



EDITORIAL

With a few weeks remaining for the elections for the European Parliament, the Council of European Municipalities and Regions has launched its local and regional governments' manifesto. This text came at the appropriate time to remind European institutions that the decisions they are taking need to be backed up by local and regional authorities. This is why CEMR came up with a manifesto that constitutes a significant source of ideas for bringing EU policies closer to local and regional realities. The content of this document does not expire with the European elections, it's meant to be a good heading out to EU politicians and policy makers for them to read and reflect upon. Youth unemployment, better management of the structural funds, simpler regulation, respect for the subsidiarity and proportionality principles, deeper integration and democratic legitimacy for the EU are some of the main messages of a Manifesto that can be a useful tool in the new programming period for monitoring the EU policies in accordance to the local/regional needs and realities. Because, despite the different administrative contexts of the European states, there are more grounds of common interest than points of disagreements between regions and cities across Europe. And the elections for the European Parliament give everyone the opportunity to reflect on the local and regional dimensions of the everyday issues and on the proper representatives to highlight them.

The Committee of the Region's Charter for Multilevel Governance in Europe



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European and International Funding Programmes

Call for Proposals–Deadlines

1. Horizon 2020: Smart Cities and Communities

The EU policy and regulatory framework in the sectors of energy, transport and ICT supports the development of sectoral solutions, i.e. solutions with a limited degree of integration. However, for successful and accelerated implementation in real environments such as urban ones – that also have to take into account local specificities the test of integrated measures will pave the way for faster market roll-out of technologies. The key challenges for Smart Cities and Communities are to significantly increase the overall energy efficiency of cities, to exploit better the local resource both in terms of energy supply as well as through the demand side measures. This will imply the use of energy efficiency measures optimising at the level of districts, the use of renewables, the sustainability of urban transport and the needed drastic reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in urban areas – within economically acceptable conditions – while ensuring for citizens better life conditions: lower energy bills, swifter transport, job creation and as a consequence a higher degree of resilience to climate impacts (e.g. urban heat islands effects) etc.



Smart Cities
and Communities



The scope of this call is to identify, develop and deploy replicable, balanced and integrated solutions in the energy, transport, and ICT actions through partnerships between municipalities and industries. These solutions at the intersection of the three sectors will have a holistic approach and are still facing first mover risk. These will be the lighthouse projects as identified by the Communication on Smart Cities and Communities. Lighthouse projects will target primarily large scale demonstration of replicable SCC concepts in city context where existing technologies or very near to market technologies (TRL 7 and more, see part G of the General Annexes) will be integrated in an innovative way.

The proposals should address the following main areas:

- (Nearly zero) or low energy districts: through the integration and management of: i) the supply of energy with predominant exploitation of local resources (e.g. waste heat, renewables, storage) and the active participation of consumers (e.g. use of aggregators); ii) the cost-effective refurbishment of existing buildings without significant disruption for tenants (use of sustainable materials) with a special focus on residential buildings iii) the cross-cutting ICT solutions for the design and overall management of energy/ transport systems.
- Integrated Infrastructures: through the integration of physical infrastructures such as core networks, street scenes, lighting, industrial sites etc to create new forms of value through re-use and repurposing. This should lead to quantifiable benefits such as reduction of capital /operational expenditure as well as reduced carbon / energy footprints.



- Sustainable urban mobility: through the integration of energy/ fuelling infrastructure with vehicle fleets powered by alternative energy carriers for public and private transport, including logistics and freight-distribution. Implications on energy management, and in the case of electromobility, the impact on the electricity grid, of the deployment of high numbers of vehicles and/or the alternative fuel blends performance must be assessed.

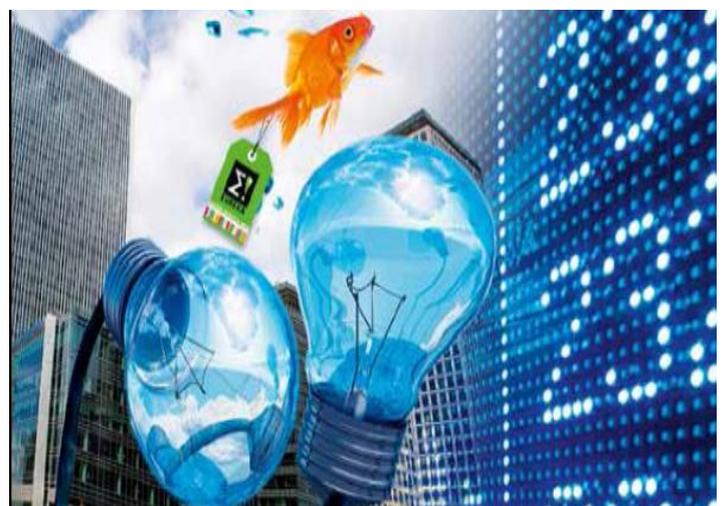
The proposed proposals should address in addition to the main areas presented above a strategy that addresses appropriate enabler actions to support the commercial exploitation of the proposal. This includes (indicative list): commitment of authorities (even if changes of politicians/ majority, in the course of the project); citizens' engagement and empowerment; optimising policy and regulatory frameworks; open, consistent data and performance measurements; dissemination and unlocking the market potentials worldwide.

