



URBAN & SOCIAL INNOVATION



dedale

www.dedale.info

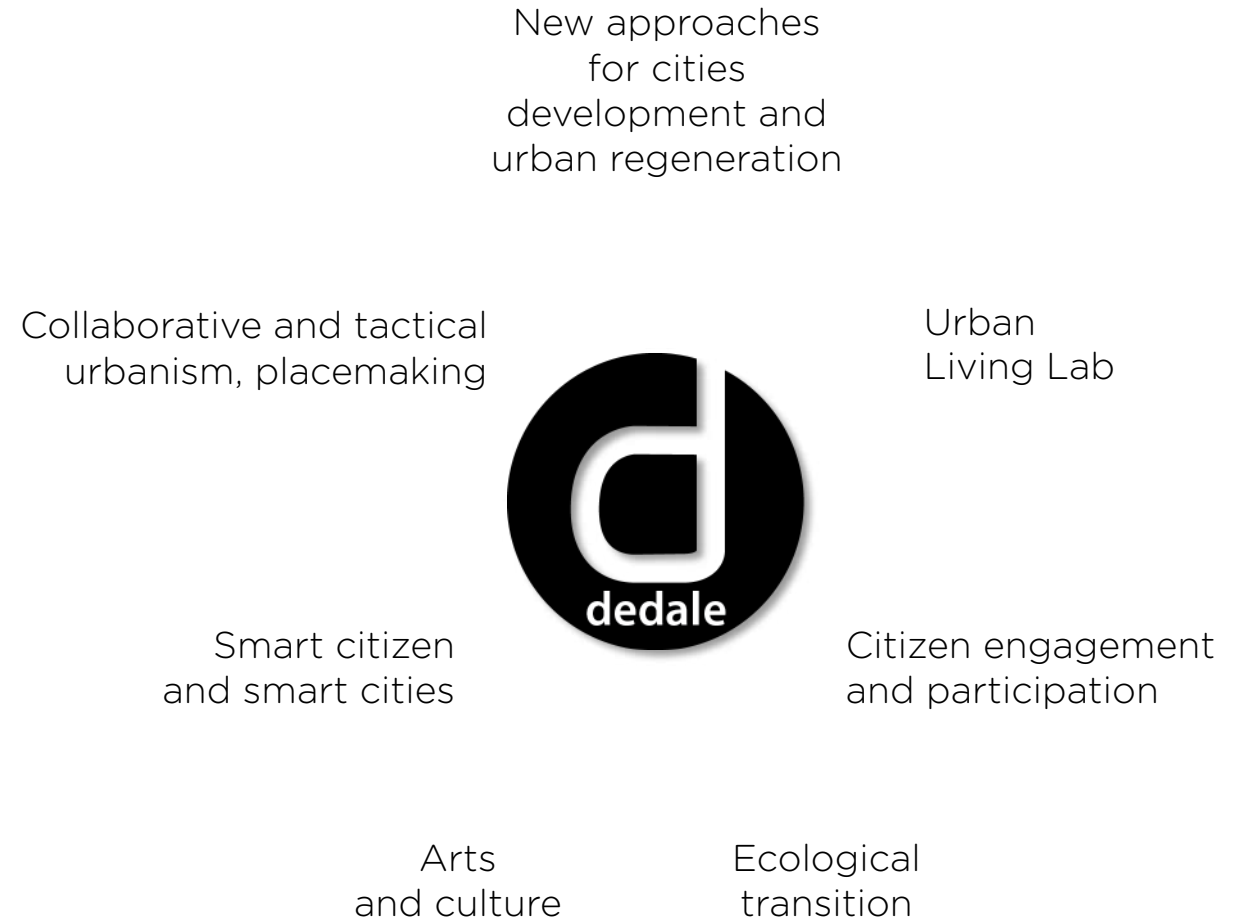
DEDALE

Cultural and Urban Innovation Lab for Citizen-Led Transitions

Dédale is a Paris-based cultural and urban innovation lab committed to urban and social innovation, citizen participation and the ecological transformation of cities.

Since 2004, Dédale has developed a hybrid approach combining strategic consulting, field-based experimentation and European cooperation.

The organisation works with public authorities, urban stakeholders, researchers, cultural actors, local communities and citizen groups to imagine, test and implement new approaches to sustainable and inclusive urban transitions.





