

An electronic version of this newsletter and of other issues can be downloaded from the project website: [www.oikodomos.org](http://www.oikodomos.org)

## OIKODOMOS Final Workshop: In Conclusion

A project final conference was held in Barcelona in December 2009. This event aimed at promoting the different scientific and pedagogic aspects of the Virtual Campus, particularly the development of web-based learning environments and their integration in education and learning curricula. The event presented the outcomes of this project, in particular the two environments we have developed to support an open and collaborative education model in architectural education: OIKODOMOS Workspaces and OIKODOMOS Housing Repository. An on-line forum, facilitated by project partners, was opened to prepare the discussions that took place in the concluding session of the workshop.



Left : informal discussion amongst conference participants  
Right: Hilary French from the Royal College of Arts, London  
More information about his event on :

[http://www.oikodomos.org/downloads/workshops/oikodomos\\_inconclusion.jpg](http://www.oikodomos.org/downloads/workshops/oikodomos_inconclusion.jpg)

## Project activities summarised

The creation of this Virtual Campus has involved undertaking the following tasks:

- Developing, implementing, testing and validating an innovative pedagogic methodology integrating on-line activities with the curricula at each partner institution.
- Implementing large-scale experiments which increases virtual and physical mobility through the participation of learners in the learning activities
- Carrying out a critical analysis of e-learning methods and tools applied to architectural education (virtual design studios, repositories of cases of study).
- Designing a joint curricula including agreements for the evaluation, validation and recognition of acquired competences and learning outcomes.
- Creating the appropriate learning platform to support the adopted pedagogic model
- Conforming educational open resources stemming from the learning activities to standards.
- Proposing innovative housing embracing architectural, urban and environmental scales, developed collaboratively by the participating institutions in conjunction with social and professional organizations, citizens and local authorities.
- Assessing the pedagogic methods and the learning technologies employed and the results obtained.

## ➤ Innovating, housing, learning

The Oikodomos project will end with the publication of a project book. This publication will contain a section related to the pedagogic framework of the Oikodomos project ; one related to the various workshops that have been organized these past three years as well as a final section dealing with the reflective assessment that has allowed to complete the project. This final part will most notably look at the systemization of knowledge and will give examples of student works produced in the studios throughout the project.

**For more information about this publication, please contact Thomas Ooms, coordinator**  
[tomas.ooms@architectuur.sintlucas.wenk.be](mailto:tomas.ooms@architectuur.sintlucas.wenk.be)

## Oikodomos: Summing up

The distinctive features of the OIKODOMOS virtual campus are

1. Innovative pedagogic methods, which interweave on-line resources with traditional classroom activities to study housing from a multidisciplinary perspective by means of seminars and studio projects, analysis of cases, and joint design workshops taking place both at in virtual environments (Virtual Design Studio, web-based learning activities) as well as in the participating institutions.
2. Multi-national and multi-professional activities planned in conjunction with community representatives and local authorities, to study the problems of dwelling and to propose solutions to it.
3. Bologna compatible courses (ECTS credited) aimed at supporting the creation of future European Master's programs, which combine physical and virtual mobility of both teachers and students.

## INTED 2010

The Oikodomos project was presented at the forthcoming INTED2010 conference [« International Technology, Education and Development »].

The event is scheduled to take place in Valencia, from 8th to 10th of March.

The presentation made by the Oikodomos team representatives will be made available on the project website at [www.oikodomos.org](http://www.oikodomos.org)

This conference was organised by the International Association of Technology, Education and Development

More information on : <http://www.iated.org/inted2010/>

## Oikodomos showcased

As part of the promotion actions of the Oikodomos project, representatives of the Oikodomos team presented the project aims, objectives and achievements at a major international conference held in Lyon, France, on November 19th 2009 ["Apport des projets européens d'éducation et de formation tout au long de la vie"]

This event was organised by the French agency *Europe-Education-Formation*. [Agence Education Europe Formation France 2E2F]

More information about the agency and about this event on : [www.2e2f.fr](http://www.2e2f.fr)

## Lessons from the Bratislava Workshop

The Bratislava workshop (14-20th of October 2009) benefited from the experiences of the previous Oikodomos workshops in Ghent (Lifelong dwelling) and Grenoble (Housing for diversity). It looked at the issue of "effective" urban and housing development in the Garden City – Dúbravka Big Camp, a suburban area located at the north-west area of Bratislava [thumbnails of student projects shown below].

The aim of the workshop was to develop conceptual proposals of effective housing design at the urban and architectural scales. Preparatory activities took place before the workshop started at the participating institutions.

Distant collaborative work before and after the workshop activities will be carried out using the web-based learning platform developed for the Oikodomos project. For more information about this event, please visit the Oikodomos project website or <http://www.stuba.sk>



## Project outcomes : the Oikodomos Platform

A technological platform has been specifically developed and implemented for the Oikodomos Virtual Campus to support a blended-learning pedagogic model. It consists of two environments: Workspaces and Case Repository.

