

# WP2: Activities of the Riga IN-HUB

IN-HABIT Consortium meeting, 21 22 February 2023,  
Lucca, Italy

Baltic Studies Centre, Kalnciema Quarter, Riga Planning Region



# IN-HABIT in Riga

Āgenskalns market:  
Multifunctional urban food hub

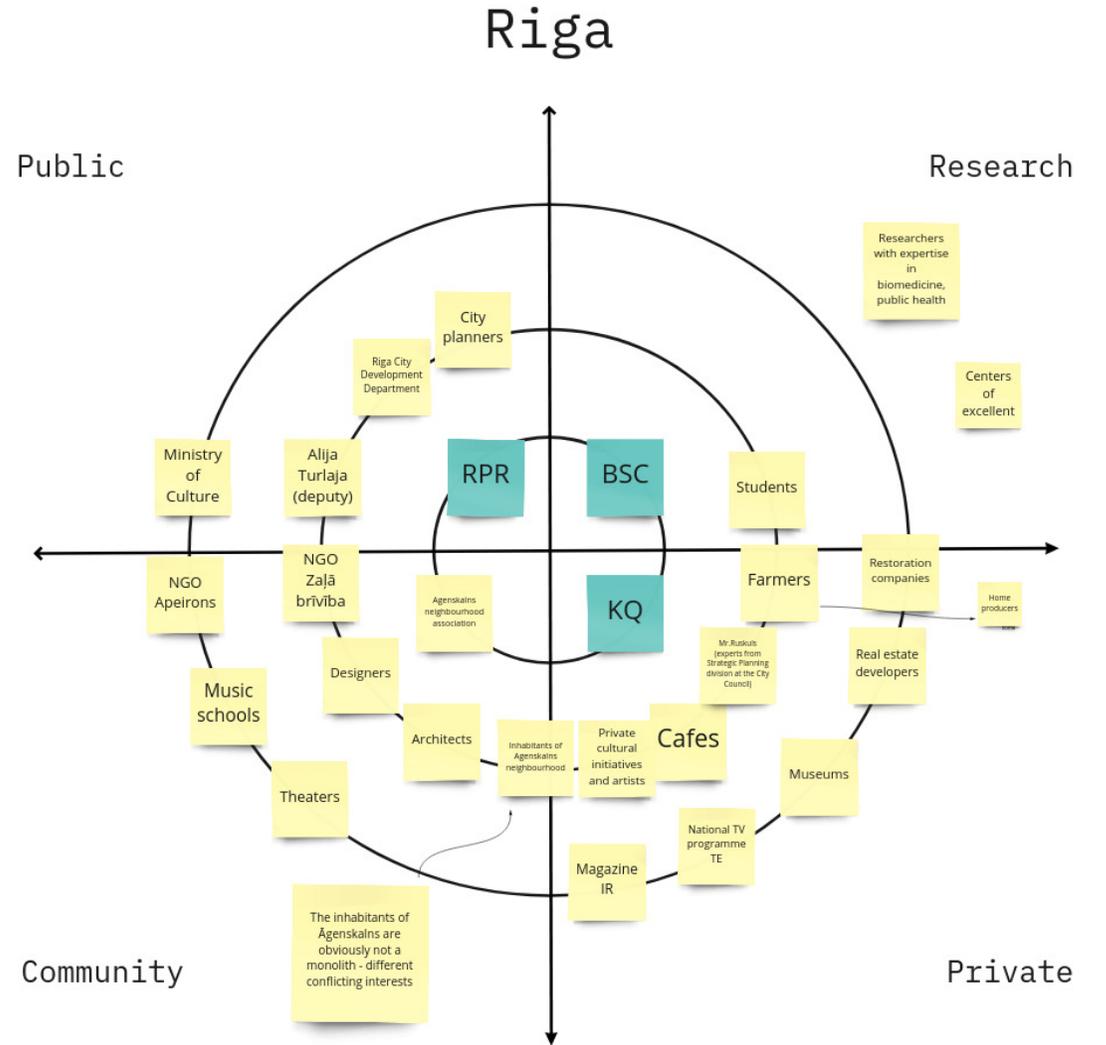
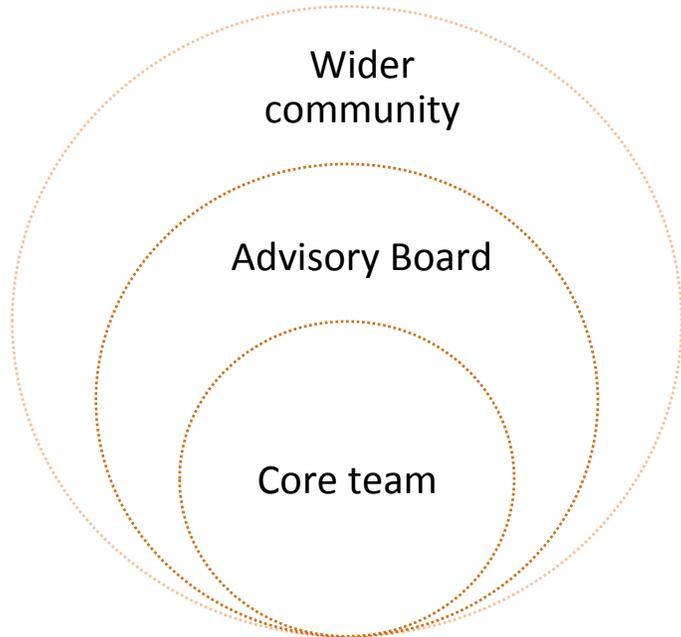