DÉDALE imagines, tests and builds cities and territories of the future

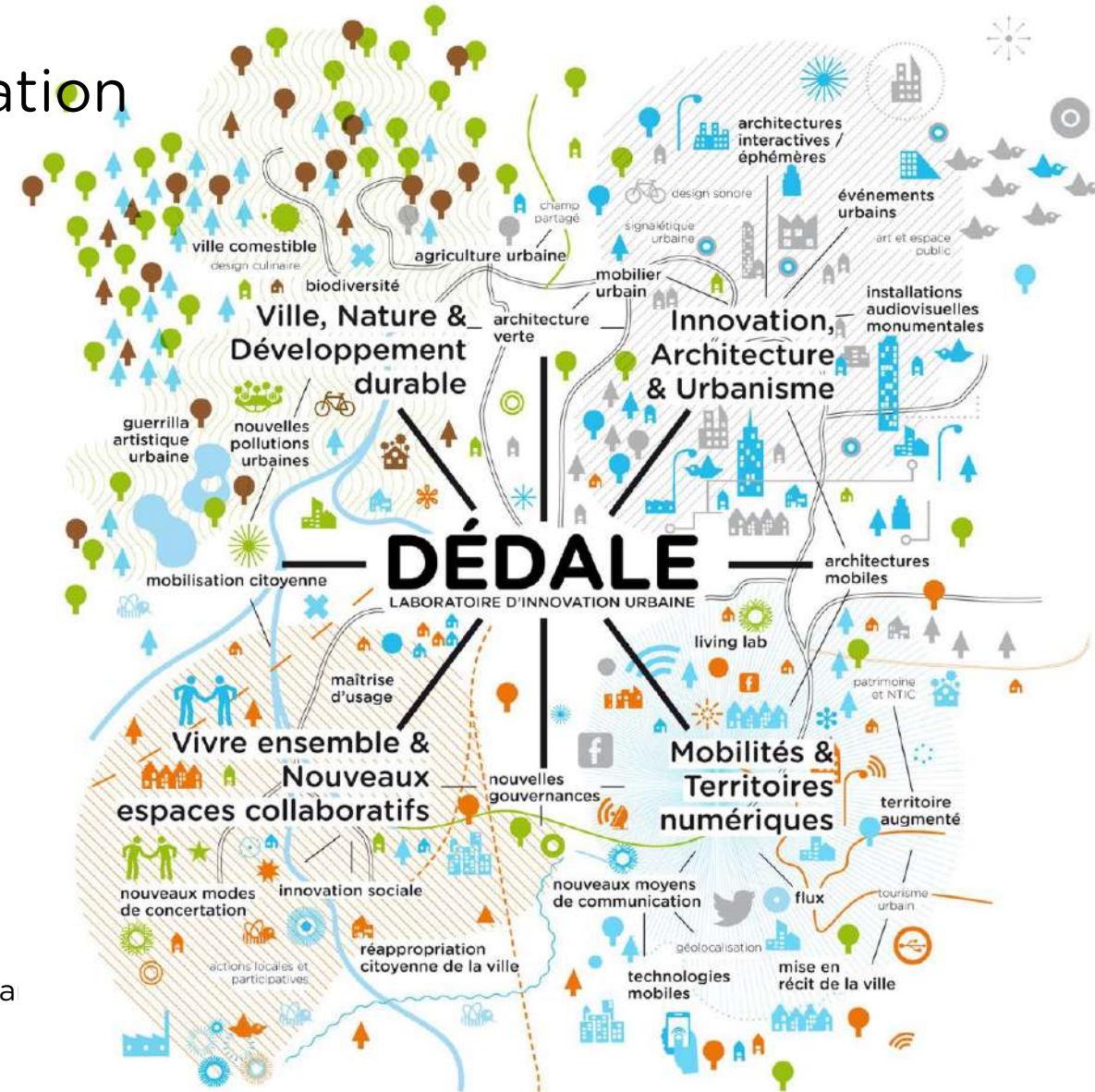
A NON-PROFIT URBAN CONSULTANCY AGENCY

From Urban Strategy to Real-Life Experimentation and European Cooperation

Dédale supports public authorities, institutions and urban stakeholders in designing territorial strategies, public policies, urban regeneration processes, participatory approaches and public space transformation projects.

Its expertise covers urban innovation, tactical urbanism, placemaking, citizen engagement, co-design, public space activation and user-centred experimentation. Dédale has contributed to major urban innovation and transformation projects such as:

- Réinventer.Paris – Triangle Eole Evangile (intern. competition for urban innovation projects to regenerate Paris)
- Panthéon Square – Placemaking and urban design
- Invent the Paris Metropolis – Le Cercle, Metropolitan community hub for circular economy
- French National Agency for Urban Renovation – Assistance and support for their urban innovation and sustainable cities policies
- French Development Agency– Support for the implementation of a new urban innovation development program and fund
- Public spaces design and placemaking in France and abroad
Bruxelles, Saint-Denis, Lyon, Saclay Plateau, Paris, Toulouse, Tunis, Ouagadougou ...



