

Leveraging innovation ecosystems for Sustainable Cities

EUI CAPACITY BUILDING EVENT

WORKSHOP 1 - BUILDING YOUR FUNDING STRATEGY / Schaerbeek



Co-funded by
the European Union

SCHAERBEEK



SCHAARBEEK

Case Study
Building your funding strategy
- a participatory approach to
territorial diagnostics and
opportunity mapping

Tampere 29 May 2024

Leveraging Innovation Ecosystems for
Sustainable Cities

EUI Capacity Building Event

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**What kind of organisation
do you represent?**

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What does the terms funding strategy mean to you (2-3 words)?

Schaerbeek – who we are

Territory

- 130,000 inhabitants
- + 200 nationalities

Political representatives

- One Mayor and 9 vice-Mayor
- Local elections: 13.10.2024

Brussels Capital Region



Schaerbeek



Administration

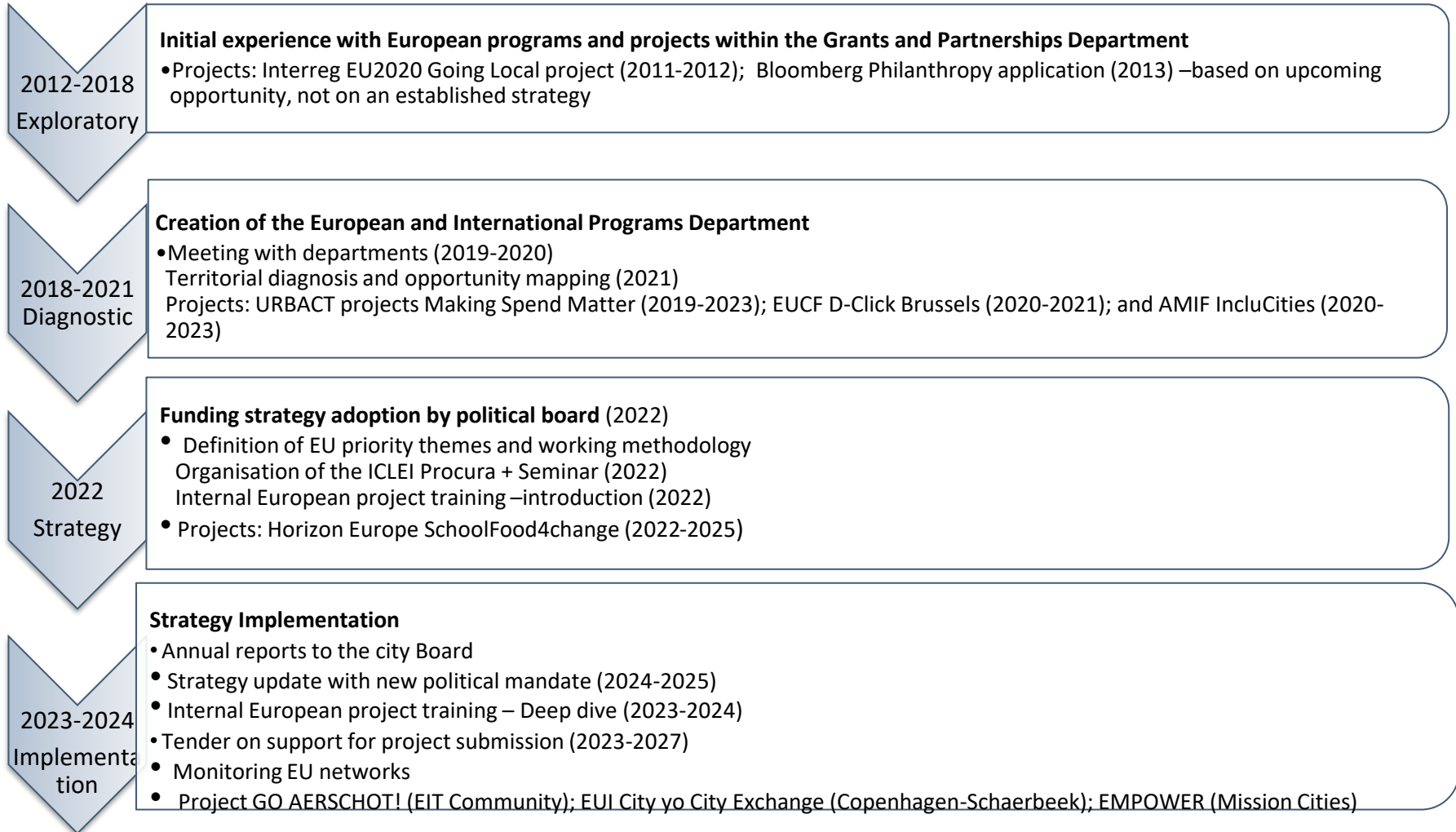
- 350 M € municipal budget (2024)
- 2,000 employees
- 9 Directions



