasised the importance of micro-hub locations in determining suitable delivery vehicles and developing sustainable business models to ensure their operation post-funding. They also reminded the consortium to factor in labour costs when evaluating different delivery models.

3.4 4th AB meeting key outcomes

To ensure the long-term impact of solutions developed and piloted in research and innovation (R&I) projects, the Advisory Board emphasised the importance of cities aligning project participation with clear policy priorities. R&I projects should serve as tools to accelerate policy implementation rather than standalone initiatives. Building in-house expertise in urban freight among city authorities was highlighted as crucial for sustaining impacts, as it fosters a deeper understanding of challenges and opportunities.

Engaging large Logistics Service Providers (LSPs) remains a challenge, particularly due to their reluctance to adopt white label solutions that might dilute brand visibility. Successful examples, such as those in Finland where DB Schenker and DHL participated in micro-hub pilots, demonstrate the value of continuous engagement and addressing LSPs' specific needs. In Bologna, efforts to involve all regional couriers through dissemination activities aim to broaden participation. The Board advised demonstrating how white label solutions can still support brand visibility and offer tangible benefits.

For parcel locker deployment, integration with existing infrastructure (such as supermarket parking lots, residential buildings, and public transport interchanges) was recommended to minimise additional traffic. Exploring multifunctional buildings for logistics purposes was also suggested to maximise value and efficiency. Data sharing continues to be a hurdle, especially with major LSPs. The Board recommended

leveraging blockchain technology, as demonstrated in Bologna, to enhance data security and showcase the concrete benefits of sharing data. Digital tools and smart contracts were identified as cost-saving measures that could incentivise LSPs to adopt innovative solutions. While policies can facilitate implementation, cities should focus on creating an enabling environment rather than mandating specific approaches.

The exploitation approach shared from the CLOSER project offered valuable insights. By mapping the benefits for each stakeholder (such as cities, real estate owners, tenants, hub operators, and transporters) using a value matrix, the project revealed that real estate owners and hub operators derive the most direct and high-value benefits. This reinforces the idea that partnerships between these stakeholders are essential for driving sustainable urban logistics solutions. The discussion also highlighted that while benefits exist for all parties, their value and ease of capitalisation vary, underscoring the need for tailored strategies to ensure long-term success and willingness to invest in innovative services.

3.5 5th AB meeting key outcomes

When developing governance models for digital platforms, it is essential to carefully map stakeholders to identify both potential beneficiaries and those who might be disadvantaged (referred to as "losers"). The interests of these "losers" must be addressed to ensure equitable outcomes and broad acceptance of the platform. The consortium should also clarify the roles of owners and operators responsible for maintaining the ecosystem, as their involvement is critical for sustaining the platform beyond the project's lifespan. The example of Rotterdam's commercial waste collection, where larger players united and smaller ones were compelled to collaborate for competitiveness, offers valuable lessons for URBANE's work in Work Package 5 (WP5), particularly in fostering inclusive and effective governance structures.

In the Barcelona Living Lab, the increasing adoption of cargo bikes presents both opportunities and challenges. While cargo bikes contribute to sustainable urban logistics, their growing use risks encroaching on pedestrian space. Managing this potential conflict requires proactive planning and cooperation, possibly involving cargo bike manufacturers to enhance digital readiness and integration. Additionally, cost considerations are vital, as reducing expenses can significantly encourage adoption, especially among small businesses that may otherwise struggle with affordability.

For policy recommendations, the Advisory Board highlighted that digital solutions and technologies are often driven by large players, who possess the necessary expertise and resources. However, small and local businesses may lack these capabilities or the willingness to adopt new technologies, making them vulnerable to reduced competitiveness. Policies should therefore incorporate measures to ensure a "just transition," supporting SMEs in adapting to digitalisation and preventing them from being left behind. This aspect has not been sufficiently addressed in existing recommendations and warrants specific attention to promote fairness and inclusivity in urban logistics innovation.