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DÉDALE

a practitioner and an active player

A PRACTITIONER & AN ACTIVE PLAYER

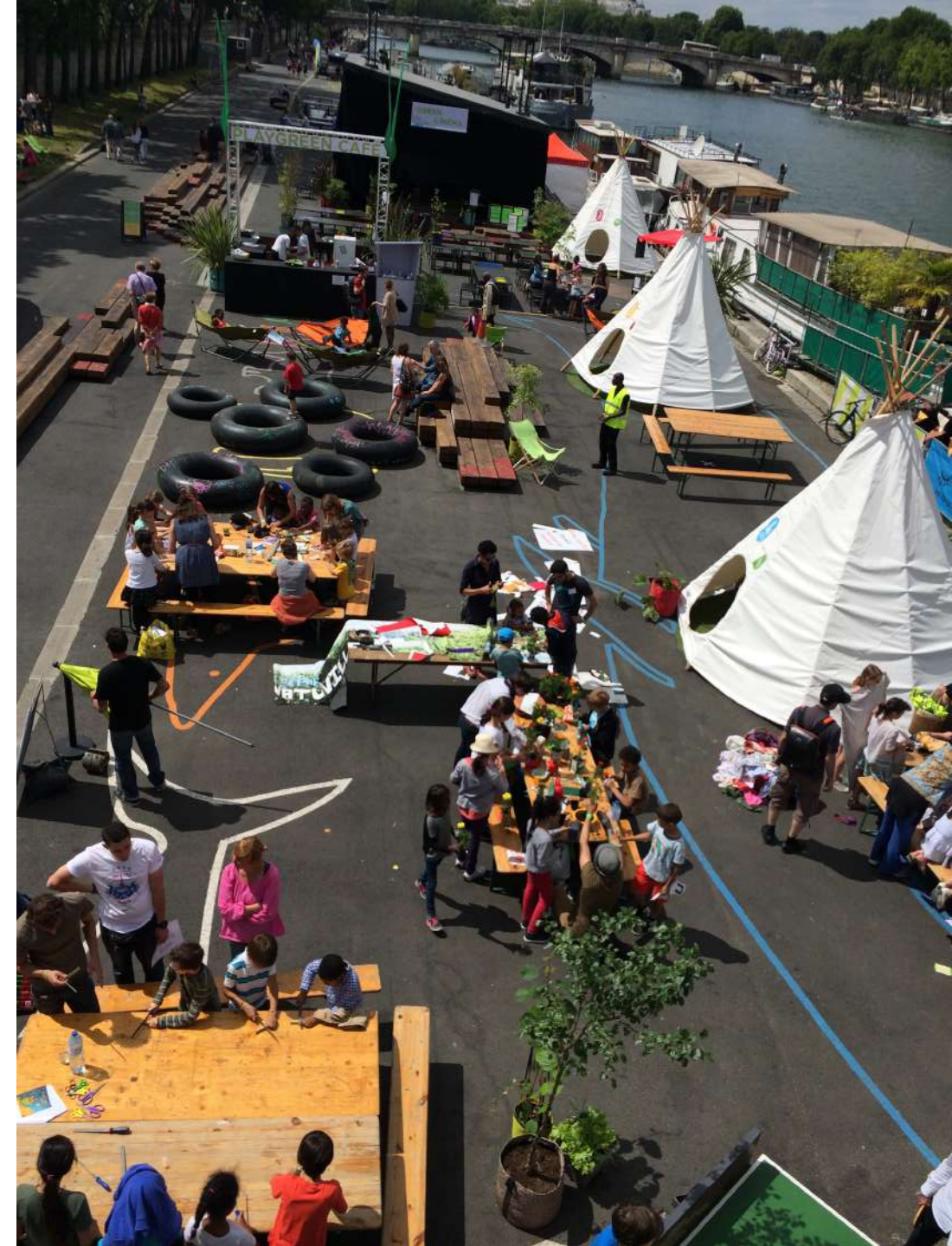
From Ideas to Field Action

Dédale also develops and operates its own participatory projects, cultural programmes, pilot initiatives, community spaces and urban Living Labs.

Through projects such as:

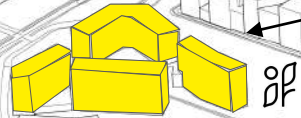
- **Innovative Projects**
Smartcity living lab Paris
Urban Folies (test of a parklet program in 5 districts of Paris),
City Telling (digital tool kit for city storytelling),
Urban Terroir (urban farming project)...
- **Places**
The Rosa Lab – Urban fabric for the creative and sustainable city (Paris 19),
The Cercle – a Metropolitan community hub on circular economy (Paris 13)...
- **Events**
Park(ing) Day France (Reinvent public space),
Playgreen Festival (art and ecological transition),
Villette Emergences (urban cultures and digital art festival)...

Dédale acts as a hands-on operator able to mobilise citizens, test new uses, organise public events, and create concrete formats for urban and social innovation.



FOCUS POINT

The Fertile Island, the first zero carbon district of Paris



Web site

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/ilot-fertile-le-premier-quartier-zero-carbone-de-paris-23528>

THE FERTILE ISLAND

A neighborhood to test and experiment
in real life the creative and sustainable city



A neighbourhood of over 34,800 m²,
crossed by a pedestrianised green street
(winner of the international contest
Reinvent Paris):

- 126 family and social housing units,
- 2 residences (students and young workers),
- 357 rooms - hotel and youth hostel
- 6 shops
- a 4 800 m² sports center
- 8 000 m² of office space
- a last-mile logistics base
- 3 800 m² of public pedestrian walkways
- 6 000 sq. m of green spaces, vegetable gardens and green roofs

This neighborhood is facilitated by the Rosa Lab a grass root center and living Lab.

Innovations pillars



Environmental
(zero carbon,
biodiversity, peatonal...)



Architectural
(materials and building
principles)



Social
(with and for the
inhabitants)

ROSA LAB – Paris North-East District

An Open-Air Experimental Area for Participative and Inclusive Projects

Rosa Lab is Dédale's urban Living Lab located at the heart of Fertile Island (Paris North-East District). It combines a **cultural grassroots centre**, a **community garden** and a **Living Lab** dedicated to ecological transition, urban innovation and citizen participation.

