



URBACT II

The Urban Development Network Programme 2007-2013

Alexander FERSTL

Directorate-General Regional Policy
Unit REGIO D.2: Urban Actions

Brussels, 12 September 2007



Framework

- Co-financed under the European Regional Development Fund 2007-2013
- One of the four trans-national Objective 3 (European Territorial Cooperation) programmes
- Defined as an “exchange and learning programme for cities contributing to the ‘*Regions For Economic Change*’ initiative”
- Involvement of more and new partners



From URBACT

- Part of the URBAN II Community Initiative
- Special focus on URBAN II related issues:
Social cohesion and urban regeneration
- Strictly limited to URBAN and UPP cities
- EU 15 (- LUX)
- 18 Mio. €ERDF

to URBACT II

- Part of the Structural Funds Objective (3) „Territorial Cooperation“
- Broader focus on Cohesion policy themes:
Urban related cohesion themes + Lisbon/Gothenburg strategy actions
- No further participation limits for cities
- EU 27 + NO and CH
- 53 Mio. €ERDF



Programme objective

To improve the effectiveness of sustainable integrated urban development policies in Europe with a view to implementing the Lisbon-Gothenburg Strategy

- Exchange of experience and impact on urban development policies
- Dissemination of best practice and knowledge transfer
- Guidance for the creation and implementation of action plans on sustainable development (Structural Funds OPs)



URBACT II and *Regions for Economic Change*

URBACT II will be one of the two implementation programmes for the *Regions for Economic Change* initiative – for testing best practice for economic modernisation and increased competitiveness

- Defined key themes for economic modernization
- Bridge between the network programmes and the mainstream programmes to ensure that the outcome of the networks activities will result in actions plans
- Enhanced communication effort

Possible use of the „fast track option“



Programme structure and themes

<p>Priority Axis 1 Cities, Engines of Growth and Jobs</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Promoting Entrepreneurship2. Improving Innovation and Knowledge Economy3. Employment and Human Capital <p>Budget share: 44% (29,05 Mio. total)</p>	<p>Priority Axis 2 Attractive and Cohesive Cities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Integrated Development of Deprived Areas and Areas at Risk2. Social Integration3. Environmental Issues4. Governance and Urban Planning <p>Budget share: 50% (33,30 Mio. total)</p>
<p>Priority Axis 3: Technical Assistance Budget share: 6% (5,86 Mio. total)</p>	



Programme structure

Priority Axis 1
Cities, Engines of Growth and Jobs

1. **Promoting Entrepreneurship**
2. Improving Innovation and Knowledge Economy
3. Employment and Human Capital

Budget share: 44% (29,05 Mio. total)

Priorities (non-exhaustive list)

- Access to finance and non-financial support to SMEs
- Use of PPP (public-private partnerships) and strategic partnering arrangements
- Development of the social economy in deprived areas
- Measures to regularise the informal economy
- Partnerships with universities as Triple Helix Catalysts
- Development of clusters of economic activity around new urban opportunities such as culture, care, the environment



Programme structure

Priority Axis 1
Cities, Engines of Growth and Jobs

1. Promoting Entrepreneurship
2. **Improving Innovation and Knowledge Economy**
3. Employment and Human Capital

Budget share: 44% (29,05 Mio. total)

Priorities (non-exhaustive list)

- Strategic policies at city level with regard to ICT.
- Access to ICT for all citizens and for disadvantaged groups suffering from the effects of the digital divide
- ICT and employment policies (retraining workers in cities, setting up programmes for ongoing training)
- Centres of Excellence linked to the knowledge economy
- Partnerships (between cities, between cities and private concerns, cities and universities) in order to promote innovation and an entrepreneurial spirit.



Programme structure

Priority Axis 1 Cities, Engines of Growth and Jobs

1. Promoting Entrepreneurship
2. Improving Innovation and Knowledge Economy
3. **Employment and Human Capital**

Budget share: 44% (29,05 Mio. total)

Priorities (non-exhaustive list)

- Strategic approach to activation based on people's needs
- Integrated pathways into the labour market
- Transition from informal to formal economy
- A Second chance to those missed by the formal education system
- Partnerships with local schools, training establishments and employers
- ICT and access to educational resources
- Partnerships and the social economy
- Targeted support to areas and groups at risk of exclusion to adapt to change and gain access to job in the growing parts of the urban economy



Programme structure

Priorities (non-exhaustive list)

- Development of long term, consistent plans for all the different factors promoting sustainable growth and jobs in urban areas.
- Urban renewal
- Mobilising the key partners – the private sector, the community and NGOs, as well as local, regional and national government –
- Supporting micro and small enterprises; small-scale loans and micro-credits.
- Rehabilitating derelict brownfield sites and renovating public spaces.
- Economic Opportunity Zones

