URBACT II

Promoting Integrated & Sustainable Urban Development

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URBACT II - Objectives

- **European Programme of Territorial Cooperation 2007-2013** (**jointly financed by ERDF and Member States – budget 69 M€)**

- **Main objective:**
To promote Integrated & Sustainable Urban Development

Specific objectives :

- **To facilitate exchange and learning** among EU cities
- **To draw lessons and build knowledge** based on cities' experiences (**capitalization**)
- **To disseminate** good practices and lessons learnt
- **To support policy-makers and practitioners**, as well as Managing Authorities of Operational Programmes, to improve policies for sustainable urban development (capacity building)

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Thematic Priorities

Priority Axe 1 - Cities, engines of growth and jobs

> Entrepreneurship

> Innovation and Knowledge economy

> Employment and Human Capital

Priority Axe 2 - Attractive and Cohesive Cities

> Integrated development of deprived areas/ areas at risk

> Social inclusion

> Environmental issues

> Urban planning

**Integrated and sustainable urban development
From Lisbon-Gothenburg to EU 2020 Strategy**

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Main tool: Thematic networks

- **Beneficiaries from EU 27 + Norway & Switzerland:**

- Cities

- Non-city partners (public or public equivalent bodies)

  - Local Devpt agencies, public owned companies, etc.
  - Regional authorities, National authorities
  - Universities, Research centers

- **Partnership:**

- 8-12 partners (1 city as Lead partner – max 3 non-city Partners)
- balance 50% Convergence – 50% Competitiveness

- **Duration:** 33 months

- **Budget:** 800.000 €

ERDF + Local contributions: 20% Convergence/ 30% Competitiv.

- **Expert support: Lead Expert/ them experts** (additional to network budget, up to 166 days)

Main Challenges

> Organising transnational exchanges as a learning process in order to have a local impact on local policies/ practices

> Building useful and practical knowledge for the outside world, building on experiences from partner cities

→ *THE URBACT METHOD*
  - ✓ EXCHANGES
  - ✓ CAPITALISATION
  - ✓ COMMUNICATION-DISSEMINATION

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The URBACT method 1/3: EXCHANGES

SHARING – LEARNING – MAINSTREAMING

- **Transnational exchange & learning**
Cities learning from one another and supporting one another

- **Action-oriented**
Each partner commits to produce a Local Action Plan

- **Participative approach**
Each partner commits to set up & run a Local Support Group

- **Support to networks & community of work**
Each network receives support from Experts/ Secretariat
Programme develops Capacity building for partners

- **Involving Managing Authorities of OP**

The URBACT method 2/3: CAPITALISATION

Building knowledge at programme level

- **Clustering of projects based on issue addressed**

  3 Thematic Poles animated by 3 TP Managers working in thematic clusters (e.g. Innovation, Active inclusion, Metropolitan governance, etc.)

- **Projects working together to share findings and deliver consolidated knowledge through:**

  ✓ Webpages dedicated to thematic clusters

  ✓ Articles, pulications (e.g. URBACT Tribune)

  ✓ Events (city labs, URBACT Annual conferences, etc.)

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The URBACT method 3/3: COMMUNICATION & DISSEMINATION

■ **At project level**

Each network in charge of communicating on activities and disseminating findings

■ **At programme level**

> **A flagship website: www.urbact.eu**

> **Contractual partnerships with national websites to disseminate info/ findings in national languages (National Dissemination Points)**

> **Using social networks: blog, Facebook, Twitter**

> **Events, publications**

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Programme implementation to date

- **Two Calls for Proposals launched so far**

- **28 Thematic networks and 7 Working groups**
  - **280 partner cities**
  - **14 national/ regional authorities**
  - **12 universities and research centers**
  - **Community of work of 4.500 people in Local Support Groups**

- **3 URBACT Annual Conferences (2008, 2009, 2010)**

- **1st Summer University for ULSG members (2011)**

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URBACT in Europe