Executive summary:

Right to the Future, organized by PUSH in collaboration with the Municipality of Palermo and the support of around 70 international partners and media partners, was aimed to collect proposals and visions for the future of the city of Palermo and lay the foundation for the translation of the global principles of the New Urban Agenda into concrete actions at local level. It was a three-day debate including plenary frontal sessions - Urban Labs - exchange moments with the audience - Urban Thinkers Sessions - interactive co-design workshops - Roundtables - the first Urban Journalism Academy after the ratification of the New Urban Agenda and several side events related to the main topic of the initiative. During the Urban Labs international guests shared best practices experimented in other cities and countries - in Netherlands, Portugal, Israel, Egypt, Cyprus and other regions in Italy - and replicable here in Palermo, while the authors of the best proposals selected by the Steering Committee through the Open Call launched before the event presented their ideas on the future of the city. Three Roundtables on topics selected by the participants - citizens and representatives of around 30 local organizations - were proposed on: cultural and artistic heritage, public spaces and community living. The programme also included a rich agenda of side events that took place around the city. Among those, Good Fucking Design Advice, presentation made by the two co-founders of the famous US platform for creatives and designers; Palermo Telling, mash-up of the most famous movies shot in Palermo in the last 30 years, made by The Piranesi Experience; Palermo: energy,
water and food, lecture organized by the coworking Ittico Lab on how to manage sea and ocean resources; a Green Street Fest organized by the social cooperative Orto Capovolto involving local artisans in the city centre. The whole Campus has risen a strong interest and participation. More than 200 participants from Palermo and all over the world took part to the activities and to the 20 side events around the city held during the same week. Around 200,000 users were reached online through social media channels and the website of the initiative, while more than 1000 followed the online streaming of the conference during the three days. 18 countries were represented at the Campus.

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**Introduction to the Campus**

Through Right to the Future, we wanted to imagine, discuss, and develop possible projects for the future of Palermo, basing our activities on the New Urban Agenda and using it as a starting point for the Campus. To succeed in this challenging project of applying new urban policies into our city, we decided to involve local, national and international actors with a strategy, a plan or even an idea for Palermo in order to open the debate and lay the foundation for a democratic and participative process that could lead to concrete proposals at local level.

For these reasons we decided to organize the Campus and build its objectives in partnership with the local Municipality and to launch an online Open Call to collect contributions from the community of citizens, expats and foreign people living in Palermo. The local community also played an active role in organizing the Campus’ side events (lectures, exhibitions, concerts and events related to the main topic of Right to the Future).

The objective to raise awareness of local institutions, organizations and citizens about the principles of the New Urban Agenda was lead through different channels: social media contents; a video - screened during the event - where local stakeholders were called to read the principles of the New Urban Agenda; an exhibition, organized in the event’s location, describing the process that lead to the launch of the World Urban Campaign, to the creation of the Urban Thinkers Campus format and to the organization of the two Urban Thinkers Campus in Palermo: City as a Service in 2015 and Right to the Future in 2017; an online streaming of the conference; a simultaneous translation service to facilitate the comprehension of the presentations among the audience; three roundtables on the topics selected by the participants to launch a co-design process that will continue in the near future.

All the contributions collected through the Open Call and the ideas developed during the Roundtables will be furthermore part of an international publication “Right to the Future: Vision Development Kit for the future of Palermo” with the objective of leaving to the local stakeholders a set of tools and ideas to be used to plan future actions and policies in the city.
Summary of all sessions

Day 1 - April 6 - Urban Lab + Urban Thinkers Session
[Morning Session - 10.00/13.00]

Mariana Brilhante - SPEAK - Portugal

SPEAK offers a service whereby anyone can learn a new language and culture and at the same time meet new people and build friendships in order to fight problems linked to social exclusion of migrant populations and empower communities that are not cohesive and do not accept diversity.

