



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
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CALL FOR PAPERS

International conference

PREHealth: Promoting education and jobs to enhance the use of urban blue and green infrastructure for health and fitness



Organised by the City of Athens,

in Athens, 20 June 2019

09.00-18.00

“Antonis Tritsis” Hall at Athens’ Cultural Center, 50 Akadimias Street

The Conference Theme: Promoting the use of urban blue and green infrastructure for health and fitness through education and public participation

The PREHealth International Conference is organised in the context of the PREHealth project, co-funded by the European Commission through Erasmus+. The conference will present the results of the PREHealth project and will provide a forum for the wider education community of other relevant stakeholders in Europe to present their views, policies and good practices, and discuss the conference theme, reflecting also on active citizenship and public participation for improving the design of open urban spaces, allowing the citizens to take a more active role in creating urban environments that support healthy lifestyles.

We hereby invite academics, researchers, local government officials, NGOs and other civil society organisations, planners, architects, teachers, students, schools, private businesses and citizens to share their views and good practices on encouraging physical exercise and wellbeing in public open urban spaces.

You are invited to prepare an abstract of 250 words maximum and submit it to pr@athens.gr (Subject to your e-mail: Pre Health Call for papers) by 28 May 2019.

Presentation format: Oral presentation of no more than 20 minutes (Powerpoint and similar presentation software can be used through a projector).

Speakers will be selected by the scientific committee of the conference. The selected speakers will be notified by 4 June 2019.

Proceedings will be compiled and published electronically on the website of the project. Speakers who wish their papers to be published in the Conference Proceedings, will need to submit them to pr@athens.gr by 30 June 2019.

The background

In European countries, the lack of physical activity is identified as the fourth leading risk factor of mortality, also influencing other risk factors such as smoking, overweight and obesity. In the last decade, the impact of urban planning on city dwellers' health and behaviour has gained appreciation. Both theory and practice argue in favour of health-oriented urban planning, which must be able to offer tangible health benefits to urban dwellers. The relationship between the built environment and health is very complex, and it is very difficult to establish causal relationships. However, taking into account that modern life-styles lead to diminished physical activity (PA), it is the responsibility or urban planning and policy to try and remedy this trend by offering ample opportunities for PA in open public spaces, fostering health-related behaviour of urban dwellers through active travel, active recreation, sport and social interaction.

The PREHealth project - www.prehealth.eu

PREHealth is an Erasmus+ project implemented by Universities, research organisations and municipalities in 4 European cities – Darmstadt (Germany), Athens (Greece), Győr (Hungary) and Utrecht (Netherlands). The PREHealth team is led by the University of Darmstadt, and participants include the Istvan Szechenyi University, the University of Utrecht, PRISMA- Centre for Development Studies, the City of Athens, the City of Darmstadt and the City of Gyor. PREHealth focuses on enhancing the potential of the built environment to foster and promote health-related behaviour through education (higher education, school education, adult education and special education) and public participation.

Your contribution

Speakers will be welcome to present their research on a topic related to the theme of the conference, or a “best practice example” promoting health-related behaviour in their locality, or an activity undertaken by their local authority, NGO or schools/other education establishment on this direction. We would favour topics that can show the results of actions already undertaken, so that a discussion can be held on real-life initiatives and their results for urban dwellers in general or specific target groups.