According to the Communication on Smart Cities and Communities the light house projects should look for creating partnerships between industries, academics and cities, empower citizens and ensure the replicability of the solutions, ensure the funding from various sources.

Therefore each project should:

- Be realised in 2 - 3 cities or communities (light house cities or communities);
- include industry, city planning authorities which should also reflect the view of the consumer organisations, research community, local Small and Medium Size Companies (SMEs);

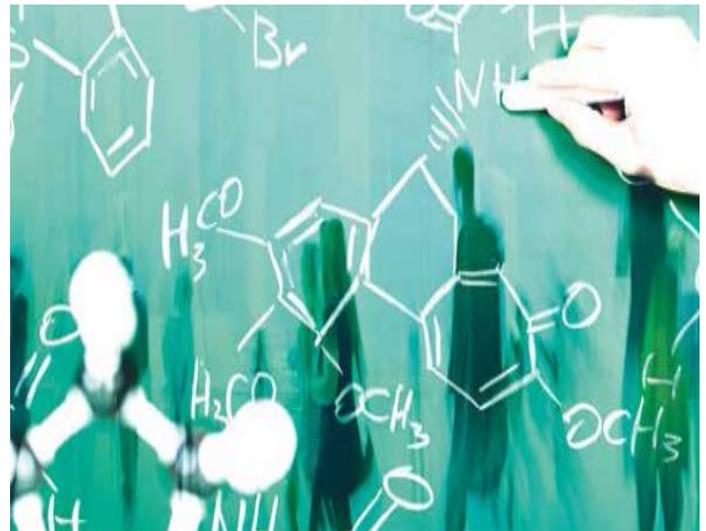
- In addition each project should co-involve 2 - 3 follower cities i.e. cities willing to contribute to the process though the replication of solutions at the end of the project and having access to the knowhow and results of the project and a privileged contact with the project's partners. The involvement of the follower cities should be relevant (e.g. participating in definition of user requirements and methodology of transferability of solutions, data collection etc.). The follower cities should aim at improving their energy performance or the share of use of renewables (e.g. 60% reduction of primary energy for buildings, 20 - 30 % RES use for electricity as well as for heating and cooling). EU geographical coverage conditions should be also applied.
- Ensure that all proposed activities are a part of ambitious urban plan. These activities should also lead to the development of integrated urban plans. For the lighthouse cities or communities these plans should be finalised (e.g. those compiled for the Covenant of Mayors, Sustainable Energy Action Plans, plans committed under the Green Digital Charter etc., but without limiting to this list of initiatives). The urban plan shall integrate buildings planning, energy networks, ICT, transport/mobility planning; additional issues may be addressed as well if relevant for the city. These plans shall be submitted with the proposal as a supporting document(s).



- In order to ensure the success of the lighthouse projects, the funding for the other parts of the programme or initiative in which the lighthouse projects are embedded should be secured from other sources, preferably private ones, but also other EU funding sources (European Structural and Investment (ESI) funds for example), national or regional funding.
- Projects should demonstrate and validate attractive business plans that allow large scale replication of fast economic recovery in cities of varying degrees of economic conditions (from very poor to very rich), varying sizes but significant urban areas and varying climatic conditions to ensure high impact and replication potential.
- The industrial partners and municipality authorities should engage in replicating successful demonstration in their own and other cities, notably 'follower cities'; the replication plans are compulsory and are part of the evaluation.

Consortia must have a clearly defined structure with roles and responsibilities properly spelled out for all involved entities. Besides economic sustainability, proposals must also commit to scientific and technical requirements in support to reliability:

- Open and consistent data and interoperability of solutions in order to avoid locked-in customers.



- The performance monitoring should last for a period of at least 2 years. Longer term commitment (e.g. 5 years) will give an added value to the proposal. Consortia should develop an integrated protocol for monitoring energy, infrastructure, mobility and governance practices in the lighthouse projects, enabling documentation of improved performance over short and long term periods. The monitoring protocol should be robust and viable also after the end of the project, supporting and increasing municipal capacity over time. Participants may be asked to introduce performance data into existing data bases (CONCERTO technical monitoring data base).

The grant will be composed of a combination of the reimbursement of eligible costs, and flat rate financing determined on the basis of unit costs only for the building-related demonstration activities. The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 18 to 25 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Deadline: 7 May

Additional Information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/calls/h2020-scc-2014.html#tab1>

2. Erasmus+, 2014–2020

The Erasmus+ programme aims to boost skills and employability, as well as modernising Education, Training, and Youth work. The seven year programme will have a budget of €14.7 billion; a 40% increase compared to current spending levels, reflecting the EU's commitment to investing in these areas. Erasmus+ will provide opportunities for over 4 million Europeans to study, train, gain work experience and volunteer abroad. Erasmus+ will support transnational partnerships among Education, Training, and Youth institutions and organisations to foster cooperation and bridge the worlds of Education and work in order to tackle the skills gaps we are facing in Europe. It will also support national efforts to modernise Education, Training, and Youth systems. In the field of Sport, there will be support for grassroots projects and cross-border challenges such as combating match-fixing, doping, violence and racism.