Missions of the Grants and Partnerships Department



Building city (EU) funding strategy: step-by-step



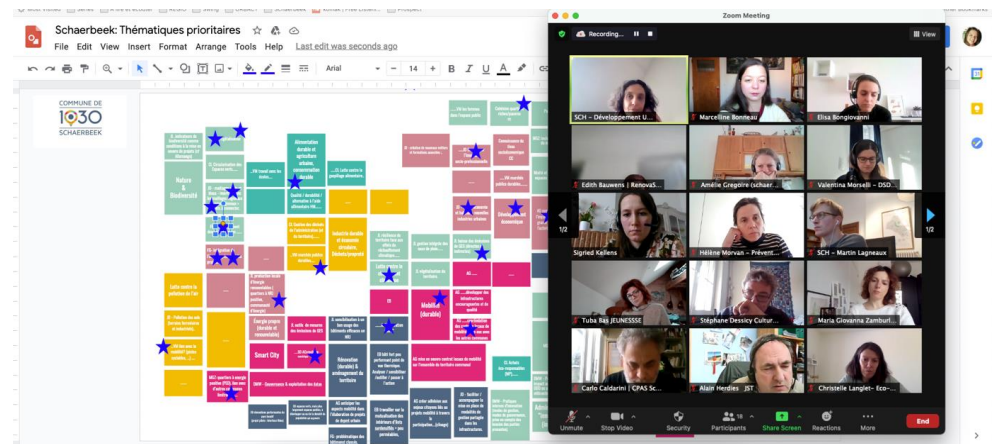
Territorial Diagnosis : participatory approach

A resolutely participative approach

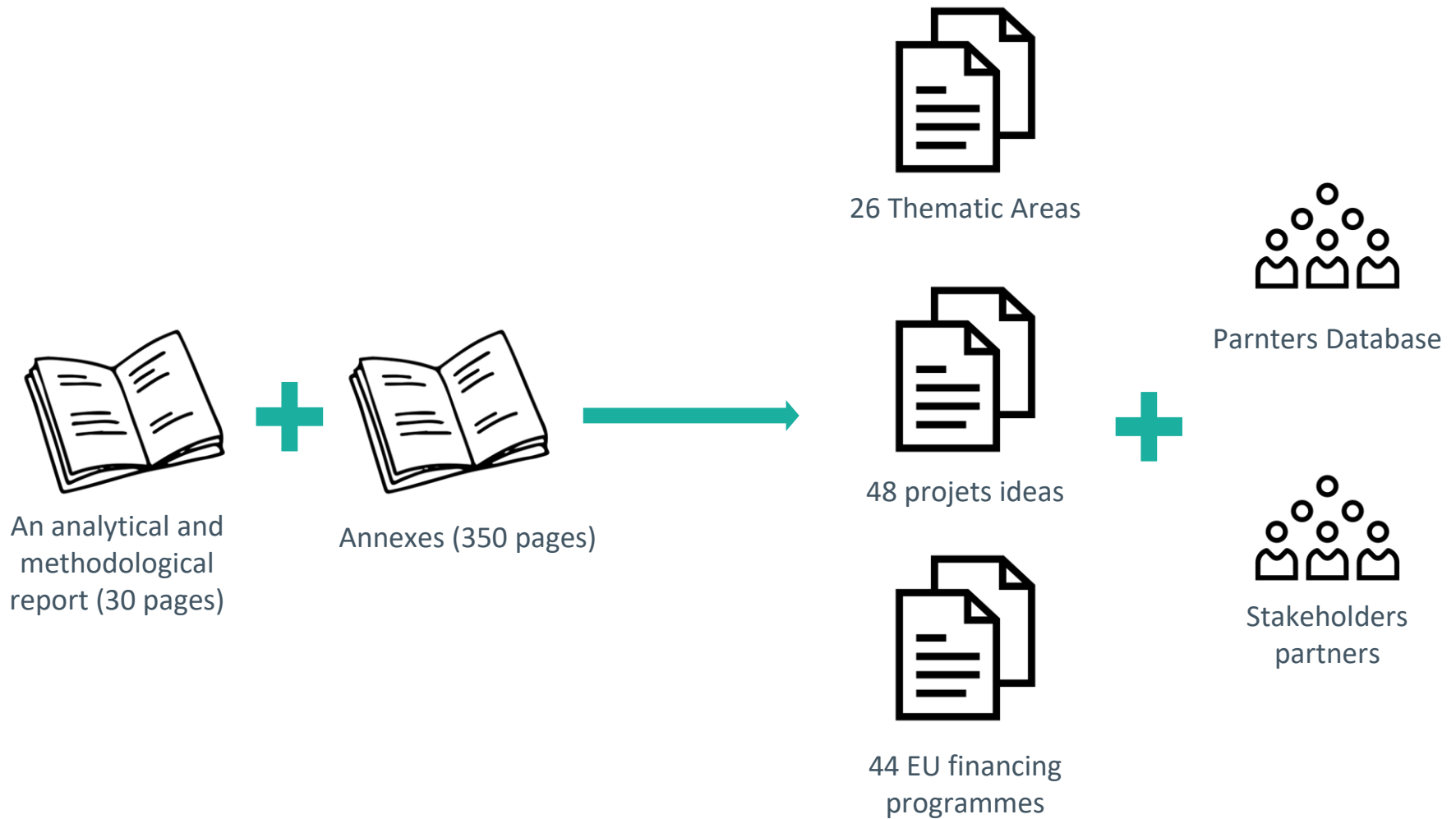
- Steering Committee (validation of main steps)
- Exploratory interviews (7 interviews)
- Exploratory participatory workshop (15 participants)
- In-depth interviews for the diagnostic phase & feedback (38 interviews)
- Final workshop (30 participants)

