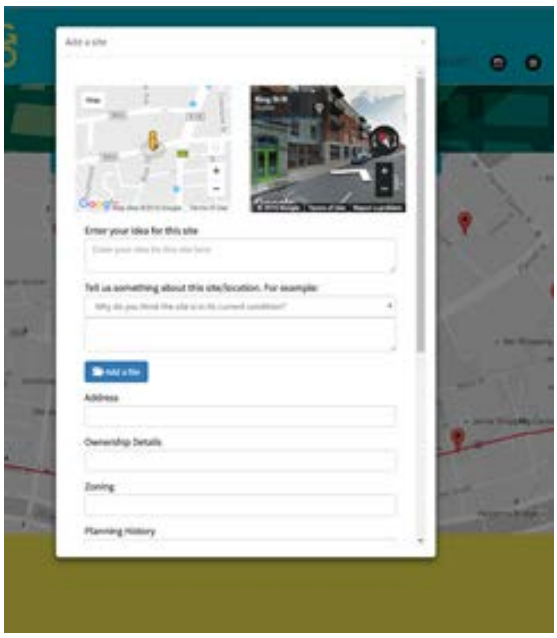
TURAS

Reusing Dublin - Dublin | Infrastructure Summary

SEPTEMBER 2016



TURAS

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Reusing Dublin – Dublin | Infrastructure Summary

Introduction

Transitioning Towards Urban Resilience and Sustainability (TURAS) is an FP7 funded European-wide research and development programme. The "TURAS" project aims to bring together urban communities, researchers, local authorities and SMEs to research, develop, demonstrate and disseminate transition strategies and scenarios to enable European cities and their rural interfaces to build vitally-needed resilience in the face of significant sustainability challenges. As part of this process, the TURAS project has developed a suite of Geo-ICT tools for the project to demonstrate some of the research topic address over the lifespan of the project.

Design Intent

Reusing Dublin responds to the observation that we don't use space in our city efficiently - and sometimes we don't use it at all. Reusing Dublin attempts to map underused spaces in order to identify opportunities for using the city more efficiently for the benefit of everyone. Underused spaces include sites and buildings that are not used at all (vacant) or that are only partly in use. It also includes spaces that may have a use, like a roof or a grassed area, but that could accommodate additional uses. Re-using Dublin is an experimental research project that is part of a wider EU FP7 project called TURAS (Transitioning towards Urban Resilience and Sustainability).

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Link to Existing Application: www.reusingdublin.ie

Principal Elements

The crowd sourced web mapping application Reusing Dublin which was developed by the TURAS project to map vacant/underutilised spaces in Dublin. Reusing Dublin provides a space for Dubliners to discover & share information on vacant / underutilised spaces and to connect with others about the topic. The application is public facing and all user generated content is viewable instantly on the viewer to any user. The principal tenants are the tool is to identify, discover and collaborate:

1. Identify
   Users can add their knowledge of an area, a site, or a building to the application. They can share documents, imagery or video that better explains the history of a site. User can add a space by clicking the 'add a site' tab and clicking on the location on the map. Then input and share your information about a site.

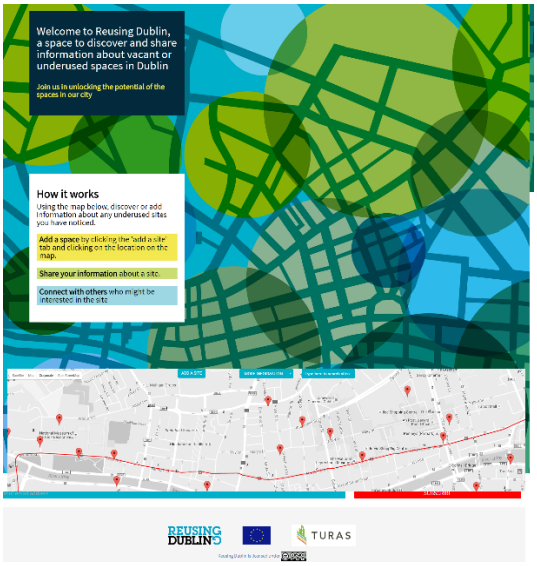
2. Discover
   Over time the application has expanded and there are now hundreds of user submitted sites located around Dublin. Each of these sites and associated information are accessible through the mapping application open to the public. The application also includes a range of spatial datasets which can be used to understand the current picture of the area with respect to development plan zonings, architecturally protected sites, planning applications and building usage (residential, retail, government etc)
3. Collaborate
   One of the key aspects of the application is to create a collaborative environment between interested stakeholders. The application also offers the ability for stakeholders to offer insights into how underutilised spaces across the city can be better used. Equally, it allows you to connect with others who might be interested in the site(s).

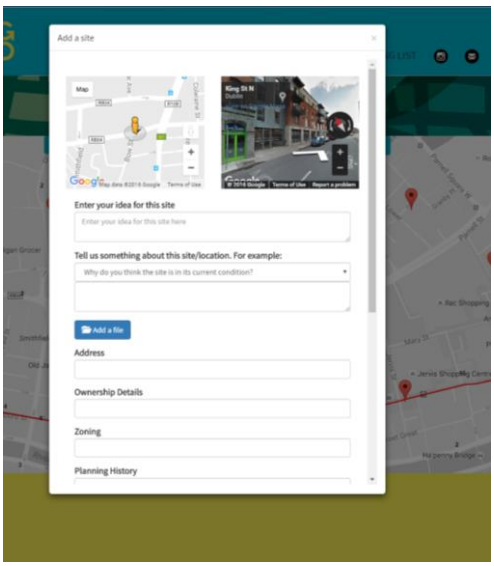
Infrastructure

The infrastructure underpinning the application:

1. Data collection
   Data for the application was sourced from a number of different state bodies. Zoning data was retrieved from Dublin City Council, planning applications data was sourced online via the open government data initiative, building use data utilises the GeoDirectory dataset which is held and managed by An Post, and the protected sites data was data was sourced from the NIAH. Crowd sourced site related data was gathered by user across Dublin.

2. Application
   The application is built using a loose mvc architecture and is not tied to any framework or platform. It uses HTML, CSS, PHP and JavaScript to create the functionality, database storage and style of the working application.





Wider Application Dissemination

In order to create the best environment for re-use, modification and visibility of the TURAS Geo-ICT tools we package all code and documentation for each application and have made them directly available to the public in zip file or available on GitHub @ https://github.com/UCDTURAS.

Compressed Archive File

- To make the development and coding accessible to the public and researchers interested in using, adapting, or further developing the TURAS tools, we have packaged the information (code, development operations and documentation) into a single compressed file which can be downloaded from the final TURAS interface. This package will contain a computer program as well as necessary metadata for its deployment.

GitHub Repository

- The aim of the TURAS project is to bring urban communities and businesses together with local authorities and researchers to collaborate on developing practical new solutions for more sustainable and resilient European cities. Following this, we recognise the importance of having a dedicated modern interface with which to disseminate all the Geo-ICT tools developed as part of the project. TURAS has created a GitHub account to allow end-users, technical developers etc to push/pull data code from the TURAS account.