Milan - Italy
Development of On-Demand E-Pod Service

Code: MI-UC01
Brief: A modular demand-responsive transport service with coupling vehicles enabling seamless passenger transfers.

Key Urban Challenges Addressed:

- **Pilot zero-emission on-demand transport in Milan.**
- **Use modular electric e-Pods that couple and uncouple along routes.**
- **Enable seamless passenger transfers during trips.**
- **Improve accessibility and reduce car dependency.**

Goals & Anticipated Benefits:

- **Reduce car dependency** among service users.
- **Increase accessibility to public transport.**
- **Reduce emissions and energy demand** by shifting from cars.
- **Demonstrate economic viability** of the system.

Ownership:

- **Agenzia TPL** is responsible for the service deployment.
- **AMAT** will work on the service planning.
- **NEXT** will provide the electric vehicles.
- **Factual** will provide the platform to manage DRT service.
- **UNINA** will oversee monitoring and evaluation.

Infrastructure:

- **IoT sensors and real-time systems** manage POD coupling, docking, and parking.
- **Autonomous navigation and docking technologies** tested by NeXT.
- **Vehicles communicate with infrastructure** to select parking and align for docking.
- **Four vehicles operate the service,** including one wheelchair-accessible.

Location:
The innovative on-demand service with on-board transfers will be launched in a district of the Milan metropolitan area, currently in the process of being established, to facilitate both first- and last-mile travel as well as door-to-door journeys.

Timeline:

March 2026
Simulations and planning

September 2026
E-pod service testing

November 2026
Wide-scale demonstration

Co-funded by the European Union