In total:

- 56 involved participants from different administrative level
- Participatory tools (Google Share/Zoom)



Territorial Diagnosis : opportunity mapping



Funding Strategy: priority thematic areas

- **List of themes of local and European interest**

- **Promising themes with strong European potential**

1. Nature and Biodiversity
2. Urban regeneration
3. Air pollution
4. Circular economy
5. Sustainable mobility
6. Climate change
7. Youth
8. Reception and integration of foreign nationals, migrants and new arrivals
9. Sustainable food
10. Waste and Cleaning
11. Economic development
12. Labour market
13. Issues specific to women
14. Smart City

- **Themes with medium European potential**

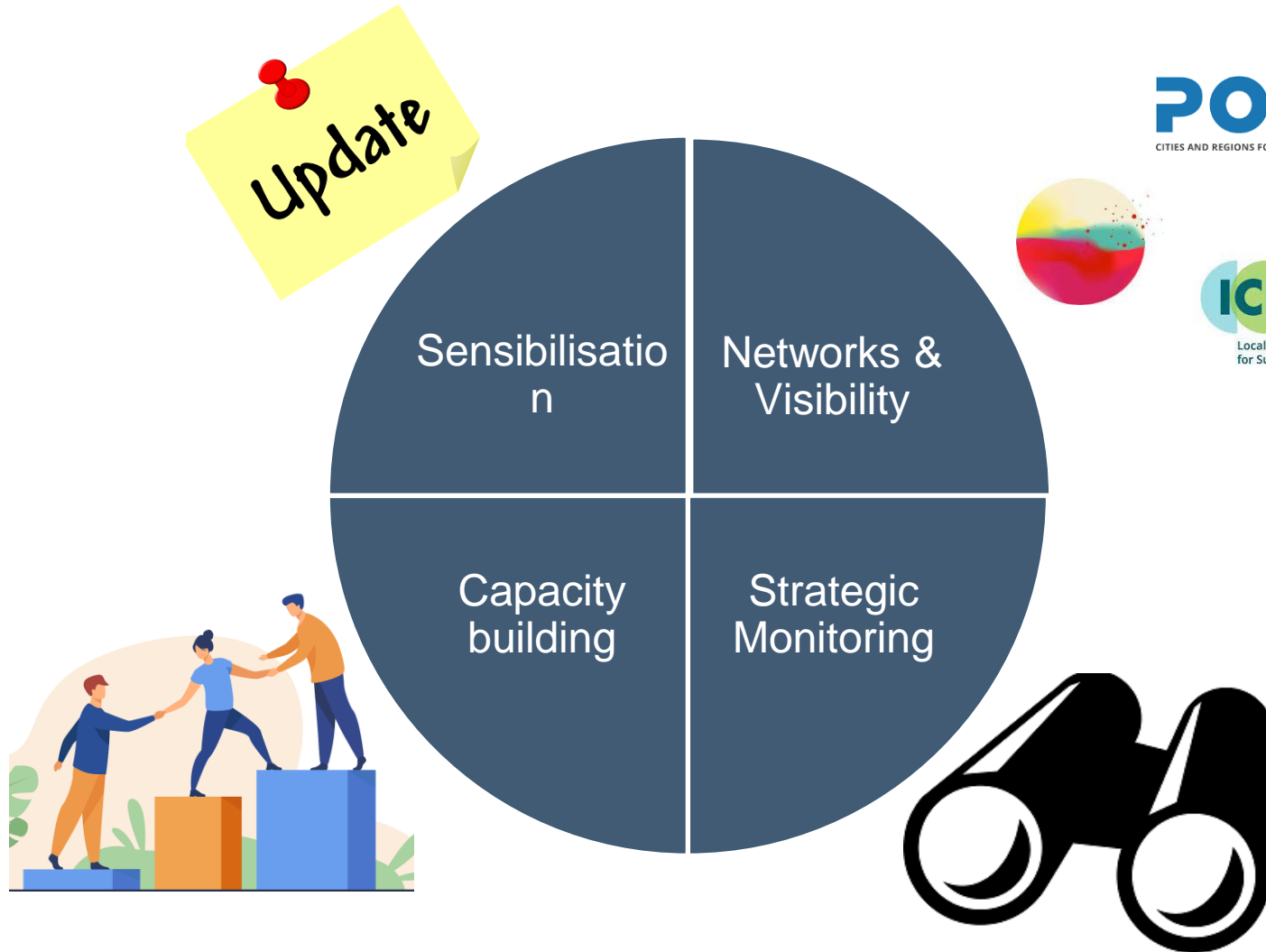
1. Water management
2. Urban agriculture
3. Issues specific to disability
4. Culture and heritage
5. Sport and leisure
6. Citizenship education
7. Sustainable energy
8. Prevention and safety

- **Themes with low European potential**

1. Mental health
2. Public procurement
3. Housing (Construction)
4. Access to social rights



Funding strategy: 4 methodological axis



POLIS
CITIES AND REGIONS FOR TRANSPORT INNOVATION

ICLEI
Local Governments
for Sustainability



Challenges & Enabling conditions

- Enabling conditions:
 - Political and Administrative Support
 - One dedicated person in charge of strategy implementation
 - Weekly and steady progress of the strategy implementation with Line Manager
 - Dedicated budget (travelling, networks etc.)
 - Added value of project for the administration and the project managers
- Challenges:
