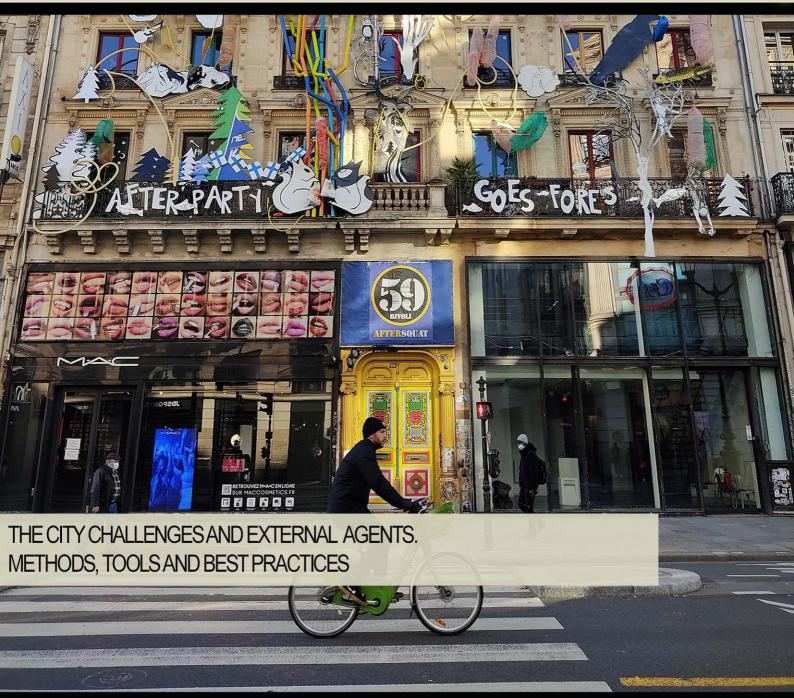
TeMA

Cities need to modify and/or adapt their urban form, the distribution and location of services and learn how to handle the increasing complexity to face the most pressing challenges of this century. The scientific community is working in order to minimise negative effects on the environment, social and economic issues and people's health. The three issues of the 14th volume will collect articles concerning the topics addressed in 2020 and also the effects on the urban areas related to the spread Covid-19 pandemic.

Journal of Land Use, Mobility and Environment

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print ISSN 1970-9889 e-ISSN 1970-9870 University of Naples Federico II

TEMA Journal of Land Use, Mobility and Environment

THE CITY CHALLENGES AND EXTERNAL AGENTS. METHODS, TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES

3 (2021)

Published by

Laboratory of Land Use Mobility and Environment DICEA - Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering University of Naples "Federico II"

TeMA is realized by CAB - Center for Libraries at "Federico II" University of Naples using Open Journal System

Editor-in-chief: Rocco Papa print ISSN 1970-9889 | online ISSN 1970-9870 Licence: Cancelleria del Tribunale di Napoli, n° 6 of 29/01/2008

Editorial correspondence

Laboratory of Land Use Mobility and Environment DICEA - Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering University of Naples "Federico II" Piazzale Tecchio, 80 80125 Naples web: www.tema.unina.it e-mail: redazione.tema@unina.it

The cover image is Rue de Rivoli - an emblematic street of Paris connecting Bastille to Concorde – that since May 2020 has been reserved for bicycles and pedestrians, Paris, France, Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021.

TeMA. Journal of Land Use, Mobility and Environment offers researches, applications and contributions with a unified approach to planning and mobility and publishes original inter-disciplinary papers on the interaction of transport, land use and environment. Domains include: engineering, planning, modeling, behavior, economics, geography, regional science, sociology, architecture and design, network science and complex systems.

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EDITORIAL PREFACE: TEMA JOURNAL OF LAND USE MOBILITY AND ENVIRONMENT 3(2021)

The city challenges and external agents. Methods, tools and best practices

ROCCO PAPA

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Cities need to modify and/or adapt their urban form, the distribution and location of services and learn how to handle the increasing complexity to face the most pressing challenges of this century. On these topics and the ones arisen during the last year, the scientific community is working in order to minimize adverse effects on the environment, social and economic issues and people's health.

The three issues of the 14th volume collect articles concerning the effects of climate change, the ageing of the population, the reduction of energy consumptions from fossil fuels, immigration flows from disadvantaged regions, innovation technology, the optimization of land use and the impacts, in the short and long period, with innovative methods, tools, techniques and practices.

For this Issue, the section "Focus" contains three contributes. The first article of the section is titled "Sustainable urban mobility plan and the electric mobility challenge", by Ilaria Delponte (University of Genova, Italy) deals with the step-wise project of new four trolleybus lines in Genoa, as an initial application of metropolitan "Rapid Mass Transport - TRM" systems in Italy. The authors provide the assessment of the electrification project adopted in the city of Genoa and also the first results from the case-study planning process.