### Oikodomos Workspaces

This environment supports project-based learning activities, such as the development of a project -architectural and/or urban- in a collaborative manner. It facilitates the collaboration among distant learners, carrying joint learning activities in different settings, physical and virtual: design studios, seminars and courses.



*Oikodomos workspaces*

### Oikodomos Case Repository

This is a digital repository of housing case studies, which is constructed collaboratively by learners. Currently, it has over 330 documented cases, analyzed and commented by students and teachers from different institutions. It is used to support learning based on the analysis of precedents.



*Oikodomos Case Repository*

# Oikodomos Project partners

ARC Enginyeria i Arquitectura La Salle, **Universitat Ramon Llull**, Barcelona, Spain  
([www.salle.url.edu/arc](http://www.salle.url.edu/arc))

Prof. Dr. Leandro Madrazo (Project coordinator), Mireia Vergés, Angel Martin Cojo, Álvaro Sicilia, Adrià Carro, Joan Pleguezuelos.

The research group ARC (<http://www.salle.url.edu/arc>) is coordinating the project. The group has already acquired an expertise coordinating the three-year Erasmus Intensive Programme HOUSING@21.EU, the precedent of this project. From the point of view of pedagogic research, the role of the coordinator has been to keep a holistic view of the project, ensuring that the key components of the virtual campus –content, pedagogy, technology– are interwoven, so that the project goals are achieved.

ARC Enginyeria i Arquitectura La Salle has been responsible for the design and programming of the OIKODOMOS learning platform. Members of the group have been actively involved in the design of the joint curriculum, as well as in the implementations of the learning activities.

Hogeschool voor Wetenschap & Kunst, **Department Architectuur Sint-Lucas**, Brussels/Ghent, Belgium  
([www.architectuur.sintlucas.wenk.be](http://www.architectuur.sintlucas.wenk.be))

Prof. Dr. Johan Verbeke, Jose Depuydt, Jao Smet, Tomas Ooms, Hans Foncke

The School of Architecture Sint-Lucas has provided its own experience on design education and competence evaluation in the field of housing and architecture. The School has previously participated and coordinated other international projects –such as META-University programmes, Erasmus and curriculum development programmes, and the Alpha project.

Sint-Lucas has led the development of the joint design curriculum, it has been responsible for the implementation of the learning activities for the Oikodomos Workshop in Ghent, and it has coordinated the publication of the present book.

Institut d'Urbanisme IUG, **Université Pierre Mendès France**, Grenoble, France

([www.iug-grenoble.fr](http://www.iug-grenoble.fr))

Prof. Dr. Jan Tucny, Dr. Stéphane Sadoux, Jacques Lacoste, Mathieu Panel

Institut d'Urbanisme de Grenoble IUG has collaborated on the learning programme preparation and implementation (virtual studios, workshops, seminars) and it has coordinated the OIKODOMOS Workshop in Grenoble. It has brought to the partnership their pedagogic experience using Virtual Design Studios to support communication and information exchange among learners. IUG is actively involved in national and European academic networks and it has been responsible for the promotion activities of the project.

Faculty of Architecture, **Slovak University of Technology**, Bratislava, Slovakia

([www.fa.stuba.sk](http://www.fa.stuba.sk))

Prof. Dr. Viera Joklova, Prof. Dr. Lubica Vítková, Prof. Dr. Igor Kôscô

The Faculty of Architecture STU Bratislava (FASTU) has contributed to the design of the joint curricula in the fields of architectural and urban planning. It has brought to the partnership their experience on the application of ICT in distant learning –particularly in Virtual Design Studios–, as well their expertise on sustainable housing. FASTU has coordinated the OIKODOMOS Workshop in Bratislava and has participated in the development and programming of the OIKODOMOS Workspaces. It has provided support for the dissemination activities of the project, seeking the engagement of local authorities and professional bodies in the project activities.

NewMinE Lab, **Università della Svizzera Italiana**, Lugano, Switzerland

([www.newmine.org](http://www.newmine.org))

Dr. Luca Botturi, Andreas Schmeil

The NewMinE Lab of the University of Lugano has collaborated in the design of the assessment of the HOUSING@21.EU project, and has carried out the usability study of the learning environments and the technological platform. It has participated in the design of the technological platform, and it has contributed to the programming of the OIKODOMOS Case Repository. University of Lugano has also been involved in the project dissemination activities.

**Paul Riddy**, Educational Technology Consultant, Southampton, United Kingdom

Paul Riddy has carried out the retrospective evaluation of the learning and teaching process of the preceding project HOUSING@21.EU, as well the evaluation of the learning activities of carried out in the OIKODOMOS project. He has also provided pedagogic input, including information on approaches to design for learning and engaging in discussion with the partners on ways to achieve a common understanding and shared implementation of their contribution to courses and modules.