Priority Axis 2 Attractive and Cohesive Cities

1. **Integrated Development of Deprived Areas and Areas at Risk**
2. Social Integration
3. Environmental Issues
4. Governance and Urban Planning

Budget share: 50% (33,30 Mio. total)



Programme structure

Priorities (non-exhaustive list)

- Migrants and ethnic minorities
- Young people and children
- Gender equality
- Improvement of social services (health services...)
- Increased security for citizens
- Social exclusion and spatial exclusion
- Demographic issues
- Cultural Sector

Priority Axis 2

Attractive and Cohesive Cities

1. Integrated Development of Deprived Areas and Areas at Risk
2. **Social Integration**
3. Environmental Issues
4. Governance and Urban Planning

Budget share: 50% (33,30 Mio. total)



Programme structure

Priorities (non-exhaustive list)

- Transport, accessibility and mobility
- Access to services and amenities
- The natural and physical environment (waste management, air quality, water quality and supply, renewable energies, moving to a recycling society, monitoring of the environment)
- Cultural heritage
- Climate change

Priority Axis 2

Attractive and Cohesive Cities

1. Integrated Development of Deprived Areas and Areas at Risk
2. Social Integration
3. **Environmental Issues**
4. Governance and Urban Planning

Budget share: 50% (33,30 Mio. total)



Programme structure

Priorities (non-exhaustive list)

- Tackling the issue of territorial governance
- Co-ordinating land use policies and Structural and Cohesion Fund investments between urban areas, rural areas, the region and the national level to manage urban sprawl.
- Initiatives to make urban areas and city centres attractive places to live
- Enlarging networking of cities to networks of clusters to reach a critical size and elaborate common strategies
- Exploring the use of partnerships and other decentralized methods of governance for providing more responsive and effective solutions to urban problems.

Special focus on certain target groups

Priority Axis 2

Attractive and Cohesive Cities

1. Integrated Development of Deprived Areas and Areas at Risk
2. Social Integration
3. Environmental Issues
4. **Governance and Urban Planning**

Budget share: 50% (33,30 Mio. total)

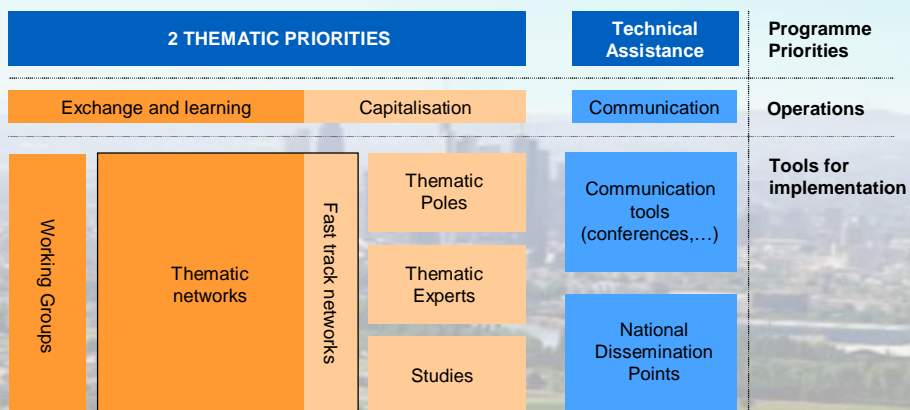


Themes for *Regions for Economic Change*

1. Making healthy communities
2. Integrated policies on urban transport
3. Developing sustainable and energy-efficient housing stock
4. Integrating marginalised youth
5. Managing migration and facilitating social integration
6. Achieving sustainable urban development
7. Re-using brownfield and waste disposal sites



