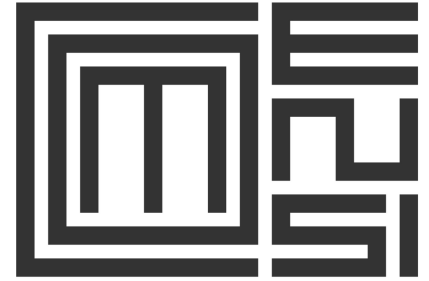


*newsletter*

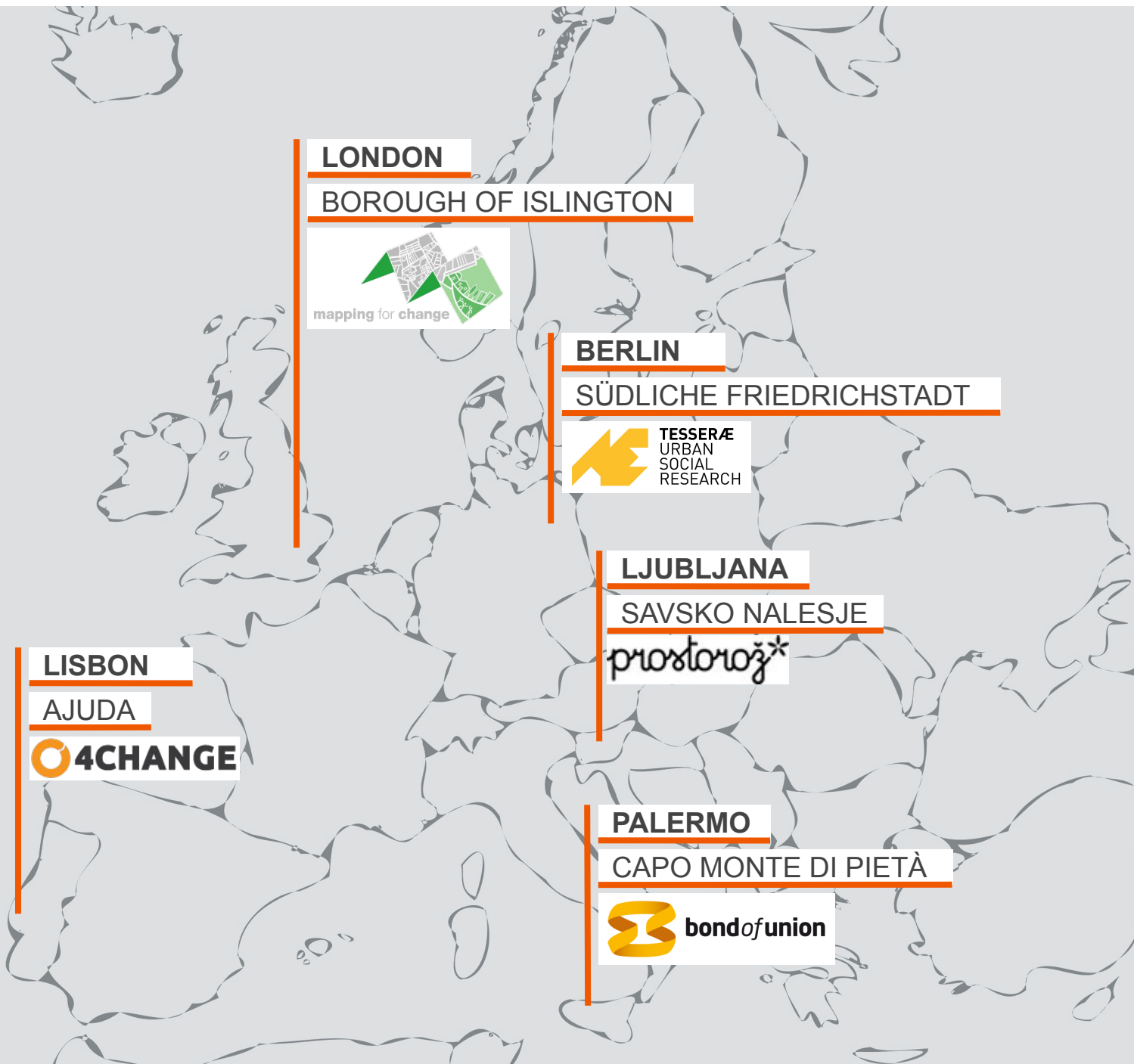
COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT  
FOR SOCIAL  
INCLUSION

## THE PROJECT

Funded by the ERASMUS+ programme, COMmunity ENGagement for Social Inclusion (COMENSI) is a two-year project started in October 2018. We are trying to understand why adults who are living with disadvantage in urban areas are underrepresented in participatory processes and to develop appropriate strategies and tools to counteract such issues.