4 Conclusions

Through this report, it is clear that **URBANE** has made significant strides in transforming urban logistics by combining innovation, collaboration, and strategic knowledge transfer. The project has demonstrated a strong commitment to ensuring that its results are complementary to existing initiatives, maximizing their relevance and impact across Europe. Over the course of its activities, liaison efforts were structured around two main pillars: collaboration with relevant projects and initiatives, and structured engagement with the Advisory Board.

Under the first pillar, URBANE actively fostered synergies with European projects, networks, and innovation platforms to enhance complementarity and maximize impact. These liaison activities were implemented through three key dimensions. First, technical coordination involved close collaboration with projects such as DISCO, enabling the exchange of data and the joint development and piloting of interoperable digital tools. Second, policy alignment was achieved through engagement with projects under the CIVITAS Initiative, contributing to cluster discussions, regulatory guidance, and European policy outputs. Third, joint events and dissemination activities, including co-organisation and active participation in conferences, workshops, webinars, and innovation days, facilitated knowledge exchange, increased visibility, and strengthened collaboration between research, industry, and policymakers. The project also cooperated with other research and innovation projects on Physical Internet (PI) such as IKIGAI and Shift2Zro to contribute to standardisation development for PI implementation.

The second pillar of URBANE's liaison strategy centered on the Advisory Board, composed of seven international experts. Through five dedicated meetings, the Board provided strategic guidance, validated technical outcomes, refined exploitation strategies, and ensured that project results were aligned with broader market and policy needs. The Advisory Board's input strengthened the project's strategic direction and reinforced its capacity to deliver actionable and impactful innovations.

By combining extensive cross-project collaboration with high-level advisory engagement, URBANE has significantly reinforced its strategic positioning within the European urban logistics landscape. Coordination with sister projects and active participation in joint initiatives enhanced the relevance and applicability of its results, ensuring they complement and build upon existing innovations. At the same time, engagement with the Advisory Board provided critical oversight, guiding the project toward scalable and policy-aligned outcomes. Together, these efforts have fostered a dynamic ecosystem that effectively bridges research, industry, and policy, promoting the exchange of knowledge and best practices while creating lasting networks to support the uptake and scaling of URBANE's solutions across cities, regions, and European initiatives.

An important achievement of URBANE was the technical integration and interoperability testing carried out with sister projects, particularly DISCO and GREEN-LOG. Through this work, URBANE demonstrated that its digital tools, especially the CitIQore environment and related optimisation applications, can interoperate with external data-space infrastructures and shared datasets in a secure, trusted and data-sovereign way. The collaboration with DISCO enabled the integration of the Urban Freight Data Space with URBANE's Digital Twin environment and resulted in concrete joint applications. In parallel, the collaboration with GREEN-LOG showed the feasibility of federating independent data spaces and reusing logistics datasets from external platforms for advanced simulations and decision support. Together, these activities confirmed the value of reusing and extending project tools across initiatives, while also highlighting URBANE's contribution to a more harmonised and interoperable digital ecosystem for urban logistics in Europe.

Ultimately, URBANE has laid the foundation for sustainable, data-driven, and replicable urban logistics practices. Its work establishes a framework for future projects and policy development, accelerating Europe's transition toward greener, more efficient, and digitally enabled urban freight systems, and ensuring that the project's innovations continue to deliver long-term value for cities, industry, and citizens alike.

5 Appendix

A. TRA Special Session Description

Special Session 2.3: Innovation in Urban Logistics: Public and Private Sectors Thriving Together

9:45 – 11:00, 16th April 2024

Organisers: Yanying Li (ALICE), Raffaele Vergnani (POLIS) & Caroline Almeras (ECTRI)

Description:

The session aims to share successful experiences and lessons learnt in urban logistics from EU-funded R&I projects and create a common vision of using innovative solutions for zero emission urban freight transport. Urban logistics has faced unprecedented challenges in recent years. A proactive approach to address future challenges is therefore needed. Those projects have been engaging with city authorities, logistics service providers, and innovation developers to implement Living Labs. Those Living Labs enable business and cities thrive together to use innovative solutions, such as digital twins, Physical Internet, zero emission vehicles, to increase efficiency and achieve zero emission freight transport.