Priorities/Operations/Tools

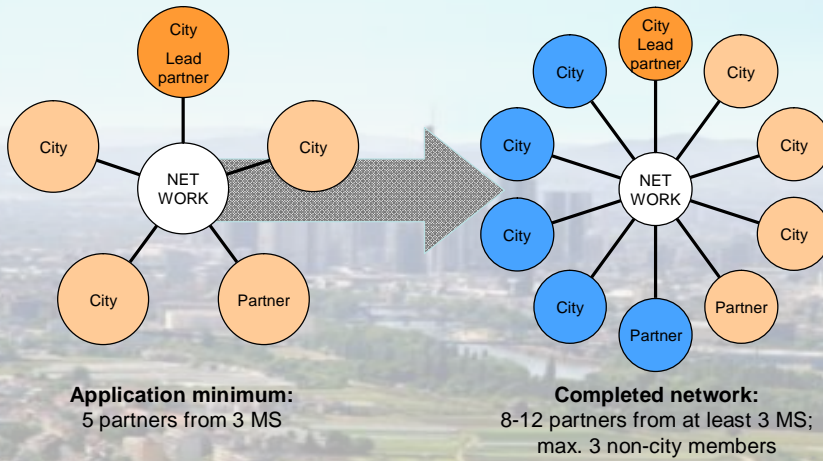


Thematic networks

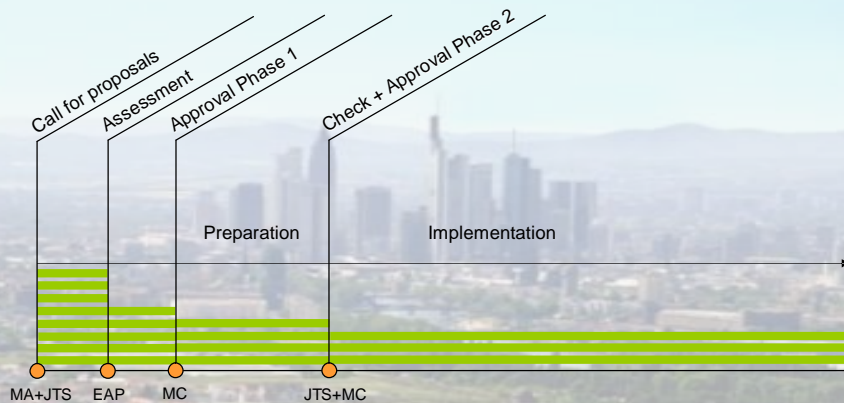
- Main instrument for the exchange between cities
- Established around the themes listed in the OP
- Two calls for proposals: 2007 and 2010
- In total 46 networks planned
- Fast track networks are thematic networks (active participation of the Commission services + implementation of Local Action Plans within OPs)
- Local Support Groups in all networks (involvement of elected local representatives)
- Thematic Experts (to guide and follow the process)



Composition of thematic networks



Approval procedure and selection process (simplified)



JTS: Joint Technical Secretariat – MA: Managing Authority – EAP: External Assessment Panel – MC: Monitoring Committee



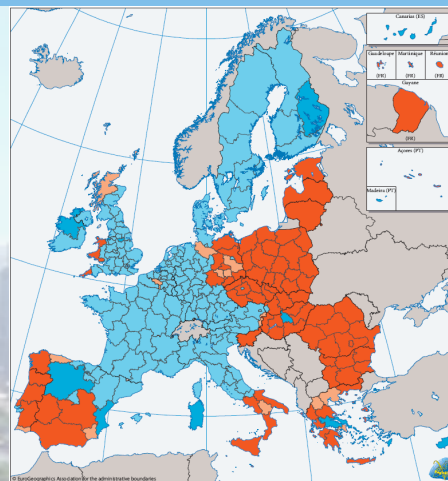
Beneficiaries

- Cities, municipalities, organised agglomerations
 - + Regional and national authorities
 - + Universities and research centers
 - + Private partners and associations (limited)
- No size limit for cities
- EU-27 plus Norway and Switzerland



Co-financing

- Priorities 1+2
 - 70% ERDF for cities in Competitiveness and Employment regions
 - 80% ERDF for cities in Convergence regions
- Priority 3
 - Co-financing ERDF - national ex-ante contributions



Structural Funds 2007- 2013:
Convergence and Regional Competitiveness Objectives

Convergence Regions
Phasing-out Regions
Phasing-in Regions
Competitiveness and Employment Regions

Revision of October 2006.
Regional boundaries in Bulgaria and Romania are indicative only.



Budget

	TOTAL	EU-27 (eligible)				Non eligible
		Total eligible	ERDF	national		NO+CH
				central	local	
Priority 1	29 292 237	28 882 993	23 462 849	1 238 299	4 181 845	130 416
Priority 2	33 687 762	33 111 278	26 657 170	1 311 128	5 142 980	186 118
Priority 3	5 910 740	5 823 604	3 199 151	2 624 453	0	33 466
Total	68 890 739	67 817 875	53 319 170	5 173 880	9 324 825	1 072 864

Amounts in €. Source: OP URBACT III, final draft.



Next Steps

- Commission decision to be adopted, by end Sept. 07
- Constitutive meeting of the URBACT II Monitoring Committee, on 4 October 2007
 - Approval of the Technical Document
 - Approval of the first round of calls for proposals
- Launch of the first calls for proposal, in October 2007
- Launch Conference in Berlin, on 5/6 November 2007
- Start of the first networks end 2007/beginning 2008



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
REGIONAL POLICY

URBACT II

The Urban Development Network Programme
2007-2013

www.urbact.eu

alexander.ferstl@ec.europa.eu

Directorate-General Regional Policy
Unit REGIO D.2: Urban Actions
Brussels, 12 September 2007