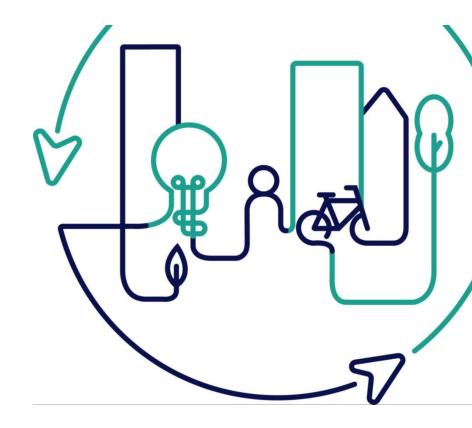
# EUROPEAN U R B A N INITIATIVE

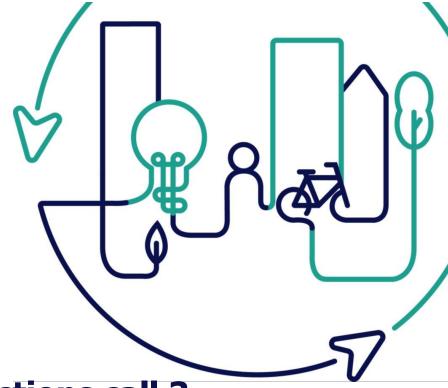
Applicant Seminar Bucharest & Prague 13 & 27 June 2024







# EUROPEAN U R B A N INITIATIVE



**EUI-innovative actions call 3 Topic "Energy transition"** 





### THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

# The EU will...



Become climate-neutral by 2050



Transform to circular and resource-efficient economy



Preserve and restore ecosystems and biodiversity

# ...all the while...



Ensuring a just and inclusive transition



Remaining competitive and helping companies become world leaders in clean products and technologies



**Investment needs in energy transition** 

€29 billion in the power grid (2030) for greater electricity use



**€37 billion** to increase biomethane production



€10 billion investments to import sufficient LNG and pipeline gas (2030)

**€210 billion** by **2027** 



€56 billion for energy efficiency and heat pumps (2030)

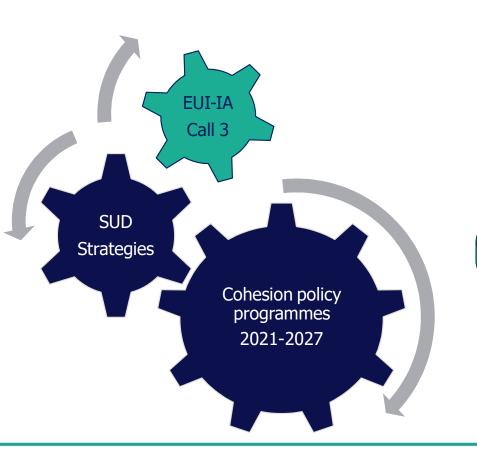




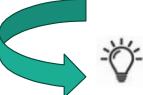
€41 billion for adapting industry to use less fossil fuels by 2030

**€113 billion** for renewables and key H2 infrastructure **(€27bn)** by 2030

# Cohesion policy 2021-27 Unprecedented support to achieve EU energy goals



- EUR 110 billion of cohesion policy funding to support the transition
- EUR 12.4 billion via sustainable urban development (SUD) strategies



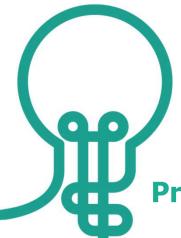
EUI-innovative actions Call 3
Make the right connections to support your project ideas on the « energy transition » topic!



# Testing new solutions led by cities to accelerate the energy transition to a climate-neutral EU

### **Prompts for urban authorities:**

- Minimizing the energy demand in cities via:
  - buildings' retrofitting and other measures/incentives with a focus on addressing energy poverty and/or deprived neighbourhoods
  - the decarbonisation of urban public transports and shift to active mobility modes, including within functional urban areas;
- **Diversifying local energy sources** by boosting the production of renewable energies and/or the use of secondary energy sources, including waste within a spirit of full circularity and resources efficiency;
- **Deploying smart and integrated local energy systems** by fostering innovative approaches to energy storage and supply, integrated energy systems across sectors (incl. transport) or by expanding the model of Positive Energy Districts;



# Testing new solutions led by cities to accelerate the energy transition to a climate-neutral EU

## **Prompts for urban authorities:**

- Maximizing multi-stakeholder and citizens' engagement by developing incentives and/or innovative supporting schemes and/or business models to develop energy communities and/or to accelerate co-participation and/or behaviour changes (including via digital solutions);
- **Boosting jobs and skills for the energy transition** by identifying local labour market shortages of qualified staff in energy sectors and/or exploring the potential for new recycled products, jobs and/or businesses that a just energy transition could enable (e.g. proximity services, micro-entreprises).



- Prompts are indicative
- **Combination is welcomed (integrated projects)**
- ✓ EUI-IA strategic assessment criteria also matter

### Testing new solutions led by cities to accelerate the energy transition to a climate-neutral EU

# Link your proposal with a Call 3 « Cohesion policy target »

- Specific objective 2.1 "promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions".
- **Specific objective 2.2** "promoting renewable energy";
- Specific objective 2.3 "developing smart energy systems, grids and storage outside the Trans-European Energy Network (TEN-E)";
- Specific objective 2.6 "promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy";
- Specific objective 2.8 "promoting sustainable multimodal urban mobility, as part of transition to a net zero carbon economy";
- Specific objective 5.1 "fostering the integrated and inclusive social, economic and environmental development, culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism and security in urban areas".

References: ERDF Regulation - Article 3



### Be specific:

'Our project is relevant to SO 2.1 as it will promote energy efficiency'



'Our project will contribute to achieve SO 2.1 goals/complement measures on energy efficiency in the ERDF programme [title/reference] by [explanations]'

### Link to relevant strategies/plans (scale-up/EU added value):

. National Energy and Climate Plans . Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans . Sustainable Urban Development Strategies . Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans . Climate City Contracts



# Testing new solutions led by cities to accelerate the energy transition to a climate-neutral EU

# **Information on Cohesion policy in your country?**

National single portals: <u>National single portals - European</u>
 <u>Commission (europa.eu)</u>

Inforegio – summary of programmes:
 Inforegio - Programmes (europa.eu)

**Example: Brussels Capital Region ERDF programme 2021-27** 



Home Policy 2021-2027 Funding What's new In your country Projects Information sources

Regional Policy > In your country > Programmes > ERDF Programme 2021-2027 of the Brussels Capital Region

#### ERDF Programme 2021-2027 of the Brussels Capital Region

#### Programme description

The programme aims to support sectors with a high social, environmental and economic impact for the region. To this end, funds will be devoted to promoting inclusive economic models, namely those that encourage the participation of more vulnerable people.

Among other interventions, like boosting Small and Medium Enterprises' economic potential, the programme aims at filling existing gaps in innovation chains and developing the financial offer for innovation processes:

The funds encourage environmentally friendly approaches and the development of digital solutions. Such approach is set to make professional opportunities available, while facilitating citizens' and businesses' interactions with the administrations. Such actions are set to stimulate the region's economic dynamism.

Through the ERDF, the EU also supports the region in its efforts to reduce energy emissions and to transit towards greener solutions. To this end, improving the energy performance of public buildings and of social housing will be crucial. In addition, the ERDF will help amplifying existing waste- and resource-recovery chains, along with supporting the development of high-quality green spaces for all citizens, notably in underprivilead neighbourhoods.

In line with the social profile of the region, the programme also helps to increase the offer of housing and accommodations for vulnerable categories. This action will accompany the improvement of the urban environment and the livability of low-income areas.

#### Financial information

#### Breakdown of finances by priority axis

Priority Axis	EU Investment	National Public Contribution	Total Public Contribution
ERDF	121.284.116,00	181.926.174,00	303.210.290,00
Total	121.284.116,00	181.926.174,00	303.210.290,00

### Priorities and Specific Objectives

#### Smarter Europe

Enhancing research and innovation

Reaping the benefits of digitisation

Growth and competitiveness of SMEs

#### Greener Europe

Energy efficiency

Circular economy

Nature protection and biodiversity

#### Social Europe

Integration of marginalised communities

#### Europe closer to citizens

Integrated development in urban areas

#### Related countries



Webtools + © EC-GISCO + Leaflet | © OpenStreetMap contributors © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO for the adm boundaries | Disclaimer

Technical Information

Managing Authority

Direction FEDER de Brussels Internation Service Public Régional de Bruxelles

https://www.europeinbelgium.be/fr/

ecornelis@gob.brussels





Testing new solutions led by cities to accelerate the energy transition to a climate-neutral EU

A list of indicators inspired from Cohesion policy to capture some of the expected co-benefits of the energy transition

### **Output indicators (examples):**

- People supported (trained, upskilled, accompanied or assisted); (measurement unit: persons)
- New products and services created (measurement unit: new products/services)
- Public buildings with improved energy performance (measurement unit: square meters).

### **Result indicators (exemples):**

- Jobs created in supported entities (*measurement unit*: annual FTEs)
- Total renewable energy produced (of which, e.g. electricity, thermal) (measurement unit: MWh/year).
- Users connected to smart energy systems (measurement unit: end users/year)

...NOT binding but to be used when relevant to complete your project proposals' specific indicators

# 'Energy transition'

# **Examples of relevant information sources**

Urban Innovative Actions 2014-2020 with focus on the energy transition, circular economy, urban poverty and/or housing <a href="https://www.uia-initiative.eu/en/uia-cities">https://www.uia-initiative.eu/en/uia-cities</a>

### Urban agenda partnership for the EU on energy transition

https://www.urbanagenda.urban-initiative.eu/partnerships/energy-transition

### Ninth report on economic, social and territorial cohesion

Inforegio - Eighth Report on Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion (europa.eu)

### **H2020 Lighthouse Projects programme**

https://smart-cities-marketplace.ec.europa.eu/projects-and-sites/projects?f%5B0%5D=project\_type%3Alighthouse

### **Energy communities – Citizen-driven energy actions**

Energy communities (europa.eu)

### **Communication REPowerEU Plan (COM(2022)230 final)**

Key documents: REPowerEU - European Commission (europa.eu)

### **EU Strategy for Energy System Integration (COM(2020)299 final)**

COM 2020 EU Strategy for Energy system integration.pdf (cec.eu.int)

### 100 climate-neutral and smart cities – info kit for cities

Citiesmissionquied.pdf (cec.eu.int)

### JPI Urban Europe – Positive Energy District (PED)

Positive Energy Districts (PED) | JPI Urban Europe (jpi-urbaneurope.eu)

# Thank you for your attention!

François Gallaga

DG Regional and Urban Policy

REGIO-URBAN-

TERRITORIAL@ec.europa.eu

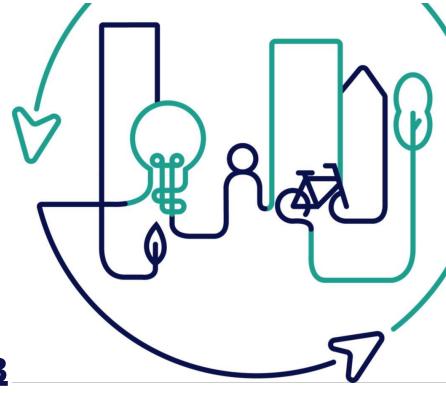
# **More information at:**

Energy transition | EUI (urban-initiative.eu)



# EUROPEAN U R B A N INITIATIVE

**EUI-innovative actions call 3 Topic "Technology in cities"** 

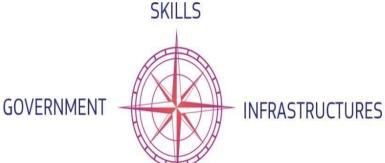






DG REGIO Gabriel ONACA

# **Digital Decade: Targets for 2030**



BUSINESS





Digitalisation of public services

Key Public Services: 100% online

e-Health: 100% of citizens have access to medical

records online

Digital Identity: 100% of citizens have access to digital

ID

Digital transformation of businesses

Tech up-take: 75% of EU companies using Cloud, AI,

or Big Data

Innovators: grow scale-ups & finance to double EU

Unicorns

Late adopters: more than 90% of SMEs reach at least

a basic level of digital intensity



# STEP Regulation (EU) 2024/79

### **EU Industry I Competitiveness I Strategic Technologies**

### **Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform**

- support the development or manufacturing in the EU of critical technologies, or strengthen their value chains
- > also aim to address shortages of labour and skills that are critical for these technologies.

STEP will raise and steer funding across **11 EU programmes** to three target investment areas:

- ❖ Digital technologies and deep-tech innovation (e.g. Artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, advanced connectivity)
- Clean and resource efficient technologies
- Biotechnologies

Overall, the platform could leverage up to €160 billion in investment



ERDF/CF/JTF/ESF+ will contribute to support investments according to the modified programmes 2021- 2027

# **Technology in cities**

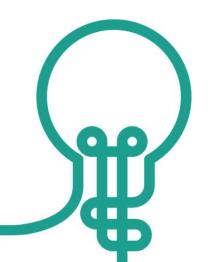


- EUR 40 billion of cohesion policy to support digitalization in 2021-2027
- EUR 15 billion SUD implementing integrated strategies through the Specific objectives selected for this call.



EUI-innovative actions Call 3
Make the right connections to support your project ideas on the « Technology in cities » topic!

Cohesion policy supporting the digital transition 2021-2027 | Data | European Structural and Investment Funds (europa.eu)

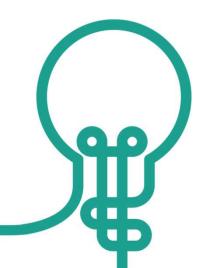


# **EUI-INNOVATIVE ACTIONS CALL 3 Technology in cities**

### **Prompts for urban authorities:**

- **Ensuring better and adapted public services** by optimizing public service delivery through innovative technological transformation (cost reduction, automation, acceleration, and simplification of administrative procedures).
- Consolidating the local governance, ensuring an effective participatory democracy and stimulate innovation and competitiveness by involving more local people, businesses, universities in the planning and design, with the aim to co-design and co-create the local solutions. The partnership with Universities and businesses should be developed to create and enhance innovation and smart specialization dynamics in the local economy.
- Mastering the digital transformation, local data collection and sharing while ensuring the highest standards for data privacy by innovative way of collect, use, store, and share sub-city-level data with increased granularity to provide better services for citizens and businesses.
- Perfecting the Spatial planning, land use and industrial zoning by using technologies in the strategic and spatial planning, for ensuring harmonious and optimal urban and peri-urban development.

**Combination is welcomed (integrated projects) EUI-IA** strategic assessment criteria also matter

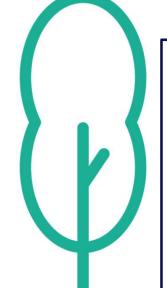


# **EUI-INNOVATIVE ACTIONS CALL 3 Technology in cities**

### **Prompts for urban authorities:**

- Ensuring better services, digital and physical accessibility, and inclusion of persons with disabilities and older population by increasing their active participation in the local governance system and by collecting and analysing data on the local specific needs and experiences, in order to create/adjust local policy. Specific focus on measures for labour market inclusion, lifelong learning, and retaining talent.
- Safe, secure and resilient cities by redesigning urban spaces for the citizens to be less exposed to climate change and other threats based on vulnerability assessment and scenarios, by proposing new innovative services, infrastructure and equipment contributing also to the resilience of critical infrastructures and public spaces.
  - ✓ Strengthening prevention and mitigation of natural and man-made disasters
  - ✓ Ensuring food security in urban and functional areas
  - √ Cybersecurity





# **Technology in cities**

# Link your proposal with the « Cohesion policy target »

The list of options is long, be selective and specify HOW your proposal will contribute to the objectives of your relevant Programme

- **Specific objective 1.1** for a more competitive and smarter Europe by "developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies".
- **Specific objective 1.2** for a more competitive and smarter Europe by "reaping the benefits of digitisation for citizens, companies, research organisations and public authorities".
- **Specific objective 1.4** for a more competitive and smarter Europe by "developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship".
- Specific objective 1.5 for a more competitive and smarter Europe by "enhancing digital connectivity".
- Specific objective 2.4 for a greener Europe by "promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention and resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches".
- Specific objective 4.1 for a more social and inclusive Europe by "enhancing the effectiveness and inclusiveness of labour markets and access to quality employment through developing social infrastructure and promoting social economy".
- Specific objective 4.2 for a more social and inclusive Europe by "improving equal access to inclusive and quality services in education, training and lifelong learning through developing accessible infrastructure, including by fostering resilience for distance and on-line education and training".
- Specific objective 4.3 for a more social and inclusive Europe by "promoting the socioeconomic inclusion of marginalised communities, low-income households and disadvantaged groups, including people with special needs, through integrated actions, including housing and social services".
- Specific objective 5.1 for a Europe closer to citizens by "fostering the integrated and inclusive social, economic and environmental development, culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism and security in urban areas".
- EUR 15 billion for SUD in 121 programmes with investments planned under the 9th specific objectives.

References: ERDF Regulation - Article 3

# **EUI-INNOVATIVE ACTIONS CALL 3 Technology in cities**

# Information on Cohesion policy in your country?



National single portals: National single portals - European Commission (europa.eu)

• Inforegio – summary of programmes: Inforegio - Programmes (europa.eu)

**Example: Brussels Capital Region ERDF programme 2021-27** 

EU regional and urban development

Home Policy 2021-2027 Funding What's new In your country Projects Information sources

Regional Policy > In your country > Programmes > ERDF Programme 2021-2027 of the Brussels Capital Region

### ERDF Programme 2021-2027 of the Brussels Capital Region

#### Programme description

The programme aims to support sectors with a high social, environmental and economic impact for the region. To this end, funds will be devoted to promoting inclusive economic models, namely those that encourage the participation of more vulnerable people.

Among other interventions, like boosting Small and Medium Enterprises' economic potential, the programme aims at filling existing gaps in innovation chains and developing the financial offer for innovation processes:

The funds encourage environmentally friendly approaches and the development of digital solutions. Such approach is set to make professional opportunities available, while facilitating citizens' and businesses' interactions with the administrations. Such actions are set to stimulate the region's economic funamism.

Through the ERDF, the EU also supports the region in its efforts to reduce energy emissions and to transit towards greener solutions. To this end, improving the energy performance of public buildings and of social housing will be crucial. In addition, the ERDF will help amplifying existing waste- and resource-recovery chains, along with supporting the development of high-quality green spaces for all citizens. notably in underprivileade neighbourhoods.

In line with the social profile of the region, the programme also helps to increase the offer of housing and accommodations for vulnerable categories. This action will accompany the improvement of the urban environment and the livability of low-income areas.

