

The effect of urban lighting on health and well-being of citizens

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End: 28th February 2025

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Bologna municipality budget: 149.500 €

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research and innovation

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Coordinator:

Bologna University (UNIBO),
Department of Architecture, IT

Partner:

Bologna Municipality, IT
Fondazione Innovazione Urbana, Bologna, IT
Azienda USL di Bologna, IT
Health City Institute, IT

Neri Spa, IT

Oengineering Srl, IT

Gate 21, DK

Tartu Municipality, EE

Tartu Ulikool, EE

Association Luci - Lighting Urban Community
International, FR

Eurice - European Research and Project
Office GmbH, D

ICLEI European Secretariat GmH, D

Fundación Tecnalia Research & Innovation,
ES

Uppsala University, SE

Chrono@Work Bv, NL

Amsterdam Municipality, Paesi Bassi;

Stichting Vu, NL

London School of Economics and Political
Science, UK;

Lumie, UK;

University of Surrey, UK

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, USA

CONTEXT

In the field of urban public lighting, European cities have so far mostly been focusing on energy efficiency, reducing costs and lowering emissions.

What has so far been underestimated, although there is numerous scientific evidence to confirm it, is the impact that artificial lighting has on citizens' health and well-being.

PURPOSE

The ENLIGHTENme research project, with a consortium of 22 partners coming from 10 countries around the world, aims to develop and test innovative solutions and policies to improve health and well-being in European cities.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The study on citizens over 65 will make it possible to assess the risks of lighting on mental and health conditions. The results will also be able to develop a dedicated system of decision support, as well as guidelines and recommendations on the impact of lighting on health and well-being, proposing innovative policies, measures, technologies and interventions regarding lighting aimed at improving health and well-being of citizens in their cities.

ACTIVITIES

- Creation of an open online atlas to bring together existing data and good practices on the relationship between urban lighting and health
- Study on the correlations between health, well-being, lighting and socio-economic factors in a pilot neighborhood for each of the 3 partner cities of Amsterdam, Bologna and Tartu. In Bologna, the selected neighborhood is the Savena district, with a focus on Piazza Lambrakis.
- In the selected neighborhoods, creation of Lighting Urban Labs (participatory workshops in which citizens and stakeholders will co-create innovative solutions both in internal and external lighting systems, and then test them in the area).



Bologna Municipality Departments involved:

- Welfare and promotion of community well-being, local technical coordinator: *Marzia Bettocchi*
- Public works, green areas and mobility - Public Lighting unit, *Francesco Mattia Rubini*
- International Relations and Projects, project manager: *Silvia Bartoloni*