The Erasmus+ Programme shall contribute to the achievement of:

- ❖ the objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy, including the headline education target;
- ❖ the objectives of the strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training (ET 2020), including the corresponding benchmarks;
- ❖ the sustainable development of Partner Countries in the field of higher education;
- ❖ the overall objectives of the renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010–2018);

- ❖ the objective of developing the European dimension in sport, in particular grassroots sport, in line with the EU work plan for sport;
- ❖ the promotion of European values in accordance with Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union.

The current call for proposals covers the following actions of the Erasmus+ programme of highly relevance and interest for local/regional authorities:

- KA3: Support for policy reform – Prospective initiatives – European policy experimentations in the fields of education, training and youth.

Deadline for pre-proposals: 20 May

Additional Information:

https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/funding/prospective-initiatives-eacea-102014_en

3. World Mayor 2014

The City Mayors Foundation invites the international public to nominate candidates for the 2014 World Mayor Prize. The Prize is awarded every two years to a mayor who has made outstanding contributions to his / her community and has developed a vision for urban living and working that is relevant to towns and cities across the world. Previous winners and runners-up include the mayors of Bilbao, Perth, Mexico City, Oklahoma City, Cape Town, Zurich, Melbourne, Amsterdam, Athens, Mississauga and Tirana.



While it is up to the constituents of a mayor to judge his / her achievements, the City Mayors Foundation is seeking candidates who have served for a number of years. Anyone wishing to nominate a mayor is also asked to consider whether his / her candidate is likely to agree to the City Mayors Code of Ethics. Mayors wishing to be considered for the World Mayor Prize will be asked to sign up to the Code. Nominations must be accompanied by a thoughtful supporting statement.

When contemplating the shortlist for the 2014 World Mayor Prize, the City Mayors Foundation will take into account the number of nominations a candidate has received from separate individuals and organisations and, more importantly, the persuasiveness of supporting statements.

Deadline: Mid May

Additional Information:

http://www.worldmayor.com/contest_2014/world-mayor-2014-nominations.html

4. Model Demonstrator Regions for developing modern Cluster Strategies

The 'SMEs: Clusters and Emerging Industries' Unit at the European Commission's Enterprise and Industry Directorate-General is inviting regional organisations to take advantage, free of charge, of advisory support services offered by the European Cluster Observatory in view of better capitalising on the cluster concept for the renewal of their industries and the promotion of entrepreneurship and SME growth. The aim is to assist regions in designing modern cluster policies to take maximum advantage of the transformative power of innovation towards shaping industrial value chains, sectors and emerging industries.



The second generation of the European Cluster Observatory, which was launched in January by the European Commission through a service contract, brings together a pool of experts to support the model demonstrator regions. They will receive assessment reports based on analysis and stakeholder interviews, surveys and benchmarking results, have a two-day peer review meeting organised for them in their region and be provided with final policy briefings.

Regions are requested to submit a short application with a concept note (maximum 5 pages) that should outline and describe the following four aspects:

- the specific challenge or opportunity that the region would like to address through implementing a modern cluster policy to demonstrate the better use of the transformative power of cross-cutting key enabling technologies and new service offerings, creativity, and eco-innovative, resource efficient solutions, including the extent of the need for action;
- the vision and concept that the region has in mind for implementing this, including the concrete changes envisaged for which it would like to receive strategic advice;
- the expected added value of the support services by the European Cluster Observatory, including the need for advice, input, ideas, missing links and research questions to be answered to implement the overall strategy; and



- the regional commitment and ambition to implement the demonstrator approach and cluster policy recommendations of the European Cluster Observatory for the transformation of the economy and existing industrial structures, including current and future financial commitment, policies programmes and cooperation partners foreseen.

The applicant must be a regional organisation that is either responsible for or involved in the funding and/or implementation of a policy or programme of a region through which a modern cluster policy could be supported. This refers to regional public authorities themselves as well as to cluster organisation, SME intermediaries and other organisations mandated by national and/or regional public authorities to implement innovation support programmes, such as innovation or regional development agencies.

Each applicant's concept note will be assessed in terms of clarity and quality of the description (1/3), relevance (1/3) and the expected impact (1/3). Please note that only the concept note will be evaluated. No application form template is provided, but applicants must address the four aspects outlined above in their 5-page concept note. No other annexes should be sent except the above mentioned supporting documents for eligibility checks, if needed.

Deadline: 12 May

Additional Information:

<https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/model-demonstrator-regions>

5. The Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation 2014

The concept of the Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation (abbreviated as *Guangzhou Award*) is derived from the city's long-term cooperation with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) from its foundation in 2004 and with the World Association of Major Metropolises (Metropolis) since 1993. Co-hosted by UCLG, Metropolis, and Guangzhou Municipal Government, the Guangzhou Award aims to reward innovations to improve the socio-economic environments in cities and regions, promote sustainability, and hence advance the livelihood of their citizens. Presented biennially, the award will encourage and recognize outstanding innovative projects and practices in the public sector.



The award is open to all cities and local governments, including members of Metropolis and UCLG as well as other cities. Applicants can submit innovative achievements in such thematic fields as Public Services, Organization and Administration, Partnership and Citizen Involvement, Smart City, Sustainable City, and others. The Guangzhou Award will be granted to up to 5 winners. Each of the winners will be awarded with USD 20,000, apart from a trophy and a certificate. Winners will also be invited to attend side events including seminars and exhibitions on urban innovation.

