



KOŠICE 2.0

PRESS KIT

This project is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund through the Urban Innovative Actions Initiative (UIA).



PROJECT PARTNERS

- City of Košice
- Creative Industry Košice NGO
- K13 – Košice Cultural Centres
- Technical University of Košice – Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Arts
- East Coast
- Košice IT Valley
- ANTIK Telecom
- Civitta Slovakia
- ASBIS SK



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Košice 2.0 project is being implemented thanks to the initiative of the European Commission Urban Innovation Measures (UIA). The aim is to support innovative and experimental projects in the field of sustainable urban development to the extent that the cities would not normally be able to fund.

The call is oriented towards self-regulatory bodies to motivate them to search and implement innovative solutions, transform them into prototypes and test them in real urban environments. Košice is the first city in Slovakia to succeed in the call.

In a cultural and socio-economic context, there are three interrelated **challenges** for the Košice 2.0 project:

- **Make full use of the potential** created by cross-sectoral cooperation between the creative industries and ICT.
- **Economic transformation** from an industrial city to a digital and creative city.
- Addressing the issue of **low civic engagement and trust** in public institutions.

The Košice 2.0 project focuses on:

- **improving the quality of life in the city**, through the improvement and development of urban services,
- **increasing civic engagement** in cultural, social and economic activities,
- **development of the cultural and creative industries and education** in order to create new jobs.

The aim of the Košice 2.0 project is to **create a creative ecosystem** in which individual stakeholders (local government, citizens, business community) will coexist, cooperate and make informed decisions in order to improve the quality of life in the city.

CREATIVE ECOSYSTEM

Košice 2.0 – that is a city with a clear idea of its development through the improvement and innovation of urban services, the involvement of citizens in its activities, the creation of opportunities for cooperation, the development of the IT sector and the creative industry.

The Creative Ecosystem consists of:

Citizen Experience and Well-Being Institute (CXI)

This is one of the main planned outcomes of the Košice 2.0 project. Within the Košice 2.0 project, the task of the Institute is to determine, collect and analyze the data needed for the improvement and development of urban services.

Mobile Urban Lab (MUL)

MUL is a research unit – a contact point between the Institute and the citizens. It takes the form of a car equipped with modern digital technologies and displays.

Innovation programs

They create opportunities for startups, entrepreneurs, NGOs and professionals from the field of IT and creative industries, as well as active local citizens, to participate in solving urban challenges.