 - Ensure the link between EU opportunity and limited administration resources
 - Cofinancing and Budget constraints
 - Maintaining level of engagement (continuous process)
 - Demystifying EU project application processes (from sensibilisation, to networking and capacity building and project management)



Transfer tips

- Start from enabling conditions
 - Weekly and steady progress of the strategy implementation with Line Manager
 - Make sure there is alignment between project idea and workload of project managers
- Look for ambassadors
- Reiterative process
- Baby steps (and patience!)



Thank you!

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Questions?

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Building your funding strategy

Stage: Exploratory Diagnostic Strategy Implementation

- 1** Awareness raising & Engagement **2** Network & visibility **3** Capacity-building **4** Strategic monitoring

What are the local barriers?

What are the local enablers?

What are the main partners in your ecosystem to involve at that stage?

What are the main stakeholders to involve at that stage?

What would be your next actions / activities?

What element(s) from Schaerbeek practice would be particularly of interest to you



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Do you feel hungrier for...?

WHAT'S NEXT?

09:30

Welcome to urban innovation!

10:15

Ørestad Innovation City Copenhagen

10:30

Coffee break

11:00

Sharpen your skills - *workshops*

12:30

Lunch

14:00

Take a Deep Dive – *deep dives*

15:00

Discover Tampere's innovation – *study visits*

19:30

Dinner