Deadline: 31 May

Additional Information:

<http://www.guangzhouaward.org/en/index.html>

Business & Development Planning



Developing effective Partnerships for Projects

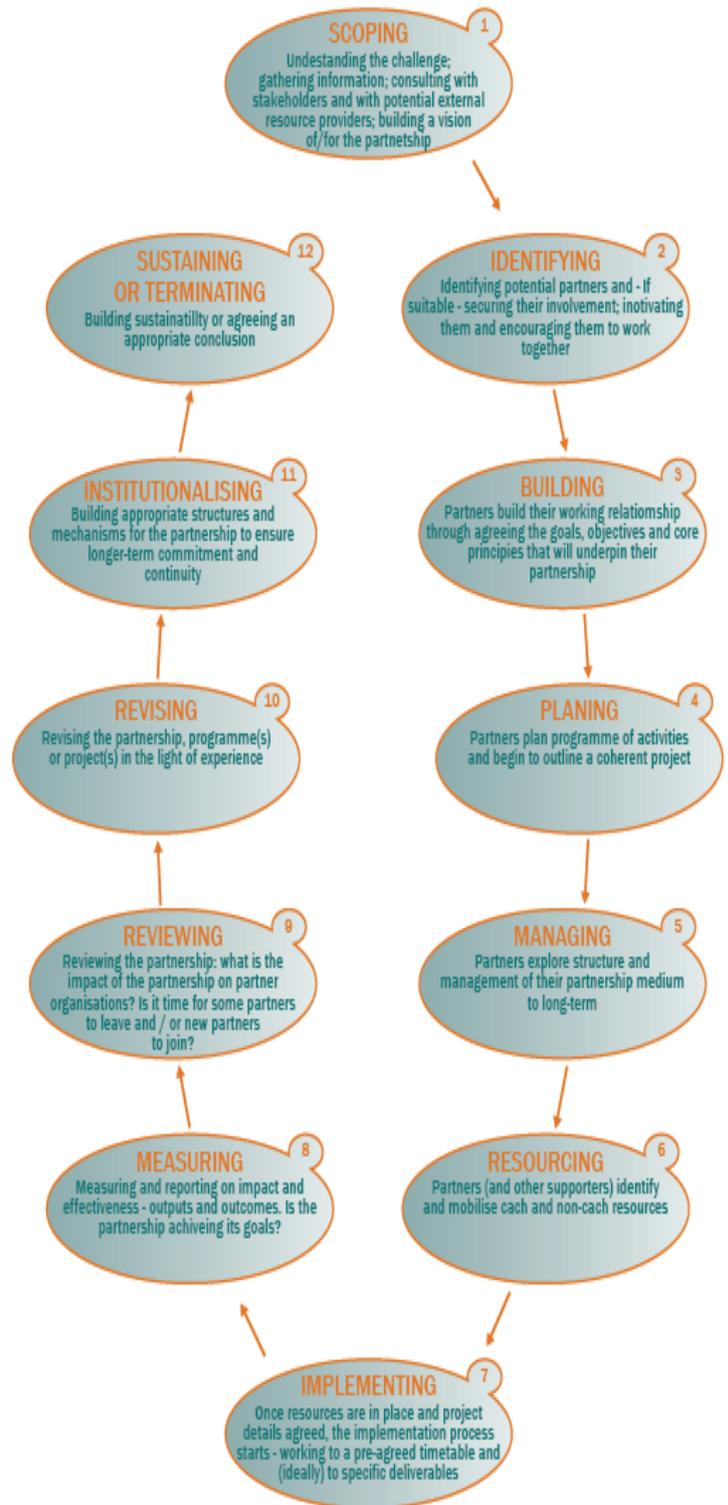
The majority of EU funding opportunities announced through Calls for Proposals requires that the organisation applying for the grant does so in partnership with at least one other organisation. In cases where the partnership is not an obligatory selection criteria, it is often a status that carries additional 'scores' in the application evaluation process.

As with all aspects of project work and project preparation, good planning is the key to identifying the right partner or partners for your project. In addition to the considerations discussed above regarding the formal 'eligibility criteria' of partners in any Call for Proposals, your organisation needs to have well-structured internal discussions in order to be clear about what kind of partner it wants to have as part of a grant application. In many cases, it might be that the 'right' partner is already in partnership with your organisation and that you already have a working relationship. However, as is often the case, the prospect of implementing an innovative project can demand that new partners are identified. Thus it is essential that the process of identifying partners for projects begins as early as possible. For example, it may be that during a stakeholder analysis exercise (in the project preparation stage) potential partners are identified.

The worst scenario is when an organisation attempts to find a partner after it has designed a project and just a few days before the grant appli-

cation deadline!