Rosa Lab connects residents, local organisations, public authorities, researchers, companies, cultural actors and urban stakeholders in order to co-design, test and evaluate new solutions in everyday urban conditions.

It acts both as a local mediation platform and as an experimentation infrastructure, supporting workshops, public events, urban walks, participatory mapping, co-design sessions, training activities, cultural mediation, digital storytelling, field testing and impact assessment.

Rosa Lab provides European projects with a concrete pilot environment, access to local communities, a stakeholder ecosystem and a methodology for citizen-led experimentation at neighbourhood scale.





DÉDALE

an international and european
cooperation player

A EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ACTOR

Connecting Local Innovation to European Cooperation

At European level, Dédale has long-standing experience in cooperation programmes such as **Horizon Europe**, **Creative Europe**, **Erasmus+** and **JPI**, acting as partner, work package leader, Living Lab operator or demonstration-site facilitator.

Dédale has also been involved in European networks and initiatives related to digital cultural heritage, Living Labs, citizen engagement, creative learning, smart cities and ecological transition.



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PILOTS PROJECTS

Regenerative tourism
& placemaking

Urban Transition Theme

URBAN COMMONS

Empowering Citizens to Act on Shared Urban Resources



With Urban Commons, Dédale connects its work to contemporary debates on urban commons, shared resources and citizen-led transitions. The approach examines how residents, associations, public authorities, researchers, economic actors and institutions can better understand, share, protect and transform the resources that shape everyday urban life: public spaces, energy systems, biodiversity, food networks, mobility, cultural heritage, local facilities, local knowledge, collective amenities and social infrastructures. It does not reduce commons to a category of assets, but considers them as practices of cooperation, shared governance and collective care.

Building on Rosa Lab's Living Lab methodology, it mobilises co-design, mediation, collective learning, situated experimentation, digital tools and real-life testing. Depending on each territory, it can open projects on energy, water, waste, reuse, care, shared places, culture or circular economy. It provides a framework for connecting local transitions with European debates on commons, resilience, social justice and regenerative urban futures, while keeping room for new pilots and partnerships.

Urban Transition Theme

PUBLIC SPACE, PLACEMAKING & URBAN TRANSFORMATION

Collaborative Public Space Design and Activation



For Dédale, public space is a privileged terrain for experimenting with new forms of social cohesion, ecological transition and everyday urban quality. Streets, squares, forecourts, building edges, pathways, gardens and in-between spaces are approached as places of use, encounter, mediation and collective transformation. Dédale develops methods that allow residents, local actors and public authorities to co-design, test and improve these spaces before or alongside more permanent urban projects. The aim is to create shared situations where people can discuss, experiment with and contribute to their everyday environment. Through placemaking, tactical urbanism, citizen signage, modular devices, temporary uses, cultural activation, greening and prototyping, this approach can address road space reallocation, pedestrianisation, inclusion, climate comfort, safety of use, visibility of local actors, gender-sensitive public spaces or the activation of underused places. Experiences with parklets, mobile furniture and co-designed signage provide a concrete basis without limiting future experiments, from local neighbourhood spaces to larger public realm strategies.

ENERGY CITIZENSHIP & ZERO-CARBON NEIGHBOURHOODS

From Smart Infrastructure to Citizen Action



The energy transition is not only a matter of technical performance; it also requires the social, cultural and civic appropriation of climate-neutral neighbourhoods. Dédale focuses on how residents, workers, visitors, site managers and local stakeholders can understand low-carbon infrastructures and become involved in how they operate. The approach connects technical innovation with everyday practices through energy literacy, carbon awareness, sufficiency, data visualisation, co-design, training and behavioural change methodologies. It is particularly coherent with Îlot Fertile, Paris' first neighbourhood designed around a zero-carbon ambition, where renewable energy production, smart energy management, grey-water heat recovery, energy sharing and real-time monitoring create a strong demonstrator. But the scope goes beyond one site: it can inform projects on smart districts, energy communities, citizen dashboards, user comfort, environmental data, low-carbon lifestyles or local governance of the transition. It contributes to European priorities on climate-neutral cities, sufficiency and just transitions, while helping make climate performance tangible, understandable and actionable at neighbourhood scale.

Urban Transition Theme

URBAN NATURE, BIODIVERSITY & SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

Turning Nature, Soil and Food into Drivers of Urban Regeneration



For Dédale, public space is a privileged terrain for experimenting with new forms of social cohesion, ecological transition and everyday urban quality. Streets, squares, forecourts, building edges, pathways, gardens and in-between spaces are approached as places of use, encounter, mediation and collective transformation. Dédale develops methods that allow residents, local actors and public authorities to co-design, test and improve these spaces before or alongside more permanent urban projects. The aim is to create shared situations where people can discuss, experiment with and contribute to their everyday environment. Through placemaking, tactical urbanism, citizen signage, modular devices, temporary uses, cultural activation, greening and prototyping, this approach can address road space reallocation, pedestrianisation, inclusion, climate comfort, safety of use, visibility of local actors, gender-sensitive public spaces or the activation of underused places. Experiences with parklets, mobile furniture and co-designed signage provide a concrete basis without limiting future experiments, from local neighbourhood spaces to larger public realm strategies.