#### Financial information

#### Breakdown of finances by priority axis

Priority Axis	EU Investment	National Public Contribution	Total Public Contribution
ERDF	121.284.116,00	181.926.174,00	303.210.290,00
Total	121.284.116,00	181.926.174,00	303.210.290,00

### Priorities and Specific Objectives

#### Smarter Europe

Enhancing research and innovation

Reaping the benefits of digitisation

Growth and competitiveness of SMEs

#### Greener Europe

Energy efficiency

Circular economy

Nature protection and biodiversity

#### Social Europe

Integration of marginalised communities

#### Europe closer to citize

Integrated development in urban areas

#### Related countries



Webtools + © EC-GISCO + Leaflet | © OpenStreetMap

Technical Information

Managing Authority

Direction FEDER de Brussels International de Service Public Régional de Bruxelles

https://www.europeinbelgium.be/fr/

ecornelis@gob.brussels





A list of indicators inspired from Cohesion policy to capture some of the multiple dimensions of a technological « upgrade »

### **Output indicators (examples):**

- New products and services created (measurement unit: new products/services).
- People supported (trained, upskilled, accompanied or assisted); (measurement unit: persons)
- Population covered by projects in the framework of integrated actions for socio-economic inclusion of marginalised communities, low-income households and disadvantaged groups (*measurement unit*: persons).

### **Result indicators (exemples):**

- Users of new and upgraded digital services, products and processes (measurement unit: users/year).
- Jobs created in supported entities (measurement unit: annual FTEs)
- Annual users of new or modernised health and/or social care facilities (measurement unit: users/year).

...NOT binding but to be used when relevant to complete your project proposals' specific indicators

# 'Technology in cities' Examples of relevant knowledge sources

### Ninth report on economic, social and territorial cohesion

Inforegio - Ninth Report on Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion (europa.eu)

European Commission Report "The future of cities: opportunities, challenges and way forward" <a href="mailto:the-future-of-cities">the-future-of-cities</a> online.pdf

### **Urban Agenda for EU - Partnership on Digital Transition**

Digital Transition | UAEU (urban-initiative.eu)

### **Urban Innovative Actions – Digital Transition**

Digital transition | UIA - Urban Innovative Actions (uia-initiative.eu)

**Urban Data Platform Plus** (dashboards, strategies, reports and tools to analyse urban and territorial trends – JRC-REGIO).

<u>Urban Data Platform Plus (europa.eu)</u>

### Programme summaries by country and managing authority contact details

<u>Inforegio - Programmes (europa.eu)</u>

# 'Technology in cities' Examples of relevant knowledge sources

### A Europe fit for the digital age

<u>A Europe fit for the digital age - European Commission (europa.eu); Excellence and trust in artificial intelligence - European Commission (europa.eu)</u>

### The New European Innovation Agenda

The New European Innovation Agenda - European Commission (europa.eu)

### **The Digital Europe Programme**

The Digital Europe Programme | Shaping Europe's digital future (europa.eu)

**LORDIMAS**: A digital maturity assessment tool for regions and cities

<u>Online Procurement Helpdesk for Smart Communities</u> - service to advance digital maturity of cities and communities in early stages of digital transformation

Minimal Interoperability Mechanisms for systems to communicate and share data effectively

Project examples - Smart Cities Marketplace - ICT projects

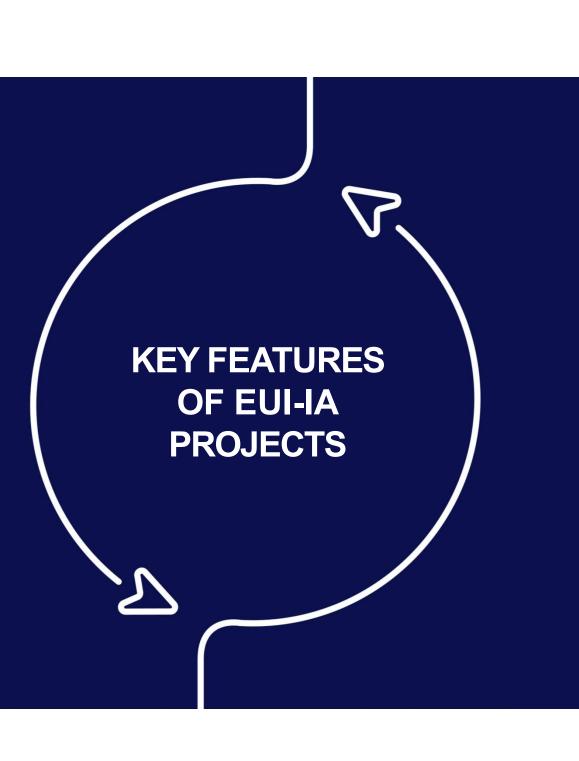
Coming soon! Customer Discovery Program for design of Local Digital Twin Toolbox – Expression of Inerest

# Thank you for your attention!

# **More information at:**

Technology in cities | EUI (urban-initiative.eu)

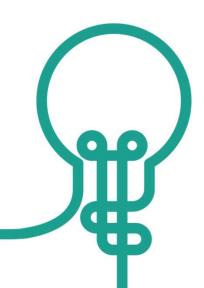




# **EUI Innovative Actions (EUI-IA)**

# 

- > Projects on sustainable urban innovation
- local pilots (experimental character, implementation aspect)
- city-led, participative character (quadruple helix partnership led by an urban authority)
- > transnational transfer component
- > 80% ERDF co-finance rate (20% own contribution; max grant: EUR 5 mio)
- > extensive use of simplified cost options



1 INNOVATIVE

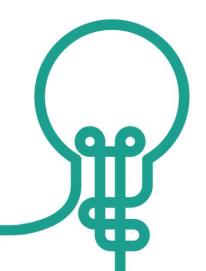
OF GOOD QUALITY

3 PARTICIPATIVE

4 MEASURABLE

SUSTAINABLE AND SCALABLE

6 TRANSFERABLE



1 INNOVATIVE

new, bold, creative and experimental

not previously implemented in EU → benchmarking!

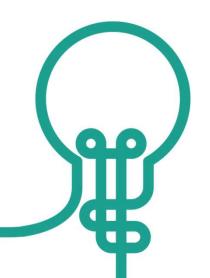
products, services, processes evolving from existing practices (evolutionary approach) or completely new solutions (revolutionary approach)

city-led

relevant to achieve CP goals with a potential to inspire the use of mainstream programmes

linked to urban megatrends i.e. green and digital transitions

www.urban-initiative.eu



2

### **OF GOOD QUALITY**

clear and logical work plan (objectives, activities, deliverables and outputs)

realistic ambitions

effective management structures and procedures

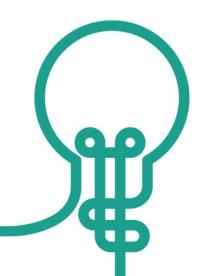
solid budget & good value for money

3

### **PARTICIPATIVE**

strong Project Partnership (public authorities, industry, academia and civil society)

participative approach (consultation, coordination and co-design)





### **MEASURABLE**

clearly defined changes to be achieved as a result of the project's implementation

specific, realistic, measurable results quantified through indicators

relevant monitoring and evaluation activities

pre-defined indicators taken into account



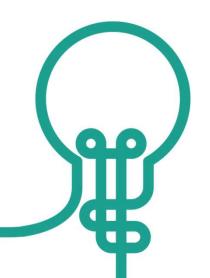
# SUSTAINABLE AND SCALABLE

significant and durable contribution to addressed challenges

potential to be self-sufficient - questions of future ownership and potential funding sources are addressed

linked to relevant local/regional/ national strategies and policies

potential to be scaled-up

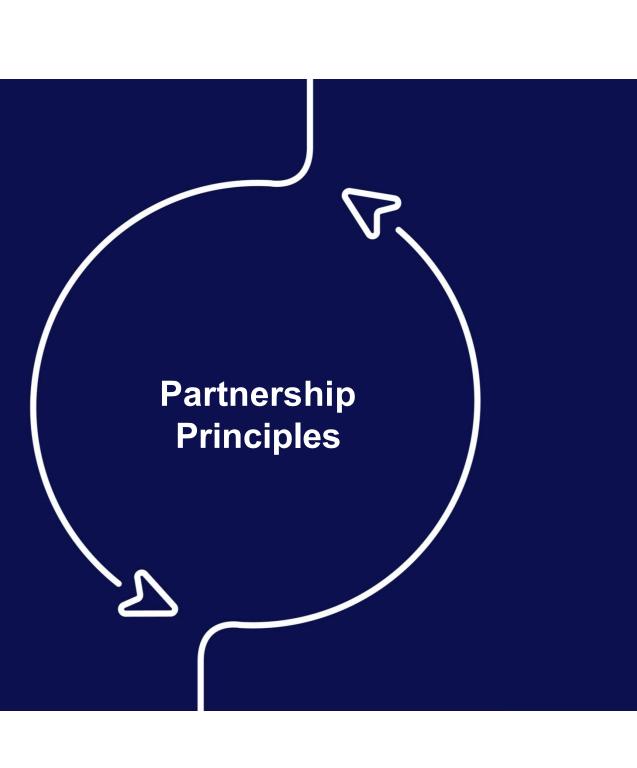


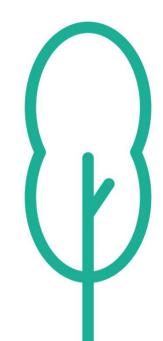


central ambition: outputs and solutions used and replicable by other European urban areas > MANDATORY TRANSFER COMPONENT

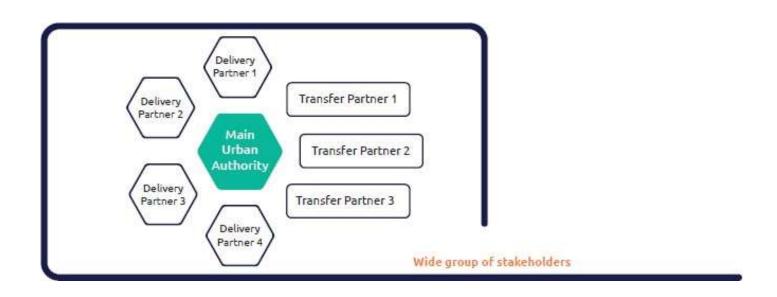
on the strategic level:

to foster innovation capacities, support knowledge building

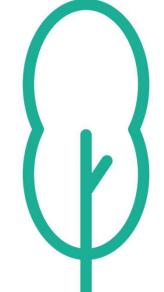




# Overview of the composition of an EUI-IA Partnership



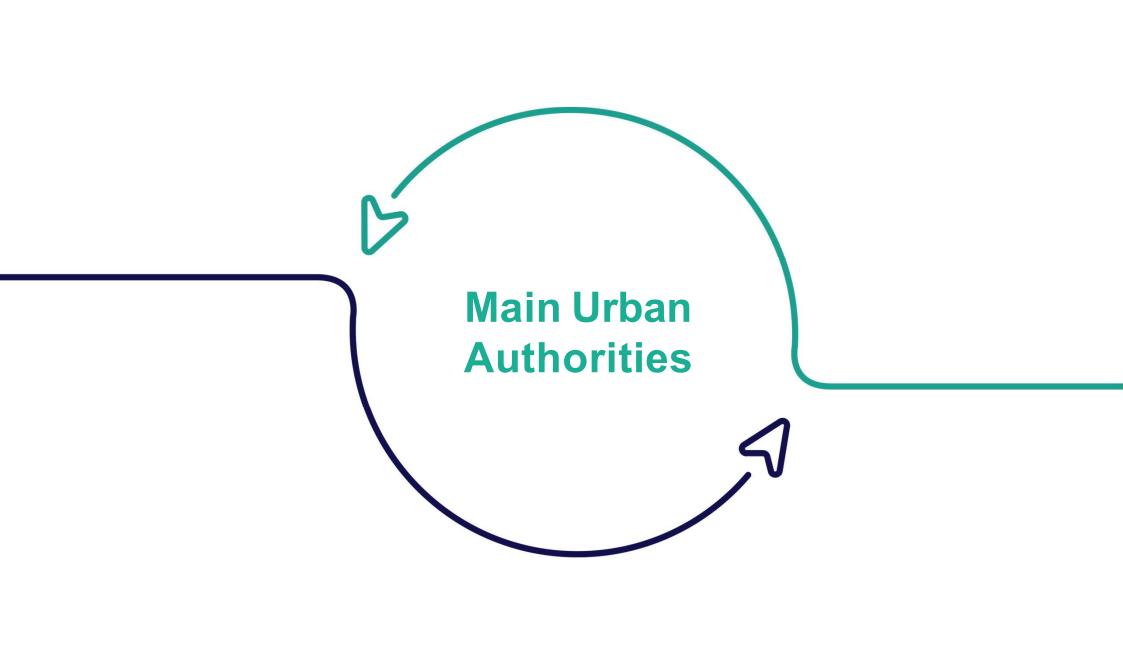
Up to you to decide which Partners and competencies are needed to deliver your innovative solution!

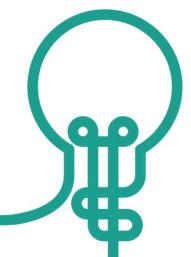


# **General Partnership Principles**

- Only an eligible Urban Authority can submit a proposal
- ➢ All eligible authorities and Project Partners must be located in the EU
- > Very local Partnerships
- No transnational partnerships expected (except for Transfer Partners), unless specific competencies are needed and justified
- Balanced, complementary, promote horizontal & vertical integration
- A given Urban Authority (MUA or AUAs) cannot be involved in more than 1 application per Call for proposals (Delivery Partners have no such restrictions).
- Cooperation formalized in a Partnership Agreement

A strong local partnerships between public bodies, the private sector and civil society is a cornerstone of sustainable urban development.





# **Role of the Main Urban Authority**

- Responsible for the overall implementation and management of the project
- > Strategic leading role in the development of the EUI-IA
- Bears the entire financial and juridical responsibility vis-à-vis the Entrusted Entity
- Directly involved in the experimentation
- > Chairing the Project Partnership
- Dedicated budget and co-financing

# Which Urban Authorities can apply?

Individual Urban Authorities

#### **Any eligible Local Administrative Units**

E.g. Municipalities, Districts (in case of some larger cities)

2 Organised agglomerations

#### Any eligible organised agglomerations

E.g. Métropoles (FR), Mancomunidades (ES), Città Metropolitane (IT), Landkreis (DE), Comunidades Intermunicipais (PT)...

Association of individual urban authorities applying jointly

Any eligible group of urban authorities willing to submit a project together.

E.g. 3 (contiguous) municipalities willing to apply jointly to address a similar challenge

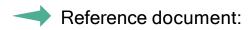


# What defines an eligible MUA?





- Population > 50 000 inhabitants
- Degree of Urbanisation (DEGURBA 1 or 2): cities, towns or suburbs





**EUI-IA Call3 Correspondence table** 

# How to check the eligibility of the MUA?

NUTS 3 CODE	LAU CODE	LAU_CODE_2	LAU NAME NATIONAL	LAU NAME LATIN	CHANGE (yes/no)	POPULATION	TOTAL AREA (m2)	DEG- URBA	DEG- URBA same as last year?
BE211	11001	BE_11001	Aartselaar	Aartselaar	no	14468	11015556	2	
BE211	11002	BE_11002	Antwerpen	Anvers	no	531420	204293229	1	
BE211	11004	BE_11004	Boechout	Boechout	no	13557	20710028	2	
BE211	11005	BE_11005	Boom	Boom	no	18825	7387152	2	
BE211	11007	BE_11007	Borsbeek	Borsbeek	no	11107	3901269	2	
BE211	11008	BE_11008	Brasschaat	Brasschaat	no	38254	38580646	2	
BE211	11009	BE_11009	Brecht	Brecht	no	29833	91451100	2	
BE211	11013	BE_11013	Edegem	Edegem	no	22256	8717948	2	
BE211	11016	BE_11016	Essen	Essen	no	19216	47568895	2	
BE211	11018	BE_11018	Hemiksem	Hemiksem	no	11737	5479228	2	
BE211	11021	BE_11021	Hove (Antwerpen)	Hove (Anvers)	no	8300	6018087	2	
BE211	11022	BE_11022	Kalmthout	Kalmthout	no	19052	59409054	2	
BE211	11023	BE_11023	Kapellen (Antwerpen)	Kapellen (Anvers)	no	27634	37220780	2	
BE211	11024	BE_11024	Kontich	Kontich	no	21267	23801502	2	
BE211	11025	BE_11025	Lint	Lint	no	8739	5651541	2	
BE211	11029	BE_11029	Mortsel	Mortsel	no	26220	7784336	2	
BE211	11030	BE_11030	Niel	Niel	no	10506	5320952	2	
BE211	11035	BE_11035	Ranst	Ranst	no	19744	43675152	2	
BE211	11037	BE_11037	Rumst	Rumst	no	15160	20134220	2	
BE211	11038	BE_11038	Schelle	Schelle	no	8570	7774410	2	
BE211	11039	BE_11039	Schilde	Schilde	no	19952	36095679	2	
BE211	11040	BE_11040	Schoten	Schoten	no	34320	29493576	2	



#### **Individual Urban Authorities**

Any Municipality/ City Council **fulfilling the 3 criteria** defining an eligible Urban Authority:

Recognized as Local Administrative Unit

Agencies and companies fully/ partially owned by a Municipality are not LAUs and cannot be recognised as eligible urban authorities

- Population (> 50 000 inhabitants)
- Degree of urbanisation by Eurostat (DEGURBA 1 or 2)

<u>Case n°1</u> (Most EU Member States)

Administrative borders of municipalities/city councils CORRESPOND to LAUs as defined by Eurostat

→ Direct check possible in the Eurostat correspondence table

Case n°2 (Case of PT, EL, MT, LV, IE)

Administrative borders of municipalities/city councils include several LAUs, so

DO NOT CORRESPOND to single LAU as defined by Eurostat

→ Further calculation needed from the Eurostat correspondence table



# **Individual Urban Authorities - Example**

<u>Case n°1</u> (Most EU Member States)

Check the 3 conditions

#### Italy

LAU NAME NATIONAL	LAU I	LAU NAME alternative		POPULATION	TOTAL AREA (m2)	DEGURBA	
	-	▼.	-		▼	-	
Treviso			no	84930	55578100	1	

#### Romania

LAU NAME NATIONAL	LAU NAME LATIN	CHANGE (yes/no)	POPULATION	TOTAL AREA (m2)	DEGURBA
	<b>.</b>	<u> </u>	· ·	<b>*</b>	
Municipiul Deva	Municipiul Deva	no	67786	58780383	2