Speakers:

- Paola Cossu, CEO of FIT Consulting & co-chair of ALICE Urban Logistics Group, Coordinator of DISCO
- Ioanna Fergadiotou, Head of Athen Lab at INLECOM Systems, Coordinator of URBANE
- Manon Levrey, Interface Transport, Coordinator of the Decarbomile project
- Maria Pilar Elejoste Larrucea, University of Deusto, Technical Coordinator of SENATOR
- Sergio Fernández Balaguer, Empresa Municipal de Transportes de Madrid S.A, Coordinator of LEAD and living lab of UNCHAIN project
- Raffaele Vergnani, Urban Freight Cluster Lead at POLIS, Innovation in European cities and regions

Moderator: Octavia Stepan, Head of Sector - Integrated Transport and Cities at CINEA

B. RTR 2025 Session Report

The session showcased six projects aimed at revolutionising urban logistics through sustainable and innovative solutions using cutting-edge digital technologies. Each presentation highlighted unique approaches to addressing the challenges of last-mile delivery, urban space optimisation and decarbonisation.

FIGURE 17 - SESSION PROMOTIONAL BANNER

The **SENATOR** project "Smart Network Operator Platform enabling Shared, Integrated and more Sustainable Urban Freight Logistics", was presented by Angela Núñez, Correos, Spain. The project has developed a logistics platform that enhances urban freight management by integrating data from various stakeholders. The platform has reached technological maturity, offering real-time data analytics to optimise delivery routes and reduce congestion. Collaboration with city planners and logistics companies has been pivotal in refining the platform's functionalities. The project also developed a strategy for Dublin freight consolidation centre.

The **UNCHAIN** project "Urban logistics and plaNning: AntiCipating urban freigHt generAtion and demand including dIgitalisation of urbaN freight", was presented by Elena Garica, ETRA I+D, Spain. The project has created a decentralised framework for urban logistics, leveraging blockchain technology to enhance transparency and efficiency. The project engaged with citizens to co-create logistics solutions, in multiple European cities, that have demonstrated reductions in administrative overhead and delivery times.

The **DISCO** project "Data-driven, Integrated, Syncromodal, Collaborative and Optimised urban freight meta model for a new generation of urban logistics and planning with data sharing at European Living Labs", was presented by Paola Astegiano, FIT Consulting, Italy. The project has developed the first version of the Meta Model Suite, which is a stepwise approach to help cities understand their current and future logistics landscape, select preferred scenarios for reshaping their urban logistics system, and implement suitable innovative solutions. The project has also developed the first version of the Urban Freight Data Space. Some examples of the measures implemented in the first group of Living Labs have been presented.

The **URBANE** project "Upscaling innovative green urban logistics solutions through multi-actor collaboration and pi-inspired last mile deliveries", was presented by Prof. Rod Franklin. The project has tackled the negative trends associated with last-mile deliveries by identifying and scaling-up novel and sustainable urban logistics solutions. The project established four Lighthouse Living Labs to demonstrate innovative last-mile delivery solutions. Those solutions have integrated digital tools, such as digital twins, blockchains and AI, to enhance solution scalability.

DECARBOMILE project "Five pillars to DECARBOnize the last MILE logistics", was presented by Clarissa Reali, Interface Transport, France. The project has developed 11 use cases to decarbonise last mile delivery and will be fully implemented in 2025. The use cases will be implemented in four Living Labs, considering technical, environmental and socio-economic factors of each city.