ART, CULTURE AND DIGITAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

Art and Culture as Levers for Inclusive Urban Change



For Dédale, art and culture are not only contents to be disseminated, but levers for supporting urban transformation, strengthening belonging and creating spaces for dialogue between residents, artists, public actors and urban professionals. This approach is rooted in cultural urbanism: it mobilises artistic creation, urban cultures, mediation, digital cultural heritage and participatory practices to produce new representations of territories. It can take the form of place-based residencies, artistic interventions in public space, workshops with residents, citizen-led commissions, cultural routes, sensitive mapping, public events, installations or digital mediation tools. It also aims to include specific audiences — young people, residents of underserved neighbourhoods, people distant from cultural opportunities, people facing precarity or underrepresented communities — by giving them an active role in producing narratives, uses and urban imaginaries. In this perspective, art can help activate and improve public spaces, reveal local identities, support intercultural dialogue and transform the city into a shared, sensitive and inclusive experience. It connects cultural rights, public space and local development.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM & TERRITORIAL ATTRACTIVENESS

Revealing Overlooked Metropolitan Territories



Dédale approaches sustainable tourism, metropolitan hospitality and territorial attractiveness as ways to reveal and revalue urban territories that are often overlooked. Rather than promoting tourism as external consumption, the approach develops situated, respectful and community-based forms of discovery rooted in local narratives, everyday landscapes, public spaces, cultural diversity, food practices, biodiversity and encounters with residents and local actors. It is relevant for metropolitan fringe areas such as Paris Nord-Est and Seine-Saint-Denis, where strong cultural, social and ecological resources coexist with a lack of recognition. It can take the form of urban walks, thematic routes, cycling or running itineraries, greeters programmes, digital storytelling, local food experiences, street art discovery, memory trails or encounters with makers, associations and neighbourhood initiatives. Metropolitan routes and GR-inspired urban trails provide a concrete basis, while opening onto future projects on regenerative tourism, active mobility, cultural routes, local hospitality, proximity economies and resident-centred territorial attractiveness.

4

PILOTS PROJECTS

Replicable Formats
for European Projects

FIELDS OF EXPERIMENTATION

Six Complementary Urban Transition Themes

Urban Commons

Empowering Citizens to Act on Shared Urban Resources

Urban Commons frames shared urban resources — public space, energy, food, biodiversity, culture, mobility, shared places and local knowledge — through commons, cooperation, collective care, stewardship and citizen-led transition.

Public Space, Placemaking & Urban Transformation

Collaborative Public Space Design and Activation

Public space becomes a field for testing more inclusive, accessible and liveable public spaces and neighbourhoods, combining collaborative design, tactical urbanism, temporary uses, furniture, signage, greening, local stewardship and everyday hospitality.

Energy Citizenship & Zero-Carbon Neighbourhoods

From Smart Grids to Smart Citizens

This approach connects zero-carbon districts, smart infrastructure and everyday practices by making data readable and supporting energy literacy, sufficiency, carbon awareness, behaviour change and local climate action.

Urban Nature, Biodiversity & Sustainable Food Systems

Turning Nature, Soil and Food into Drivers of Urban Regeneration

Dédale connects urban nature, biodiversity, living soils, water management and sustainable food through gardens, edible landscapes, short supply chains, health, climate adaptation, local ecosystems and citizen ecological awareness.

Art, Culture and Digital Cultural Heritage

Art and Culture as Levers for Inclusive Urban Change

Dédale mobilises art, urban cultures, mediation, digital cultural heritage and participatory creation to support urban transformations, activate public spaces, strengthen inclusion, sense of belonging and intercultural dialogue with local communities.

Sustainable Tourism & Territorial Attractiveness

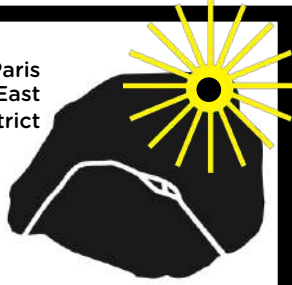
Revealing Overlooked Metropolitan Territories

Dédale approaches sustainable tourism and metropolitan hospitality as ways to reveal overlooked territories by connecting narratives, active mobility, local experiences, grassroots actors, proximity economies and territorial pride.

WHAT WE OFFER

AN OPEN-AIR EXPERIMENTAL AREA FOR PARTICIPATIVE AND INCLUSIVE PROJECTS: L'ÎLOT FERTILE (NORTH-EAST OF PARIS)

Paris
North-East
District



DOMAINE PUBLIC

--
Collaborative
Public Space
Design

GR19

--
Metropolitan
Urban Trails &
Territorial
Storytelling

BACK TO THE FUTURE... of Your Neighbourhood

--
Revealing Urban
Memory and Local
Transformations

URBAN COMMONS

--
Empowering
Citizens for
Sustainable
Resource
Management

SMART GRID TO SMART CITIZENS

--
Empowering
People for the
Zero-Carbon
Transition

MOB UP

--
Modular
Urban
Furniture for
Collective
Action

URBAN FOLIES

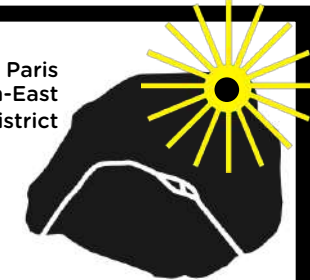
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Tactical
Urbanism for
More Liveable
Streets

Pilot Project

URBAN COMMONS

Co-creating Sustainable and Inclusive Neighbourhoods

Paris
North-East
District



Theme: Empowering Citizens to Act on Shared Urban Resources



#Urban Commons
#Citizen Participation
#Collaborative Design
#Ecological Transition
#Social Innovation.

