

Urban Living Labs as an innovative tool for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals? Evidence from Poland

Dagmara Helena Brzeziecka ¹ , Bartosz Piziak ² , Karolina Thel ^{3,4,5} 

¹ Faculty of Economics, University of Gdańsk, Armii Krajowej 119/121, 81-824 Sopot, Poland;

² Institute of Urban and Regional Development, Cieszyńska 2, 30-015 Kraków, Poland;

³ University of Malta, Centre for Environmental Education & Research, MSD 2080, Msida, Malta;

⁴ University of Warsaw, Faculty of Sociology, Karowa 18, 00-324 Warsaw, Poland;

⁵ Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, Faculty of Artistic Research and Curatorial Studies,
Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie 39, 00-379, Warsaw, Poland

dbrzeziecka@gmail.com (D.H.B.); bpiziak@irmir.pl (B.P.); karolina.thel@gmail.com (K.T.)

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ABSTRACT: The aim of the article is to analyse the activities of Urban Living Labs (ULL) in Poland from the perspective of supporting the realization of sustainable development goals at the local level. The article is based on an analysis of Internet materials (1,907 research units from social media and websites) of Polish Urban Labs on various types of activities they perform. The analysis of the materials helped to assess the way in which Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) concepts are implemented as part of the urban innovations developed at Urban Labs. It helped to identify the most important directions of SDG implementation, as well as to propose a typology of urban labs in this regard. The main conclusions of the research concern the different strategies for concentrating ULL activities around the SDGs, as well as the emergence of three speeds of ULL in terms of their involvement in SDG implementation. The “great absentee,” i.e. the undervaluing of sustainable energy topics in ULL activities in Poland, was also revealed.

KEYWORDS: Urban lab, urban living lab, living lab, sustainable development, sustainable development goals, urban development

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