

# URban Sustainability in Action

## Multi-disciplinary Approach through Jointly Organized Research schools (URSA MAJOR)

Jenny Turton<sup>1</sup>, Igor Ezau<sup>2,3</sup>, Lasse Pettersson<sup>3</sup>, Vera Kuklina<sup>4</sup>, Sobah Abbas Petersen<sup>5,6</sup>, Alenka Temeljotov-Salaj<sup>5</sup>

### A holistic socio-environmental programme for 'Smart Cities': An Arctic focus

#### Aims

- 1 Educate future urban stakeholders to promote the Green Deal transformation
- 2 Strengthen access to digital communication and remote sensing products in two areas (Figure 1)
- 3 Digitalization of collection, storage, analysis and useage of urban social and environmental information

#### Terminology

**Smart Cities:** Sustainable and resilient urban centres.

**Relevant stakeholders:** civil engineers, ecologists, architects, city planners, administrators, students...

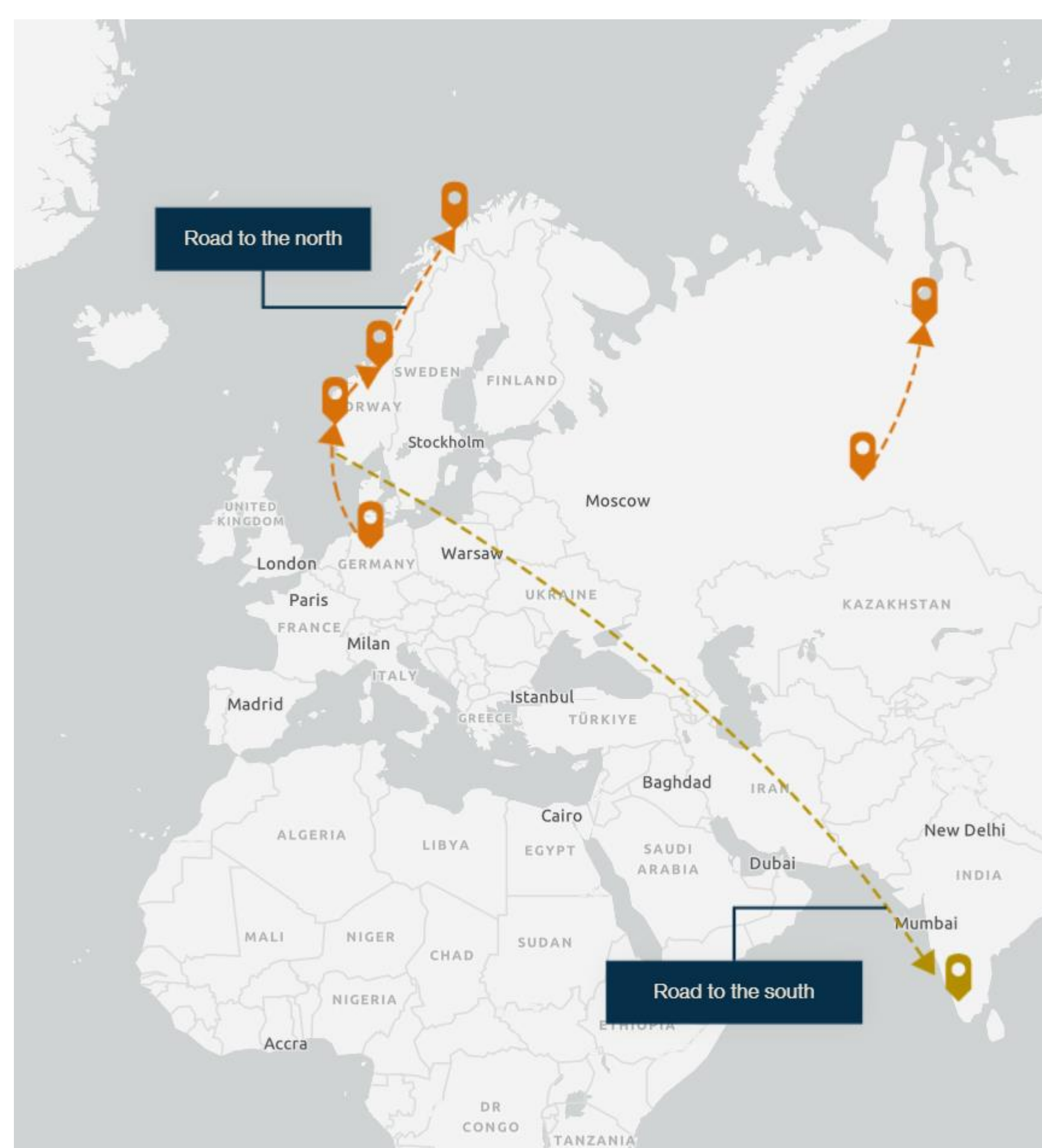


Figure 1: The Road North and the Road South are the two main locations for the project



Figure 2: Summer schools are regularly organised for students. Here they experienced future cities using Virtual Reality (Figure Credit: B. Jacobsen, SINTEF Blog)



Figure 3: City transformation science session at Arctic Frontiers conference

#### Activities

- 23 Students from 5 countries (Germany, Norway, Finland, India and USA) gathered for the 2022 Autumn school focusing on Urban Sustainability in the Arctic (Figure 2)
- Dedicated science sessions at Arctic Frontiers 2023 on 'City Transformation by and for Citizens using Digital Technologies and Visualisation' with 14 oral talks and 4 posters
- Meetings at Arctic Frontiers 2023 with county councils, Mayors and other stakeholders
- Presentations at European Geosciences Union (EGU) conference in 2022 and 2023
- Involved in discussions 'Urban and Societal Developments in Alaska and Norway' in Washington DC, September 2022, with academic and business stakeholders (Figure 4).



Figure 4: Presentation of project and plans in Washington DC