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**Application Form Courtesy Document – Call for Peers (Thessaloniki 23)**

**CAPACITY BUILDING**

02May 2023

**Please note that this document is a working document whose purpose is solely to help European Urban Initiative applicants to be a Peer in developing their Application Forms.**

**This document will not be considered as a formal Application Form.**

**Only Application Forms submitted through the online EU Survey Platform will be considered by the European Urban Initiative Permanent Secretariat (Permanent Secretariat).**

**Please note that the working version below represents a simplified version of the full Application Form template available in EU Survey. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that this version corresponds 100% to the latest official version included in EU Survey. You are strongly encouraged to login into EU Survey as early as possible. Do not wait until the last days of the Call for Peers.**

**Please read the Applicant Guidance (**[**here**](https://www.urban-initiative.eu/sites/default/files/2023-04/EUI-CB_Guidance%20for%20Peer%20Review%20Cities%20under%20Review_5.pdf)**) before starting to complete the Application Form.**

**Character limits are to be considered including spaces. It may help applicants to fill in the working document to have the complete overview of the application.**

**As a final reminder to all applicants, please bear in mind that applications are evaluated by evaluators that may not be familiar with the specific context and challenges of your urban areas, therefore information provided in the Application Form should be clear, sufficiently detailed, and easy to grasp.**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

[PART A – Applicant information 4](#_Toc133936341)

[PART B – Challenge and motivation 7](#_Toc133936342)

[PART C – Endorsement from the Urban Authority 9](#_Toc133936343)

[C.1 Confirmation of endorsement 9](#_Toc133936344)

[C.2 Contact details of the authorised signatory 10](#_Toc133936345)

# PART A – Applicant information

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| **A.1. Name and contact details of the applicant** | |
| *Please indicate the following information* | Main contact person |
| Full name |  |
| Position |  |
| E-mail address |  |
| Telephone number (with country code) |  |

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| **A.2. Name of the urban authority of the applicant (English)** |
| *Please state the name of your urban authority* |

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| **A.3. NUTS 3 code** |
| *Please provide the NUTS3 code of the urban authority.*  *NUTS3 codes are available on the EUI website, in this* [*table*](https://www.urban-initiative.eu/sites/default/files/2022-10/EUI-IA_Call1_Correspondence_table.xlsx)*.* |

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| **A.4. Total number of inhabitants** |
| *Data to be taken from this* [*table*](https://www.urban-initiative.eu/sites/default/files/2022-10/EUI-IA_Call1_Correspondence_table.xlsx)*.*  *Please indicate the total number of inhabitants in the applying urban authority.* |
| ***[300 characters maximum]***  *(OPTIONAL) Please provide any other additional statistics from other sources* ***if needed*** *(e.g., national statistics).* |

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| **A.5. Legal status** |
| *Please select the legal status of the applicant.*  ***[Select from list]***   * *A Local Administrative Unit defined according to the degree of urbanisation as city, town or suburb* * *An association or grouping of urban authorities with legal status of organised agglomeration composed by Local Administrative Units*   *The applicant may refer to the section on Eligible authorities for further details in the Guidance for Peers.* |

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| **A.6. EU Member State** |
| *Please indicate the EU Member State the urban authority is from.* |

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| **A.7. Level regional development** |
| *Data to be taken from annexes of Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/1130 of 5 July 2021 (*[*available here*](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32021D1130)*).*  *The urban authority is located within a:*  ***[Select from list]***   * *Less developed region* * *Transition region* * *More developed region* |

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| **A.8. Involvement in article 11 of the current ERDF Regulation (2021-2027)** |
| *Is the urban authority an “article 11 city”?*  ***[Select from list]***   * *Yes* * *No* * *I don’t know*   *"Article 11 cities" are those selected within each EU Member State to contribute to the selection of operations based on Sustainable Urban Development strategies in line with Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1058 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund.* |

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| **A.9. Involvement in article 7 of the past ERDF Regulation (2014-2020)** |
| *Was the urban authority an “article 7 city”?*   * *Yes* * *No* * *I don’t know*   *"Article 7 cities" were those selected within each EU Member State to contribute to the selection of operations based on Sustainable Urban Development strategies in line with Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 1301/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the European Regional Development Fund and on specific provisions concerning the Investment for growth and jobs goal and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006.* |