## WHO'S INVOLVED



## WHAT WE'VE DONE...

### **KICK-OFF MEETING (PALERMO, NOV 18)**

A chance to put faces to the names, to discuss project implementation details and to create a sense of belonging to the group.

### **ADULT EDUCATORS TRAINING (PALERMO, JUNE 19)**

One week of knowledge exchange with 25 adult educators coming from the five EU target neighbourhoods. Together, we learned, discussed and evaluated a range of participatory methods and their effectiveness in creating community engagement.

2019

2020

### **PROJECT MEETING (BERLIN, MAY 19)**

Finalisation of one of the intellectual outputs of the project, the toolkit (see next page). Preparation of the first exchange/training activity.

### **LAUNCH OF NEIGHBOURHOOD ATLAS (DEC 19)**

The second intellectual output of this project is a digital platform which enables to create, share and combine maps of places, timelines and collections of documents to support engagement.

### **PROJECT MEETING (LISBON, MAR 20)**

Discussion about some project deviations, finalisation of neighbourhood atlas and visit to the area where 4Change is organising the local labs.



## COMENSI TOOLKIT

For the past year and a half, we have been researching, designing and testing different ways to engage more people than the ‘usual suspects’ in civic actions. We have put together a collection of tools, methods and practices specifically designed and selected to improve the engagement of urban communities.

The COMENSI toolkit has been written to support adult education providers, public administration, community managers or professionals interested in activating participatory processes of community engagement in challenging urban settings.



### What will you find in the COMENSI toolkit?

- **The COMENSI method** – an overarching approach to community engagement to guide projects from the embryonic stage of development through to implementation and evaluation.
- **A collection of engagement methods, tools and techniques** to inspire practitioners which includes descriptions, guidelines and practical use examples.
- **Local Framework Scenarios.**

## NEIGHBOURHOOD ATLAS

To support the engagement activities deployed in the local labs from five different urban contexts, we have built a digital platform which first prototype is now ready and can be accessed here → <https://www.community-atlas.net/>

Within the platform, there are five digital atlases which have been specifically designed for each local context made available in the local languages.



## LOCAL LABS

The local labs are the physical -and virtual- community spaces where we are organising different activities to try and understand which are the best methods to engage adults in our neighbourhoods. The virtual side of things is enabled by the [Neighbourhood Atlas](#), the platform built to support and record everything that is happening.

### AJUDA - LISBOA, PORTUGAL

**Purpose:** Gather collective memories of the community to promote a sense of belonging to the Ajuda territory and encourage a participatory role in the future. Support local initiatives and ideas to be developed in Ajuda.

#### Actions to date:

- Create, maintain, strengthen ties and mapping local stakeholders, and the community;
- Labs to collect ideas;
- Collected inputs for our atlas;

**Future plans:** Adapt and support the local initiatives/ideas possible to adjust to Covid-19 situation in order to improve the community together with other local stakeholders.



### CAPO - MONTE DI PIETÀ' - PALERMO, ITALY

**Purpose:** to engage the local community in a process of sharing ideas and co-creation of actions of neighbourhood enhancement

#### Actions to date:

- open meetings and volunteering actions to start the process;
- creation of the network of local stakeholders and administrators from the City Council;
- collection of ideas and initiatives with the residents & atlas update

**Future plans:** after the Covid-19 emergency decrease, we will continue the co-creation process with the residents and the meetings with the local network. If possible, and if still valid, we will execute some of the ideas emerged in the previous months and realise neighbourhood events.





## LOCAL LABS

### MEHRINGPLATZ - BERLIN, GERMANY

**Purpose:** Mapping and networking community initiatives and hubs

**Actions to date:** 4 thematic laboratories on **delimitations, places, memories, and transformations** collected inputs for our atlas. Resulting data are being published online in the *Atlas of the Südliche Friedrichstadt*.

**Future plans:** to select a range of “stories of engagement” documenting local initiatives and projects mobilising the neighbourhood and improving civic participation. Working remotely with the participants to the lab to complete the atlas and prepare the scripts of the stories of engagement. These stories will be the object of the next lab in May dedicated to digital storytelling and published on the atlas.