Urban Commons is Dédale's umbrella programme for citizen-led experimentation and collective action in neighbourhoods undergoing social, ecological and urban transitions.

Developed through the Rosa Lab Living Lab and a range of real-life projects, the programme explores how residents, local organisations, public authorities, researchers and private actors can collectively shape the future of their territories while contributing to the stewardship of shared urban resources.

Urban Commons focuses on the resources that support everyday urban life — including **public spaces, energy systems, biodiversity, food networks, mobility infrastructures, local knowledge, cultural heritage and community facilities.**

Through citizen participation, collaborative design, placemaking, urban storytelling, digital innovation and environmental awareness, the programme develops practical and replicable approaches that strengthen neighbourhood identity, social cohesion, local capacities and ecological resilience.

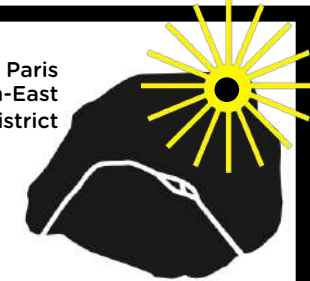
Acting as a common framework for initiatives such as Domaine Public, GR19, Smart Grid to Smart Citizens and Terroir Urbain, Urban Commons contributes to more sustainable, inclusive and participatory neighbourhoods aligned with the values of the New European Bauhaus.

Pilot Project

DOMAINE PUBLIC

Collaborative Public Space Design

Paris
North-East
District



Theme: Public Space, Placemaking & Urban Transformation



#CitizenParticipation
#PublicSpace
#CoDesign
#LivingLab
#Placemaking

Through citizen-driven signage, co-designed street furniture and collective placemaking interventions, Dédale develops collaborative approaches to public space design that strengthen local identity, social inclusion, visibility of local actors and shared ownership of urban environments.

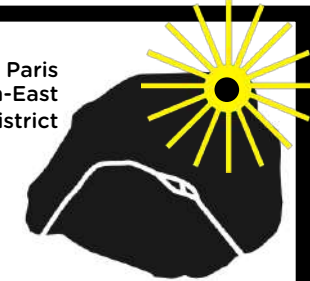
Combining urban design, participation, cultural activation and everyday uses, Domaine Public explores how public spaces can become more welcoming, adaptable, sustainable and collectively inhabited. The programme develops and tests practical solutions that encourage citizens to play an active role in shaping their neighbourhoods and improving their quality of life.

Developed through projects such as Mob Up, the Rosa Parks associative signage programme, Urban Folies and the tactical urbanism prefiguration of the future redevelopment of Place du Panthéon in Paris, the initiative combines public space activation, temporary uses, nature-based approaches and community engagement.

Rooted in Living Lab methodologies and real-life experimentation, Domaine Public contributes to the New European Bauhaus objectives by connecting ecological transition, aesthetics and civic engagement at neighbourhood scale.

SMART GRID TO SMART CITIZENS

Empowering People for the Zero-Carbon Transition



Theme: Energy Citizenship & Zero-Carbon Neighbourhoods



#Energy Citizenship
#Ecological Transition
#Smart Energy Systems
#Citizen Engagement
#Resource Management

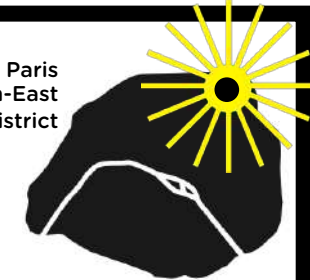
Smart Grid to Smart Citizens brings together Dédale's initiatives dedicated to energy awareness, energy citizenship and community engagement for the ecological transition.

The programme is rooted in Îlot Fertile, Paris' first zero-carbon neighbourhood and one of the flagship urban innovation projects of the City of Paris. Developed through the prestigious Réinventer Paris competition, Îlot Fertile is recognised as a pioneering demonstration site combining low-carbon construction, renewable energy production, biodiversity, smart resource management and real-time environmental monitoring.

Building on the district's smart energy systems — including photovoltaic production, energy sharing, grey-water heat recovery, smart consumption management and automated monitoring — the programme addresses a key challenge: how can residents, workers and local stakeholders become active participants rather than passive users of low-carbon infrastructure?

Through co-design workshops, data visualisation, training activities and real-life experimentation, Smart Grid to Smart Citizens helps users understand their energy consumption, monitor their environmental footprint and contribute to collective carbon reduction goals.