# Riga team



# Stakeholder mapping and involvement

## Riga 'IN-HUB' structure



# Main directions of work

## Transformation of the outdoor marketplace

*Renovation of the area outside the market pavilion into a dynamic and inclusive multifunctional space for social gatherings that combines food provision with cultural and educational opportunities*

## Community kitchen

*A dedicated area on the first floor of the market pavilion equipped with the necessary appliances to host community cooking and co-creation events targeted at different audiences*

## Minimisation of waste at the market

*Implementation of policies and activities at the market that nudge vendors and customers to engage in environmentally sustainable consumption practices*

## Online food purchasing system

*An online sales facility for ordering products sold at the market for pickup and delivery, with an emphasis on locally sourced food*

**Current focus for hard solutions:  
accessibility and the community kitchen**

# Transformation of the outdoor marketplace

1. **An art object** as an interactive learning and social activity (an existing art object to be found and adapted to the territory);
2. **An entertaining and educational social game** 'Weigh and count'. For children and families, indoors and outdoors, using a collection of weights, various activities.
3. **Improvement of green areas and accessibility in the marketplace.** The green zone will be improved by installing an urban mini-garden, changing the location and improving the community greenhouse. Accessibility in the market will be improved by: **(i) installing a ramp by the terrace**, (ii) repairing stairs and railings, (iii) installing additional seats in an auditorium by the terrace, (iv) building a bicycle stand integrated into the ramp, (v) separating the delivery area from the green area.
4. Developing a **thematic excursion programme** in the market and neighbourhood area. Preparation of excursion programmes. Digital and physical excursions. Introducing new excursion technologies. Collaboration with city guides, a theatre, Riga Tourism Agency.



*Subcontracting amount: 100 000 EUR (70% EU financing)*

# Community kitchen

1. **A dedicated area** on the first floor of the market pavilion
  - Installing a lift to ensure that everyone can access the area
2. **Buying and installing the appliances** necessary to host community cooking events, educational courses, etc.
3. Linking the activities of community kitchen with the activities of **Youth Station**.



*Subcontracting amount: 120 000 EUR (70% EU financing)*

# Minimisation of waste at the market

1. **Exploration of opportunities** for developing an autonomous and unified waste management model at the market.
2. Finding **partnerships** and identifying potentially interested enterprises and university departments and study programmes to jointly develop new solutions and adjust the existing technologies to the market needs.
3. Building an “**eco-island**” in the market.
4. Planning of educational activities related to waste minimisation and recycling.

Collaborative partners – RTU, LU

*Subcontracting amount: 100 000 EUR (70% EU financing)*



# Online food purchasing system (currently being revisited)

1. This direction of work gradually expands and embraces **other short supply chains**.
2. The new idea is a **mobile farmer market**, to diversify the range of products, to improve access to local and farm products.
3. Procuring the necessary equipment (e.g. Smart product distribution boxes? Electric vehicle?)



*Subcontracting amount: 80 000 EUR (70% EU financing)*

# Soft solutions also play a prominent role

- Christmas market in December. Participants: seniors, social entrepreneurs, general public.
- Creative workshops with neighbourhood population, young people – focus on sustainable festivity. (Presents exchange point, upcycle present packaging, pop-up radio conversations about environmentally sustainable celebrations, etc.)
- Concerts with participation of students of musical schools located in the neighbourhood.
- Exhibition about young Latvian scientists, including food and health scientists
- Thematic events related to the global campaign 'Dont eat up the world'. Promotion of healthy, sustainable, vegetarian, plant based diets.
- Health days planned for 2023, including health check possibilities and educational activities about healthy life-styles to be organised in collaboration with healthcare institutions.
- Promotional activities for local and seasonal products (thematic markets, food festivals), regional and ethnic cuisines (in cooperation with embassies and minority associations)
- Promotional activities towards environmentally friendly shopping habits (package free shopping stands and shelves).
- Sports and cultural activities in the market, indoors and outdoors.
- Improved communication channels - activity calendars, information stands.

## **Social and community effects:**

Awareness

Inclusion

Participation

# Lessons learned

1. The Riga IN-HUB works in lockstep with the overall vision of Kalnciema Quarter (practice partner) – a good balance between top-down and bottom-up, commercially and public interest driven approaches
2. Fortunate synergies between the renovation project and the goals of IN-HABIT
3. Different progress and dynamics at the project level and the city level, good practice example and multiplication effects
4. Alignment of different foci and strategies within the IN-HUB
  - Commercial interests of KQ
  - Policy strategies of RPR
  - Research interests and data of BSC
  - Maximise gains and benefits (wider community)

Thank you