# **Individual Urban Authorities - Example**

<u>Case n°1</u> (Most EU Member States)

#### Sweden

LAU NAME NATIONAL	LAU NAME LATIN	CHANGE (yes/no)	POPULATION	TOTAL AREA (m2)	DEGURBA	<b>Y</b>
<b>▼</b>		-		_		
Värmdö		no	45566	443970000	3	)

#### **France**

LAU NAME NATIONAL	LAU NAME LATIN	CHANGE (yes/no)	POPULATION	TOTAL AREA (m2)	DEGURBA	X
Châlons-en-Champagne	Châlons-en-Champagne	no	44753	26040000	2	) • •



# Individual Urban Authorities - Example

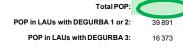
Case n°2 (PT, EL, MT, LT, LV, IE)



#### Portugal - Amarante Municipality

- The administrative borders of the Municipality do not correspond to LAUs as defined by Eurostat
- 26 constitutive parishes considered as LAUs by Eurostat
- Calculation required:
- → Sum of the total population (> 50 000 inhab.)
- → Share of the population with **DGURB 1 or 2 (> 51%)**

Code	LAU	POP	DEGURBA
130112	FREGIM	2836	2
130119	LOMBA	793	2
130120	LOUREDO	638	2
130121	LUFREI	1777	2
130135	TELÕES	4 226	2
130136	TRAVANCA	2 278	2
130138	VILA CAIZ	3 026	2
130142	UNIÃO DAS FREGUESIAS DE AMARANTE (SÃO GONÇALO), MADALENA, CEPELOS E GATÃO	11 840	2
130144	UNIÃO DAS FREGUESIAS DE FIGUEIRÓ (SANTIAGO E SANTA CRISTINA)	3 828	2
130145	UNIÃO DAS FREGUESIAS DE FREIXO DE CIMA E DE BAIXO	3 643	2
130147	VILA MEÃ	5 006	2
130103	ANSIÃES	623	3
130107	CANDEMIL	771	3
130115	FRIDÃO	863	3
130117	GONDAR	1 686	3
130118	JAZENTE	542	3
130123	MANCELOS	3 114	3
130126	PADRONELO	884	3
130128	REBORDELO	365	3
130129	SALVADOR DO MONTE	1 066	3
130134	GOUVEIA (SÃO SIMÃO)	633	3
130139	VILA CHÃ DO MARÃO	940	3
130141	UNIÃO DAS FREGUESIAS DE ABOADELA, SANCHE E VÁRZEA	1 675	3
130143	UNIÃO DAS FREGUESIAS DE BUSTELO, CARNEIRO E CARVALHO DE REI	1 019	3
130146	UNIÃO DAS FREGUESIAS DE OLO E CANADELO	492	3
130148	UNIÃO DAS FREGUESIAS DE VILA GARCIA, ABOIM E CHAPA	1700	3





# **Organised Agglomerations**

- → Association or grouping of urban authorities with a legal status of organised agglomeration:
  - Be officially recognised as a tier of local government (different from the regional and provincial levels)
  - Be composed <u>only</u> by municipalities/city councils
  - Have specific and exclusive competences, fixed by national law, delegated by the municipalities involved,
     for policy areas relevant for the project
  - Have a specific political (with indirect representation of the municipalities involved) and administrative structure (dedicated staff)
- →The combined number of inhabitants is at least 50.000
- →The majority of inhabitants (>51%) lives in constitutive LAUs of the agglomeration that are classified as cities, towns or suburbs according to the degree of urbanisation by Eurostat (DGURBA 1 or 2).
- Considered as a Single Urban Authority in the Application Form:
  - Shall be indicated as 'Main Urban Authority' in the Application Form
  - Represent all municipalities/city councils involved

# **Organised Agglomerations - Examples**

#### Eligible

(Non exhaustive list)

- Metropolitan areas
- Intermunicipal associations E.g.
   Communautés de communes,
   d'agglomération (FR), Unione di
   Comuni (IT), Mancomunidades (ES),
   Comunidades Intermunicipais (PT),...
- Landkreis (DE)
- European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation (if solely composed by urban authorities)

#### Not eligible

(Non exhaustive list)

- National associations of cities
- Environment Consortium
- Regional/natural parks
- Provinces, Regions, Counties
- LEADER region
- « Patto dei sindaci »
- Tourism districts

# Association of Urban Authorities applying jointly without legal status of Organised Agglomeration

This is allowed under the following conditions:

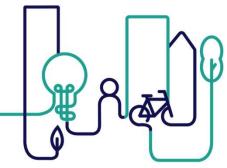
- One of the Urban Authorities is identified as 'Main Urban Authority' and the others are listed as 'Associated Urban Authorities'
- The <u>total combined number</u> of inhabitants is > 50 000 inhabitants
- Each single Urban Authority composing the association is a Local Administrative Unit
- <u>Each</u> single Urban Authority composing the association is considered as a city, town or suburb according to the degree of urbanisation by Eurostat (<u>DGURB 1 or 2</u>)
- Territorial contiguity & limited number of AUAs involved are recommended.

# **Specific case of rural LAUs**



It is possible to include in the EUI-IA Partnership Local Administrative Units defined as **rural** according to their degree of urbanization (**DEGURBA code 3**), if:

- > The innovative solutions require an urban-rural interface or functional area approach
- > The rural LAU is identified as a **Delivery Partner** in the Application Form
- The number of inhabitants does not count to reach the minimum eligibility threshold of 50 000.
- > The reason for including LAU defined as rural is clearly presented and justified in the AF.









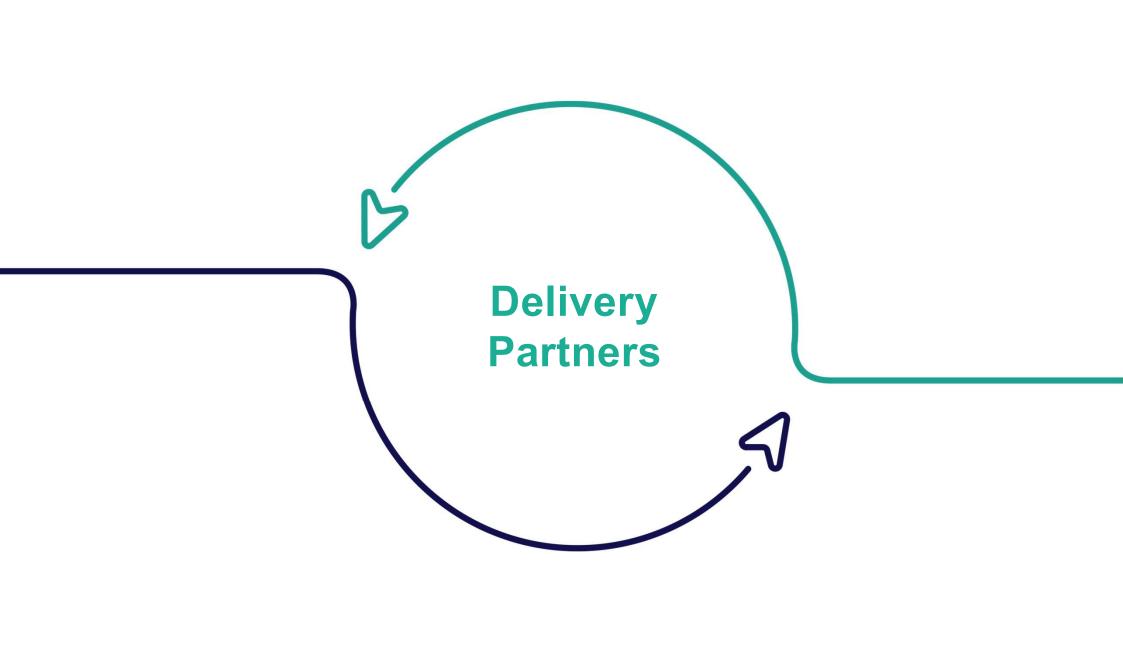


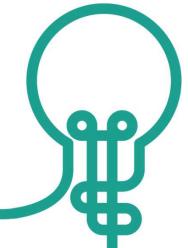


Data missing or not available in the table?

Doubts on the accuracy or interpretation of the data?

Contact us at <a href="mailto:innovativeactions@urban-initiative.eu">innovativeactions@urban-initiative.eu</a>!



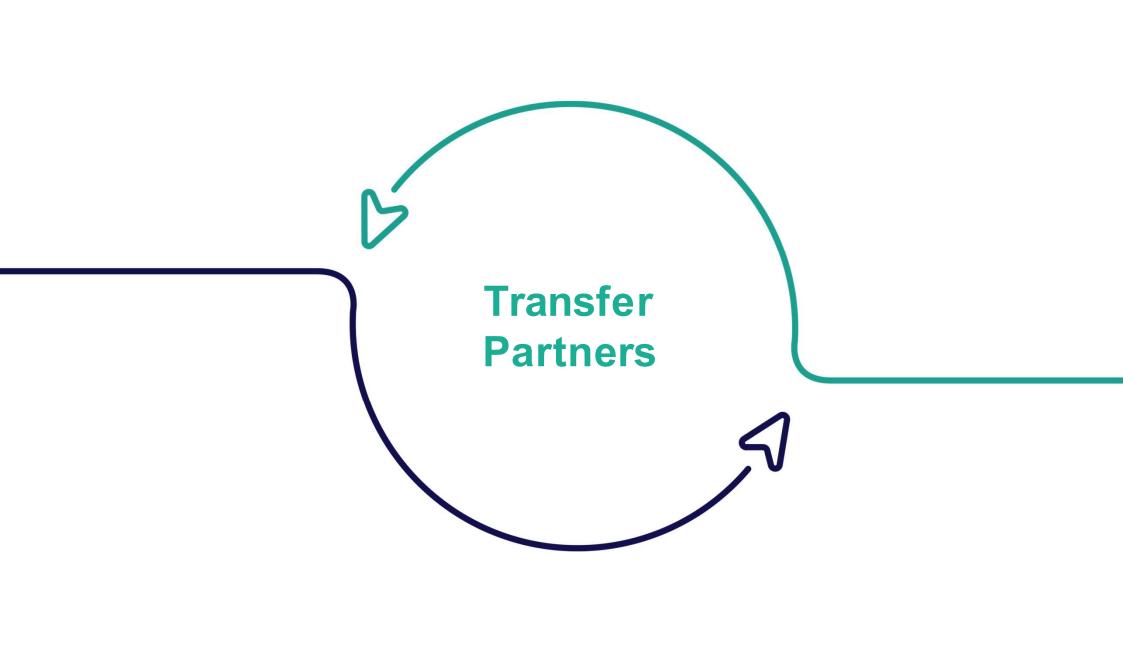


# **Role of the Delivery Partners**

- > Active role in the implementation of the project
- Mix of relevant Partners (Institutions, higher education institutes, sectoral agencies, NGOs, private sector...) that are needed to deliver the proposed solution
- > Key organisation able to bring knowledge and expertise into project design & implementation
- Responsible for the delivery of specific activities and of the related deliverables/outputs
- Dedicated budget and co-financing
- > To be selected through fair and transparent procedures
- > Any organisation having **legal personality**, except:
  - Consultancy firms having as primary objective the development and management of European projects, and
  - Organisations with no staff budgeted (only declaring external expertise costs)



More than 10 partners may require extra efforts and resources to ensure an effective management!



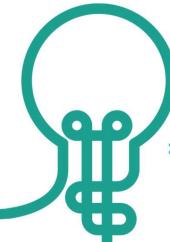
# **Transfer Objectives**

Have the processes and results of experimentation followed by partner cities from other Member States (Transfer Partners).

#### Why?

- > To increase the general adaptability and replicability of the innovative solution
- Allow Transfer Partners to raise their own innovation potential and increase their capacity for implementing innovative solutions.
- > To prepare the process of replicating the tested innovative solution
- > To contribute to the improvement of local policies and strategies.
- To support **knowledge exchange** between all Partners





#### **Role of the Transfer Partners**

- Urban authorities joining the Project Partnership to follow and learn from the experimentation and interested in replicating the innovative solution
- 3 Transfer Partners originating from other Member States than the MUA
- Located in the EU
- No minimum number of inhabitants required
- Active role in the Transfer Work Package (compulsory outputs)
- Dedicated fixed budget (EUR 120 000 ERDF lump sum) and co-financing

#### **IDENTIFICATION & SELECTION OF THE TRANSFER PARTNERS**

#### **START: APPLICATION STAGE**

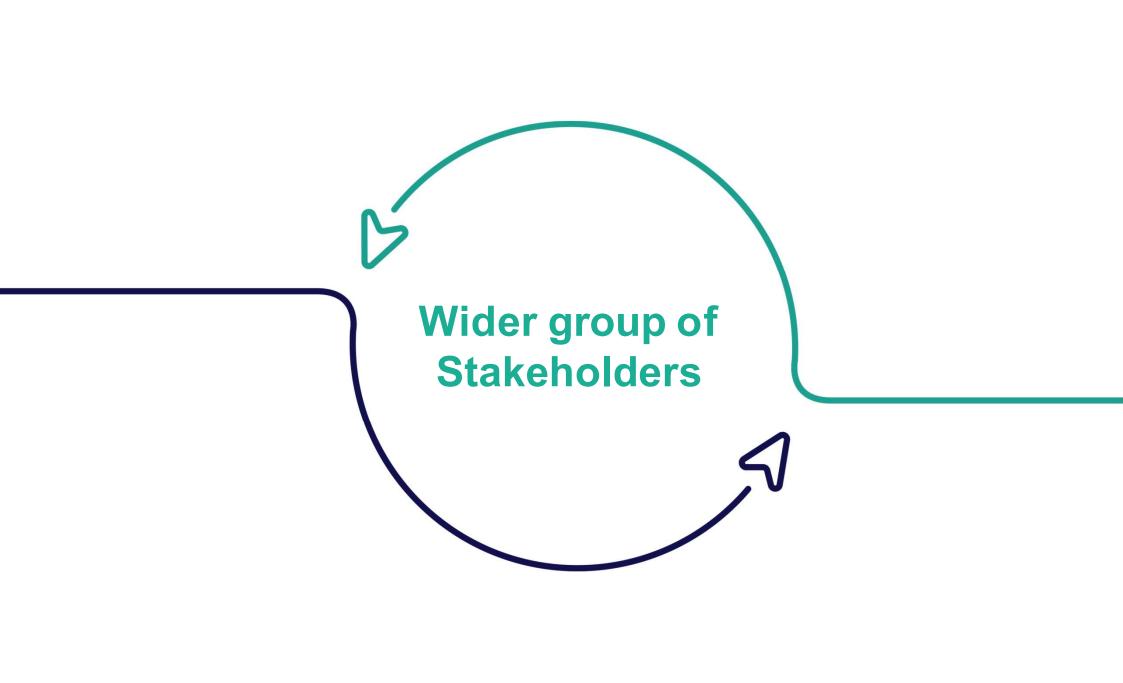
- WHO? The proposal identifies other European urban areas that could benefit from replicating the proposed solution in view of the favourable conditions for transfer (similar contexts, characteristics) (...)
- WHAT? The proposal identifies which main outputs/elements of the proposed solution(s) can be transferred or replicated in further urban areas across EU and which are the basic conditions (...)

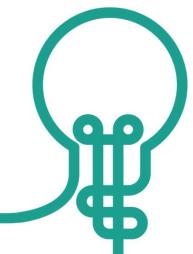
**Urban Matchmaker** 



#### **END: INITIATON PHASE**

Transfer Partners selected and Partnership Agreement or (minimum) letters of intent signed

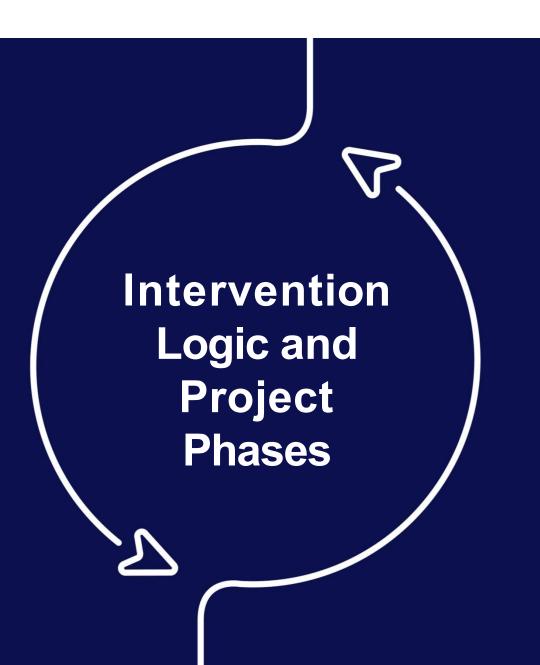




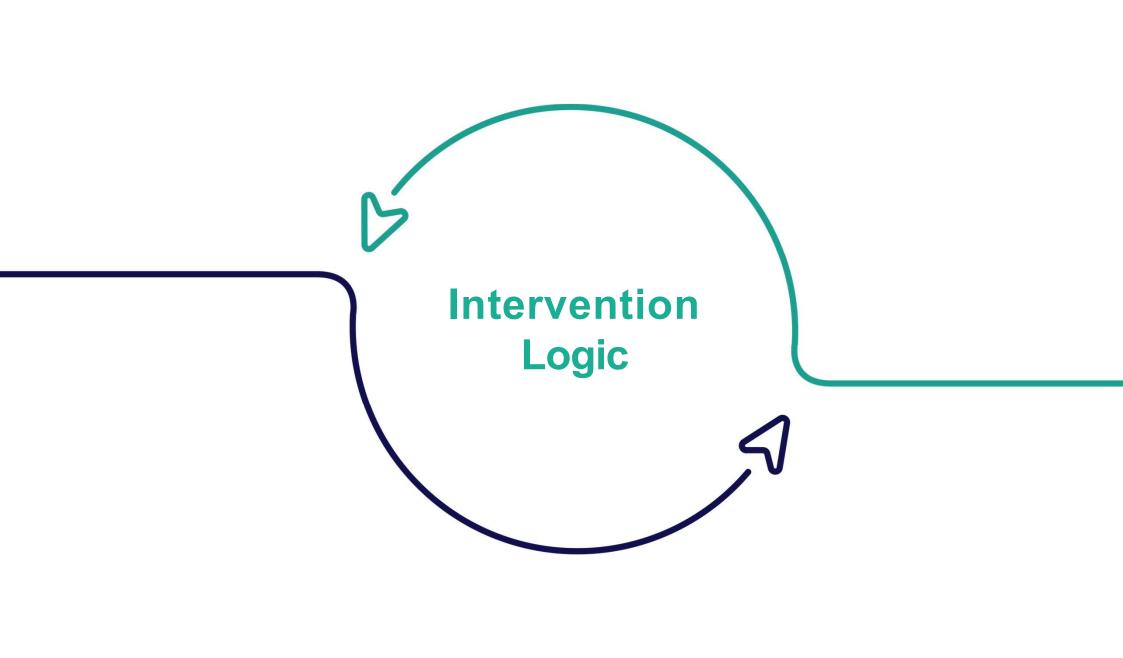
# Role of the Wider group of Stakeholders

- ▶ Local communities, social partners, business, NGOs, experts, institutions, organisations, individuals, project's target groups that may influence or be influenced by the project
- No official status of Project Partners
  - No active role/ responsibilities
  - No dedicated budget
- Recommended to be involved in the design and implementation of the project to ensure a smooth project delivery and maximize sustainability (co-creation)
- Projects shall design **structured mechanisms** to ensure their effective involvement (clearly explained in the AF)

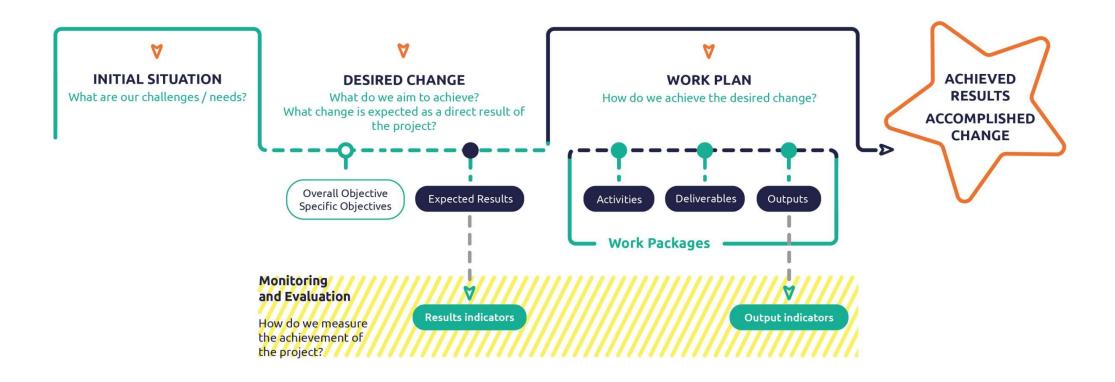
Identifying stakeholders, understanding their influence on the EUI-IA project, and balancing their needs and expectations are critical to the success of the project!