The **GREEN-LOG** project "Cooperative and Interconnected Green delivery solutions towards an era of optimised zero emission last-mile Logistics", was presented by Amalia Ntemou, Netcompany Intrasoft, Greece. The project has developed a Logistics-as-a-Service platform for interconnected city logistics, including automated delivery concepts and cargo-bike-based last mile delivery in five Urban Living Labs across Europe. The project also demonstrated multimodal parcel deliveries that integrate public transport and sustainable micro-consolidation using delivery robots.

Conclusion

Urban logistics plays a vital role in the functionality of European cities and is essential for achieving European climate goals. The projects presented in this session have explored a range of innovative solutions, including sustainable logistics for the on-demand economy, new delivery models and business approaches, and future-proof urban freight planning.

A common theme across all projects is the integration of digital technologies, such as Digital Twins, mobility data spaces, AI and blockchain to address the increasing demand for urban freight transport. These projects have fostered collaboration amongst key stakeholders, including cities, logistics companies and technology providers, to develop practical solutions for more efficient and sustainable urban logistics.

The outcomes of these initiatives include a suite of digital tools designed to support demand planning, transport coordination, freight and logistics optimisation and urban infrastructure development. By leveraging these innovations, European cities can enhance their logistics systems while advancing their sustainability and climate goals.

C. Urban Logistics Innovation Day 2023 Agenda

Urban Logistics Innovation Day: Programme

In-person event in Brussels

26th of Sept 2023, 09:00 – 17:00

Urban freight transport has been increasing due to enhanced demand in e-commerce and business activities in cities. To decarbonise urban freight transport is a challenge for many cities while business and logistics operators also face challenges to increase efficiency and meet customers' demand. Innovation plays an important role in decarbonising urban freight transport and enable sustainable urban logistics. This event aims to bring innovation practitioners in urban logistics sector to promote use of innovative solutions to help cities and business to meet their sustainable goals.

Objectives of the event:

- To showcase innovative solutions developed by the LEAD project and seek opportunities of exploitation,
- To connect ongoing innovative projects (MOVE21, ULaaDs, SENATOR, GREEN-LOG, URBANE, DECARBOMILE, DISCO, etc) on their innovative development and seek cooperation and opportunities of exploitation,
- To facilitate dialogue between public and private sectors to improve sustainability of urban freight.

The in-person event will consist of plenary sessions, break-out sessions and live demonstration of digital solutions.

Agenda:

9:00 – 9:10 Welcome, Irene Blázquez Jiménez, EMT Madrid and Coordinator of LEAD

9:10 – 9:20 Keynote speeches:

- Paola Chiarini, Policy Officer at DG MOVE - European Commission
- Lola Ortiz, Director, Planning and Mobility Infrastructure, City of Madrid/Chair of the POLIS Working Group on Urban Freight, *tbc*

9:20 – 9:35: Picking the brain of an innovator: IKEA's zero emission delivery solutions;
Chaired by POLIS: Cláudia Ribeiro, Project Manager; Speakers:

- Raphael Guillard, Global Responsible Sourcing Manager at IKEA Group, Customer Fulfilment
- John Neven, Fulfilment Project Implementation Management, IKEA Belgium

9:35 – 10:15 Plenary Session: Digital Twins for low-emission last-mile logistics: the LEAD story
Chaired by: Carolina Ciprés, Director of Research at Zaragoza Logistics Centre

- The LEAD Digital Twinning Platform, Ioanna Fergadiotou, INLECOM
- Living Labs as innovation accelerators for logistics: Carolina Ciprés, Director of Research at Zaragoza Logistics Centre
- Sustainable City Logistics Evaluation Platform – Driving the Sustainable, Digital, and Socially Responsible Transitions, Angel Batalla, LastMile Team

10:15 – 10:50 *Coffee Break*

10:50 - 12:15 Break-out Session Part I:

Break-out Session I A: Digital Twins & what if scenarios	Break-out Session I B: Consumer engagement & Sustainability of Urban Freight **Moderator: Yanying Li**