So, if you're looking for a partner, particularly for a partner in another country, it might be useful to consider the following Partnership "Cycle":



Additional Information:

TACSO Regional Office, *Developing and Managing EU-Funded Projects*, Sarajevo 2011

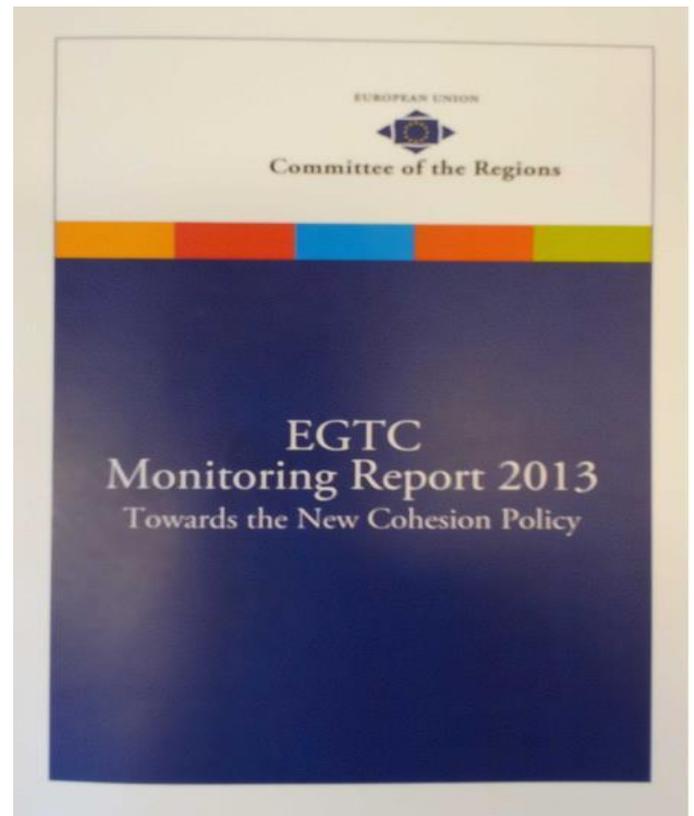
The Voice of E.G.T.C.s



New EGTCs ready for the new Cohesion Policy

The activities of 45 EGTCs and 15 more in the pipeline during 2013 are summarized and accessible to the public in the thematic portal of the Committee of the Regions. Mr Herwig Van Staa (AT/EPP), coordinator of the EGTC Platform, presented the study 'EGTC Monitoring Report 2013 - Towards the New Cohesion Policy' during the annual meeting of the Platform last February.

The study provides with an overview of the role that the EGTCs intend to play in the new Cohesion Policy during the programming period 2014–2020: 10 EGTCs announce their intention of participating in Joint Action Plans, 15 of them intend to be intermediate authorities in Integrated Territorial Investments, and 9 of them are planning to implement cross-border Community-Led Local Development actions.



4 EGTCs intend to be managing authority in the implementation of programmes. In all, 21 EGTCs have reported about their participation in the preparation of the Operational Programmes at national and regional level.

The reader may also find a summary of the new items included in the amended EGTC Regulation, and a complete overview of the EGTCs established, classified according to their field of activity.

The document contains several aspects that allow measuring the evolution of the Groupings: It gives an overview of the staff directly hired by the Groupings and also of the EU funding that is actually spent. In addition to this, the report contains a chart with an aggregate picture of the activities implemented by each of the Groupings. Detailed grids allow the professionals, the researchers and the public to know which EGTCs are currently involved in health policy, transport, employment, culture and others, including the flagship initiatives of the Strategy Europe 2020.

Additional Information:

https://portal.cor.europa.eu/egtc/en-US/Events/Documents/EGTC_MonitoringReport_2013_Paper.pdf

EU funded Projects of Greek Local Authorities

Municipality of Athens: Sustainable Food in Urban Communities (URBACT II)

The URBACT Thematic Network “Sustainable Food in Urban Communities” is a project involving 10 European cities that wish to grow, deliver and enjoy more sustainable food: they are looking for joint, effective and sustainable solutions to develop low-carbon and resource-efficient urban food systems. The 10 partners are:

- Brussels Environment of the Brussels Capital Region (Lead Partner) (Belgium),
- the Bristol City Council (United Kingdom),
- City of Messina (Italy),
- the Municipality of Amersfoort (Netherlands),
- the City of Lyon (France),
- the City of Göteborg (Sweden),
- Vaslui Municipality (Romania),
- Ourense City Council (Spain),
- City of Oslo (Norway) and
- Municipality of Athens’ development and destination management agency sa (Greece).

The network will focus on:

–*GROWING* fruit and vegetable in the city, in gardens, in parks, on rooftops, on balconies, on derelict lands, etc., safeguarding & improving fertility of lands

–*DELIVERING* food stuffs in a more sustainable and less carbon intensive way.

Sustainable Food in
Urban Communities



–*ENJOYING* more sustainable food (local products, without pesticides, seasonal and fresh products, etc.) accessible for all the population while improving diets (reducing the share of animal protein and processed foods), using products that meet environmental and sustainability criteria (certification), and preventing waste (food and its packaging).



The network will be active from May 2012 to April 2015:

- At city level: establish a Local Support Group with stakeholders to draw up a Local Action Plan for Sustainable Food in each partner city.
- At network level: exchange with network partners through workshops and conferences on sustainable food to produce joint outputs and feed local action plans.
- At URBACT programme level: exchange and learn with partners from other URBACT networks at capacity building seminars, annual conferences, summer university.
- Across Europe: exchange and share knowledge about urban sustainable food strategies with Cities and other interested parties across Europe through a newsletter, conferences, online publications.

