1. Toolbox: URSOS

1.1. Description of the tool / methodology of the tool

The Tool Ursos is edited by University of Zaragoza (UNIZAR) in spanish and english language. It is an freeware software for urban design

1.2. Outcomes of the tool

Ursos is a software tool for the designing of urban plans and buildings. The tool simulates the energy characteristics of a building/ bloc of buildings.
The tool enables an urban approach by calculating the energy characteristics of each building and bloc of buildings (Integration of different data: shadows, surface area and type of glass, optimization of thermal transmittance, energy demands, surface control, shading studies...).

1.3. Assessment of the tool

1.3.1. Advantages / Disadvantages

Advantages
- Easy to use
- Software designed for optimizing the design
- Automatic optimization mode available

Disadvantages
- Difficulty to enter complex forms for urban projects and buildings,
- climate data of other countries are not available (other reference values can be entered for local context)

1.4. Examples

Link:
Video tutorials available on: http://ursos.unizar.es/index.php/videotutoriales

1.5. Literature

Link:
http://ursos.unizar.es