Giacomo Crescenzi - AlQomrah - Egypt

Young entrepreneurs, artists and creatives in the broad sense of the term share a passion for innovation and a flavour for good quality work. Does art have the power to change one individual life? How can a community grow through art practices? why should we think of art as an approach to social change?

Emanuela Saporito - OrtiAlti - Italy

OrtiAlti was born as a direct experience of urban regeneration aimed at creating community hanging gardens as tools for physical, environmental and social regeneration of cities. The ortoalto is a physical solution for the reuse and enhancement of urban areas and is a collaborative model of action, aimed at generating changes in urban resources management from a social innovation perspective.

Luigi Piccirillo - SAMEX - Italy

CivES aims to create the methodological, social, instrumental and procedural conditions to facilitate the interaction among the three pillars of the new civil welfare model: institutions, business community and third sector.

Marco Terranova - LEMUR - Spain

Recovering the ability to live in, to physically (re)build your own living space, the space where you express yourselves and build relationships. From children and from the transformation of
learning spaces, school courtyards through an “analogue”, inclusive and collective process, where the whole community educates, including the district and its inhabitants.

Sara Rizzo - Agencia de Rede para a Juventude - Italy

The proposal aims to fight poverty and youth unemployment, promoting the integration of young immigrants in the local community and urban regeneration. Inspired by the experience of Agencia de Redes para a Juventude in Rio de Janeiro, the idea is to create in Palermo a training program and a stimulus to youth social entrepreneurship, to be implemented with local young people and immigrants living in slums.

Roundtables
[Afternoon Session - 15.00/18.00]

Roundtable #1 Cultural and artistic heritage: workshop aimed at focusing on the lesser-known cultural heritage sites of the City of Palermo and showcasing different and creative ways to raise awareness and valorize them.

Roundtable #2 Community Living: the workshop focused on collaborative approaches on the issues of housing and service delivery for citizens in vibrant and diverse communities around the City of Palermo.

Roundtable #3 Public Spaces: the workshop targeted participatory processes to involve citizens and socio-economical actors in proposing creative and concrete solutions to regenerate and create local identities.

Day 2 - April 7 - Urban Lab + Urban Thinkers Session
[Morning Session - 10.00/13.00]

Iris Bijlsma - ARCADIS - Netherlands

In many places in the world water provides the identity of cities. A combination of an attractive urban design and its functionality, such as flood protection or water retention, is key for projects in cities: the waterfront project in New York and the multipurpose flood protection and water retention projects in the Netherlands.

Abdulrahman Kedhr - Axeer Studio - Egypt

Media is powerful, media can change societies, it can empower them and it can take away this power. It can spread love, but also it can spread hate. How we changed the state of music and
media in Egypt, how music and media helped in shaping a better society and is trying to shape a better future for our country. How can we empower musicians and filmmakers to create a good content, a content that raises awareness, highlight societal problems and enriches communities?

Amit Kachvan - The Library - Israel

Through its vast resources, top talent, highest level of venture capital per capita and non-stop culture, Tel Aviv is the place to be to create the next big project. At 2011, long before WeWork was even dreamed of, Tel Aviv – Yafo Municipality established The Library, a co-working space for the Tel Aviv startup community inside a traditional public library. The Library provides a co-working space and facilities for teams dedicated to developing Internet startups and technology companies.

Massimiliano Monetti - Federabitazione - Italy

Organizing territories starting from the inhabitants. This is the real sense of regeneration actions in contemporary cities where residents are the protagonists of their lifestyle and of local development. Regeneration starting not really from the physical part of cities, from their buildings and infrastructures, but from the intangible relations between residents, the community of inhabitants, called to start businesses together on their territory.

Angelica Agnello - Orto Capovolto - Italy

The future Palermo is a city that considers "common gardens" as opportunities for economic, social and environmental sustainability: an “Edible City” where the waste cycle plays a key role in triggering best practices and processes of active citizenship, improving the quality of life. The idea, then, is to change the face of Palermo by cultivating it and allowing people to do so everywhere in order to increase food self-sufficiency and also the opportunity to create community composting areas, plus a municipal composting system that fosters a virtuous circle.

