



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
REGIONAL POLICY

Promoting sustainable urban development in Europe

The urban dimension 2007-2013: State of play and perspectives

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Promoting sustainable urban development in Europe:

1. The urban dimension of EU Regional policy 2007-2013
2. Ex-post evaluation of URBAN II
3. URBACT II and Regions for Economic Change
4. The urban dimension in the future cohesion policy
5. Cities of tomorrow
6. The urban dimension in Community policies
7. Intergovernmental cooperation on urban development
8. Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities (RFSC)



1. The urban dimension of EU Regional policy 2007-2013 (1)

- **Operational Programmes 2007-2013**

- Mainstreaming of the URBAN Community Initiative (Art. 8 of Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006)
 - Spreading the methodological concept to cities and regions across Europe
 - All cities eligible in all three cohesion policy objectives
- **But: No automatism for urban actions within OPs or for access to funding**
- Need for cooperation between cities and their (regional/national) Managing Authorities
- Challenge of including local actors into the design and implementation of programmes



1. The urban dimension of EU Regional policy 2007-2013 (2)

- **Implementation**

- DG REGIO working document “Fostering the urban dimension: Analysis of Operational Programmes co-financed by ERDF 2007-2013” (2008)

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/2007/working/urban_dimension_en.pdf

- National analyses in France and Germany

- DG REGIO studies (2010):

- “The urban dimension of the ERDF in the 2007-2013 period: Implementation and practice in five European cities”
(Bottom-up approach: How do cities use ERDF?)
- “Sustainable urban development – implementation praxis of Art 8”
(Top-down approach: What is the national/regional notion of sustainable urban development?)



1. The urban dimension of EU Regional policy 2007-2013 (3)

Main findings (working document):

1. Strengths

- Urban development as an important topic in many OPs
- More funding available (€10bn for urban priority axes)
- Financial engineering (JESSICA)

2. Weaknesses

- Strong sectoral focus, without integrated approach (asymmetry between EU-15 and EU-12)
- Only few signs of direct local involvement
- Positive experience from URBAN widely unused



2. Ex-post evaluation of URBAN II

- Tangible outputs on
 - physical regeneration
 - local economy
 - social inclusion
 - strongly integrated at project and programme level
- Successful projects were built on local ownership, unsuccessful were those imposed from above
- Crucial role of larger players for the sustainability of the projects
- Capacity building through URBACT I
 - http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/evaluation/expost2006/urban_ii_en.htm



3. URBACT II and Regions for Economic Change

- URBACT is currently involving 255 cities from 29 countries in 44 projects, with over 5,000 active participants in Local Support Groups
- Linked with Regions for Economic Change (RFEC) initiative
 - To boost regional and urban networks and enable a rapid transfer into mainstream programmes
 - Close cooperation between Commission and Fast Track Networks (with associated Managing Authorities):
 - Pilots: MILE, URBAMECO
 - 1st call: HerO, UNIC, OPENCities, RegGov, Building Healthy Communities
 - 2nd call: RomaNet
- 3rd URBACT call: end 2011



4. Perspectives for the urban dimension in the future cohesion policy (1)

Main elements:

- An improved urban mainstreaming
 - Thematic alignment with Europe 2020 objectives
 - A stronger role for cities in implementing cohesion policy (in programming and decision-making)
 - A more functional approach to programming





4. Perspectives for the urban dimension in the future cohesion policy (2)

Main elements:

- Targeted actions for areas suffering from multiple deprivation – disadvantaged neighbourhoods (bottom up, financial concentration, local development)
 - Integrated approach (legacy of URBAN & Art.8)
- Supporting the implementation through European networking (better use of URBACT)
- Complementing grant support with financial engineering instruments, especially JESSICA



5. Cities of tomorrow (1)

- DG REGIO cities prospective analysis (2010/2011)
 - Involving experts and stakeholders
 - Highlighting good practice
- Objectives
 - Analysing and understanding the future challenges that different types of European cities will face
 - Identifying innovative approaches to tackle these challenges
 - Which role could or should cohesion policy play in this respect?



5. Cities of tomorrow (2)

➤ State of play:

- 1st workshop „Challenges“ in June 2010
- 2nd workshop „Models and Visions“ in October 2010
- 3rd workshop „Governance - How to make it happen“ in December 2010

➤ Summary report by summer 2011

Workshop documents available on:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/citiesoftomorrow/index_en.cfm



6. The urban dimension in Community policies

Commission Inter-service Group on urban development

“Urban guide”

- Part 1: The urban dimension in the cohesion policy for 2007-2013
- Part 2 : The urban dimension in the other Community policies for 2007-2013
- Identifying initiatives under various EU policies with direct and indirect implications for the sustainable development of urban areas
- For those working on urban issues in local and regional authorities, elected representatives, and all other stakeholders with an interest in urban development
- To improve awareness and understanding of European policies and programmes related to urban matters

➤ http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/guides/urban/index_en.htm



7. Intergovernmental cooperation on urban development

Decisions of EU Ministers for urban development

- **Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities (2007)**
 - Promote the integrated approach
 - Pay special attention to deprived neighbourhoods
- **Marseille Statement (2008)**
 - Focus on climate change
 - Initiative “Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities (RFSC)”
- **Toledo Declaration (2010)**
 - Alignment with Europe 2020 strategy
 - Focus on integrated urban regeneration
- **Poznań (November 2011)**



8. Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities

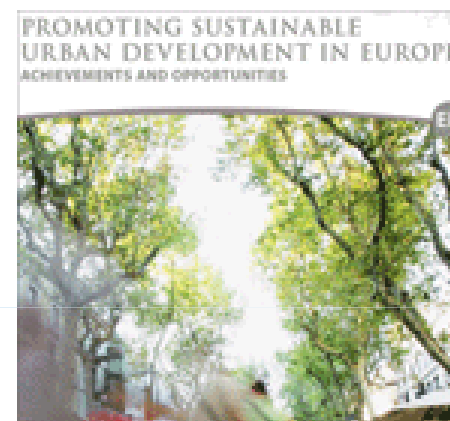


- Implementing the Leipzig Charter at local level (Marseille):
 - **A practical web-tool for cities**
 - Facilitating dialogue about sustainable urban development and integrated thinking and action
 - A joint European initiative involving Member States, cities (CEMR, Eurocities, URBACT project LC-FACIL) and the Commission
 - Testing phase with 66 European cities in 2011
 - Final version available from 2012
- www.rfsustainablecities.eu



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**Thank you very much
for your attention!**



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http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/themes/urban/publications_en.htm