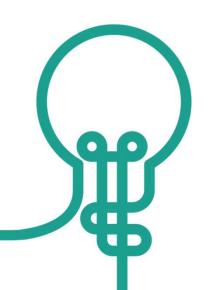


- 1 Intervention logic
- 2 Application Form



#### PROJECT INTERVENTION LOGIC





# MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE INTERVENTION LOGIC

**Overall Objective** 

WHAT DO YOU AIM TO ACHIEVE THROUGH THE PROPOSED PROJECT? Relates to strategic aspects and the overall context (strategic ambition of the Main Urban Authority)

Describes a long-term change (beyond the project duration) in an socio-economic situation for the benefit of the beneficiaries

Specific Objectives (max. 3)

Contribute to the overall objective

Are narrower in scope and detail what the project is trying to achieve during its duration

Expected Results (max. 3)

Reflect the desired mid-term change in the local situation as direct consequence of the project implementation

Describe the immediate advantage for beneficiaries

Should correspond to specific objectives



# **Examples**

	Project A	Project B			
Overall Objective	Reduce the poverty risk among single parents working in the health sector in the city	Use invasive alien plant species as a resource in the city			
Specific Objective	<ol> <li>Enable single parents working in the health sector in the city to take up full-time employment</li> <li>Ensure flexible care for children of single parents working in the health care sector</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Develop new approaches for manufacturing new products* from invasive alien plant species *dyes, stationery articles, wood articles</li> <li>Improve IAS plant management in the city</li> </ol>			
Expected Results	<ul> <li>Increased number of single parents in full time employment in the health sector.</li> <li>Increased offer of flexible childcare support for health care workers.</li> <li>Reduced number of single families at risk of poverty</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increased quantity of IAS plants used as a resource.</li> <li>New sustainable products using IAS plants developed.</li> </ul>			

### **INDICATORS**

Output Indicators

- Measure and monitor project outputs
- Predefined in the Terms of Reference of the relevant Call for Proposals
- > Relevant ones for the project proposal should be selected
- > If they do not fit the category "other" should be selected

Result Indicators

- Measure the effects of the interventions on the target area
- Predefined in the Terms of Reference of the relevant Call for Proposals
- > Relevant ones for the project proposal should be selected
- > If not sufficient or relevant project should develop own indicators
- > Use RACER criteria to define good quality indicators

Relevant

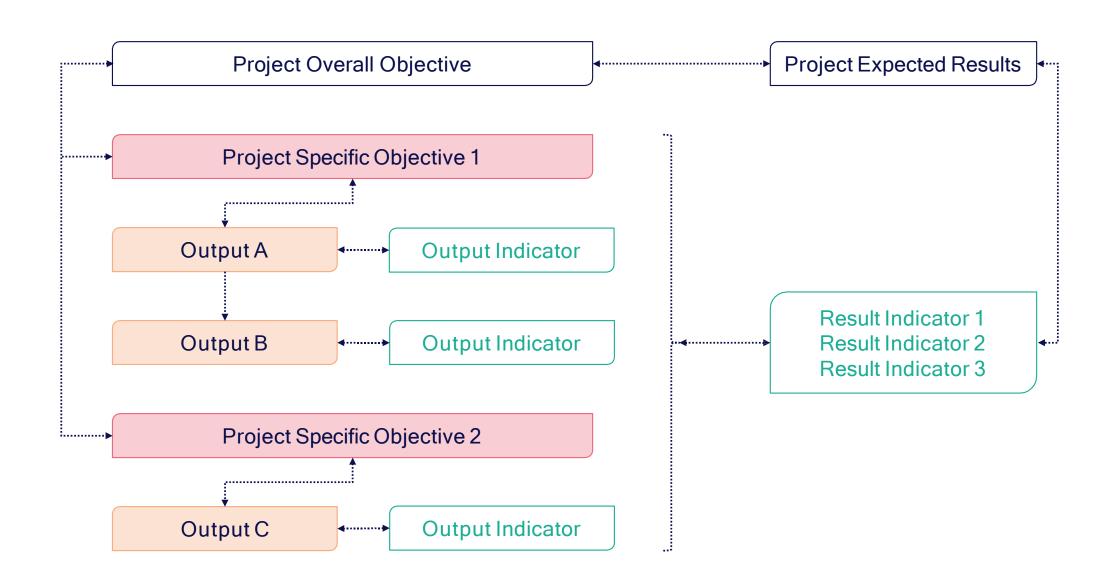
Accepted

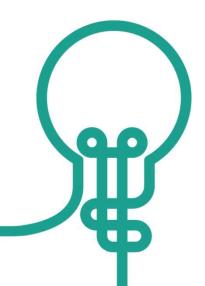
Credible

Easy

Robust







# **Intervention Logic**

# To which element its definition?

Project result

The change you will have realised with your project

Overall objective

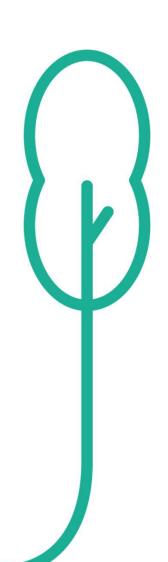
Your strategy, the way you will tackle a challenge/a need

Specific objective

Further refining your approach, breaking it down in smaller, more feasible sub-strategies

Output

What you will concretely deliver



# MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE WORKPLAN

**WORK PACKAGES:** Main pillars of the project, constituted by a group of related project activities, required to produce project outputs

**ACTIVITIES:** Specific tasks performed for which resources are used

> Each activity shall result in a deliverable

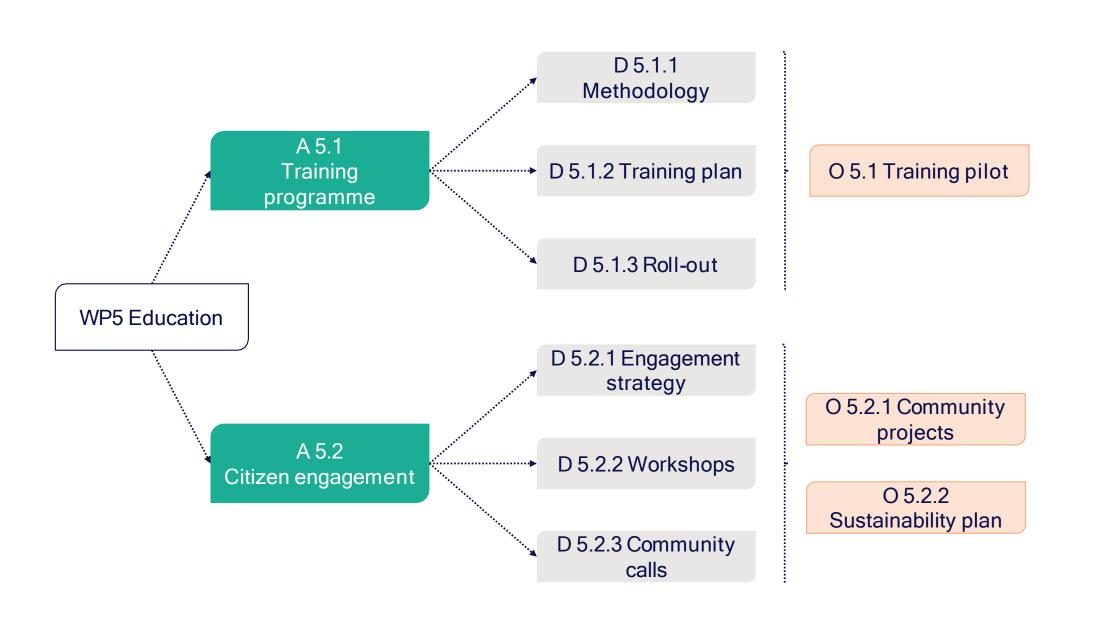
**DELIVERABLES:** Tangible or intangible objects delivered within an activity

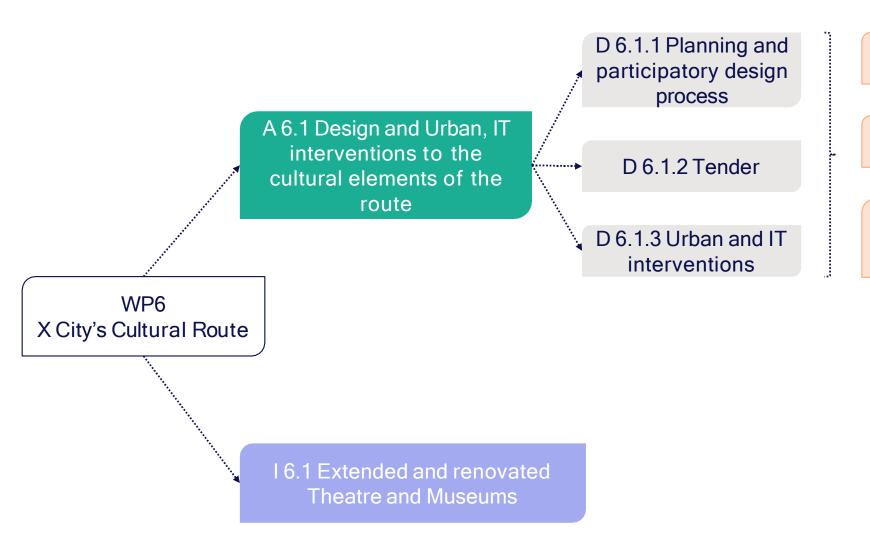
- Considered as intermediary/ relevant steps in the delivery of a project output
- > Shall directly contribute to the achievement of the project output

**OUTPUTS:** Main products of the project that have been produced as a result of the funding given to the project

Minimum one per Thematic WP

**BUDGET**: Necessary resources per partner must be filled in the related budget line in each Work Package

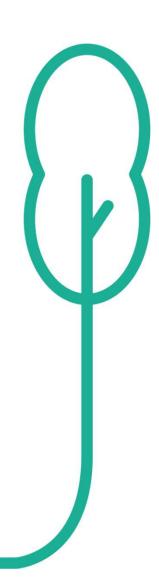




O 6.1.1 New Cultural Route Map

O 6.1.2 Tender award

O 6.1.3 Cultural elements ready for use



# TIPS FOR BUILDING A STRONG INTERVENTION LOGIC

- Use a participatory/co-creative approach involving a diverse group of stakeholders.
  - Focus on involving stakeholders involved in key parts of the process rather than the whole design (e.g. by verifying challenges and expected outcomes, or by depending outputs, outcomes and their indicators on challenges identified).
  - Important initial preparation.
  - Intermediate information processing.
- ▶ It is suggested to periodically review the logical sequence of elements of the project intervention logic when developing the project proposal.
  - > The logic model should be **updated to account for any changes** in project development and ensure continued alignment with project objectives.
  - Guide the design and implementation of monitoring and evaluation of the work programme.

### TIPS FOR APPLICANTS

#### **INTERVENTION LOGIC**

- Ensure that the expected result(s) are in line the project overall objective
- Ensure that results are different from outputs or activities but that the link between activities, outputs and result is clear and coherent.
- Make sure outputs and results indicators capture all the dimensions of the project
- But also limit the outputs to the end-product(s) of your project
- Formulate clear and specific results: they should not be too long or too broad
- > Your expected results should be different from results indicators but remain **coherent**

## TIPS FOR APPLICANTS

# Focus on result indicators: avoid impact-like or output-like indicators

- Impact-like indicator: the number of start-up created increased by 2% in the city
  - Difficult to measure
  - Not only the outcome of the project
  - Long-term
- Output-like indicator: the number of people attending training course
  - Easy to measure
  - Does not capture the benefit for the target group
- Result indicator: improved capacities of participants
  - No baseline
- Better result indicator: 80% participants say they have better capacities to start their own company compared to their 2021 level
  - Before/after situations can be measured

## **TIPS FOR APPLICANTS**

# Are those outputs, results or impact-like indicators?

- Number of junior doctors trained
- Growth rate in agricultural production
- Increased % of homes with better insulation through financial scheme
- Number of women using family planning
- Decreased % of population vulnerable to food insecurity
- Number of new surface area of urban green spaces

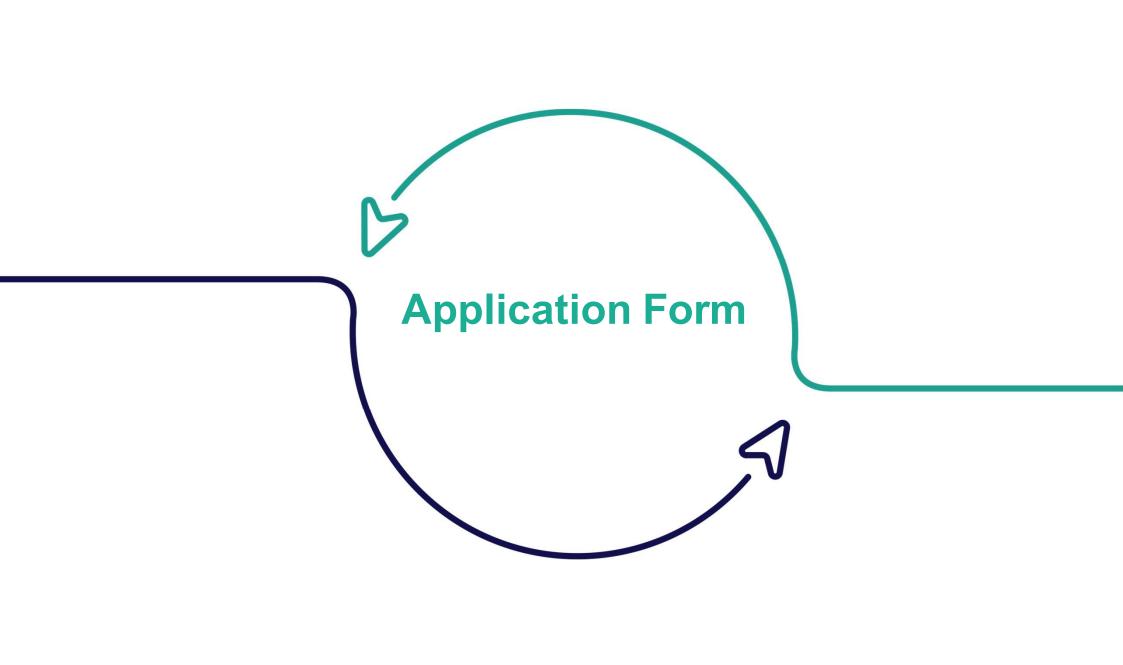


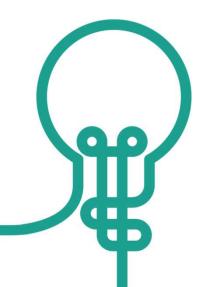
## **TIPS FOR APPLICANTS**

## Are those outputs, results or impact-like indicators?

- Number of junior doctors trained output
- Growth rate in agricultural production impact
- Increased % of homes with better insulation through financial scheme result
- Number of women using family planning output
- Decreased % of population vulnerable to food insecurity result
- Number of new surface area of urban green spaces output







### STRUCTURE OF THE APPLICATION FORM

- A PROJECT SUMMARY
- B PARTNERSHIP
- C PROJECT DESCRIPTION
- D WORKPLAN
- E PROJECT BUDGET
- F SOURCE(S) OF PARTNERS' CONTRIBUTIONS
- G RISK MANAGEMENT
- H CONFIRMATION SHEET

**ANNEX** 



## STRUCTURE OF THE APPLICATION FORM SECTION D – WORKPLAN

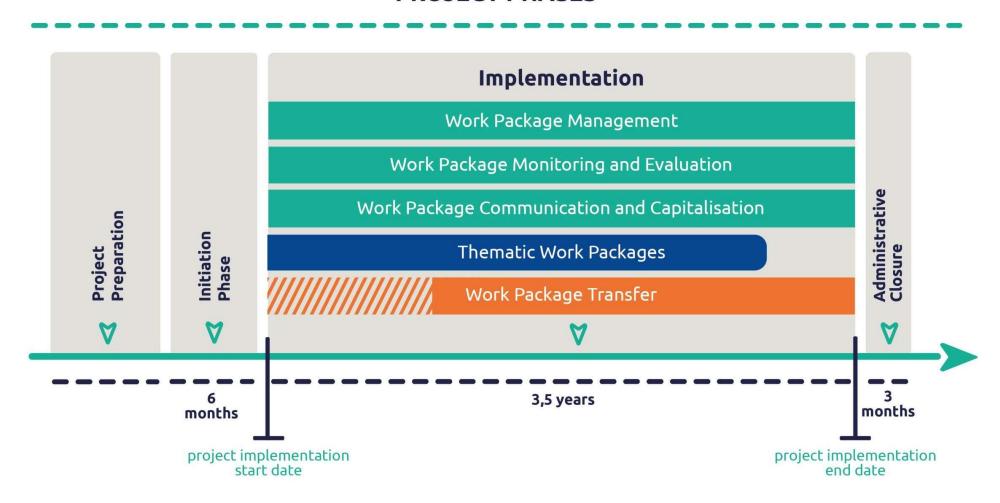
#### HORIZONTAL WORK PACKAGES

- > WP PROJECT PREPARATION AND INITIATION
- ▶ WP PROJECT MANAGEMENT
- > WP MONITORING AND EVALUATION
- > WP COMMUNICATION AND CAPITALISATION
- ▶ WP TRANSFER
- ▶ WP CLOSURE