Moderator: Cláudia Ribeiro, Project Manager, POLIS **Presentations:** • Use of digital twin in urban logistics & how city can benefit from the LEAD project, incl. Live Demonstration of the LEAD platform, Ioanna Fergadiotou and Andreas, INLECOM • The LIAISON platform: LEAD Lyon and DISCO Copenhagen use cases, Dimitra Politaki, IRT SYSTEMX • URBANE: Dimitris Rizopoulos, INLECOM, • DT4Regions (Living-in.EU), Giacomo Lozzi, European Network of Living Labs, *tbc*	**Presentation**: Sustainability score of urban freight (STAR Logistics Model), Jose Manual Vassallo, Professor at Universidad Politecnica de Madrid (result from the LEAD project); **Panel discussion - Panellists:** • Hans Schurmans, Director of Logistics, Proximus/ Co-Chair Urban Logistics at ALICE • Artur Drenk, Director of Sustainability Europe, UPS • Carolina Cipres, Director of Research, Zaragoza Logistics Centre (ZLC) • Josephine Darlington, Head of ASTER - Alliance for Sustainable E-commerce

12:15 – 13:15 *Lunch Break*

13:15 – 14:45 Break-out Session Part II

Break Session II – A: Zero emission vehicles and support infrastructure for the last-mile: **Moderator:** Catherine Ittner, Senior Programme Manager Zero Emission Freight, C40, **Presentations:** • Turning Retail stores to electric vehicles charging stations, Marlos Silva, SONAE MC • UlaaDS, Arianna Americo, EUROCITIES • URBANIZED, Lorena Axinte, Senior mobility consultant, Bax & Company **Panel discussion - Panellists:** • Logistics hub pilot in Milan, Ms Veronica Oppici from Agenzia Mobilità Ambiente e Territorio Milano • Pierre Fils, Programme manager Urban Logistics, BPOST/ Vice-chair Urban Logistics at ALICE • Magnus Blinge, SCANIA/ Vice chair Urban Logistics at ALICE	Break Session II – B: Discussion on Urban Space **Moderator:** Raffaele Vergnani, Project Manager and Coordinator Working Group Urban Freight, POLIS **Presentations:** • Public Private Partnership (PPP) for Micro-hub in Madrid, Sergio Fernández Balaguer, Head of Department EMT Madrid (LEAD) • Urban Logistics Centre in Oslo (MOVE21), Patrycjusz Bubilek, City of Oslo • Flexible use of urban space, Paola Cossu (DISCO) / Co-Chair Urban Logistics at ALICE • Urban space optimisation & alignment with sustainable urban logistics, Payal Pandya & Edell Cashin, Project Manager, Dublin City Council

14:45 – 15:15 *Coffee Break*

15:15 – 16:45 Closing Session: Innovation Uptake and Policy Recommendation

Roundtable Discussion on how to integrate of digital tools with SULPs Toolkit and Roadmap towards zero emission city logistics

- **Moderator:** Yanying Li, ALICE-ETP
    - Zeljko Jeftic, Director Autonomous Electric Transports at Einride / Vice Chair Low Emission Vehicles at ALICE

- Theo Thuis, Managing Director Innovation Q-Park and Chair of the European Parking Association (EPA) Scientific and Technical Committee
- Raffaele Vergnani, Project Manager and Coordinator Working Group Urban Freight, POLIS
- Johan Leveque, Head of R&D department, La Poste Group/Vice Chair Urban Logistics at ALICE
- City representative, *tbc*

16:45 – 17:00 Closing remarks, Claudia Ribeiro, Project Manager, POLIS

D. Urban Logistics Innovation Day 2024 Agenda

Physical Internet, Digitalisation, and Sustainable Urban Logistics

Tuesday 4 June: 09:00 – 16:45

Welcome & Introduction

Timing	Presenter	Affiliation
09:05 – 09:10	Paola COSSU	FIT Consulting & Co-Chair of the Thematic Group on Urban Logistics at ALICE
09:05 – 09:10	Pedro FERNANDEZ	Head of the Department of International Mobility of the City of Madrid, representing the Chair of the Working Group on Urban Freight at POLIS

