

**The role of universities as driving forces for  
change in regions and cities**

# **Foundation for urban innovation Bologna**

**Innovative partnership between municipalities and Universities**



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



Comune di Bologna

**fondazione  
innovazione urbana**



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

**85k students, 50% out of Region, 1° in Europe for In/Out Erasmus**



Comune di Bologna



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# What is FIU?

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Legal entity founded by the City of Bologna and the University of Bologna.

The Foundation is supported by the major public agencies of the city and the 2 main Bank Foundation having their headquarter in Bologna.

## Fondatori



Comune di Bologna



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## Membri sostenitori



## Membri ordinari



# What is FIU?

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- FIU is the “**collective brain**” of the city.
- A connector of innovative actions.
- A place where a dialogue between different public, governmental, cultural, and social actors( citizens, students, public institutions, social movements..) can take place.
- A place where transformations are faced.....

# Fondazione Innovazione urbana

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The Foundation works as an “open lab” with 3 main pillars of action, representing in the meantime three different areas or departments:

- **Urban Center:** Dissemination of information, promotion and spread communication in the territory;
- **Civic Imagination:** Management of participatory processes aiming to boost citizens participation to public life and the co-design of the city;
- **Mapping the present:** Analysis of city transformation and data.



# Urban Center Bologna



# Fondazione Innovazione urbana

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# Civic Imagination





# Some data (2018)

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- **14.000** people met (7.000 in 2019, 5.000 in 2018, 2040 in 2017)
- **14.584** in 2017 and **16.348** in 2018 people who voted in Participatory budget
- about **460** quarter sessions
- **30** enabled paths
- **225** proposals for Participatory budget
- **12** public space projects from 2018
- **11** projects to renovate public buildings to create collaborative spaces
- **Calls** Futuro Prossimo, Bologna Made, INCREDIBOL, PON Metro - Povertà educative e nuove competenze, Cultura e Sport
- **100.000** visitors of the exhibitions







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# Mapping the present

“Mapping the present” is a research and documentation center on the transformations of the contemporary world. The center makes privileged use of cartography and multimedia technologies.



## An aerial photograph of a city, likely New York City, showing a dense grid of streets. The image is overlaid with numerous small, colorful circular markers in shades of red, green, blue, and purple, which are scattered across the urban landscape, possibly indicating specific locations or data points. The surrounding areas are less densely built up, with some green spaces and water bodies visible.



# Goals of Mapping the present

- **Data-Lab**, aims to document urban transformations through a visual representation able to select and synthesizing the growing flow of data and informations;
- **Digital and interactive info-cartographic production** in the form of archives and digital atlases for the elaboration of big and open data (urban Atlas);
- **Trainings and applied research** conducted in close collaboration with the University of Bologna giving attention to the use of digital tools;
- **Alma Mater Research Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (Alma AI)**;



# Agreement cooperation between Bologna and Barcelona





# Agreement cooperation between Bologna and Barcelona

The three-year agreement enables the collaboration on nine points:

- **Reception;**
- **Culture;**
- **Collaborative economy;**
- **Housing policies;**
- **Open and big data;**
- **Tourism;**
- **Participatory democracy;**
- **Feminization of politics;**
- **Collaboration and participation.**





# HOUSINGBO

LABORATORIO SULLA CONDIZIONE  
ABITATIVA STUDENTESCA A BOLOGNA

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# HousINg BO: the permanent laboratory on student housing conditions in Bologna

HousINg BO is a laboratory aiming to improve the living conditions of students. The project is jointly promoted by the Municipality and University of Bologna, and is managed by the Foundation for Urban Innovation.

The project involves the student community and all the city actors interested in the topic of student housing. The final objective is to elaborate a concrete proposals to improve the living conditions of the non-local students.





Associazioni  
Studentesche



# Five main lines of intervention:

- **Survey:** online questionnaire involving students from the campus of Bologna and the Romagna university centers with the integration of public databases (Municipality, ACER, ER.GO, Region);
- **Guarantee the right to study for disadvantages students:** Availability of new student housing facilitated by the Municipality and increase the number of accommodations through the construction of new student residences;



- **Rebalancing the market rental housing:** Regulation of tourists platforms with participatory programmes, collaboration with Fair BnB and encourage agreed amount of rents for students
- **Coordinated policy on public and private investments:** Investment targets specific axis (for example international students) and attract investments that promote the principle of social equity and public interest
- **Increase and encourage student citizenship:** Enhancement of the call "Futuro Prossimo"

# First data collections

The survey involved **11,427** students which have completed the questionnaire, approximately the 15% of the total enrolled in the University. This confirmed the interest of the student regarding the question of student housing.

The **66.8%** of respondent are non-local students, while the **9.1%** are residents in Bologna and the **24.1%** are commuters. The **86.1%** of the sample are students of the campus of Bologna and the **13.9%** are students from other Romagna campus.







# Thank you

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**[fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it](http://fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it)**

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