## THEMATIC WORK PACKAGES (max. 4)

▶ INVESTMENTS (embedded if any)

#### **PROJECT PHASES**





## PREPARATION & INITIATION WORK PACKAGE

Project Preparation - Activities necessary for the project definition and design

- □ pre-filled deliverable:
  - Application form submitted

Initiation Phase - Activities carried out before the official start of the project implementation

- ▶ 9 pre-filled deliverables:
  - Initiation Meeting
  - Signature of the Subsidy Contract
  - Set up of the project management team and administrative prerequisites for EU funds reception
  - European Urban Initiative Innovative Actions training seminar
  - Addressing Selection Committee Recommendations and other adjustments
  - Updated Application Form
  - · Readiness check and ex-ante audit
  - Project Monitoring Plan
  - Partnership Agreement and identification of Transfer Partners



## MANAGEMENT WORK PACKAGE

- Description of the project management and coordination on strategic and operational level
- Structures, responsibilities and procedures for the day-to-day management
- Aims to organise the work between the involved Project Partners
- Important elements:
  - Maximum duration: 3.5 years
  - > Up to 6 activities
  - ▷ 5 predefined activities:

Set Up of the Project Management Structures and Governance framework

Project Coordination and Internal Communication Partnership Project Work Plan Management and Reporting

Project Financial Management Procurement and Legal proceedings



## **MONITORING & EVALUATION WORK PACKAGE**

- Description of how the project monitoring and evaluation will be carried out in the project
- Important elements:
  - Maximum duration: 3.5 years
  - ▶ Up to 5 activities
  - ▶ 4 predefined activities:

Monitoring of project performance

Establishment of the evaluation framework of the innovative solution

Data collection on the implementation/performa nce of the innovative solution

Final evaluation of the innovative solution and reporting on result indicators



## **COMMUNICATION & CAPITALISATION WORK PACKAGE**

- Communication strategy = a strategic tool to support the project objective(s)
- Identify your target groups and communication objectives

Clear

Specific

Measurable

- Important elements:
  - Maximum duration: 3.5 years
  - □ Up to 6 activities
  - 4 predefined activities:

Kick off communication activities

Promotional and informational activities

Capitalisation and dissemination activities

Final closing and dissemination activity

## THEMATIC WORK PACKAGE

- > Description of **how** the proposed innovative solution will be carried out
- Projects can create up to maximum four Thematic Work Packages corresponding to the main pillars of the project
- Investments shall be foreseen only to the extent that they are necessary for the achievement of the project's outputs and results
- Important elements:
  - > Maximum duration: 3 years
  - ▶ End 6 months before the end of the project implementation phase
  - ▶ Each Work Package must lead to at least one output
  - > Up to 5 activities per WP
  - > Up to 3 deliverables per Activity
  - > Investments embedded



## TRANSFER WORK PACKAGE

- At the application stage: Concept and framework of the Transfer
- At a later stage once all Transfer Partners are selected: Detailed work plan prepared with Transfer Partners
- Important elements:
  - Maximum duration: 3.5 years
  - □ Up to 4 activities
  - > 3 predefined activities:

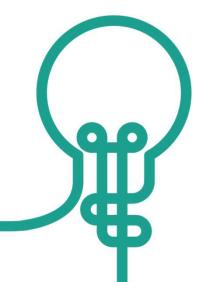
Coordination of the transfer cooperation

Knowledge exchange and peer to peer learning

Formulation of the framework for the transfer of innovative solution

# WORKPLAN CLOSURE WORK PACKAGE

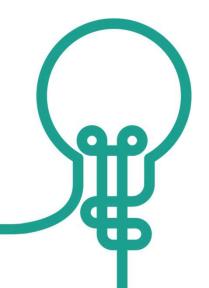
- Administrative closure of the project
  - - Drafting and submission of the final Annual Progress Report
    - Preparation and submission of the final Financial Claim
    - Preparation and submission of the Final Qualitative Report
- > Important elements:
  - Maximum duration: 3 months (after end of the project implementation)



## STRUCTURE OF THE APPLICATION FORM SECTION F – SOURCE(S) OF PARTNERS' CONTRIBUTIONS

## Section F - Source of partners' contributions

- Each partner needs to secure at least 20% of public or private contribution (cash or in-kind) to complete its funding
- Not from another EU funding source
- Do not forget to budget your in-kind contribution as well in the related Work Package.

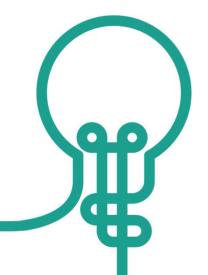


## STRUCTURE OF THE APPLICATION FORM SECTION G-RISK MANAGEMENT

## Section G- Risk management

- > Description of the risks that may affect the project implementation
- > Detailed actions that will be taken in order to mitigate identified risks
- For example:
  - ⊳ Project management capacity risks

  - > Investments



## STRUCTURE OF THE APPLICATION FORM SECTION H – CONFIRMATION SHEET

### Section H - Confirmation sheet

- Document is available on the Electronic Exchange Platform (EEP)
- > Only the **Main Urban Authority** should sign it
- > It is not allowed to modify the content of the Confirmation Sheet

#### **TIPS FOR APPLICANTS**

#### PROJECT DESIGN

- Drafting Style: simple and clear (characters limited system)
- > Ensure a **logic chain** between work plan elements
- Include cross-references for a better understanding of the project intervention logic
- Activities decomposed into intermediary steps (deliverables)
- > The need for investments to reach project objectives and deliver the solution is demonstrated and well detailed
- > Make sure outputs and results indicators capture all the dimensions of the project

#### TIME PLAN

- Pay attention to the logical time sequence
- Include contingency periods, notably for investments
- Include intermediary dates
- Sufficiently anticipate time for procedures (procurement, permitting, etc).
- Foresee sufficient time for the operation of the solution, data collection and evaluation of the solution

#### **TIPS FOR APPLICANTS**

#### PARTNERS & STAKEHOLDERS

- Mention responsible & involved partners in activities/outputs/deliverables
- Concrete mechanisms foreseen to ensure effective involvement of the stakeholders in the project

#### **BUDGET**

- Provide detailed budget descriptions to ensure easy reconciliation between costs and activities
- Budget shares must be proportionate to the delivery of the solution (Partners/ WPs/ cost categories)
- **Be realistic**, rely on preliminary market research and avoid excessive costs
- Value for money

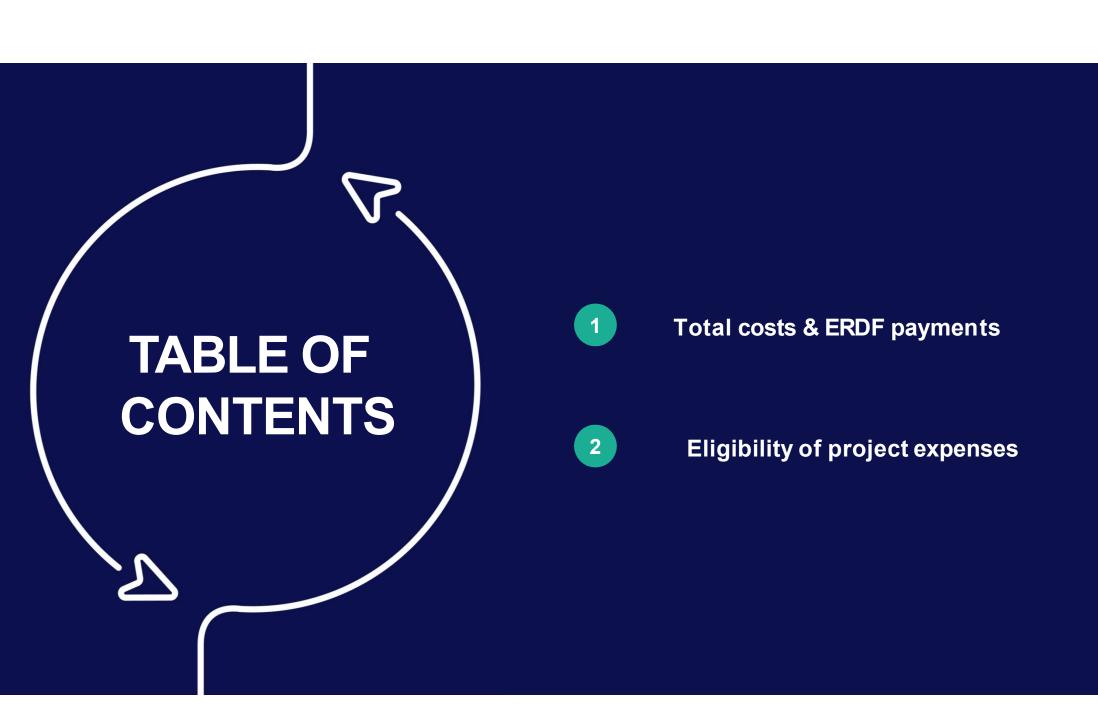
#### TECHNICAL ASPECTS

- While filling in your Application Form remember to save from time to time
- One annex (i.e. map presenting the area of intervention, a graph, an infographic) can be attached (max. 5 MB)

## **Funding Principles**

How does the finance work?





## **Total costs & ERDF payments**

## **Total costs principle (1.8.1)**

### **Definition and rationale**

#### **Definition**

- Project receives ERDF co-financing up to 80% of the total eligible costs and the partnership (MUA and AUA, Delivery Partners and Transfer Partners) receiving ERDF needs to secure at least 20% of own or other source contribution (public or private) of the total budget in cash or in kind.
- > The contribution cannot come from another EU funding source

Source	%	BUDGET
ERDF	80% maximum	EUR 5 Mio maximum
<ul> <li>Contribution</li> <li>Cash and/or in kind</li> <li>Public or private</li> <li>Own resources or not</li> <li>Not from EU sources</li> </ul>	20% minimum	EUR 1.25 Mio
Total	100%	EUR 6.25 Mio

## Other financial rules

## In-kind contribution (7.5.3)

#### **Definition**

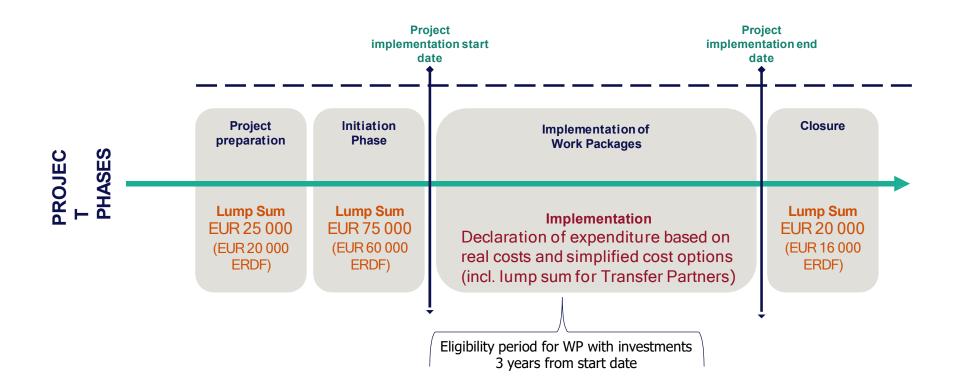
Non-cash (goods and services) contributions used during project implementation with (independently estimated) monetary value for which no cash payment (invoices or documents of equivalent probative value) has been made.

#### **Conditions**

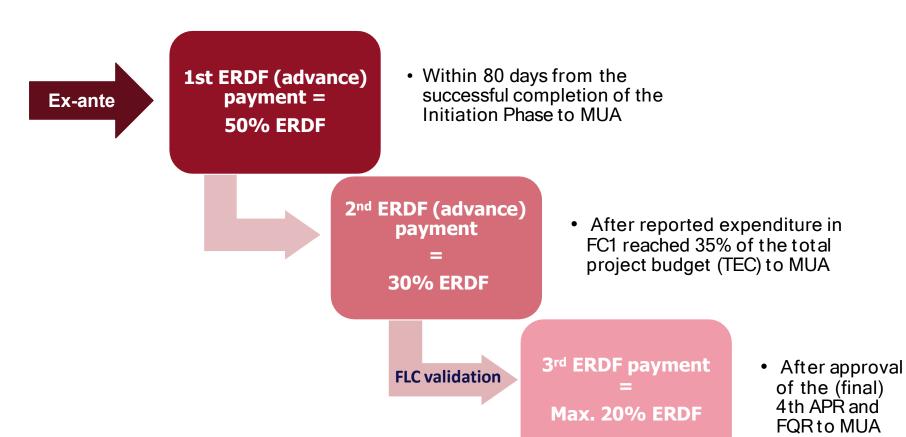
- Cannot come from another EU funding source.
- The value must be in line with the current open market value certified by an independent qualified expert or duly authorised official body/person.
- The provision of land as contribution is limited to 10% of the total project budget.
- Must be reflected in two different sections of the Application Form: the Partner Contribution section and the project budget in the Work Plan section.

## **Eligibility period**

## Overview (with cost types)



## **Transfer arrangements**



## Eligibility of project expenses

## Eligibility of project expenses (7.1)

## **Background**

#### Return on experience from the Urban Innovative Actions Initiative

- > 86 projects funded
- ➤ More than EUR 300 Mio of reported expenses

### Greater use of simplified cost options

- One of the most important simplification measures encouraged by EC
- Easier access of small beneficiaries to ERDF funding
- Reduced reporting burden and costs for the projects
- Lower error rate in reported expenses
- Quicker control of project expenses
- Faster payment to project partnerships

## Simplified cost options

## 1. Lump sums

#### **Definition**

Single sum of money paid to the project partnership upon completion of **pre-defined** terms of agreement on deliverables and/or outputs.

▶ Project preparation: EUR 25,000 (= EUR 20,000 ERDF)

▶ Initiation Phase: EUR 75,000 (= EUR 60,000 ERDF)

▶ Project Closure: EUR 20,000 (= EUR 16,000 ERDF)

➤ Transfer Partner: EUR 150,000 (= EUR 120,000

ERDF)

## Simplified cost options

#### 2. Flat rates

#### **Definition**

Categories of eligible costs which are identified in advance and are calculated by applying a **percentage fixed ex-ante** to one or several other categories of eligible costs.

Flat rates involve approximations of costs and are defined based on fair, equitable and verifiable calculation methods, or established by specific regulations.

### **Cost categories concerned:**

Staff costs (option 1): 20% of the total eligible amount declared by the

Project Partner under the cost categories:

external expertise, equipment and infrastructure

Office & Administration: 15% of staff costs

**Travel and Accommodation:** 5 % of staff costs

## Simplified cost options

## 3. Standard scale of unit costs (hourly rate for staff costs)

#### **Principle**

- Defined and proposed by the Project Partner as an hourly rate, applicable to every employee regardless of the position appointed to the project in project duration
- Maximum number hours of an employee working under an employment contract or equivalent cannot exceed 1,720 hours per full time employee per calendar year (if less by law, max. equals to 1720 as equivalent)

#### Method of calculation



- Annual payroll: total staff costs of the Project Partner per year, in EUR
- Full Time Equivalent: number of full-time equivalents employed by the organisation
- > 1,720: maximum number of hours per full time employee per calendar year

#### **Audit trail**

- Calculation methodology will be checked and hourly rate confirmed by FLC during the ex-ante audit
- ▶ Employment confirmation (e.g. contract) + report of hours with the Financial Claims

## Real costs

## **Principles**

#### **Definition**

➤ Real costs refer to the amount actually purchased and paid by Project Partners for goods and services to achieve a planned outcome.

### **Principles**

- > Expenses incurred on the basis of real costs are:
  - Subject to procurement rules
  - Backed by a complete audit trail (evidence of procurement, contract, invoice, proofs of payment...)