Keynote speeches

Timing	Presenter	Affiliation
09:10 – 09:20	Fernando LIESA	Secretary-General at ALICE *The latest trend of Physical Internet – A Report from the International Physical Internet Conference (IPIC) 2024*
09:20 – 09:30	Yannick BOUSSE	Project Adviser at CINEA *Research and innovation in EU funded urban freight and logistics projects*
09:30 – 09:40	Koen MOMMENS	Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) *Physical internet and urban logistics*

Session I - Let's hear from policy makers – EU, national and cities.

Facilitated by Raffaele VERGNANI, Urban Freight Cluster Lead, POLIS

Timing	Presenter	Affiliation
09:40 – 09:50	Paola CHIARINI	Policy Officer at DG MOVE - European Commission
09:50 – 10:00	Anna PÄTYNEN	Special Adviser, Finnish Transport and Communications Agengy (Traficom). *Current policies from National Authority perspective related to urban logistics*
10:00 – 10:10	Willem VAN HEIJNINGEM	Strategist at department of Mobility & Public Space of the City of Amsterdam *What are connections between logistics and circular economy?*
10:10 – 10:20	Stefan VAN DORP	Policy advisor for freight transport, City of Utrecht (tbc)

10:20 – 10:30	Q&A from the public, panel discussion

10:30 – 10:50 Coffee Break

Session II - Let's talk about collaboration: Physical Internet, digitalisation and vision of logistics service providers

Facilitated by Hans SCHURMANS, Co-Chair of the Thematic Group on Urban Logistics at ALICE

Timing	Presenter	Affiliation
10:50 – 11:05	Ioanna FERGADIOTOU	Head of Athens Lab at INLECOM *Paving the way to PI in last-mile logistics*
11:05 – 11:20	Bart VANNIEUWENHUYSE	Partner & Co-founder at TRIVIZOR *Collaborative Urban Logistics and Transport – from platform to hub*
11:20 – 12:00	Invited panellists: • Alfonso MOLINA, Innovation Project Manager at City-Login • Johan LEVEQUE, Director Research and Development at La Poste • Pierre FILS, Director Group Sustainability at BPost	
12:00 – 12:45	*Roundtable discussion I: Application of PI in urban logistics: what need to be done?* • *Standard load units* • *Shared asset: vehicles, space, infrastructure* • *From Urban Consolidation Centres (UCC) to micro-hubs* • *Physical-Internet in SULPs*	

12:45 – 13:45 Lunch Break

Session III - Warm up for the afternoon discussions: efforts made by cities and business to decarbonise urban freight

Facilitated by Marion COTTET, Project Manager on Urban Logistics at ALICE

Timing	Presenter	Affiliation
13:45 – 14:00	Joshua WEST	Project Officer at C40 *Successful city-business freight collaborations from North America.*
14:00 – 14:15	Pierre FILS	B-Post – Director Group Sustainability at BPost Group *Ecozone definition – Sustainable city delivery model based on dense parcel lockers, PUDO points, bike-trailers, e-vans, micro hubs & integrated rounds*

14:15 – 14:30	Sebastien HOREMANS	Smilepickup – Optimizing multi-hub logistics, including reverse and adapted to varied mobility (hydrogen, electric, conventional)

14:30 – 15:15	Roundtable discussion II: addressing future challenges - circular economy (participates will be divided into 5 groups to discussion their ideas): Reduce and recycle packages Return policies Consumer engagement Reverse logistics Circular economy in SULP

15:15 – 15:30 Coffee Break

Session IV: Let's talk about data sharing for policy making and impact monitoring