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| **A.10. Personal involvement in the design and implementation of SUD strategies** |
| ***[800 characters maximum]***  *Please provide further information on your personal involvement or experience in the design and implementation of a SUD strategy or in developing integrated, place-based strategies.* |

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| **A.11. Involvement in EU cooperation related to Sustainable Urban Development.** |
| *Please indicate if the urban authority is involved in any of the below.*  ***[Select from list]***   * *URBACT* * *Urban Innovative Actions / European Urban Initiative – Innovative Actions* * *Urban Agenda for the EU* * *Council of European Municipalities and Regions* * *Other(s)*   *This field is for information only and will not have any impact on the selection process.* |
| ***[1000 characters maximum]***  *If so, please name the relevant project / network / partnership(s) and clarify how this exchange will build on this involvement.* |

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| **A.12. Involvement in the Urban Development Network** |
| *Did you benefit from a peer review organised by the Urban Development Network in the 2014-2020 period?*  ***[Select from list]***   * *Yes* * *No* |

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| **A.13. Involvement in the JRC Peer Review in Vicenza (18-19 April 2023)** |
| *Were you involved in the peer review organised by the JRC in Vicenza on 18-19 April 2023, either as a peer or a city under review?*  ***[Select from list]***   * *Yes* * *No* |

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| **A.14. Address of the urban authority** | |
| *Please state the address of the urban authority, including street name, town and post code.* | |
| Street and number |  |
| Postcode |  |
| City |  |
| Region |  |
| Country |  |

# PART B – Challenge and motivation

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| **B.1. Preferences in guiding questions**  The peer review will address three guiding questions of four cities under review. The four groups of questions are:  **Group 1:**   * How to engage students of all ages in designing the strategy action plan to enable a better sustainable development? * How to improve mobility solutions that link the rural population with the urban area? * How can urban authorities improve their assessment of the quality of their strategy and improve the acceptance of new urban plans among the population?   **Group 2:**   * How should the urban authority coordinate and collaborate on strategic planning with surrounding rural authorities? * What is the best way to determine the functional area for the SUD strategy? * How to make sure that horizontal climate change objectives are delivered when the SUD strategy deals with sectoral actions and tasks?   **Group 3:**   * How can we integrate the wide range of EU programmes and initiatives potentially available today to support our SUD strategy and projects, and mix them with own resources * How to ensure Energy and Digital Transitions are embedded in our SUD strategy in such a way that we meet our citizens' needs and promote community empowerment? * What can we learn from good practices on co-creation in order to improve the capacity of the city organisation to develop collaborative processes and methods?   **Group 4:**   * How to link strategies to EU and global agendas and deliver the green transition? * How to deal with heterogeneous priorities for urban and peri-urban areas within the same strategy? * How could the integrated sustainable development strategy be utilized to enhance cooperation between a municipality, civic society, and businesses, in order to promote coherent local and regional action plans for a given sector (e.g., tourism)? |
| *Please indicate which group of questions you would be best positioned to discuss as peer.*  *Applicants are encouraged to select at least two groups of questions from at least two peer review events considering that you may not be selected for your first preferences.*  *Note: Best positioned refers to being most interested in the challenge and having relevant experiences to share.*  ***[Select from list – multiple choice]***   * *Group 1* * *Group 2* * *Group 3* * *Group 4* |

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| **B.2. Suitability to act as a peer** |
| Explanation for preference 1 |
| ***[500 Characters maximum]***  *Please clarify why you would be suitable to act as peer for your first preference for group of questions selected****.***  *Please refer to past and current experiences, best or promising practices and similarities in context or faced challenges.* |
| Explanation for preference 2 |
| ***[500 Characters maximum]***  *Please clarify why you would be suitable to act as peer for your second preference for group of questions selected****.***  *Please refer to past and current experiences, best or promising practices and similarities in context or faced challenges.* |
| Explanation for additional preferences **if any** |
| ***[500 Characters maximum]***  *Please clarify why you would be suitable to act as peer for additional preferences for group of questions selected****.***  *Please refer to past and current experiences, best or promising practices and similarities in context or faced challenges.* |

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| **B.1.5. Motivation for applying** |
| ***[1500 Characters maximum]***  *Please clarify what the applicant expects to gain from this peer review and their motivation for applying.* |

# PART C – Endorsement from the Urban Authority

## C.1 Confirmation of endorsement

This application is made on behalf of the urban authority you are representing. Only applications that have received endorsement from an authorised signatory with delegation and power to engage the legal person of the urban authority are deemed eligible. In case of any doubt, EUI PS may contact the authorised signatory listed in the question C.2 of the Application Form.