## Real costs

## **Cost categories concerned**

#### **External expertise and services**

- Expenses related to services and expertise provided by external providers.
- ▶ Includes Financial Schemes implemented by Project Partners (limited to a maximum of max. EUR 60 000 per beneficiary)

## **Equipment**

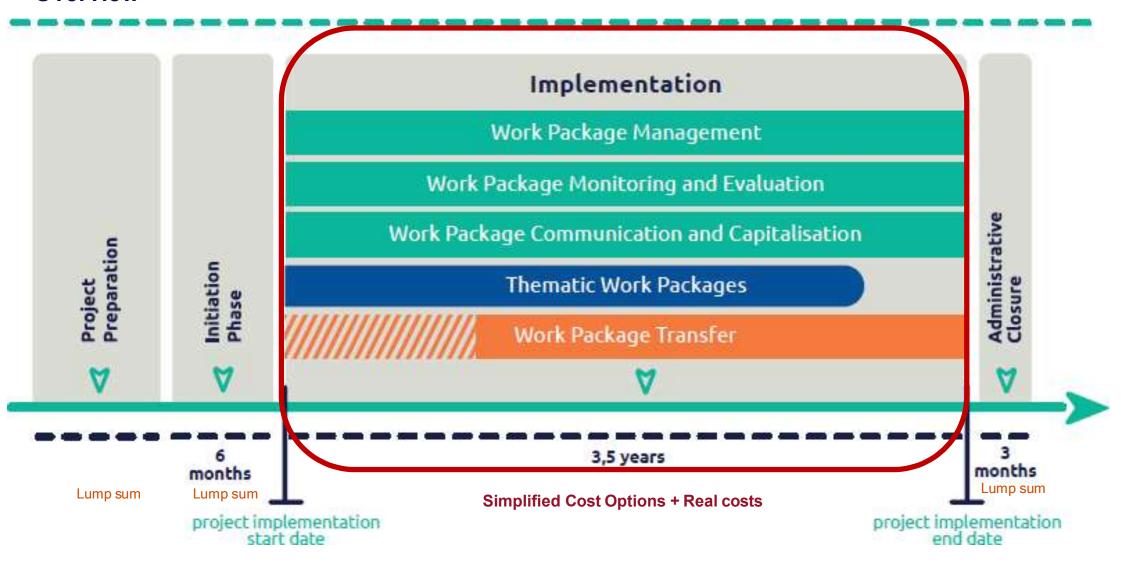
Expenses related to equipment purchased, rented or leased by a Project Partner (other than those covered by the Office and Administration cost category)

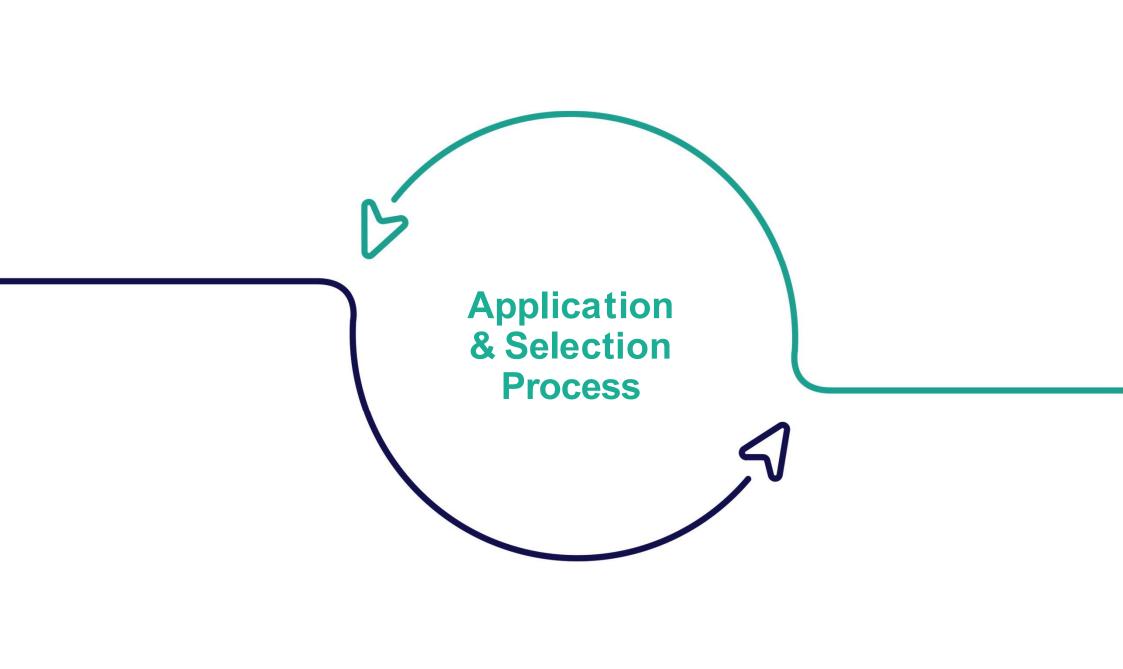
#### Infrastructure and construction works

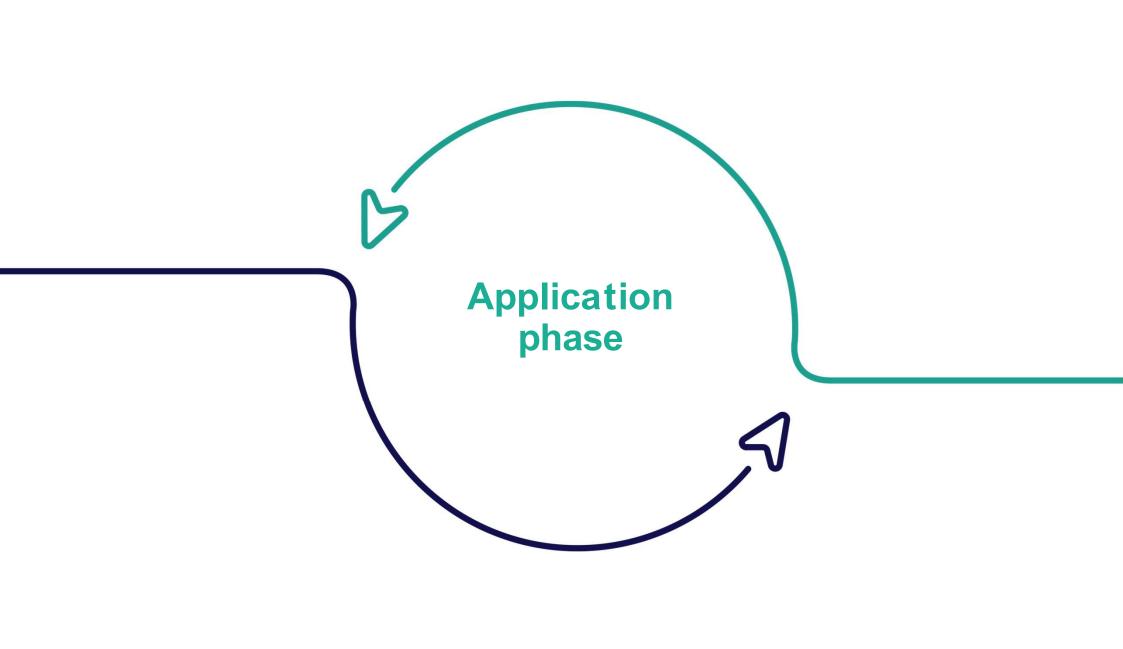
Expenses related to investments in infrastructure.

## Eligibility period (7.4)

**Overview** 







# HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION?



The submission of the Application Form (and annex) is 100% paperless through the use of the EUI-IA's Electronic Exchange Platform.

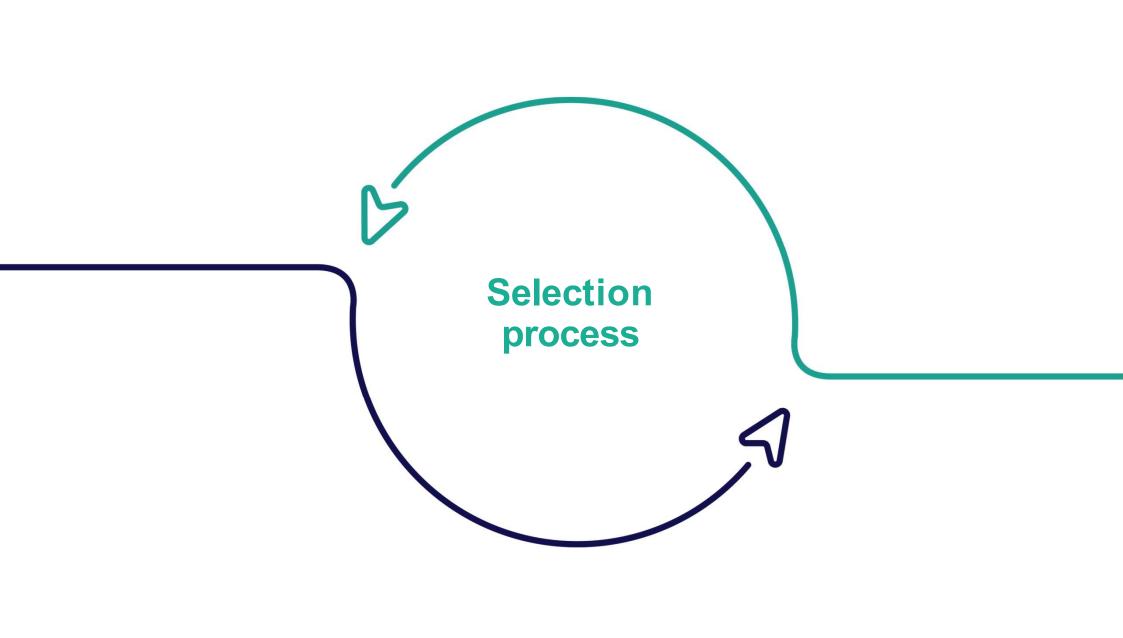
- Online submission
  - https://connect.urban-initiative.eu(information bubbles available in 24 EU languages)
- Prepare your application
  - Application Form courtesy document (word template)
  - EUI-IA Online Guidance
  - Technical guidance for the Electronic Exchange Platform (pdf)

Additional resources available at: https://www.urban-initiative.eu/calls-proposals/third-call-proposals-innovative-actions

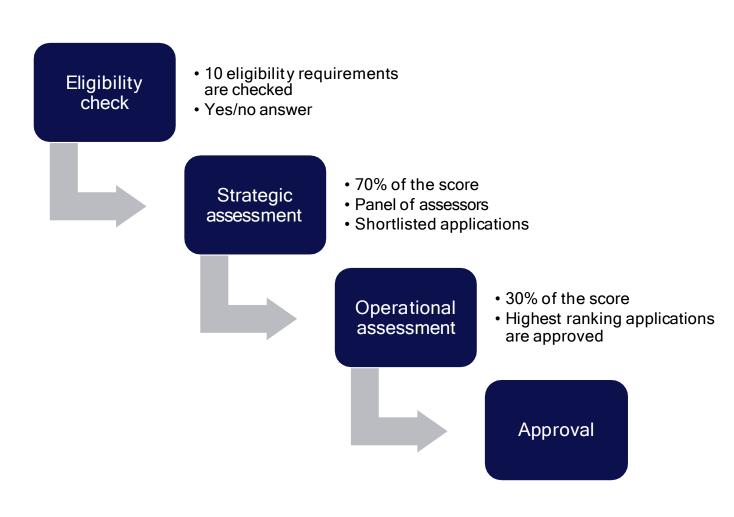
## **Documents to be submitted**

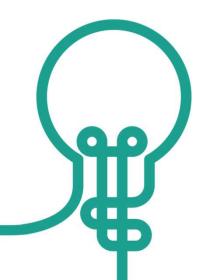
- 1. Application Form
- 2. Signed Confirmation sheet
- (3.) Annex document (non-mandatory maps, graphics...)

Application Form Workshop (in-person) - 10th September 2024 Brussels, Belgium!



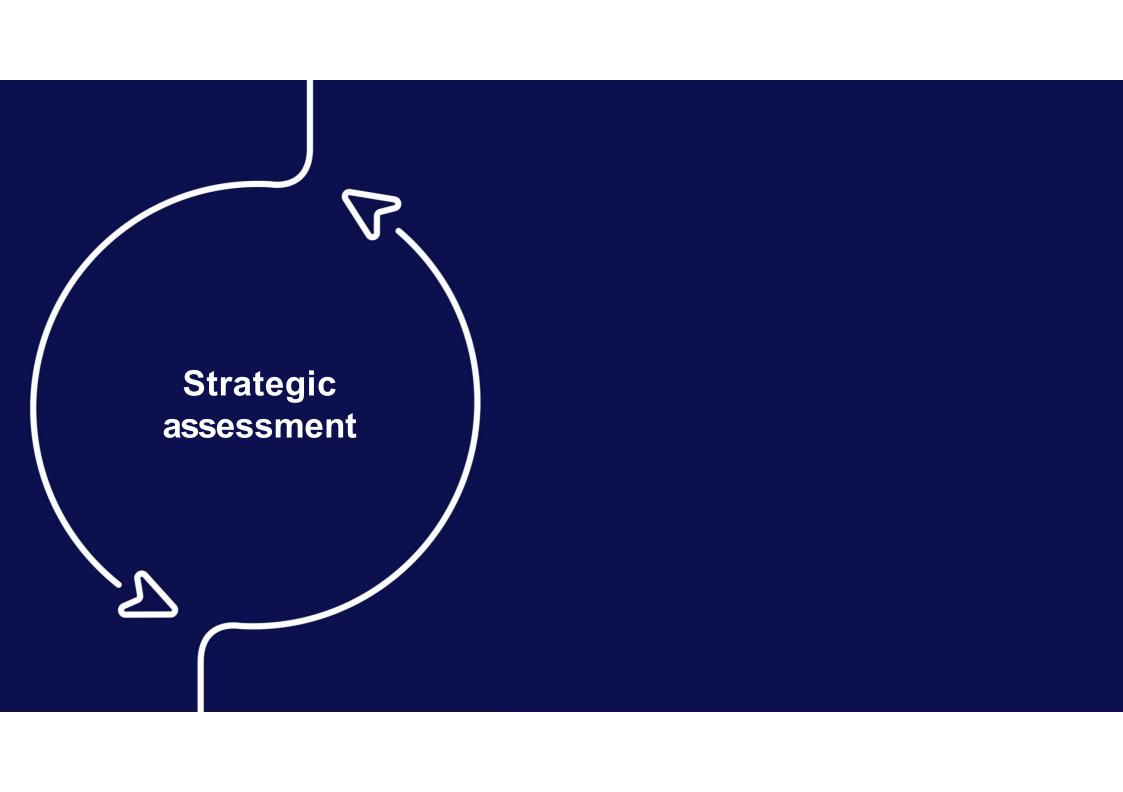
### **3 Steps Selection Process**

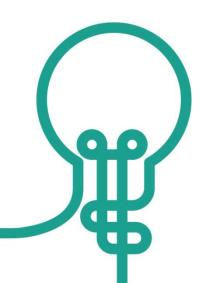




### **Eligibility Check**

- > 10 requirements, among which:
  - > The AF has been submitted on time and is completely filled-in
  - Urban authorities applying are eligible
  - Urban authorities are only involved in one proposal in the call
  - Urban authorities have not been approved for funding in any of the previous IA calls
  - Eligibility period, budget requirements, co-funding principle are respected
  - All partners are located in the EU
  - The signed confirmation sheet has been submitted





### **Strategic Assessment**

#### Innovativeness and relevance (30%)

To what extent is the applicant able to demonstrate that the project proposal is a new solution that has added value in relation to the topic of the Call? To what extent is the solution relevant to the local context and to Cohesion Policy objectives?

### Partnership and co-creation (12%)

To what extent is the Partnership relevant and solid to implement the proposed solution and achieve expected results. To what extent the proposal allows meaningful participation and co-creation from stakeholders, target groups and citizens?

### Measurability of results and impact (12%)

To what extent are expected results specific and realistic, and reflecting project expected impact on the local context, as well as beneficiaries/end users?

### Sustainability and up scaling (8%)

To what extent will the project provide a durable contribution to address the identified challenge? To what extent the proposed solution will be self-sustainable beyond its end date and has the potential to be up scaled if proven successful?

### Project's transferability (8%)

To what extent will the project have the potential to be transferable to other urban areas across Europe?

### Focus on: Innovativeness and relevance

- How to demonstrate the innovativeness of your proposal?
  - Benchmark your idea, quote existing projects/initiatives
  - Use scientific papers, data sets both to demonstrate the innovativeness and the need at local level
- What is city-led innovation?
  - Relevant for a public institution
  - The urban authority is actively involved



# Strategic description (webinar link) Relevance of the proposed solution (Section C.1)

- Clear demonstration of the innovativeness is key:
  - in what extent the solution has never been tested before at EU level (C.1.4)
  - must be related to the main components of the solution
  - at least 3 benchmarked references of existing practices to justify how the solution differentiates from them (C.1.5)
  - use existing online databases, networks, scientific literature e.g., CORDIS for Framework Programmes, IEE and LIFE projects database, URBACT, Eurocities, Energy Cities, etc.
- Back the project challenge description (C.1.1) with tangible evidences (data, dates, figures, etc).
- Make sure it is clear the project challenge is addressed through an **integrated approach** (spatial, economic, social, environmental)
- The solution must bring added value to the topic of the call
- City-led innovation: Demonstrate there is a clear ownership of the project from the MUA and active involvement demonstrated (C.1.3) and tangible (work plan) e.g., leading role in the creation of the Partnership, in the genesis of the proposed solution, in the implementation of the project.

# Strategic description (webinar link) Partnership (Section B) & Co-creation (Section C.2) + Work Plan

> All necessary actors must be around the table (B.1.1)

The composition of the Partnership is convincing to deliver the project (sufficient/ relevant expertise and experience)

- It is recommended that the quadruple helix is represented : public sector, industry, academia, civil society
- Partners' respective **roles and involvement** in activities must be clearly defined and relevant with their profiles (B.1.2)
- Participation and engagement of a wide range of urban actors is essential to succeed (C.2.1, C.2.2, Work Plan)
  - The relevant stakeholders must be identified (smooth project implementation, maximize project durability)
  - Participation and co-creation processes must be planned across the different project phases
- Quantification and explanation of the target groups/ end-users benefitting from the project (C.2.3)

## Focus on: Measurability of results and impact

- ➤ Ensure your objectives and results are specific to your project, realistic and ensure you can propose quantified targets
- ▷ Check the RACER criteria Relevant, Accepted, Credible, Easy, Robust
- Check the outputs and results indicators mentioned in the ToR and align the project with those
- Who can propose a solid methodology in the partnership ?Co-create the evaluation WP



# Strategic description (webinar link) Measurability (Section C.3)

- Overall objective = Describe the long-term change the project intends to contribute beyond its duration (Strategic ambition)
  - In line with the call for proposals
- Strategic objectives = Describe what the project is trying to achieve during its duration (Narrower scope)
  - Specific (well described) and concrete
  - Realistic: achievable and evaluable by the end of the project
- Expected results = Capture exhaustively the changes generated from the project in the local context
  - What will the local situation look like if the project is successful? What is the mid-term change at local level? What is the immediate advantage for beneficiaries? Etc
  - Should correspond to specific objectives
  - Specific (well described), realistic (achievable during the project), measurable (quantified)
  - Indicators from the call are considered when relevant; project specific result indicators can be developed
  - Robust methodology for data collection and measurement

# Strategic description (webinar link) Sustainability & Scaling-up (Section 4.3)

- > The solution provides a **significant and durable contribution** to address the targeted challenges
  - <u>Significant</u> = Target groups, expected results and outputs **of sufficient scale** to contribute to the project's objectives
  - <u>Durable</u> = continuation **beyond project end** and used by the target groups (notably for the main outputs and investments)
    - Demonstrate expecting lasting effect on the territory and population (C.4.2)
    - Clearly presented by whom and how outputs would be used after the project end (C.4.2)
    - o Tangible guarantees on self-sufficiency after the project end (funding sources for continuation) (C.4.1)
    - Who will own the solution? Pay for its maintenance? (C.4.1)
    - o Project embedded in relevant and wider local/ national strategies or policies (C.4.3)
- Concrete information provided on **how the solution could be scaled-up** (C.4.4)
  - In which parts of the city can the solution be replicated?
  - What type of resources (human, political, financial) will be needed?



### Operational assessment (webinar link)

### Project Design and Logic (12%)

To what extent are Work Plan elements (activities, deliverables, outputs, indicators) complete, realistic, consistent and coherent? To what extent will the proposed project design lead to the achievement of objectives and expected results?