Facilitated by Yanying LI, Head of Programs and Knowledge Management at ALICE

Timing	**Presenter**	**Affiliation**
15:30 – 15:45	Joris BECKERS	Research Professor of the University of Antwerp *how to get data for SULP*
15:45 – 16:15	Invited panellists: • Bart LANNOO, Innovation Director, Be-mobile • Tom ANTONISSEN, Executive Director of the European Parking Association (EPA) • Anton RENARD, Mobility Consultant at the City of Antwerp • Johan LEVEQUE, Director Research and Development at La Poste	
16::15 – 16:30	Hans SCHURMANS, Co-Chair of the Thematic Group on Urban Logistics at ALICE *Closing remarks*	

E. Urban Logistics Innovation Day 2025 and URBANE project Final Event

Thursday, 6th November 2025

Location: Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona. C/62, num. 16-18, Zona Franca, 08040 Barcelona

Agenda

<table>
<tr><th>#</th><th>Activity</th><th>Duration</th><th>Speaker</th></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>Welcome & program of the day</td><td>9:30 – 9:35</td><td>Ioanna Fergadiotou, INLECOM</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>Keynote speeches</td><td>9:35 – 9:45</td><td>Maite Pérez Pérez, AMB</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="3">Plenary Session 1: Physical Internet for low-emission last-mile logistics (9:45 – 11:00)</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Presentations
•Ioanna Fergadiotou, INLECOM – URBANE: Digital Tools for Last Mile Last Logistics
•Amalia Bozinaki, Frontier Innovations – GREEN-LOG: Logistics-as-a-Service (LaaS) Marketplace & Last mile control tower
Panel discussion Moderation: John Limaxis, INLECOM
•Jos Streng, Urban Development Rotterdam
•Sebastien Horemans, SmilePickUp
•Steve Corens, VIL Flanders Innovation Cluster for Logistics
•Javier Romo, CIDAUT</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td>Coffee break</td><td colspan="2">11:00 –11:20</td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td colspan="3">Breakout Session I: Towards Sustainable Urban Logistics: Pilot insights and planning methodologies (11:20 - 12:45)</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Room A (Plenary room): Data and digital tools for more efficient urban logistics
Description: This session aims to gather technical experts from the URBANE consortium and other relevant projects to present and discuss the key data infrastructure and digital tools for urban logistics
Speakers
Moderation: Yanying Li, ALICE
•Panos Protopapas, INLE – Leveraging URBANE to Power DISCO Data Space Solutions
•Fabio Fumagalli, GEL Proximity – The last-mile software orchestrator
•Philippe Rapin, Urban Radar – Digital Platform for Public Authorities: where to locate your micro-hubs</td><td colspan="2">Room B (Multipurpose room): Tools demonstration for Sustainable Urban Logistics Plans
Description: The session explores how cities and logistics operators can design and assess SULPs, current tools, and impact-based methods.
Live demonstrations
•Zisis Maleas, CERTH - Impact Assessment Radar
•John Limaxis, INLECOM - CitIQore app</td></tr>
</table>

