



Built environment professionals co-workshop

Issues and co-designed solutions table

Issues – Problems	Co-designed Problem Solutions: Policies and Implementation Measures
<p>Problem: Rising urban temperatures and poor thermal comfort in Limassol.</p> <p>Description: Urban heat island effect worsened by lack of greenery, reflective materials, and poor urban design.</p> <p>Relevance: Impacts public health, energy consumption, urban livability.</p> <p>Issues: Lack of integrated planning, funding issues, citizen resistance, outdated construction practices.</p>	<p>Solution: Increase urban greenery through parks, green roofs, shaded streets; use cool materials for construction and roads.</p> <p>Link to problem: Targets heat island effect and improves thermal comfort.</p> <p>Pros: Health benefits, energy savings, improved livability.</p> <p>Cons: High implementation costs, maintenance requirements.</p> <p>Alternatives: Temporary green installations, urban pilot projects.</p> <p>Cost: High.</p> <p>Barriers/Difficulties: Coordination across departments, funding, public and private buy-in.</p>
<p>Problem: Heavy reliance on private vehicles; underdeveloped public transport.</p> <p>Description: Low usage of public transport, traffic congestion, emissions.</p> <p>Relevance: Hinders sustainable city development.</p> <p>Issues: Negative public perception of public transport, urban planning gaps.</p>	<p>Solution: Promote public transport through subsidies, improve service quality and communication campaigns, prioritize green mobility corridors.</p> <p>Link to problem: Reduces car dependence and emissions.</p> <p>Pros: Traffic reduction, emissions savings, urban quality enhancement.</p> <p>Cons: High operational costs, culture change required.</p> <p>Alternatives: Micro-mobility solutions, cycling infrastructure.</p> <p>Cost: Medium to high.</p> <p>Barriers/Difficulties: Funding, citizen acceptance, political will.</p>





<p>Problem: Insufficient green urban planning and lack of connected green spaces.</p> <p>Description: Green spaces are fragmented and not accessible.</p> <p>Relevance: Impacts health, biodiversity, resilience to climate change.</p> <p>Issues: Land availability, political and institutional inertia.</p>	<p>Solution: Implement connected "green corridors", mandate green spaces in new developments, use idle land for parks.</p> <p>Link to problem: Strengthens urban resilience and health benefits.</p> <p>Pros: Environmental and social benefits.</p> <p>Cons: Land acquisition, stakeholder conflicts.</p> <p>Alternatives: Temporary green initiatives.</p> <p>Cost: Medium to high.</p> <p>Barriers/Difficulties: Ownership issues, zoning regulations, funding.</p>
<p>Problem: Low public engagement in sustainable city initiatives.</p> <p>Description: Citizens unaware or unmotivated to participate in green initiatives.</p> <p>Relevance: Public cooperation crucial for success.</p> <p>Issues: Lack of effective communication strategies, low trust in government.</p>	<p>Solution: Launch public awareness campaigns, community engagement projects (co-design workshops, urban labs), educational programs.</p> <p>Link to problem: Increases acceptance and participation.</p> <p>Pros: Builds trust, ensures relevance of projects.</p> <p>Cons: Time-consuming, slow results.</p> <p>Alternatives: Digital platforms for engagement.</p> <p>Cost: Low to medium.</p> <p>Barriers/Difficulties: Apathy, competing priorities.</p>
<p>Problem: Inefficient building design contributing to urban heat.</p> <p>Description: Low use of passive cooling techniques and reflective materials.</p> <p>Relevance: High energy use, poor comfort, higher emissions.</p> <p>Issues: Regulatory barriers, cost concerns, lack of knowledge among professionals.</p>	<p>Solution: Promote green roofs, cool pavements, passive cooling systems, mandatory standards for new constructions.</p> <p>Link to problem: Reduces energy demand and improves comfort.</p> <p>Pros: Long-term savings, climate resilience.</p> <p>Cons: Higher upfront costs, training needs.</p> <p>Alternatives: Incentive programs, certification schemes.</p> <p>Cost: High for retrofits, medium for new builds.</p> <p>Barriers/Difficulties: Market availability of materials, regulatory updates.</p>





<p>Problem: Uncoordinated urban mobility and circulation.</p> <p>Description: Traffic management plans not aligned with sustainable goals.</p> <p>Relevance: Congestion increases emissions and reduces quality of life.</p> <p>Issues: Resistance to traffic restructuring, lack of comprehensive mobility planning.</p>	<p>Solution: Redesign traffic flows, implement "faster access" strategies to cores of the city, prioritize bus lanes and cycling routes.</p> <p>Link to problem: Supports faster, greener urban mobility.</p> <p>Pros: Reduces commute times, improves air quality.</p> <p>Cons: Potential opposition from drivers.</p> <p>Alternatives: Temporary pop-up bike lanes and bus lanes.</p> <p>Cost: Medium.</p> <p>Barriers/Difficulties: Public resistance, technical complexity.</p>
<p>Problem: Climate change adaptation strategies lagging behind urban growth.</p> <p>Description: Rapid urbanization without climate-smart solutions.</p> <p>Relevance: Threatens long-term sustainability.</p> <p>Issues: Short-term economic interests prioritized over resilience.</p>	<p>Solution: Integrate climate adaptation into urban planning, prioritize sustainable design practices.</p> <p>Link to problem: Future-proofs city against climate risks.</p> <p>Pros: Reduces long-term costs, increases resilience.</p> <p>Cons: High planning complexity.</p> <p>Alternatives: Climate adaptation task forces.</p> <p>Cost: High (for full integration).</p> <p>Barriers/Difficulties: Political priorities, coordination among stakeholders.</p>

