Public-Private-People partnership (PPPP) Case in the City of Espoo’s application for Intelligent Community of the Year (ICY) 2018

Kari Mikkelä & Lars Miikki

Urban Mill 4.4.2018
Urban Mill Innovation Platform supports and facilitates inclusive co-creation in Espoo Innovation Garden

- Urban Mill community includes change makers from public and private sector, researchers, entrepreneurs, students as well as local residents and other users of urban environments.
- Activities run in the Urban Mill respect open collaboration, cherishment of serendipity and open-doors philosophy and thus support a shared co-learning process.
- Entrepreneurial spirit and digitally supported participation of all (including citizens, academics, business and public actors) is a characteristic feature of Urban Mill.
- The Urban Mill experience shows the importance of focusing on a common theme to generate a bottom-up, open and participatory innovation process that delivers new capabilities, operational models and sustainable solutions to urban challenges.
- Urban Mill Co-working and Co-creation Platform for Urban Innovations is a public-private-people partnership operated by a private company, Järvelin Design Ltd, and the City of Espoo as one of the main partners. It is situated at the heart of the Espoo Innovation Garden at Aalto University campus in Helsinki Metropolitan area.
Urban Mill enables multi-stakeholder collaboration in international knowledge-intensive context

**A community:** We open doors for passionate pioneering developers and early adopters of innovations to co-learn, co-design and co-deploy.

**A platform:** Our physical and digital spaces and platform network are ideal for promoting, testing, developing and exhibiting new solutions which support urban life.

**An ecosystem node:** We are connected to a spectrum of global networks through our community members and partners. Thus we are able to bring our complementary thematic expertise to several ecosystems.

**A global hub:** We engage and bring together actors from around the world to co-create solutions to wicked urban challenges and share our learnings openly to our partner and member networks.
Orchestration of smart networked platforms supporting creative knowledge work

- Energizing creative and innovative people
- Impact and outcome driven
- Supports creative knowledge work
- Facilitates co-learning, co-design and co-effectuation
- Enabled by networked physical and digital platforms
Facilitated by Urban Wheel™ Innovation Acceleration Process

“Life is lived forwards, but understood backwards.”

“If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go with others.”
Urban Mill’s operational model: platform, community and ecosystem service elements

**ECOSYSTEMS**
- Responsive-Space-as-a-Platform Operator
- Thematic Programmes Producer
- Acceleration Ecosystem OrCHEstrator

**COMMUNITIES**
- Learning and Education
- Research and Innovation
- Startups and Intrapreneurs

**PLATFORMS**
- Contacts & knowledge repository & memory
- Events & meeting spaces and support
- Co-working dens & curation for teams
- Service Design prototype & demo grounds
- Living-labbing & acceleration environments
- Global ecosystem hubs & agencies

**SERVICES:** Collaborative ecosystem partnerships

**EXPLORATION PROCESS**
- Co-sensing
- Co-networking
- Co-learning

**EXPLITION PROCESS**
- Co-creating
- Co-bonding
- Co-deploying
Examples of experimental open public events in Urban Mill

HoT Bike Center service experiment in Urban Mill 2013: 150 local bikers fixed up their bikes in HoT demo day.

Residential Forums organized by local Otaniemi and Suur-Tapiola resident associations in Urban Mill have been successful.

“Experimenting at Otaniemi Innovation Alley” event has collided hundreds of citizens to entrepreneurs and researchers on Espoo Days since 2013.

Since 2016, the experimental Otaolut small brewery festival has brought together thousands of representatives of different disciplines, local residents and visitors from other parts of the metropolitan area.

“Uusimaa Innovates” event on Uusimaa week 2016: regional RIS3 actors was presented to the public. The theme was new work and new forms of work.

Children get acquainted with science, experiment and learn at the Science days for families, arranged by Urban Mill’s partner TEK (Academic engineers and architects in Finland) 3-4 times a year.
Examples of co-design workshops co-organized and facilitated by Urban Mill, preparing sustainable solutions for societal challenges

In 2017 Urban Mill co-organized an expert forum with Espoo and VTT and facilitated a workshop “Finland as a Pilot Base for Flexible Energy - Otaniemi / Metropolitan area as the spearhead for linked pilots”.


Workshop produced for the Committee for the Future in 2017: AR, VR, etc. digital tools and digit. supp. working methods for the development of infrastructure and work in the new creative space of the Parliament Building.

2014: Urban Mill facilitated workshops for the staff and delegates of the Academic Engineers and Architects in Finland TEK (70.000+ members) to develop the digital strategy for the organization.


Urban Mill gathered experts and entrepreneurs and facilitated three Databusiness Espoo / IoT West Metro Zone Open Data workshops at Urban Mill in the fall of 2015.
Examples of strategic expert forums assembled and facilitated by Urban Mill

Urban Mill has hosted a number of expert forums for the development of the innovation ecosystem of Otaniemi-Keilaniemi-Tapiola, the heart of Espoo Innovation Garden, such as seminars and research workshops for the Energizing Urban Ecosystems research project 2013-2016. The metaphor and the working philosophy of Espoo Innovation Garden was emerged and co-created in these workshops.

Orchestrating Regional Innovation Systems – Espoo Innovation Garden: https://urbanmillblog.files.wordpress.com/2015/05/eka_updated_lowres.pdf

Growth factors and bottlenecks for business start-ups 2015-2016: Urban Mill acted as a co-producer in this Prime Minister’s Office’s assignment (part of the implementation of the Government Plan for Analysis, Assessment and Research for 2015). Urban Mill assembled the project’s expert pool, facilitated co-operation with it and organized the Otaniemi Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Workshop, which brought together key actors from Otaniemi area and high level experts of the scene.