By bridging the gap between smart infrastructure and everyday practices, the programme develops replicable approaches to energy literacy, energy citizenship and community-led climate action, contributing to more resilient, climate-neutral and citizen-driven neighbourhoods aligned with the European Green Deal and the New European Bauhaus.



Theme: Sustainable Tourism & Territorial Attractiveness



#Metropolitan Exploration
#Territorial Storytelling
#Urban Walks
#Local Heritage
#Place-based Experiences

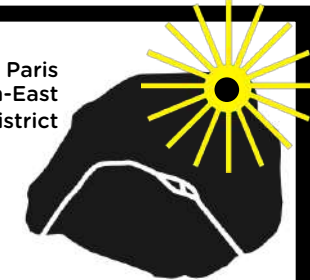
GR19 brings together Dédale's urban walks, metropolitan trails and territorial storytelling projects developed in Rosa Parks, Paris Nord-Est and Seine-Saint-Denis around themes such as nature in the city, sustainable food, street art, industrial heritage, migration histories and urban transformations.

Developed in peripheral territories at the interface between Paris and its suburbs, the initiative explores how mapping, route design, local narratives and collective exploration can help reveal the resources, identities and everyday realities of neighbourhoods often overlooked despite their strong social, cultural and ecological dynamics.

Inspired by the imaginary of long-distance hiking trails, GR19 develops new formats of metropolitan exploration through walking, cycling, running and other soft mobility experiences connecting public space, local stories and everyday landscapes.

Combining cultural mediation, participatory approaches and digital tools, the project experiments with immersive ways of revealing the memory and transformations of territories through geolocated content, urban storytelling and situated experiences rooted in encounters with residents, greeters, local initiatives and neighbourhood know-how.

By creating accessible and collective exploration formats, GR19 contributes to new forms of metropolitan hospitality, territorial attractiveness, civic participation and neighbourhood identity while encouraging slower, more inclusive and place-based ways of experiencing metropolitan territories in transition.



Theme: Public Space, Placemaking & Urban Transformation



#Modular Urban Furniture
#Public Space Activation
#Tactical Urbanism
#Citizen-Led Initiatives
#Collaborative Design

Mob Up is a modular and mobile urban furniture system designed to activate public spaces and support citizen-led initiatives in neighbourhoods undergoing social, ecological and urban transitions.

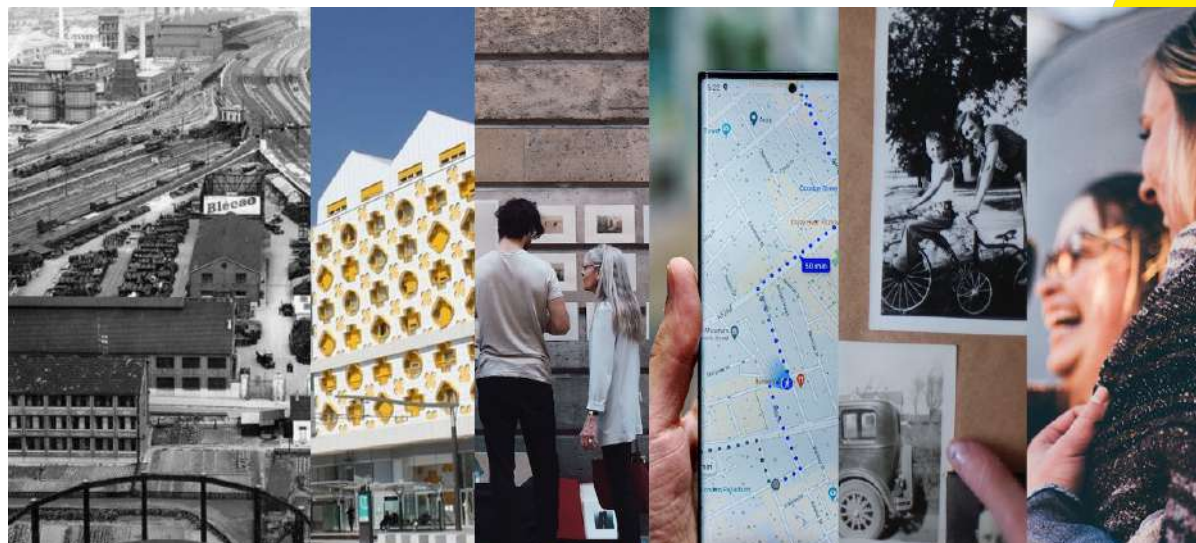
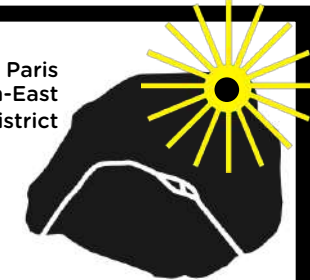
Co-designed with residents and local stakeholders, the system can be easily assembled, adapted and reconfigured to create a wide range of temporary uses and collective experiences. From workshops, debates and public consultations to shared meals, cultural events, outdoor exhibitions, neighbourhood radio stations or micro-performances, Mob Up transforms underused spaces into places for encounter, participation and community life.

Combining tactical urbanism, collaborative design and real-life experimentation, Mob Up enables cities, organisations and communities to test new uses, encourage social interaction and strengthen local ownership of public space.