#	Activity	Duration	Speaker
•Pro Yingli Wang, Cardiff University - ***Enabling Circularity Through Digital Product Passports: Pathways to Supply Chain Adoption***			
6	Lunch break	12:45 – 13:45	
7	**Breakout Session II**: Towards smarter urban freight: Digital innovation and collaborative governance (13:45 – 15:00**)**		
Room A (Plenary room): Public space and public-private partnerships **Description***:* This session brings together city authorities to foster dialogue on the future of urban logistics. The discussion aims to strengthen city-business partnerships, share practical case studies, and highlight policies that enable more collaborative approaches to logistics systems. **Panel discussion** *Moderation: Raffaele Vergnani, POLIS* •Marisa Meta, FIT Consulting •Esmée Hof, City of Mechelen •Pedro Vale Moreira, City of Braga •Betrand Ayral, City of La Rochelle •David Robin, Mobility Innovation •Panagiotis Kanellopoulos, ACS		**Room B (Multipurpose room)**: Insights from urban Cycle Logistics Pilots **Description**: The session explores a set of innovative cargo-bike solutions for sustainable last-mile delivery. **Speakers** •Eduard Álvarez Palou, UOC – ***URBANE pilot, Barcelona*** •Carmen Estevez, RedBici – ***Decarbomile pilot, Logroño***	
8	Coffee break	15:00 – 15:30	
9	**Plenary Session 2:** Innovation Uptake and Policy (15:40 – 16:45**)**		
Description: This session aims to bring together all the exploitation opportunities that have emerged from the URBANE project. Exploitation opportunities encompass both commercial exploitation through business plans, commercialisation strategies, and access to funding, as well as policy exploitation, which grapples with policy recommendations and replicability and scale-up elements. **Panel discussion** *Moderation: Yanying Li, ALICE* •Magnus Blinger, Trafikverket/Road authority of Ministry Transport Sweden •Pedro Fernandez, Madrid City Council •Anton Renard, City of Antwerp •Wiebke Muller, EIT Urban Mobility			
10	Closing speech	16:45 – 17:00	ALICE

F. The International Workshop Agenda on 22nd October

Towards Standards for the Physical Internet: Building the Foundations for Global Interoperability

#	Duration	Activity
1	9:15 – 9:30	**Registration and welcome coffee**
2	9:30 - 10:45	**Opening session: Setting the scene**
Chaired by Dr. **Fernando Liesa**, Secretary General, ALICE Speakers: • Dr. **Jongkyoung Kim**, Korea Conformity Laboratories/Committee Manager of ISO TC344/SC1 and Chair of ISO TC122/SC4 (Packaging and the Environment); presentation on: "*Overview of ISO TC344 (Innovative Logistics)*" • Prof. **Takayuki Mori**, Chairman of Japanese Physical Internet Centre: presentation on: "*JPIC's PI Maturity Model*" Followed by a Q&A session		
3	10:45 – 11:15	**Coffee Break**
4	11:15 – 12:45	**Physical Internet & research innovation**
Chaired by **Raffaele Vergnani**, POLIS Speakers: • **Heewon Chae**, LOGISALL Consulting, presentation on: "*LAPI concepts and practices, including examples of reusable containers*" • **Paola Cossu**, CEO of FIT and coordinator of IKIGAI, presentation on: "*IKIGAI – Our vision with PI*" • **Yanying Li**, ALICE, presentation on: "*Shift2Zero – Physical Internet in vehicle design and loading unit*" Followed by a Q&A session		
5	12:45 – 13:45	**Lunch break**
6	13:45 – 14:15	**Last mile delivery & urban logistics**
Chaired by **Yanying Li**, ALICE Speakers: • **Ioanna Fergadiotou**, Head of Inlecom Athens Office, presentation on: "*Urban Logistics Projects to implement PI*" • **Kerri Ahn**, Logistics Information Expert, ISO TC344/SC1/WG2 Project Leader, The K Consulting, Korea, presentation on: "*Standardisation aiming for innovative Retail Logistics regarding unmanned store, last mile delivery, and AI Transformation for ISO TC344/SC1*"		

• **Lorenzo Cello**, ITL, *"Innovation Projects in Bologna, Italy"*		
7	14:15 – 15:00	**Break-out Session 1** **Room 1 - Digital interoperability:** data format, eFTI, data exchange, trust building etc **Room 2 - Physical interoperability assets:** from container, pallet, package to item
8	15:00 – 15:30	**Coffee Break**
9	15:30 – 16:15	**Break-out Session 2** **Room 1 - Physical interoperability assets:** from container, pallet, package to item **Room 2 - Digital interoperability:** data format, eFTI, data exchange, trust building etc
10	16:15 – 16:30	**Key outcomes of the Breakout sessions**
11	16:30 – 17:00	**Summary of the workshop and closing remarks by** *Claudia, Ribeiro***,** POLIS