Sandro Aglialoro - Mostrami - Italy

Artistic and cultural project aimed at promoting the excellence of Palermo through the diffusion and enhancement of the work of young Palermo artists (photographers and videomakers in particular, but also street artists, performers, painters and sculptors). It consists of 3 elements:
- a blog / portal in Italian and English that hosts the largest collective of young Palermo artists.
- a large annual Exhibition Show that is of tourist attraction and of interest to citizenship.
- workshops / talk / testimonials / training courses and dissemination of the key project management and self-entrepreneurial skills that deepen and divulge the best practices for launching other initiatives to promote our territory.
Bycircle is a bike sharing network offered by private companies that use bikes as billboards (with custom bikes for each sponsor). The bicycles of the Bycircle circuit are completely available and free and they are aimed at changing the behaviour of individuals who move around cities. The goal is to encourage private companies to turn their advertising investment into a service available for the community.

**Roundtables**

*Afternoon Session - 15.00/18.00*

Roundtable #1 Cultural and artistic heritage

Roundtable #2 Community Living

Roundtable #3 Public Spaces

**Day 3 - April 8 - Urban Lab + Urban Thinkers Session**

*Afternoon Session - 15.00/18.00*

Richard Catherall - Katarsis Ventures - Cyprus

Katarsis Ventures brought to the stage the experience to push innovators in poor zones. Richard explained the 3 stages of investment readiness that any enterprise has to go through and the three areas to where Palermo itself can become “investment ready”. This will include enabling ideas tried and tested in other places, which would facilitate innovation reaching scale in Palermo - and so having the capacity to transform the city.

Daniela Cattaneo - H+ - Italy

BASE Milano is a new 12,000 sq m space in Milan dedicated to innovation and cultural contamination that hosts a co-working area, workshops, exhibits, shows and lectures. BASE is also a creative community hub whose objective is to nurture the relationship between culture and business, future and everyday life, between democracy, well-being and knowledge economy, between social innovation and development.

Rainer Kern - Municipality of Mannheim - Germany
A major regional centre with a rich cultural offering, Mannheim is recognized for its institutionally established cultural sector (museums, theatres, festivals, cinemas) and lively independent creative scene. Mannheim’s multitude of intercultural activities plays a constructive role in shaping the strategic objectives of the city. Music is deeply etched into Mannheim’s history. A long-standing leader and innovator, Mannheim has an extraordinary infrastructure for music. The city sees music as a driver for artistic, economic, educational and urban policy development.

Tobias Kettner - Habitat III - Germany

The New Urban Agenda and the conclusions of Habitat III, the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development.

Ignazio Vinci - University of Palermo - Italy

Over the last decade, many national and international stakeholders have claimed the need for a new urban agenda. This list includes governmental supranational authorities, such as the UN and the EU, non-governmental actors, cultural foundations, international think tanks, but also global corporations with specific interests in the urban economies. All these efforts have in common the recognition of cities as the epicentre of global development and the vision of the current century as a new urban age.

Peter Paul Kainrath - Manifesta - Netherlands

Manifesta aims to constantly reinvent its own exhibition model by its nomadic format. Manifesta 11 in Zurich was spread out over joint-ventures with participatory artistic projects, while Manifesta 12 will focus on Europe’s Southern urban centres and issues related to migration and climate change. What is the role that intercultural management plays in starting up a Biennial in a new host city? The process of start-up and development and the possible impact on the urban environment.