Additional Information:

<http://www.sustainable-everyday-project.net/urbact-sustainable-food/category/athens/>

International and European Conferences

Resilience 2014 (Montpellier, 4–8 May)

The objective of Resilience 2014 is to explore and reinforce the multiple links between resilience thinking and development issues. The concepts of Adaptation, Transformation and Development are central and common to several research communities, including Resilience in social and ecological systems, Ecological



Economics, Environmental Change, Farming Systems (among others). Focusing on resilience – the capacity to deal with change and continue to develop – but firmly rooted in the belief that a diversity of approaches can inform each other, the conference will offer the opportunity to articulate and debate their specific paradigms, concepts and methodologies.

Additional Information:

<http://www.resilience2014.org>

2nd Annual Digital Grids And Smart Cities Summit (Riyadh, 5–6 May)

The *2nd Annual Digital Grids And Smart Cities Summit* is a result of the tremendous response received for the past Annual. This year's Saudi Arabia's event brings together distinguished Grids and Cities professionals to discuss and benchmark crucial issues on how to seize new opportunities with value-added Smart Cities strategies in today's market.



The agenda is packed with in-depth real life case studies, keynote presentations, interactive panel discussions, an exclusive Top Management Panel.

Additional Information:

<http://energy.fleminggulf.com/digital-grids-smart-cities/more-info>

Design for urban disaster (Harvard University, 5–7 May)

Urban disasters are on the increase, with rapid urbanization causing more people to live in places vulnerable to hazards such as flood, earthquake and tsunami. This conference invites humanitarian aid practitioners, those in government and designers from spatial/physical disciplines to exp-



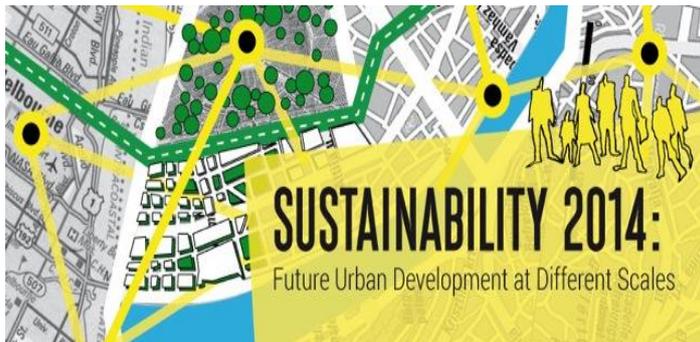
lore ways to improve actions before and after disaster. The conference addresses three key themes: response – efforts to improve relief and recovery practice; resilience – building the capacity of a system, community or society potentially exposed to hazards to adapt; transformation – fundamental change that results in the substantial reduction of a population's vulnerability.

Additional Information:

<http://www.resilience2014.org>

Sustainability 2014: Future Urban Development at Different Scales (Karlsruhe, 6–9 May)

Sustainability 2014 brings together national and international experts from science and practice with different disciplinary backgrounds like urban geography, economics, architecture, sociology, geoecology and urban planning to examine and discuss challenges and perspectives of the sustain-



able development of urban spaces. They will address and reflect on questions on the future development and analysis of urban systems on different levels of scale. Basically it will be about the functions and interdependencies of these levels regarding the design and application of concepts, assessment methods and strategies for action for a sustainable urban development. The symposium will especially concentrate on the district as a level for analysis, assessment and action which is increasingly becoming the focus of attention in science and politics.

Additional Information:

http://www.its.kit.edu/english/events_sustainability2014.php

Land Information Systems for Smart Cities (Geneva, 8–9 May)

Geospatial Media and (UN Economic Commission for Europe) UNECE will organize a two-day dialogue forum, "Land Information Systems for Smart Cities". The workshop objectives are to discuss existing concepts for smart cities, showcase examples of smart-city approaches and formulate next steps for cooperation between different organizations working for smart cities.



This event is a part of the Geospatial World Forum, a bi-annual international conference and exhibition, which supports dialogue geospatial technologies and their role in promoting economic and social development. Organized in India (2007, 2009 and 2011), the Netherlands (2012 and 2013) and now in Switzerland (2014), this global platform brings together more than 1000 delegates from over 80 countries deliberating on geospatial technologies and their role in promoting sustainable development.

Additional Information:

<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=34473>

Innovation in Transport (Gothenburg, 12–14 May)

The workshops and technical visit will allow stakeholders to gain first-hand experience of innovative solutions, exchange knowledge and information.



The final purpose is to develop recommendations to the EC for future collaboration among cities and for cooperative research initiatives.

Additional Information:

<http://viajeoplus.eu/?p=6296>

Renaturing Cities (Brussels, 13–14 May)

The European Commission (Directorate for Climate Action and Resource Efficiency) is organising this two-day conference under the auspices of the Hellenic Presidency of the Council of the European



Union. The aim of the Conference is to highlight innovative tools, strategies and best practices in the field of Nature Based Solutions that European cities are adopting in order to combine tradition and modernity while addressing environmental challenges and the impacts of the economic crisis.

Additional Information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/news/renaturing-cities-addressing-environmental-challenges-and-effects-economic-crisis-through>

Smart City Event (Amsterdam, 13–14 May)

The Smart City Event has the mission to bring together the diversity of stakeholders from all over the world concerning the development of smarter cities.



By being connected the participants have the possibility to work together during and in advance of the event towards a smarter future. The event is divided into three elements; Smart City, Smart Health and Smart Mobility.

