

Meet e-Planning

What is e-Planning?

e-Planning is a new scientific area of inquiry to study and develop the interaction between Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and Planning, which requires in-depth research and development on both ICT and Planning domains. Planning is a wide-breath discipline, addressing from policy making to implementation, from institutional analysis to regulatory frameworks, from decision-making to public participation. Planning is therefore a key layer interfacing Government and Citizens, as well their organized activity, be it for profit or non-profit, whether of social, economic or cultural nature.

e-Planning builds on social sciences and engineering bodies of knowledge to identify, investigate, evolve and test ICT in service of public interest; but also the impacts of ICT and its processes of dissemination. We aim to contribute to:

- Connect academia to society (public administration, autarchies, enterprises, civil society – NGO's, autarchies, enterprises, civil society – NGO's, citizens), facilitating support to good government and good governance.
- Fill de gap in the Market: Development of technologies led by social needs, in particular against exclusion and inequities (identifying and characterizing them);
- Optimize Social Capital returns, as the core to financial sustainability.

www.e-planning.org



Learn e-Planning

e-Planning PhD Course

The PhD course in e-planning was designed by a research community integrating MIT (USA) and 4 Portuguese Universities:

- Universidade Nova de Lisboa - **UNL**
- Universidade de Lisboa – **UL**
- Universidade Técnica de Lisboa - **UTL**
- Universidade de Aveiro – **UA**

These 4 Universities formalized an “e-Planning Consortium” in 2009, offering now the “Joint PhD Program in e-Planning”.

This new and innovative PhD program with its intrinsic transdisciplinary nature, emerged from the e-Planning agenda and is supported by various Research Centers classified in the national system of evaluation (FCT), as “Excellent” and “Very Good”.

Applications

Interested candidates to the e-Planning Joint PhD can submit their application to any of the 5 Organic Units of the 4 Universities (FC of UL; ISCSP of UTL; FCT and FCSH of UNL and UA.), and will benefit from cross-registration benefits. The Degree Diploma is subscribed by the 4 Universities.



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF THE JOINT PHD PROGRAM

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e-Planning Agenda

- **e-Planning knowledge infrastructure** - Mapping of the knowledge society; Mapping of the planning knowledge; Develop the new ICT infrastructures and strategic Frameworks.
- **e-Planning for the government of the future (e-government)** - More efficient and responsive government, closer to citizens; better enabling role; better services; G2G, G2C, G2B.
- **e-Planning for a new governance (e-governance)** - Foster institutional culture towards the common good, more equity and less exclusion; build strategic institutional capacity within globalized world; better institutions; better regulation framework and handling of market failures; better balance of security & efficiency vs. freedoms and liberty.
- **e-Planning for the city of the future (e-city) and territory** - Build the cities of the future, as sustainable environments with new functionality that breed innovation; foster cities with better quality of life, more attractive and competitive; better territorial planning, incorporating new structural impacts of ICTs.
- **e-planning for a new citizenship (e-citizenship)** - Enable a better informed and educated citizen, more participative, more critical, more responsible; better balance of technology challenges with ethics & individual freedoms & privacy.
and crosswise:
- Deepen international cooperation, build international institutional capacity, based on the e-Planning agenda and a Network of LiveLabs;
- Promote curricula modernization based on the e-Planning agenda.

Do e-Planning



Whom is the PhD for?

The PhD course in e-Planning (3d cycle of Bologna) is oriented to prepare the candidates (independent from their formerly obtained degrees), as actual and future consultants, professors, researchers, policy makers, entrepreneurs and other agents of transformation in civil society at the cultural, political and social level, acting nationally and regionally, through the application of the “e-planning” agenda, towards the modernization and innovation of public policies, of business and civil society.

Antecedents of e-Planning

The concept and scope definition of e-Planning is based on the paper: “Towards a Research Agenda on e-Planning”, prepared jointly by Ferraz de Abreu, P and Ferreira Jr, J. Joseph (MIT 2003) and was afterwards evolved by a community that originated the current “e-Planning Consortium”. In Portugal, a public ceremony of the presentation of the PhD Course in e-Planning (2009/10) occurred on the 1st of October of 2009 at FCSH-UNL (Lisbon), with the participation of Associated Head of the Urban Studies Department and Planning of MIT.

Association with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Transcript from the MIT Formal Final Report for the MIT-Portugal Program (presented by MIT to the Portuguese Government), (p. 5):

“Although we have received suggestions about many potential projects and focus areas, we mention “e-Planning” initiatives in particular because we have received many expressions of interest from faculty in Portugal and MIT.

We suggest that the “e-Planning” initiatives should be the subject of further analysis during the coming year after the launching of the initial program”.