### Project feasibility and operational readiness (8%)

To what extent the proposal demonstrates to be feasible (to be implemented within the given time-frame) and operationally ready?

### Organisational arrangements and operational capacity (5%)

To what extent are management and communication activities appropriate and supporting the overall implementation of the project?

### **Budget (5%)**

To what extent is the budget coherent and proportionate?

# **Operational Quality Project Design and Logic (1)**

- ➣ Ensure a clear correspondence between Section C (strategic concept) and Section D (operational description)
- Make sure the work plan is logically structured :
  - The logic chain between WPs, activities, deliverables and outputs is relevant to reach the project objectives
  - Coherent link between the objectives, the structure of the WPs and the expected results and related outputs
  - Clear how project activities and deliverables will lead to the achievement of outputs and results
  - Clear interrelation between WPs (no stand-alone WP)
  - Results must be different from outputs or activities
- Include explicit cross-references for a better understanding of links and complementarities among the different activities and WPs
- Each activity must be decomposed into **intermediary**/ **operational steps** (deliverables) = clear how the activity will be concretely and operationally implemented!

# **Operational Quality Project Design and Logic (2)**

- The division of the tasks between the Partners is coherent
- Mention which Partner(s) will be involved in/responsible for the delivery explicitly in the descriptions (at least at activity level)
- Clear and concrete mechanisms to ensure an effective involvement / participation/ co-creation of the Wider Group of Stakeholders, target groups and citizens in the project (e.g., dedicated activities)

# **Operational Quality Project Design and Logic (3)**

- Drafting style: simple and clear (characters limited system) = concise
- Sufficiently detailed for an external reader
- Make sure outputs and results indicators capture all the dimensions of the project:
  - All main end-products of the project (outputs)
  - All main changes in the local context generated from the project (results)
- The need for investment is demonstrated (necessary for the achievement of the project's outputs and results) and in line with the project objectives

# Operational Quality Project feasibility and operational readiness (1)

- Demonstrate that the project will be quickly and realistically operational after approval!
- Realistic timeline:
  - logical time-sequence between all project elements (e.g., interconnected activities or WPs)
  - contingency/ buffer periods, notably for investments
  - time for procedures (procurement, permitting, etc) anticipated
  - Clear time-sequence or duration of the main project activities = Sufficient intermediary dates (deliverables)
- Sufficient time foreseen for:
  - the operation of the solution
  - data collection and evaluation of the solution.

# Operational Quality Project feasibility and operational readiness (2)

- > All the main project risks mapped (strategic, management, implementation, investment)
  - Project-specific risks
  - · convincing mitigating actions

#### Investments details:

- All requirements are anticipated and presented (legal, technical, administrative)
- Clear details on ownership, financial durability, maintenance conditions
- Operational steps reflected in the work plan

### **EUI-IA Key Documents**

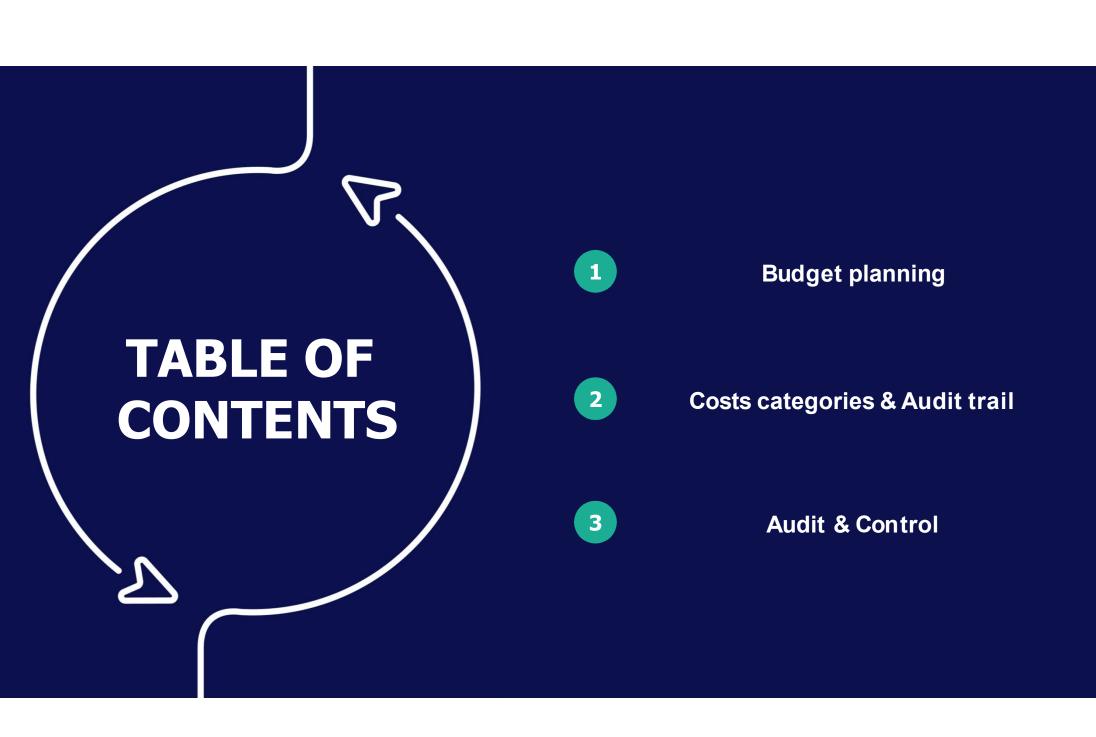
- EUI-IA Guidance
- EUI Website
- Self-Assessment Tool
- EUI-IA Correspondence Table
- Call 1 Selected Projects
- **EEP** (Electronic Exchange Platform)
- Technical guidance for EEP
- Application Form courtesy working document
- Annex I b) to the Contribution Agreement
- EUI Urban Matchmaker
- Call 3 website



## Finance, eligibility rules, project budget

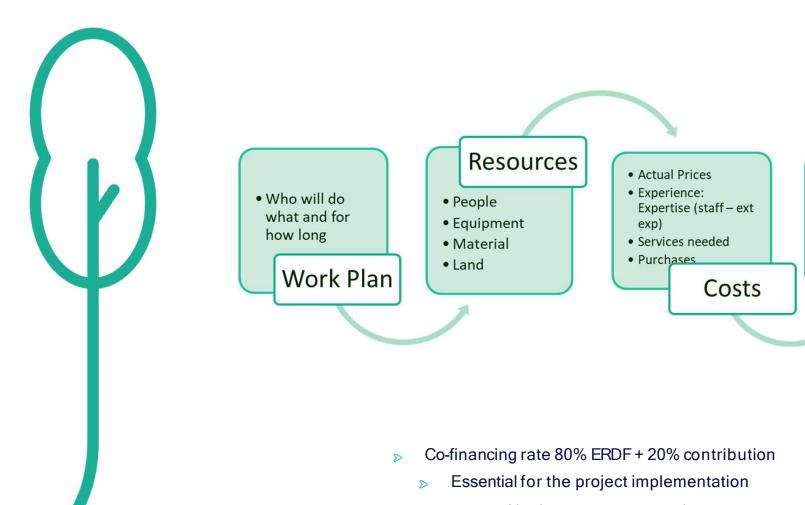






## **Budget Planning**

How to ensure a clear and consistent planning of your project budget?



### Allocation

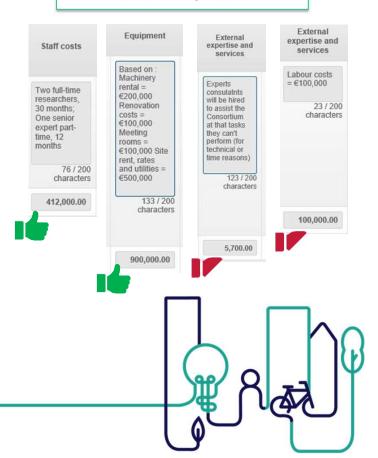
- Budget line
- Partner
- Work Package
- Activity
- Year

Use bottom-up approach

- Well described and realistic planned costs
- > At WP level for each Project Partners involved
- Costs allocated under the relevant Cost Categories
- > 200 characters to describe your costs!

Project Partner 1 - Name	Staff cost (€)	Office and Administration (€)	Travel and Accommodation (€)	External Expertise and services (€)	Equipment (€)	Total (€)
Allocated Budget Description	Further information on the eligible costs under this cost category is to be found in the EUHA Guidance under Chapter 7.2.1	Automatically calculated.  Office and administration costs are covered by a flat rate (15%) of the reported staff costs. No description is therefore needed (the EEP system will automatically indicate N/A).  Further information on the eligible costs under this cost category is to be found in the EUI-IA Guidance under Chapter 7.2.2.	Automatically calculated Travel & accommodation costs of Partners' employees are automatically covered by a flat rate of 5% of the reported staff costs. No description is therefore needed (the EEP system will automatically indicate N/A).  Further information on the eligible costs under this cost category is to be found in the EUHA Cuidance under Chapter 7.2.3.  For example: Participation to 3 meetings/ events to engage citizens and end users, etc.	[200 characters]  Further information on the eligible costs under this cost category is to be found in EU-IA Guidance under Chapter 7.2.4. For example: Catering for Steering Committee events, payment of an e-web management platform, legal consultancy and notarial services, technical and financial expertise, etc.	[200 characters]  Further information on the eligible costs under this cost category is to be found in the EU-IA Guidance under Chapter 7.2.5. For example: laboratory equipment and devices, 3D printer for the vocational centre, server to manage traffic data, solar panels, batteries to store energy, etc.	Automatically calculated No explanation requested

Make your descriptions clear and specific!

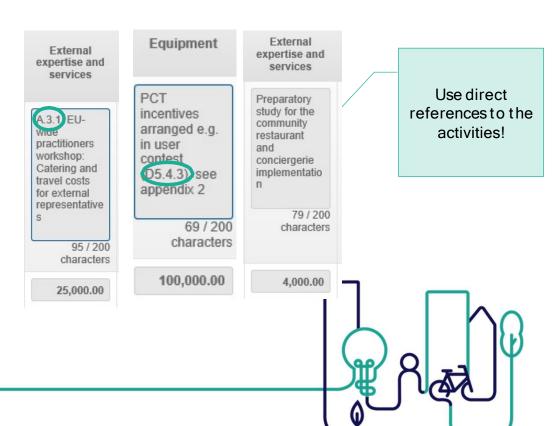


Costs <u>directly</u> & <u>clearly</u> related to the activities planned in the Work Plan

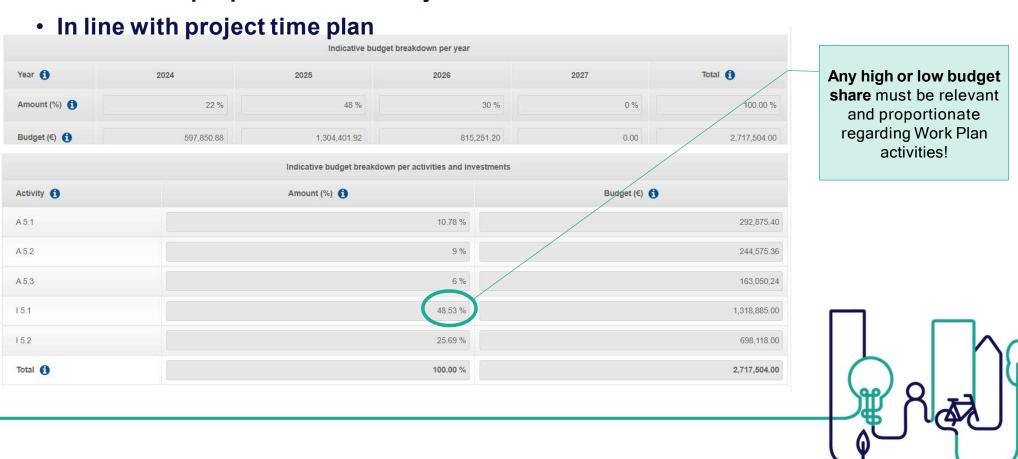
**Direct** connection with the work plan

Clear connection with the work plan made explicit from the descriptions

- Relevant Budget (work plan)
- Realistic and reasonable Budget (economy, efficiency, effectiveness)
- > Transparent Budget (Partners provide detailed information)



Reflect and proportionate to Project Partners involvement



### • Anticipate:

### **Public Procurements**

- Each Project Partner shall be aware of applicable procurement rules
- To ensure the eligibility of contractsrelated costs
- To anticipate the timeline for procedures and to avoid generating delays

### **State Aids**

- Project shall be designed in compliance with State aid rules at all levels
- Projects involving economic activities only
- Only the 20% <u>public contribution</u> secured by the Project Partner(s)



## -Ò-Project budget tips

### Use the courtesy document and the info bubbles of the system

	Indicative budget breakdown per activity and investment	2	
Activity/Investment	Percentage of the budget allocated (%)  Please include the percentage that each activity represents in the Work Package (the total must be 100%)  The first activity percentage is automatically filled in with the remaining percentage of the Work Package budget after the system deducts the share (%) of the investment and the subsequent activities. Only the percentages of the subsequent activities (A.5.2, A.5.3,) must be entered. For example:  If I.5.1 = 50% and if the applicant enters 20% for A.5.2 and 20% for A.5.3 then A.5.1 = 10%  Total: 100% for the Work Package budget.	Budget (€)  Budget of each activity in EUR automatically calculated by the system based on the percentages indicated on the left column.	
A.5.1			
A.5.2			
A.5.X			
l.5.1	Investment percentage comes automatically calculated from the budget entered in the Investment window. This is a prefilled and not editable box.		
Total	The total percentage (including Investments) under a Thematic Work Package will always be 100%.	Total for the Work Package (including the investment costs).	

## Project budget tips

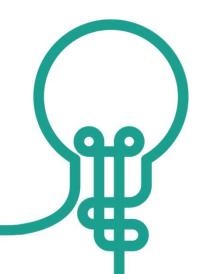
- ▶ Rely on EUI-IA Guidance to plan the budget: what is possible/ eligible and what not.
- Be realistic when planning your budget (check real costs market value) and avoid:
  - Guess-based budgets and unrealistic costs
  - Excessive costs (staff, external experts, equipment ...)
- Wonder whether the project budget represents good Value for Money
- Project budget should reflect Project Partners' involvement in the activities and should be proportionate.
- Realistic approach (incl. public procurement)
- Not include costs already covered by EUI:
  - Auditors
  - IA Experts
- ▶ Use a tool outside the EEP system, to plan your costs and build budget (e.g.: excel, ...
- Be aware that budgeting takes time: start early enough!



## Cost categories & Audit trail

## **6 Cost Categories**

Category	Option 1	Option 2
Staff Costs	Flat rate - 20% of direct costs	Standard scale of unit costs - calculation of <b>hourly rate</b> by each PP
Office & Administration	Flat rate -15% of the staff costs	
Travel & Accommodation	Flat rate - 5% of the staff costs	
External Expertise & Services	Real cost	
Equipment	Real cost	
Infrastructure & Construction works	Real cost	



# Staff costs Eligibility of costs

#### **ELIGIBLE INELIGIBLE** × Voluntary payments (e.g. payments not in ✓ Salary payments (fixed in an line with the employment contract, the employment/work contract as gross employment policy of the Project Partner, or salary) payments without any legal commitment) ✓ Other costs directly linked to salary × Staff costs for employees **not officially** payments (e.g. employment taxes, assigned to the project social security, holidays, overtime, including health coverage, taxable **Dividends** (a way of sharing profit with emloyees or in case of one-employee company) benefits or pension contributions) ✓ Evidence that staff member is **Overheads** as already included under cost officially assigned to the project will category "office and administration" have to be provided (contract, work order, etc.) × Agency workers (payment is based on Invoice between legal entities, thus this is considered External expertise cost category)

### Option 1 - Flat rate at 20%



### **Principle**

- 20% of the total eligible amount declared by the Project Partner under the following Cost Categories and inside each work package:
  - · external expertise and services
  - equipment, and
  - infrastructure and construction works
- > This option is **not authorised** for Project Partners foreseeing to include in their costs works contracts or supply or service contracts which exceed in value the thresholds of the EU public procurement Directives

#### **Audit trail**

- With this methodology, Project Partners do not need to provide any justification or supporting documents to claim staff costs
- The auditor checks during the initiation phase that staff costs have been calculated according to the methodology and that the other categories of costs, which form the basis for the calculation, are legal and regular

## Option 1 - Flat rate at 20%



Example	Staff costs	O & A	T & A	External Expertise & Services	Equipment	I & C works
WP 1	1.000,00	150,00	50,00	5.000,00		! Attention – amounts planed can lead to disqualifying
WP 2	12.000,00	1.800,00	600,00		60.000,00	PP from right to use the flat rate option (Check the EU public procurement thresholds!
WP3	9.000,00	1.350,00	450,00	45.000,00	80.000,00	till estibilitis!
WP 4	19.000,00	2.850,00	950,00	15.000,00		
WP 5	125.000,00	18.750,00	6.250,00	35.000,00	90.000,00	500.000,00

### **Option 2 - Standard Scale Of Unit Costs**

### **Principle**

- Calculation method for standard scale of unit costs is defined and proposed by the Project Partner as an hourly rate, applicable to every employee regardless of the position
- Project Partner must apply the unit staff costs to the number of their employees appointed to the project in project duration
- Maximum number hours of an employee working under an employment contract or equivalent cannot exceed 1,720 hours per full time employee per calendar year

#### Method of calculation



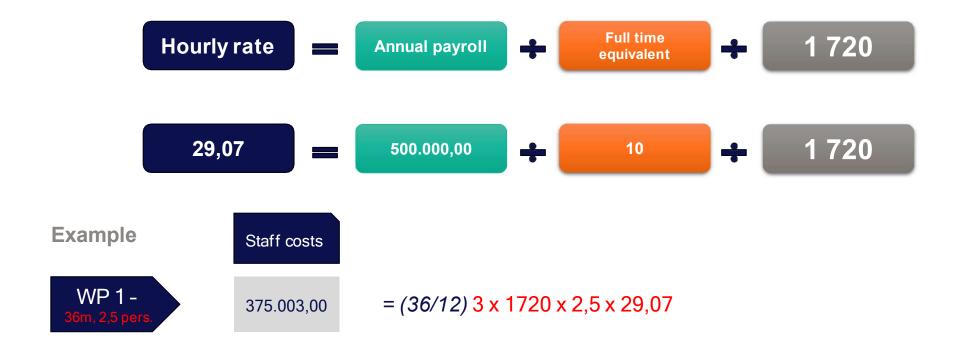
- Annual payroll: total staff costs of the Project Partner per year, in EUR
- » Full Time Equivalent: number of full-time equivalents employed by the organisation
- > 1,720: maximum number of hours per full time employee per calendar year

#### **Audit trail**

- Supporting documentation used for the calculation method during the initiation phase
- Employment confirmation (e.g. contract) + report of hours (timesheets) with the Financial Claims

### **Option 2 - Standard Scale Of Unit Costs**

**Example** 



#### **Staff costs**

### **Option 2 - Standard Scale Of Unit Costs**



Example	Staff costs	O & A	T & A	External Expertise & Services	Equipment	I & C works
WP 1 - 36m, 2,5 pers.	375.003,00	56.250,45	18.750,15	5.000,00		
WP 2 - 36m, 1 pers.	150.001.20	22.500,18	7.500,06		60.000,00	
WP 3 - 6m, 1,5 pers.	37.500,30	5.625,05	1.875,01	45.000,00	80.000,00	
WP 4 - 12m, 0,75 pers.	37.500,30	5.625,05	1.875,01	15.000,00		
WP 5 - 18m, 3 pers.	225.001,80	33.750,27	11.250,09	35.000,00	90.000,00	500.000,00



Flat rate of 15% of the reported staff costs (either option)

**Exhaustive list** of items considered under Office & Administration available in the EUI-IA guidance

Audit trail: none

# Travel & Accommodation costs

Flat rate of 5% of the reported staff costs (either option)

**Exhaustive list** of items considered under Travel and Accommodation available in the EUI-IA guidance

Audit trail: none

#### Real costs

#### **Principles**

#### **Definition**

Amounts planned by Project Partners to purchase goods and services to achieve objectives through defined activities



#### **Principle**

- Expenses planned and incurred on the basis of real costs will be subject to procurement rules (institutional, national, EU level)
- > Expenses based on invoicing between Partners are ineligible

#### **Audit trail**

Backed by a complete audit trail (evidence of procurement, contract, invoice, proofs of payment...)