Additional Information:

<http://www.smartcityevent.com/>

Global Cities Summit (Toronto, 15–16 May)

The Summit will feature an Innovations Marketplace (trade exhibit) showcasing an exclusive number of



leading innovators with sustainable and cutting-edge solutions for cities.

Additional Information:

<http://www.globalcitysummit.com/About-Us.aspx>

3rd International Congress on Urban and Environmental Issues and Policies (Aksaray, Turkey, 29–31 May)

Discussion on the city (global cities, Muslim cities, metropolis, intelligent city, rural city, garden city, Olympic city, slow city, etc.), the different aspects of



urbanism, the Urban-rural dilemma and the theories on the origin of the city are some of the themes of the congress.

Additional Information:

<http://city.aksaray.edu.tr/>

European Affairs

The Committee of the Regions adopts the Charter for Multilevel Governance in Europe

With the European election campaign underway, the Committee of the Regions (CoR) is working to defend its ideas on European governance and adopted today the Charter for Multilevel Governance in Europe. At a time when the European Union (EU) is moving into a new political cycle as well as in a new programming period for major European policies, the CoR intends to remind people that it is only by involving regions and cities further in policy design that a successful implementation and assessment of EU policies can be guaranteed.

The Charter urges public authorities to make a political commitment to implementing the values, principles and mechanisms of multilevel governance. Mainly addressing local and regional authorities, the idea is to lead the way by example:

- By signing up to the Charter, towns and regions will undertake to make use of the potential of multilevel governance in the management of public policies, to launch initiatives and projects in partnership with different levels of authority (territorial, national and European), to develop territorial cooperation instruments and to modernise their administration along the lines of the charter.



- The Charter also aims to make other levels of authority (European institutions, national governments and international organisations) aware of the added value of this type of governance when pursuing policy action. This is all part of the CoR's continued commitment to ensuring application of the subsidiarity principle.

The principles underlying multilevel governance advocated in the Charter, namely subsidiarity and partnership, are reflected in instruments and processes which promote the participation of various stakeholders in decision-making. These principles are essential for efficient policy implementation. They have been enshrined in the new provisions of the European cohesion policy (Article 5 – Partnership and multi-level governance) and can be seen, inter alia, in:

- partnership contracts which, as part of the EU's new cohesion policy, will have to be set up by Member States in conjunction with all socio-economic and institutional players, including local and regional authorities;
- the obligation now on Member States, as part of the implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy, to involve territorial authorities in preparing national reform programmes;



- the European grouping for territorial cooperation, the legal instrument for territorial cooperation in the EU, which allows cities and regions in the different Member States to manage cross-border, trans-national and interregional cooperation measures;
- various examples at regional level, such as the contrat de projet État-Région (State-Region project contract) in France, which allows the government to agree with a region on the implementation of projects relating to regional spatial development projects. Other public partners (départements, urban communities, etc.) may also be involved.

Europe Day, 9 May 2014, will mark the launch of the campaign to acquire signatures to the Charter; it will be put on line and open for electronic signature by cities and regions on www.cor.europa.eu/mlgcharter. Institutions and high profile political figures will be called upon to express official support.

Additional Information:

<http://cor.europa.eu/el/news/Pages/charter-mlg.aspx>

Manifesto for the European Elections

With elections to the European Parliament due in May, local and regional governments have adopted a Manifesto outlining nine proposals for an EU that puts a higher priority its citizens, cities, municipalities and regions. The Manifesto was adopted by the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) and its 57 associations of local

and regional governments. The 24-page document covers many topical issues, ranging from employment and social priorities to public services and cohesion. The nine local and regional governments' proposals included in the Manifesto can be summed as such:

- Continue prioritising youth employment;
- Monitor the implementation of the structural funds thoroughly to achieve better territorial cohesion;
- Opt for lighter and simpler regulation, and provide transparency when opting for the fast track procedure;
- Respect the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality;
- Define ambitious objectives for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and develop renewable energy and energy efficiency by 2030;



- Increase the Europe for Citizens Programme budget until the symbolic "1 euro per citizen per year";
- Stand for deeper integration and democratic legitimacy for the European Union and initiate a Convention in order to draft a Fundamental Law of the European Union;
- Support further enlargement of the European Union and mediate deeper implication of all levels of local and regional authorities in the negotiation process;
- Support integrated global approaches, particularly in cooperation with partners in the Global South.

Additional Information:

http://ccre.org/img/uploads/piecesjointe/filename/CEMR_Manifesto_EP_2014_EN.pdf

European Commission joins forces with European cities to tackle climate change

Mayors Adapt – the Covenant of Mayors Initiative on Adaptation to Climate Change – has been set up by the European Commission to engage cities in taking action. Cities signing up to the initiative commit to the overall aim of the EU Adaptation Strategy, to develop local adaptation strategies within the first two years of signing and review the outcomes on a biannual basis.

As major centres of population and infrastructure, cities are particularly vulnerable to extreme weather events and the effects of climate change. They therefore play a key role in implementing the measures to mitigate and adapt to a changing climate. By joining the Mayors Adapt initiative, participating local authorities will benefit from support for local activities to tackle climate change, a platform for cooperation, and greater public awareness about adaptation and the measures that need to be taken.



The initiative will provide several services:

- A Help Desk to give personalised support to interested and participating cities;
- Information on networking events aiming to promote best practice sharing and peer-to-peer learning and workshops to discuss proposed local initiatives;
- Guidance and materials including factsheets, information on initiatives and more.