Key outcomes of the UTC

The results and inputs emerged during the three days debate were various and interesting. The Urban Labs were just the physical meeting where people gather to share and inspire real bottom-up actions to implement in our city. One month before the Campus and in order to inspire the co-design process, PUSH launched an online survey asking to the respondents to imagine of being in charge of 100 Million of the Municipality budget to make an investment that could generate social, cultural and economic
sustainable impact for the next 100 years and to decide how many millions they want to spend in each of the following sectors: Housing emergency, Health and Basic Service, Security and Legality, Mobility and Transport, Education, Training and Job Placement, Art, Culture and Sports, Sustainability, Environment Protection and Agriculture, Technology and Digital Services, Social Inclusion, Participation and Hospitality, Valorization of the architectural heritage and public spaces, Tourism and internationalization. The results were surprising and useful to understand how locals perceive their city and what they consider most urgent and, on the other side, what is the impression of non Palermitans when they come and visit or move to our city.

Sustainability, Environment Protection and Agriculture is the most urgent need for locals, while surprisingly Security and Legality is in their opinion the less urgent. People who come from the outside obviously give a lot of importance to Technology and Digital Services and Tourism and internationalization. Social inclusion is transversely the most urgent need for the whole sample.

Some of the topics of the survey became then the main object of the Roundtables in order to promote the transition from the identification of problems to the collaborative search of potential solutions. The roundtables’ process was successful. 11 teams including quite heterogeneous participants (the age range was 20-70, different level of education, different interests but common needs) attending 3 co-design workshops on 3 different topics for 6 hours and managing to elaborate 10 different ideas for the future of Palermo. For the reactivation of public spaces they proposed digital services to foster urban agriculture, reuse of abandoned spaces as new centres for integration and multiculturalism and gamification of public spaces with educational purposes. In order to promote the valorization of cultural and artistic heritage they proposed the requalification of the historical markets through digital and interactive maps with pictures and reproduction of sounds to pass on their stories, solutions to improve the physical accessibility to the Arab-Normanno itinerary in Palermo for disabled but also in terms of information accessibility for all the visitors, use of contemporary art to create a unique circuit that connects all the museums in Palermo and create incentives for visitors.

To improve the community living within the city, participants proposed events and activities to make neighbourhood communities more cohesive and solutions to transform petty crime and vandalism spread in some disadvantaged areas of the city into creative processes with social purposes.

Furthermore, the outcomes of the roundtables were used as an input for another event, the Right to the Future Intensive School that took place in Palermo from April 18 to 22, conceived as an open space where, using the Service Design approach, 16 international students continued the co-design process undertaken during the Urban Thinkers Campus to elaborate, prototype and validate more concrete solutions for the city.

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**Conclusion & way forward**

The Campus was a unique opportunity for the international guests, speakers and audience to share ideas and visions on the future of Palermo and of cities in general, a perfect mix of bottom-
up solutions and institutional perspectives highlighting the importance of both community and administrations collaboration, a clear picture of approaches and initiatives adopted in different geographic areas of Europe to solve issues that are similar in many other urban contexts around the world and a first important step towards the implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Palermo.

Thanks to the commitment of the Public Administration and of a vibrant civil society, Palermo has been recently nominated Italian Youth Capital 2017, Italian Culture Capital 2018 and chosen as the location for the international Art Biennale Manifesta 12. In this context and in this precise moment, it was extremely important to define specific paths to follow and to do so, it was crucial to involve everyone. The most concrete outcome of Right to the Future is thus represented by the proposals coming as a result of the co-design and collaborative process undertaken during the Roundtables, precise indications coming from local stakeholders that will be further developed in the next few months and hopefully translated in concrete actions with the support of the Public Administrations or through other public and private fundings. Moreover, among next steps, in order to inspire visions over the next years, all the ideas collected thanks to the initiative will be part of a publication that will act both as guidelines and as an oriented-action document for the adoption of the New Urban Agenda principles in Palermo.

Monitoring & reporting

*How do you intend to monitor the achievements and progress in the implementation of your action plan approved at your Campus (sucess indicators and other measures of achievement should be proposed)?*

Starting from the ideas selected by the steering committee, the ones designed during the Roundtables and the results of the Intensive School we have 30 actions to implement. We are working now with the Municipality to schedule a series of meetings where, with the authors and the stakeholders, we can help to implement them. The main indicators will be the number of actions we will deliver and their social impact.