**Mehringplatz  
Anknipsen  
Laboratorien**

**Der Nachbarschaftsatlas  
der Südlichen Friedrichstadt**

**Möchtest du dich als Bürger\*in  
in deine Nachbarschaft mehr  
einbringen?**

**Bist du als Aktivist\*in an  
Methoden für eine bessere  
Kommunikation von lokalen  
Themen interessiert?**

**Kennst du dich mit der lokalen  
Geschichte aus und möchtest  
dich mit dem Erbe der Südlichen  
Friedrichstadt befassen?**

**Dann nimm an den  
Mehringplatz-Anknipsen  
Laboratorien teil!**

In acht Sitzungen von Dezember 2019 bis Juni 2020 werden wir eine innovative Plattform ausprobieren, um Bürger\*innen und Organisationen der Südlichen Friedrichstadt zusammenzubringen und Geschichten, Ideen und Visionen zur Nachbarschaft zu sammeln. Gemeinsam testen und entwickeln wir den Nachbarschaftsatlas der Südlichen Friedrichstadt - eine digitale Plattform, die Informationen unterschiedlichster Art miteinander verbindet. Das Labor wird in verschiedenen Community-Hubs stattfinden, um lokale Akteur\*innen und Initiativen vor Ort zu treffen. Ziel der Mehringplatz-Anknipsen-Laboratorien ist es, die lokale Gemeinschaft, die Zusammenarbeit sowie den sozialen Zusammenhalt zu stärken.

**Komm am 17. Dezember  
um 18.30 Uhr in der  
Kiezstube  
(Mehringplatz 7,  
Berlin) vorbei!**

Wir werden dort das Projekt vorstellen und gemeinsam diskutieren, wie wir mit den Laboratorien am besten die lokale Gemeinschaft der Südlichen Friedrichstadt unterstützen können.

MILDMAY COMMUNITY CENTRE: THEN AND NOW

## Afternoon tea & reminisce

Join us for tea, biscuits and a chat about old times at the Mildmay Community Centre & Mayville Estate!

MONDAY, 2ND MARCH 1PM - 3PM

Bring your old photos of the area and walk with us down memory lane...



We also have a volunteer who might be able to fix your damaged photos!

### MILDMAY COMMUNITY CENTRE - LONDON, UK

**Purpose:** Using the collective memories of the community to foster a sense of belonging in the centre and encourage an active role in its future.

**Actions to date:**

- Stakeholder mapping
- Stakeholder meetings to identify the need
- Workshops to collect memories
- Workshops to consider future community led activities

**Future plans** When possible we will continue to engage with the community and other stakeholders to test out activity ideas and build momentum.



## LOCAL LABS

### SAVSKO NASELJE - LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA

**Purpose:** Strengthening the role of Library of Things as local civic space.

Revitalization of social bonds among the locals.

**Actions to date:**

- stakeholder mapping
- publication of local newsletter
- open call for new events and other activities in the library
- mapping local makers and other services

**Future plans:** As soon as possible we will publish new issue of local newspaper, which will include a map of the neighborhood. We're in touch with the event organisers to check the possibility of organising some of the events online. Hopefully we will be able to organise neighborhood picnic before the end of the year.

## KNJIŽNICA REČI + TI!



IMAŠ IDEJO ZA AKTIVNOST V KNJIŽNICI REČI?

DO 6. 12. 2019 PRIJAVI SVOJO IDEJO, KI JO BOMO PODPRLI S 150€!

Prijavnico najdeš na [knjznicareci.si](http://knjznicareci.si)

ali jo prideš iskat v Knjižnico Reči (pon. in sre., 16.00 - 19.00)!

Knjižnica Reči  
Bleibergova 6, 1000 Ljubljana  
tel. 020 746 517  
fb: facebook.com/Knjižnica Reči



## WHAT'S NEXT

Things do not always happen as planned... We have all demonstrated to work for very resilient organisations which had to deal with technology issues, with Brexit uncertainties and now also with COVID-19! We're working hard to find alternatives to implement the engagement activities we had all planned for our local labs and to bring together 20 adults to experience and share time in Palermo before the year 2020 ends.

Until then, follow us on social media [#ComensiEU](https://www.facebook.com/ComensiEU) or read us on <https://www.community-atlas.net/>

