

The TERRAIN Project advances inclusive cycling education with the Second Living Lab in Bologna

17 July 2025

On July 17, 2025, the second meeting of stakeholders was held in Bologna within the project *Twinning and Engagement in net-zero tRansport tRAnsItioN – TERRAIN*, approved for financing within the INTERREG IPA ADRION Programme.

The event was hosted by the Municipality of Bologna, as one of the project partners, and brought together representatives from regional and local authorities, schools, public transport, civic associations, and mobility experts.



The main objective of the meeting was to discuss the next steps in the implementation of the local pilot action focused on promoting cycling mobility among school children, and to define together the priorities and methods of

intervention. The meeting also served as a follow-up to the first Bologna Living Lab held in January 2025.



Participants reviewed the alignment of the TERRAIN pilot with the broader strategies of Bologna's Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP), presented by the Metropolitan City of Bologna.

The importance of coordinated action in the Functional Urban Area and the monitoring results of the SUMP were discussed, including trends in car ownership, accident rates and cycling behaviour.

TERRAIN

The initial idea of a pedal-powered school vehicle (ciclobus) transport reassessed due to technical, logistical and regulatory challenges. Instead, meeting focused on alternative, more flexible and service-based solutions. These include awareness raising actions on sustainable and active mobility, classroom activities on road safety and educational cycling trips for primary schools, the use of balance bikes in preschools, partnerships with third-party operators to deliver these services in collaboration with local police, associations and educational institutions.

Representatives of local stakeholders, including FIAB (Italian Federation for Environment and Cycling), eXtraBO (Bologna Welcome Foundation for the promotion of Bologna metropolitan area), the Emilia-Romagna Region, Bologna Metropolitan City and primary schools, actively contributed to the discussion.

TERRAIN on Bologna Municipality website
TERRAIN on IPA Adrion website
Interreg IPA ADRION Programme

They expressed support for a collaborative and inclusive approach to promote safe and sustainable school mobility.



The implementation of the pilot is expected to start in autumn 2025, with preparatory actions—including engagement of schools and service provider selection. The pilot will then include educational activities, classroom sessions and bike trips, and will be evaluated through both qualitative and quantitative indicators.



This press release has been produced as part of the TERRAIN project with the financial assistance of the European Union through the Interreg IPA ADRION Programme under SO 2.4: Supporting sustainable multimodal urban mobility in the Adriatic - Ionian region.

The content of this document is the sole responsibility of TERRAIN Partnership and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union and/or IPA ADRION Programme authorities.