*Explain how you intend to share the results of your action plan with the WUC community and other partners in order to jointly implement the New Urban Agenda?*

We will publish the 70 projects/visions gathered in a book called “Right to the Future: Vision Development Kit for the city of Palermo”. A short version of the book and all the speeches of the speakers will be online on the UTC website. We will also host periodical meeting with the partners and the stakeholders involved. All the actions and visions are linked to the SDG goals. We will evaluate the results according to those indicators.
List of key speakers

1. Sandro Aglialoro - Mostrami - Italy
2. Angelica Agnello - Orto Capovolto - Italy
3. Amit Kachvan - The Library Tel Aviv - Israel
4. Peter Paul Kainrath - Manifesta - Netherlands
5. Abdulrahman Kedhr - Axeer Studio - Egypt
6. Rainer Kern - City of Mannheim - Germany
7. Tobias Kettner - Habitat III - Germany
8. Giovanna Marano - Municipality of Palermo - Italy
9. Massimiliano Monetti - Federabitazione - Italy
10. Leoluca Orlando - Municipality of Palermo - Italy
11. Luigi Piccirillo - SAMEX - Italy
12. Sara Rizzo - Agencia de Redes para a Juventude - Italy
13. Iris Bijlsma - Arcadis - Netherlands
14. Gianfranco Rizzo - Municipality of Palermo - Italy
15. Emanuela Saporito - Orti Alti - Italy
16. Domenico Schillaci - PUSH - Italy
17. Giuseppe Spataro - PUSH - Italy
18. Marco Terranova - LEMUR - Spain
19. Ignazio Vinci - University of Palermo - Italy
20. Mariana Brilhante - SPEAK - Portugal
21. Maurizio Carta - Polytechnic School Palermo - Italy
22. Richard Catherall - Catarsis Ventures Limited - Cyprus
23. Daniela Cattaneo Diaz - H+ - Italy
24. Giacomo Crescenzi - AlQommrah - Egypt
25. Salvatore Di Dio - PUSH - Italy
26. Stefania Fort - Bycircle - Italy

List of Participants

- List of participants

List of Partner Groups represented

1. Local and Subnational Authorities
2. Research and Academia
3. Civil Society Organizations
4. Grass-root organizations
5. Women
6. Children and Youth
7. Business and Industries
8. Foundations and Philanthropies
9. Professionals
10. Media
11. Older Persons
12. Persons with disabilities

List of organizations represented

1. UN-Habitat/World Urban Campaign
2. United Nations/Habitat III Secretariat
3. Ordine Architetti Palermo
4. Ordine Ingegneri Palermo
5. Municipality of Palermo
6. SPEAK
7. AlQomrah
8. OrtiAlti
9. Samex
10. LEMUR
11. Agencia de Redes para a Juventude
12. ARCADIS
13. Axeer Studio
14. The Library Tel Aviv
15. Confcooperative Federabitazione
16. Katarsis Ventures
17. H+
18. BASE Milan
19. Manifesta
20. AAA - Architetti Cercasi
21. Young Academics Network
22. Avanzi
23. Italian Ministry of Environment
24. Biennale spazio pubblico 2017
25. CESIE Palermo
26. Chora Berlin
27. Centro Danilo Dolci
28. Società Dante Alighieri
29. European Institute for Local Development
List of countries represented

1. Australia
2. Austria
3. Belgium
4. Colombia
5. Egypt
6. France
7. Germany
8. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
9. Ireland
10. Israel
11. Italy
12. Netherlands
13. Portugal
14. Slovenia
15. Spain
16. Switzerland
17. Tunisia
18. United States of America
UTC Photos:

#UrbanThinkers Campus: Right to the Future

UTC videos:

- Video 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5