### **External Expertise & Services**

#### **Overview**







#### **Principle**

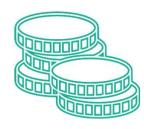
- Professional services and expertise provided by external service providers (other than the Project Partners) contracted to carry out certain activities linked to the delivery of the project
- Must be **necessary** for the project and should be linked to activities foreseen in the Application Form

#### **Examples**

- Studies or surveys (e.g. evaluations, strategies, concept notes, design plans, handbooks), training, translations, promotion, communication, publicity or information items, financial management, legal consultancy, IT systems and website (development, modifications and updates)...
- Includes Financial Schemes implemented by Project Partners to the benefit of third parties

### **External Expertise & Services**

#### **Financial Schemes**



#### **Principle**

- **Distribution of financial contribution** as a reward following a **competition** (such as prizes, vouchers, or grants) to the benefit of third parties (individuals or organisations) that are not Project Partners
- Must respect the principles of transparency and equal treatment, should promote the achievement of policy objectives of the EU and contribute to the project's objectives and results
- Projects need to monitor and control that winner beneficiaries are using the individual award according to the selected concepts

#### **Specificities**

- The awards must not exceed EUR 60 000 in total per third party
- A financial scheme planned must be **properly described in the Application Form** (dedicated Work Package, activity or deliverable) with the details of the scheme: purpose of the scheme, rules of the contest, award criteria, value of the individual award, total amount of the award, payment arrangements, target groups...

### **Equipment**











#### **Principle**

Equipment purchased, rented, leased or in possession by a Project Partner to carry out project activities, excluding those covered by the office and administration cost category (furniture, IT hardware and software, machines and instruments, tools, devices, vehicles, etc.)

#### Types of equipment

#### Accessory equipment

Tool or device **used to carry out project activities**. It is necessary for the implementation of project activities and for the delivery of the project outputs.

Reporting: depreciation based (pro-rata to be calculated and applied for project duration and % of use by the project)

#### Investment equipment

Tool or device **considered as a project investment** (or part of a project investment) and produced as result of the funding given to the project, that will remain in use by the target group after the completion of the project.

Reporting: full costs

Ownership & durability principles

#### Infrastructure & Construction works

#### **Principle**

- Investments in infrastructure that do not fall into the scope of other cost categories
- Infrastructure and construction works are eligible only if crucial for the achievement of the project's outputs and results
- Full purchase price eligible (no depreciation)
- Ownership & durability principles

#### **Examples**

- Purchase / provision of land (10% maximum of the total project budget)
- Purchase / provision of real estate
- Site preparation
- Renovation
- **Building permits**
- **Building materials**



















### **Audit & Control**

#### **Overview**

#### 3 levels of control at EUI

#### First level control

Represent the frontline of the overall controlsystem. FLC is an independent body responsible for ensuring that all expenditure declared by the Project Partners comply with the EUI, EU, national and Partner rules and is therefore eligible, legal and rational.

#### Second level control

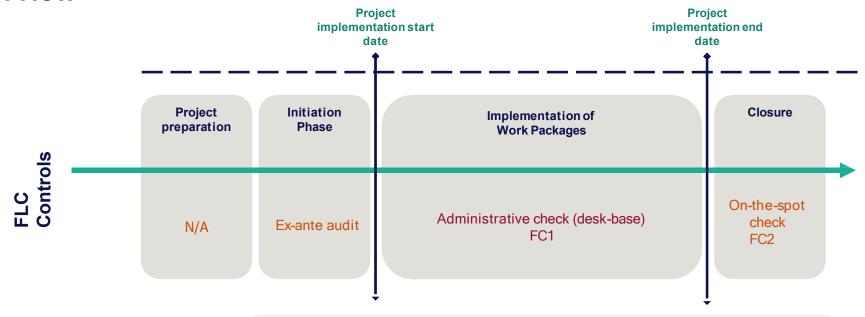
Ensures that the overall management, control procedures and documents set up at EUI level are correctly applied and ensure the prevention and correction of potential weaknesses and error

#### Other types of control

Other responsible EU bodies such as the European Commission's audit services, the European Court of Auditors, or the Entrusted Entity and European Urban Initiative Permanent Secretariat themselves may carry out audits to check the quality of the implementation of the project

#### First level control

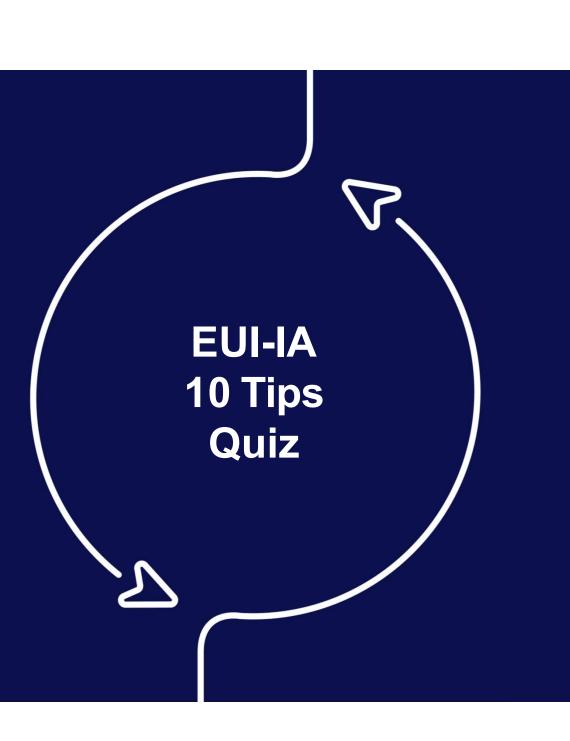
#### **Overview**



#### Centralised System

For the EUI-IA, FLC is centralised and sub-contracted to a single independent audit company

Project partners do not have to claim the costs indulged by the FLC work

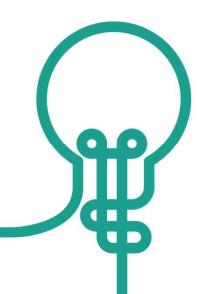


# Do I have to submit my Application Form in English?

- Yes
- However please note that "The quality of the translation will not be guaranteed by the Permanent Secretariat and therefore is at the applicants' risk." (page 41, EUI Guidance)

# What can be considered as an "Investment"?

- Salaries
- The renovation of a Municipality-owned building
- Sensors for measuring air quality
  - Depending on the context of your project and the nature of the solution(s) developed, one option or the other can be valid.



Can organisations like a municipal agency or company owned by an Urban Authority apply as a Main Urban Authority?

- > Yes
- NC

What is the lowest score on a single selection criteria which will <u>not</u> result in a knock-out?

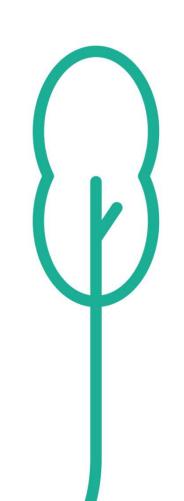


>4

≥ 5

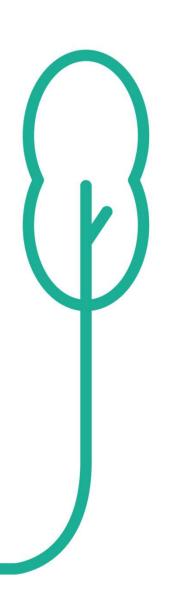
≥ 6





# What is the maximum project duration of an EUI project?

- 2 years
- ⇒ 3.5 years
- > 4 years



# What is the maximum of funding allowed to a Third Party in the form of a Financial Scheme?

- > EUR 25,000.00
- > EUR 60,000.00
- > EUR 200,000.00
- > There is no limit

# Can Delivery Partners be based in countries outside the EU?

- > Yes
- No



# Which of the following cost categories are based on a real costs basis?

- > Infrastructure and construction works
- Travel and accommodation
- Office and administration
- Equipment

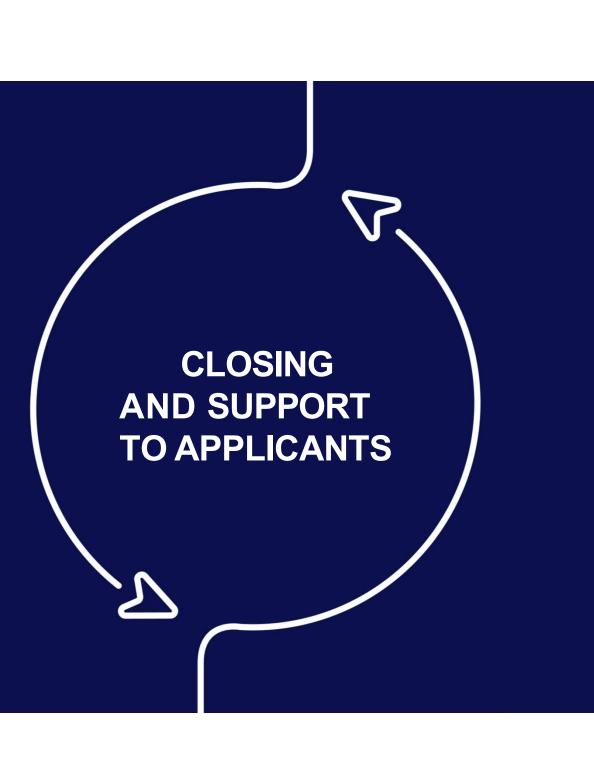
# Do I need to have signed letters of intent from my 3 Transfer Partners at the Application Stage?

- Yes
- However please note that "The process of identifying Transfer Partners should start already at the application stage, when applicants are asked to identify other European urban areas that could benefit from replicating the proposed solution in view of the favourable conditions for transfer (similar characteristic, contexts) or of increasing their innovation potential; to elaborate on how the most suitable Transfer Partners will be identified; and if already identified, specify potential Transfer Partners together with the underlying motivations/rationale." (page 62, EUI Guidance)

# Can I can score additional points on my assessment if I submit an Annex of more than 100 pages?

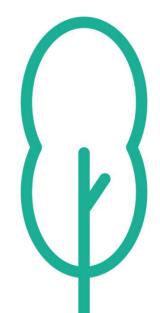
- > Yes
- ▶ Only if it is more than 50 pages
- No





# **Call Timeline and Support to Applicants**





#### **Timeline**

▷ 3<sup>rd</sup> Call for Proposals for EUI-IAs opened on 6 May 2024 and closes on 14 October 2024 at 14:00 CET

#### **Indicative timeline**:

- ▶ Indicative date for Announcement of approved projects:
  March 2025
- ► End of Initiation Phase: September 2025
- Start of Implementation: October 2025

### **EUI-IA Call 3 Support to Applicants**

Support to Applicants (all information/registration links are available on the EUI website):

#### Online Q&A Sessions

- Thursday 20 June 2024, 10.00 11.00 CEST
- Monday 8 July 2024, 10.00 11.00 CEST
- Thursday 18 July 2024, 10.00 11.00 CEST
- Thursday 29 August 2024, 10.00 11.00 CEST
- Thursday 12 September 2024, 10.00 11.00 CEST
- Thursday 26 September 2024, 10.00 11.00 CEST
- Thursday 10 October 2024, 10.00 11.00 CEST

#### Application Form Workshop (in-person)

• 10th September 2024 Brussels, Belgium

#### Online 1-1 Consultations

Dates and registration available on the <u>EUI website</u>

#### Urban Contact Points

List and contact details



Third Call for Proposals EUI - Innovative Actions | EUI (urban-initiative.eu)

### Follow us:









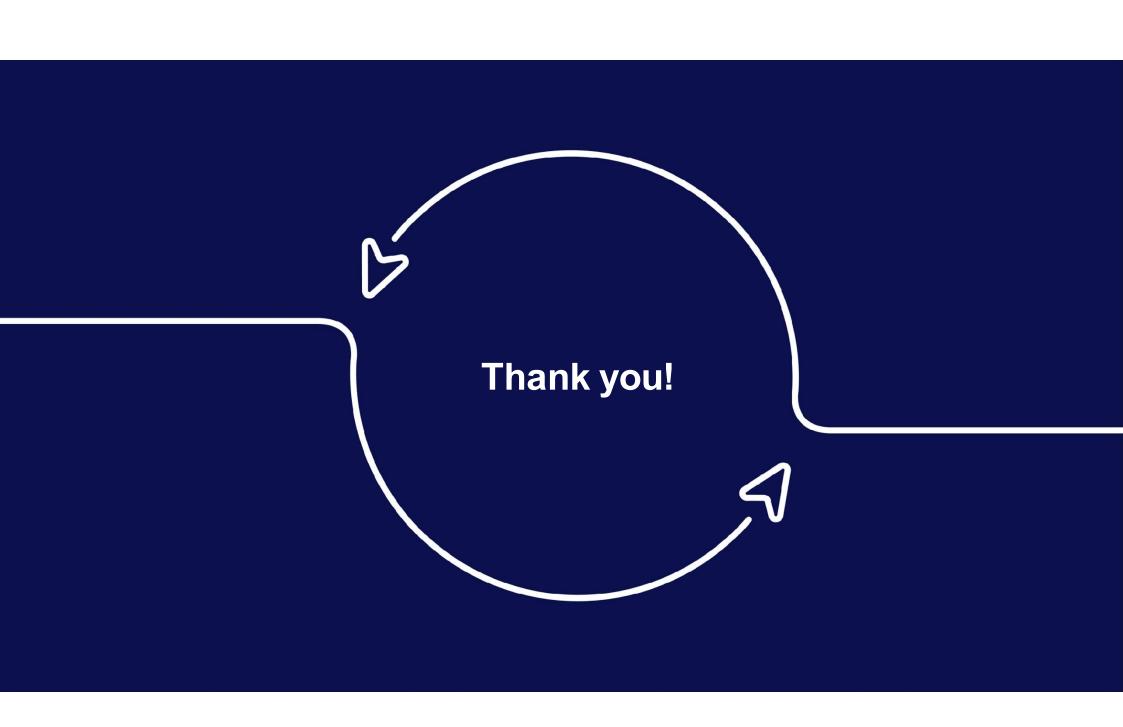


Register to our newsletter

Email innovativeactions@urban-initiative.eu

www.urban-initiative.eu







# What is a City-to-City exchange?

- ▶ Brings together a city facing a specific challenge related to sustainable urban development ('the applicant') and 1-2 cities from a different EU Member State with expertise to help tackle this challenge ('the peer') - They can visit each other.
- Simple application form and short implementation period (all activities in 5/6 months)
- Depends entirely on city needs and the challenge they wish to put forward!
- Ongoing Call cities can apply whenever most relevant for them





More information: <a href="https://www.urban-initiative.eu/capacity-building/pilot-call-c2c-exchanges">https://www.urban-initiative.eu/capacity-building/pilot-call-c2c-exchanges</a>

## What type of support do we provide?

**Funding** to support applicants and peers:

Type of cost	<b>Applicant City</b>	Peer City
Travel, accommodation & subsistence	Up to 4 people	Up to 2 people
Daily rate covering staff time	No	Up to 2 people

External stakeholders can participate if it is duly justified in the application form.

**Expertise:** we can appoint a moderator to facilitate exchange and learning process

**Peer identification**: we can facilitate contact with urban authorities around Europe -- send us an email or <u>complete this form</u>.







#### **Genoa and Prague**

**Title:** EU Cities connect: fostering culture, sustainable tourism and urban development



# Oulu and Fuenlabrada

**Title:** Co-designing local integration strategies with migrant and other stakeholders



# Schaerbeek and Copenhagen

**Title:** Healthy, sustainable and enjoyable school meals - Schaerbeek pioneer school













N. Of Visits: 3

**Challenge:** Finding a balance between local residents' needs and the growing inflow of tourists.

Matchmaking: Networking at

Eurocities event

N. Of Visits: 2

**Challenge:** Fostering migrants' integration through community

engagement strategies.

**Matchmaking:** Peer introduction request sent to the EUI CB team

N. Of Visits: 1

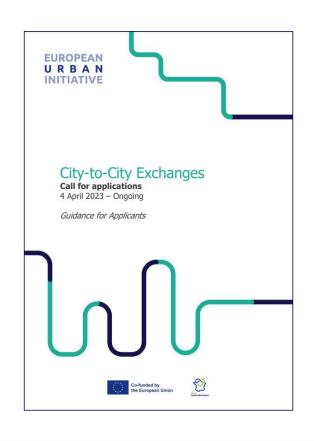
Challenge: Replicating

Copenhagen's experience within the SchoolFood4Change project.

Matchmaking: Participation in the

project - ICLEI

## **C2C** Guidance and EUI support



- > You can find the Guidance for Applicants at this <u>link</u>.
- Schedule a bilateral meeting with the capacity building team - <u>link</u>
- If you don't find your peer, send your request for support via this <u>online form</u>
- Contact <u>eleonora@urban-initiative.eu</u>or <u>capacitybuilding@urban-initiative.eu</u>

Contact your national <u>Urban Contact Point</u>