The second article, titled "Co-creation of green smart city concept" by Ewa Łaźniewska, Izabela Janicka, Tomasz Górecki (Poznan University, Poland), discusses the results of a research conducted in the Polish-German borderland region, concerning the ecological maturity of municipalities in 2020.

The last paper, "Mobility scooters in Italy: the reason of a missed revolution", by Giuseppe Cannata, Marialisa Nigro, Concetta Ljoka, Mihaela Murè, Guerino Coluccia, Laura Giordani, Umberto Crisalli, Calogero Foti (Tor Vergata and Roma Tre University, Italy), proposes a classification of mobility scooters as "motor vehicles" for both able and disabled persons and specific regulation of their characteristics and circulation.

The section "LUME" (Land Use, Mobility and Environment) contains five contributions. The first is titled "The River Contract in urban context as a new network of experiences" by Donatella Cialdea (University of Molise, Italy) and Chiara Pompei (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy). The contribution proposes a methodology to compare River Contract applications in European Union by combining considerations related to theoretical issues and practical interventions, carried out on waterways by different natural processes.

The second article, titled "Investigating the side-effects and consequences of the formation of second homes in Alamut rural areas, Central Alborz of Iran" by Reza Kheyroddin, Sepideh Momeni, Mojtaba Palouj, Abdolhadi Daneshpour (Tehran University, Iran) deepens the "second home" phenomenon in the Alamut region in central Alborz of Iran using surveys method from locals and field observation in eight villages of the eastern Alamut area and highlights positive and negative effects.

The third contribution, titled "Public space and 15-minute city", by Antonio Bocca (Gabriele d'Annunzio University, Italy) highlights how urban planning is aiming towards a city model that can be reached 15 within minutes, which promotes the proximity of services on a local scale and the improvement of public space and access to places and activities, thus emphasizing the need to interpret coordinated actions aimed at making our neighbourhoods self-sufficient in the first place.

The fourth article, titled "Characterization of drivers of agricultural land use change" by Akeem Olawale Olaniyi and Ahmad Makmom Abdullah (Kaduna State University and Putra University, Malaysia), proposes a useful method to identify and characterize important factors driving agricultural land use with a view to gain deeper understanding of the process, the drivers, the dynamics and the potential implications for attaining sustainable development in the Malaysian state of Selangor.

The last paper of the section, titled "Logit and probit models explaining perceived cycling motives, barriers, and biking trip generation in Lahore, Pakistan" by Izza Answer, Houshmand Masoumi, Atif Bilal Aslam, Muhammad Asim (University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore, Pakistan; Technische Universität Berlin, Germany; and University of Johannesburg, South Africa), answers two research questions based on the perceptions of the people of Lahore. The first research question addresses the perceived motives of everyday biking trip generation, and the latter addresses the perceived barriers in biking in Lahore.

Finally, the Evergreen section drawing the attention of the international scientific community to papers that, despite the passing of time, still present elements of significative scientific interest – insights, anticipations and reflections – enough to deserve careful read back. The paper - published in Italian in 1995 with the title "La città come sistema complesso in crisi strutturale" as a contribution in the volume Bertuglia, S.C., Fuccella, R. & Sartorio, G. (eds), "La città come sistema complesso in crisi strutturale" as in crisi strutturale: strumenti e tecniche per il governo metropolitano", Giuffrè, Milano – is published again in this section of TeMA Journal, Evergreen, in its literal English translation.

The Review Notes section proposes four insights on the themes of the TeMA Journal. The first research "Ecological Transition: innovation in cities", by Carmen Guida proposes an insight into the central role of cities in promoting technological and social innovations to improve citizens' quality of life and trigger a profound ecological transition.

The second research "Resilience as an urban strategy: a comparison of resources and interventions in the European Recovery Plans for the green transition" examines the green transition strategies highlighting the relationship between energy policy and physical and functional organization of urban systems. In addition, the resources and interventions of the recovery plans of Spain and Ireland are examined in comparison with Italy and Germany.

The third research "Toward greener and pandemic-proof cities: policy responses to Covid-19 outbreak in four global cities" by Gennaro Angiello. The section provides an overview of the policies and initiatives undertaken by four major global cities in response to the Covid-19 outbreak: Madrid (ES) London (UK), Brussels; (BE) and Milan (IT). The contribution employs a cross-city analysis to derive a taxonomy of urban policy measures and discusses their effectiveness for the sustainability and resilience of urban communities. The last research "Sustainable development in cities: a review of frameworks and indexes" is by Stefano Franco. The contribution clarifies the concept of sustainable city from a practical point of view, by describing some of the most widespread framework in defining urban sustainability.