Bravo Hub

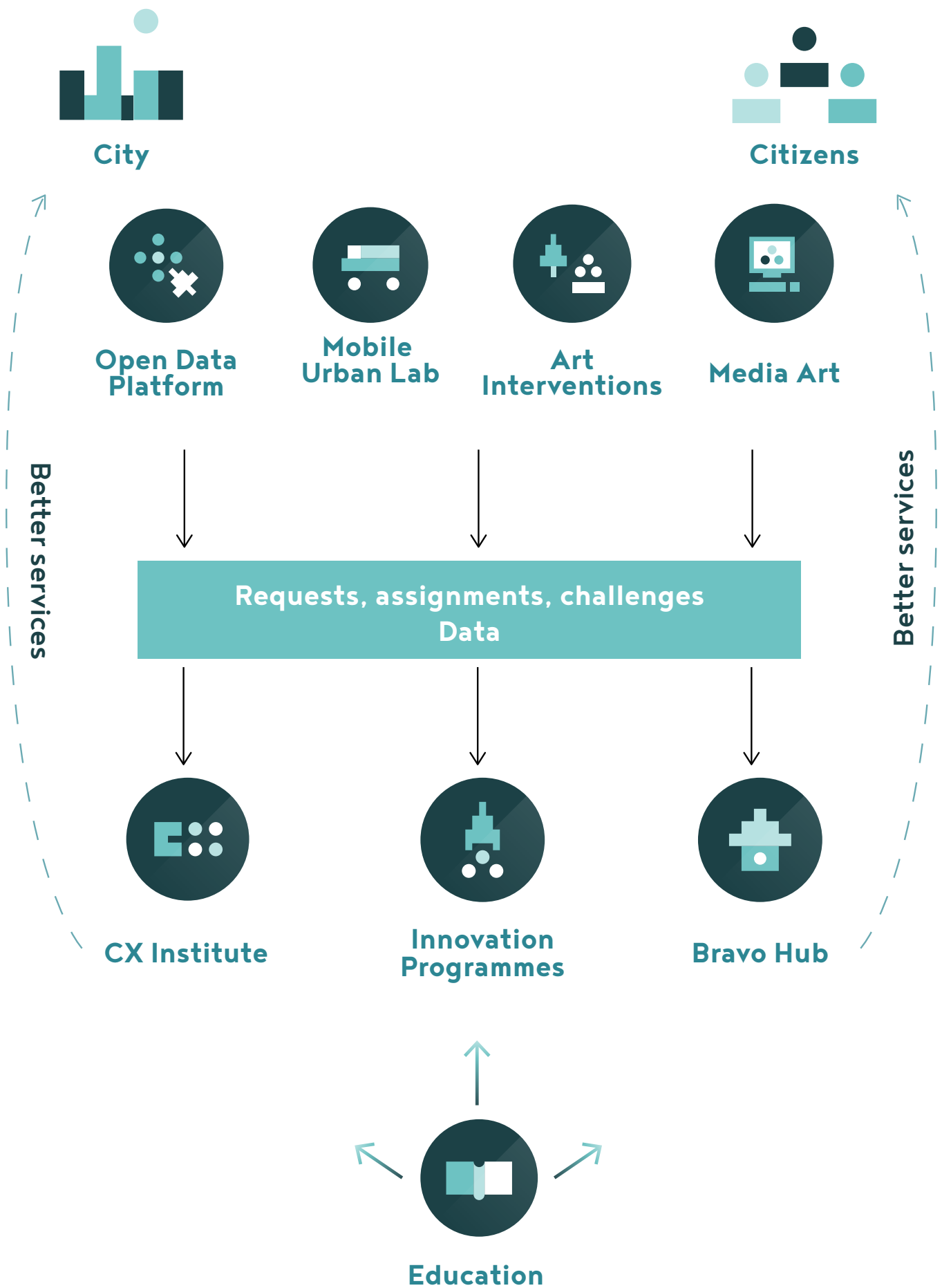
The main activities of the Košice 2.0 project will be mainly implemented within the Bravo building in the Kulturpark complex. It will provide service and space with added value as well as facilities for creatives or startups. It will include a coworking space, FabLab, Community & Meetup Space, Photo and Video Studio and Audiovisual Center.

Educational programs

The aim of the educational programs is to build capacity at the level of local government, academia and the general public.

Artistic interventions and media art installations

Artistic interventions and media art installations are an innovative tool for increasing interest in civic participation and a means of communicating with the public and to obtain data for research carried out by the UXI.



CXI INSTITUTE

Citizen Experience and Well-Being Institute

The Institute is one of the main planned outcomes of the Košice 2.0 project. In the future, it should represent an urban conceptual organization in the field of architecture, urban planning, development, participation, creation and management of the city.

The role of the Institute is to **identify, analyze and redesign the services provided by the city** independently or in cooperation with other entities.

The Institute will also **collect, update and make use of data and information** in the framework of applied research and professional cooperation with universities, research and non-profit organizations. It will evaluate the data that are being used in the preparation of documents for the creation of local policies and strategies and coordinate the preparation of strategic documents for the city.

Within the Košice 2.0 project, the task of the Institute is to determine, collect and analyze the data needed for the improvement and development of urban services.

The experts working at the Institute perform the following key activities for the project:

- identification of services provided by the city,
- finding out the method of delivery of services to citizens and their quality,
- identification of data needed to achieve the project objectives and methodological access to them,
- suggesting redesign of services,
- acquisition, management and regular update of data necessary for the development of urban services,
- interpretation of the collected urban data and on their basis the offer of areas of possibilities – urban challenges that have the potential for innovation, development or improvement.

MUL

Mobile Urban Lab

The Mobile Urban Lab (hereinafter referred to as the MUL) is a research unit – a contact point between the CXI institute and the local citizens.

MUL takes the form of a **car equipped with modern digital technologies**, displays and sensors and is used for:

- mapping of public space – unused spots in the city,
- data presentation using VR, AR and other modern technologies,
- identification of needs and communication with the local citizens, which enables them to participate in the identification of urban challenges through events, discussions, questionnaires,
- implementation of artistic interventions in public space.



INNOVATION PROGRAMS

The Košice 2.0 project offers a wide range of innovation programs that create opportunities for startups, entrepreneurs, NGOs and professionals from the field of IT and creative industry, as well as active citizens of the city, to **participate in solving urban challenges**.

