

## One year of the EU-funded AccesS project: Enhancing Accessibility and Sustainability in Smart Cities and Smart Buildings

The EU-funded AccesS project, dedicated to improving Accessibility and Sustainability in Smart Cities and Smart Buildings, has completed its first year with strong progress towards transforming urban spaces into more inclusive, connected, and sustainable environments.

The work related to defining specific technical and non-technical background in which the AccesS solutions will be developed and implemented has been completed, together with the methodological approach for social inclusion, user-centred design and active mobility.

Over the past year, the consortium has:

- Established the **AccesS Framework architecture**, use cases and master plan for demonstration activities
- Developed the **Evaluation framework** to monitor the project's progress and performance
- Completed the **AccesS user-centred design approach** shaped through workshops with stakeholders at each pilot site, resulting in site-specific roadmaps
- Conducted a **Comparative analysis** of European and international accessibility regulations
- Drafted a modular and scalable **Accessibility scoring system** for buildings
- Selected the most relevant **furniture** tailored to each demo site's needs
- Defined the **Information management layer** of the AccesS Suite to ensure interoperability across components
- Implemented a secure **Authentication system** for access to the platform
- Developed **core platform features** that form the foundation for future functionalities

The focus right now is on the development of the AccesS digital solutions while initiating the demonstration and stakeholder engagement activities.

In the past year, the project has also Huestablished connections with similar initiatives, including <u>InclusiveSpaces</u> (a sister project), <u>ACCESSTECH</u>, <u>RENplusHOMES</u>, and the <u>SHIFT</u> project. These collaborations foster knowledge sharing and have the potential to generate stronger outcomes.

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