**By endorsing this Application Form, the applying urban authority hereby confirms that**:

1. The information provided in the Application Form is accurate and true to the best knowledge of the urban authority.
2. The urban authority listed in the Application Form:
   1. is committed to participate in the action.
   2. has stable and sufficient resources to carry out the activity.
   3. Understands the expectations in terms of communication, capitalisation and to act an ambassador for EUI peer reviews.
3. The urban authority commits to comply with the eligibility criteria and all other conditions set out in the Call for Peers conditions for the entire duration of the activity.
4. The urban authority will act according to the provisions of the relevant national and EU legislation and policies as well as the specific provisions of the European Urban Initiative.
5. The urban authority is NOT subject to an administrative sanction (i.e. exclusion or financial penalty decision).[[1]](#footnote-1)
6. The urban authority (or persons with unlimited liability for debts) is NOT in one of the following exclusion situations[[2]](#footnote-2):
   1. bankrupt, being wound up, having the affairs administered by the courts, entered into an arrangement with creditors, suspended business activities or subject to any other similar proceedings or procedures.
   2. in breach of social security or tax obligations.
7. The urban authority (or persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the action) is NOT in one of the following exclusion situations[[3]](#footnote-3):
   1. guilty of grave professional misconduct[[4]](#footnote-4).
   2. committed fraud, corruption, links to a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking.
   3. shown significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations under an EU procurement contract, grant agreement, prize, expert contract, or similar.
   4. guilty of irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Regulation No 2988/95,
   5. created under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or other legal obligations in the country of origin (including creation of another entity with this purpose).
8. The urban authority is NOT subject to a conflict of interest in connection with this grant and will notify — without delay — any situation which could give rise to a conflict of interests.
9. The urban authority neither in whole nor in part have or will receive any other complementary EU funding on the tasks carried out within the activity during the whole duration of the activity.
10. General information about this project can be used by the European Urban Initiative to liaise with national and regional authorities in charge of implementation of operational programmes funded by the European Structural and Investment Funds.

**If the application is selected, EUI PS commits to:**

* + - 1. Provide technical guidance to the peer.
      2. Provide logistic and organisation support, with the organisation of all steps of the peer review process.
      3. Provide financial support with the reimbursement of travel and per diem (including subsistence and accommodation) and staff costs providing all conditions described in the Guidance for Peers are met.

**Please confirm that your institution endorses this application for a Peer Review, understands the conditions stated above, and will support its implementation if this application is approved.**

***[Please tick the box if the authorised signatory endorses the application]***

*Please note that the endorsement of your institution is an eligibility criterion for your application to be selected.*

* *Yes, I confirm my institution endorses the application, will support its implementation, and that the endorsement comes from an authorised signatory.*

## C.2 Contact details of the authorised signatory

*Please provide the name / position / email address / telephone number of the institutional representative with delegation and power to engage the legal person of the urban authority and authorising the application.*

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|  | Authorised signatory |
| Full name |  |
| Position |  |
| E-mail address |  |
| Telephone number (with country code) |  |

1. See Article 136 [EU Financial Regulation](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32018R1046&qid=1535046024012). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. See Articles 136 and 141 [[EU Financial Regulatio](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32018R1046&qid=1535046024012)n](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018R1046&qid=1535027117240&from=EN). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. See Articles 136 and 141 [[EU Financial Regulation](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32018R1046&qid=1535046024012)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018R1046&qid=1535027117240&from=EN). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Professional misconduct includes: violation of ethical standards of the profession, wrongful conduct with impact on professional credibility, false declarations/misrepresentation of information, participation in a cartel or other agreement distorting competition, violation of IPR, attempting to influence decision-making processes or obtain confidential information from public authorities to gain an advantage. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)