Developed through the Rosa Lab Living Lab, the initiative contributes to the New European Bauhaus vision by promoting adaptable, inclusive and sustainable public spaces shaped by their users.

BACK TO THE FUTURE...

Revealing Neighbourhood Memory and Urban Transformations



Theme: Art, Culture and Digital Cultural Heritage



#Participatory Storytelling
#Neighbourhood Memory
#Cultural Mediation
#Digital Heritage
#Inclusive Cultural Participation

Retour vers le futur is Dédale's programme dedicated to revealing the memory, heritage and transformations of neighbourhoods through participatory storytelling, cultural mediation and digital tools. Developed through the Rosa Lab Living Lab, the initiative invites residents, schools, associations and local actors to explore the past, present and future of their territory through workshops, urban walks, archives, oral histories, sound recordings, rephotography, mapping and exhibitions.

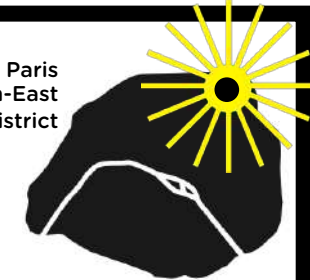
The programme focuses on neighbourhoods undergoing major urban, social and environmental transformations, particularly in peripheral metropolitan areas often overlooked in dominant urban narratives. By collecting memories, revealing hidden stories and connecting them to current changes, Retour vers le futur strengthens local identity, sense of belonging and intergenerational transmission.

Through participatory heritage practices, urban storytelling and place-based cultural activities, the project turns local memory into a resource for civic engagement, territorial attractiveness and collective imagination.

Rooted in real-life experimentation, Retour vers le futur develops replicable formats for inclusive cultural participation and contributes to the New European Bauhaus vision by connecting heritage, social inclusion, aesthetics and sustainable urban transformation.

TERROIR URBAIN

Revealing Local Food, Biodiversity and Neighbourhood Identity



Theme: Urban Nature, Biodiversity & Sustainable Food Systems



#Urban Terroir
#Sustainable Food Systems
#Edible Biodiversity
#Local Food Ecosystems
#Place-Based Storytelling

Terroir Urbain is Dédale's programme dedicated to revealing and activating the food, biodiversity and local production resources of metropolitan neighbourhoods.

Developed through the Rosa Lab Living Lab, the initiative explores the idea of an urban terroir: a hyperlocal ecosystem of products, places, gardens, producers, processors, distributors, residents and local stories, rooted within a one-kilometre radius around the neighbourhood.

Through participatory inventories, urban foraging, community gardening, food workshops, collective cooking, preservation activities and neighbourhood events, Terroir Urbain helps residents identify, understand and transform the edible and ecological resources of their everyday environment.

The programme also supports the structuring and visibility of local food ecosystems by connecting producers, makers, associations, shops, restaurants and distribution networks. Products and preserves can be labelled with the names of local streets, gardens and emblematic places, turning food into a medium for storytelling, local pride and territorial identity.

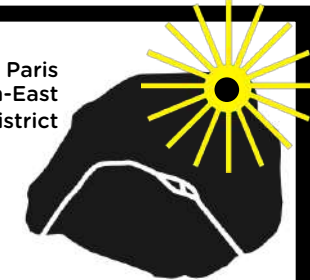
Rooted in peripheral and often overlooked territories, Terroir Urbain contributes to strengthening sense of belonging, community participation and territorial attractiveness. By combining sustainable food systems, biodiversity awareness, local know-how and place-based narratives, the programme develops practical and replicable approaches for more resilient, inclusive and regenerative neighbourhoods aligned with the values of the New European Bauhaus.

Pilot Project #8

URBAN FOLIES

Tactical Urbanism for More Livable Streets

Paris
North-East
District



European
Network of
Living Labs

Theme: Public Space, Placemaking & Urban Transformation



#Tactical Urbanism
#Parklets S
#Street Transformation
#Public Space Experimentation
#Community Engagement

Urban Folies is Dédale's tactical urbanism programme dedicated to the transformation of streets and public spaces through modular parklets installed on former parking spaces.

Designed as temporary and reversible interventions, Urban Folies reclaims road space traditionally dedicated to cars and converts it into places for social interaction, rest, play, culture, biodiversity and neighbourhood life. Installed directly on parking lanes, the structures create micro-public spaces that allow cities and communities to experiment with new uses of the street before implementing permanent transformations.

Developed in the context of street redesign, traffic calming and pedestrianisation strategies, Urban Folies supports the transition towards more liveable, inclusive and climate-resilient cities. By testing alternative uses of public space, the programme helps decision-makers, residents and local stakeholders collectively imagine the future of urban streets.

First deployed in Paris between 2018 and 2020, Urban Folies was tested in five Parisian districts through a series of pilot parklets developed in partnership with the City of Paris. The experimentation generated a comprehensive set of observations, recommendations and practical guidelines for the large-scale deployment of parklets and tactical urbanism interventions.

Combining tactical urbanism, placemaking, community engagement and real-life experimentation, Urban Folies contributes to the emergence of healthier and more human-centred public spaces aligned with the values of the New European Bauhaus.