Link to the report: https://bit.ly/2GxM8qM

Innovation ecosystems as drivers of research–industry cooperation 2016-2017: Urban Mill acted as a co-producer in this Prime Minister's Office’s assignment (part of the implementation of the Government Plan for Analysis, Assessment and Research for 2016). Urban Mill assembled the project’s expert pool, facilitated co-operation with it and organized a national kick-off workshop. In addition Urban Mill acted as a co-producer of regional innovation ecosystem workshops and facilitated them in Espoo, Helsinki, Vaasa and Oulu.

Link to the report: https://bit.ly/2q4dFKm
Examples of pilot experiments co-created with Urban Mill

Experimenting the Lunch Talk concept with Pohjois-Tapiola high school (local School-as-a-Service school) in October 2017.

Autumn 2017: Samocat Sharing’s kick scooter service pilot in Otaniemi in collaboration with ACRE, Espoo and Urban Mill (home base in Finland for the startup and the pilot).

Espoo Day events 2014: testing mobile service offered to the citizens including a network of QR / NFC tags distributed across the physical urban environment.

Digital theme route prototype for the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council: finding Finland100 anniversary event details from Google Maps and from physical event locations using QR codes.

Experimenting Mini-pdp course with Aalto Design Factory and Startup Sauna coaches for nearby Lauttasaari high school students 2013.

Urban Mill hosted 70 Entrepreneurship students from Mondragon Team Academy (San Sebastian and Madrid) in Otaniemi for six weeks in the beginning of 2018.


Pre-school children participating in urban farming initiative at Urban Mill in the spring of 2015.
Examples of emerging ecosystems accelerated by Urban Mill

Gathering creative knowledge and cultural workers and their organizations and linking their work with volunteers and hobbyist has begun in Creative Ring Espoo’s preparatory process.

Urban Mill has for more than five years built networks from Otaniemi with hundreds of companies, public organizations, research and educational institutions, projects, international networks, professional and local associations.

Urban Mill mapped, contacted and exported to a digital map the co-working spaces and accelerators of the Helsinki-Uusimaa region (UUSAIDA project 2015-2017).

Urban Mill has supported the collaboration at Otaniemi Innovation Alley formed by Urban Mill, Aalto Design Factory and Startup Sauna.

Supporting and accelerating co-operation between entrepreneurship and business in Otaniemi.

Urban Mill was home base for the Energizing Urban Ecosystems (EUE) research programme ecosystem throughout the programme 2012-2016.
Examples of digital tools and platforms, part of the holistic digital architecture experimented and used by Urban Mill

Digital co-working environment: REAL collaboration platform, Humap Software Oy

Smart tags and mobile services, Bonwal Oy

Large touch screens and Android platform for content applications for global distribution, Kuori Oy

Machine vision for tracking and profiling people flows, Delicode Oy

Digital service platform for company information, Datascouts

Future foresight tool, Futures Platform

Digital content and display solutions, 3D-Cave technology, Satavision Oy and Aalto Built Environment Lab (ABE)

Mobile apps for Events support and global service, mFabrik Oy
Example of an innovation programme produced by Urban Mill: UUSAIKA – Regional smart specialisation initiative for Citizen City

UUSAIKA project was implementing a part of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region’s RIS3 strategy (Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation) from October 2015 to March 2017. The project was financed by Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council, the City of Espoo and Järvelin Design Ltd. The project was produced and orchestrated by Urban Mill.

UUSAIKA project applied and tailored the Urban Mill model for the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region in order to activate and connect the innovation actors and activities of the whole region focusing on the RIS3 spearhead theme Welfare City (2018 Citizen City).

During 18 months UUSAIKA project contributed to 200 thematic events which brought together 12,000 participants from 1,000 organisations and which provided communal activities, inclusive for all people from children to seniors and from public servants to entrepreneurs. The project mapped and visited a network of 80 co-working spaces from the Helsinki Metropolitan Area and supported the work of over 50 startup or development teams. The Co-working spaces were openly published on the Google map and the teams promoted through Urban Mill’s social and digital channels.
Next Step: CLiC! - Creative Life in a City! initiative scales the collaboration model to the Helsinki metropolitan area

- Based on 5 years preparatory actions and experiments the CLiC! project further develops an Region-as-a-Service engagement and collaboration model for the heart of the Espoo Innovation Garden (Otaniemi-Keilaniemi-Tapiola area).
- The innovative model and its practices are opened and disseminated through an inclusive approach, enabled by digital means, to other knowledge intensive urban centers of Helsinki metropolitan area and later to the whole Uusimaa region.
- International cooperation between knowledge-intensive urban centers, cities and regions is central to the project.
URBAN MILL

Co-working and Co-creation Platform Prototype for Urban Innovations – Entrepreneurial Thought in Action!

Your access to Espoo Innovation Garden’s people and services!

Additional information
www.urbanmill.org/stories

Urban Mill on Facebook
www.facebook.com/UrbanMill

Subscribe to our newsletter!

Contact

Ecosystems & RDI Services
Kari Mikkelä, Executive Producer
kari.mikkela@urbanmill.fi
+358 50 5004 048

Community and Space Services
Lars Miikki, Landing Location Manager
lars.miikki@urbanmill.fi
+358 40 5036 630

Urban Mill Innovation Platform
Betonimiehenkuja 3 E, 02150 Espoo FINLAND
www.urbanmill.org

Thank You!