The goal of innovation programs is to bring real solutions to specific problems defined by the Municipality of Košice and the CX Institute. These will cover a wide range of public services that the city provides to its inhabitants – from public spaces, public transport, parking, culture, education, spatial planning to communication between citizens and local authorities.

Innovation programs:

- Acceleration program
- Grant program Inovuj ty!
- Hackathons
- Meetups and events

The Acceleration Program will provide support to startups and entrepreneurs in the form of **coaching and mentoring**. During the project, 30 projects will be selected for the program and the 3 best of them will be rewarded with the Accelerator progress award (10,000 Eur).

Inovuj ty! is a grant program **designed for citizens and organizations from the third sector**. It will help 36 ideas that will respond to the challenges defined by the CXI Institute by providing them mentorship and financial support.

Hackathons will bring together selected participants to **support the emergence of innovations and technological solutions**. The registered teams will work with mentors on specific assignments and the winning team will receive the Hackathon Awards (5,000 Euros).

Meetups and events support **networking and cooperation** between creatives, startupists, citizens, entrepreneurs or local government representatives. The aim is to develop existing cooperation, and at the same time support the emergence of new cross-sectoral cooperation, between the members of communities, such as non-profit organizations, startups, entrepreneurs, professionals from the CCI sector and the like.



BRAVO HUB

- **Co-working:** flexible office environment for creatives and startups,
- **FabLab:** production laboratory/open workshop for communities and prototype platform for local entrepreneurial development. FabLab is equipped with tools such as a 3D printer, programming tools, laser cutting devices, a KUKA robot or a CNC machine.
- **Community & Meetup Space:** space for meetings, networking and collaborations between creatives, startupists, citizens, entrepreneurs or local government representatives. Meetups of the startup community will also be organized in these spaces.
- **Audiovisual center:** a space equipped with high-quality technologies for professional audiovisual production
- **Photo and video studio**



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The goal of the educational programs is to **build capacity at the level of local government, academia and the general public**. During the project, three educational programs will be implemented for three categories:

CITY – Creative City: Training program for officials focused to build capacities focused on local government decision-making processes, new business models and civic participation.

UNIVERSITY – Creative University: For the project, a new educational program and subjects focused on data collection, analysis, and visualization will be created at the Faculty of Economics and the Faculty of Arts.

CITIZENS – Cre/active Citizens: An educational program designed for the general public – citizens interested in active civic participation, in order to develop skills, spread awareness and increase public involvement in urban development.

ART INSTALLATIONS

Art interventions and media art installations are an **innovative tool for increasing interest in civic participation** and a means of communicating with the public and obtaining data for research carried out by the UXI Institute. They provide citizens with the opportunity to fulfill themselves in an urban environment.

While artistic interventions represent temporary artistic interventions in public space, media art installations are **permanent works of art**. The planned locations for exhibiting the installations are the East Slovak Gallery and the Kulturpark.



OPEN DATA PLATFORM

Information is a strategic asset of the city and its stakeholders, including the public. Access to information is essential for transparent and effective local government decision-making, the support of innovation potential and, ultimately, for the improvement of services provided to citizens and businesses in the city.

The Open Data Platform will enable the local government and the general public to effectively use urban data. One of the planned outcomes of the project is the creation of a central portal for open data, which will be created in parallel with the development of an innovative community. The community will actively use the data in the process of prototyping, generating new ideas, whether it will be for the development of new or the improvement of already existing urban services.



INVOLVEMENT OF CITIZENS IN THE PROJECT

- by participating in educational activities, workshops and calls
- by participating in surveys, focus groups, in order to obtain feedback on the design of new urban services,
- by participating in the program Inovuj ty! – the city publishes a challenge or a problem, citizens can apply and suggest their own solutions,
- by participating in the Acceleration Program and Hackathons,
- participating in the Startup Community and Meetups related to urban development, entrepreneurship, creative industries, civic engagement and the way in which citizens can contribute to a better life in the city,
- using FabLab to create their own prototypes,
- through artistic interventions and media art installations,
- by working with open data.



"We now understand that if we want to be a successful and competitive city in the future, we must develop the potential that connects creative thinking and modern digital technologies, improves communication with our citizens and increases the quality of life in the city. The well-being of the city and its citizens should be at the heart of our every decision."

– Mgr. Marcel Gibóda, Deputy Mayor of Košice



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