Mayors Adapt is being implemented on behalf of the European Commission by a consortium led by Ecofys, comprised of Climate Alliance, Fresh Thoughts and IFOK GmbH.

Additional Information:

http://mayors-adapt.eu/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Mayors-Adapt-Background-Information_1.pdf

A new European strategy to promote coastal and maritime tourism

The European Commission recently presented a new strategy to support coastal and maritime tourism in Europe. Recognising the sector's potential for sustainable growth and job creation, the strategy outlines 14 EU actions to help coastal regions and businesses tackle the challenges they face and strengthen the sector's position as a key driver of Europe's blue economy. These concrete actions are accompanied by a break-down of the tasks that Member States, Regions and industry stakeholders can undertake to complement the EU actions.



The proposed actions include facilitating closer cooperation and dialogue across Europe between all coastal tourism stakeholders, public-private partnerships, promoting skills and innovation, promoting ecotourism, and creating an online guide to funding opportunities to help drive investment. Member States, regional authorities and the industry will be central to the design and implementation of the actions.

Additional Information:

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/coastal_tourism/documents/com_2014_86_en.pdf

Smart specialisation and Europe's Growth Agenda

Smart specialisation is a strategic approach to regional smart growth and economic development. Each region, whether it be strong or weak, high-tech or low-tech, goes through a transformative process which involves:

- Developing a vision for growth;
- Identifying its competitive advantage;
- Setting strategic priorities; and
- Making use of smart policies and actions.



'Research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation' (RIS3), as they are known, will be the basis for investments in R&I under the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the 2014–2020 period. This brochure provides a brief overview of how these strategies and processes can be developed, and perspectives from political leaders at the the EU, national and regional levels on its importance for enhancing competitiveness and stimulating growth.

Additional Information:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgen/studies/pdf/smart_spec_growth_agenda.pdf

New Commission study identifies Europe's top ICT hubs

Wondering what makes an ICT hotspot? Take a look at Munich, London, Paris or smaller cities such as Darmstadt identified in a new EU Atlas of ICT hotspots. This atlas shows where digital technologies thrive and examines the factors contributing to this success. Most of Europe's ICT activity takes place in



34 regions across 12 countries (listed in the Annex). Key ingredients to success included access to top Universities and research centres and funding opportunities such as venture capital.

This report addresses the EU Strategy to reinforce Europe's industrial and technology leadership in ICT. It looked at all EU regions (1303 NUTS3 regions) in terms of ICT activity and assigned scores according to its relative weight; 14% of the regions scored above 20 points. The top 34 scored between 41 and 100. The report analysed three elements (business activity, R&D and Innovation in the ICT sector) on the basis of their intensity (e.g. business turnover, turnover growth, number of employees), their internationalisation (e.g. how many international partners businesses/research centres/universities have) and networking (what is the role of each region in networks: which of them are hubs and connect directly to many partners, which of them have links that only allow few exchanges).

Additional Information:

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-435_en.htm

International Affairs

Sustainable Development Goals for a new Urbanisation Model

The Medellín Declaration, which was approved and released at the close of the 7th World Urban Forum, called for Sustainable Development Goals that promoted an urbanization model that encourages "comprehensive and participatory planning;" "that puts people first and fosters social cohesion" and that fosters "gender equality and balanced land development; better urban resilience to climate change and other disasters; and safe, affordable transportation."



Yet, a number of important countries, the U.S. and Canada among them, remain worryingly undecided about joining this widespread call for a city-specific SDG from countries as diverse as Germany, Colombia, and Ghana. Their reticence seems to be based on a worry that such goals would create artificial distinctions between rural and urban areas. These governments seem to believe that these issues, and the potential for reform, in cities and urban areas will be automatically covered by more general, nation-level goals on energy, water, health, education, and jobs. Unsurprisingly, these are the same countries that lack clear urban policy initiatives at home, and have historically taken a non-spatial approach to economic policy.

Additional Information:

<http://unhabitat.org/7th-world-urban-forum-medellin-declaration/>

Competitive Cities:

Which Are They, and Why Should We Care?

This year, the World Bank is investing in a Competitive Cities Knowledge Base (CCKB) initiative – a joint project between the World Bank Group's departments working on Private Sector Development and Urban Development. The project includes in-depth case studies of economically successful cities across all continents. According to our current ana-



lysis, six of the most interesting cities for this work will be Bucaramanga (Colombia), Patna (India), Bandung (Indonesia), Agadir (Morocco), Kigali (Rwanda) and Izmir (Turkey). What makes these particular cities so interesting?

First, they serve as examples of economic success. all six have outperformed their national economies as well as regional competitor cities on economic outcomes such as income and job growth. Indeed, they have recently done so faster than "household names" like Dubai, Rio de Janeiro or New York City. Second, they demonstrate the use of pro-active strategies that resulted in improved competitiveness. In many cases, leading cities managed to attract an anchor investor, or leveraged a university to catalyze additional investment by firms.

Third, they are predominantly medium-sized and secondary cities, and thus more similar to the majority of cities than the predominant "global cities" literature that focuses on large, primary cities. Fourth, the cities present a diversity of contexts: They are in different regions of the world, including those with varying levels of income and industrial structures.

Additional Information:

<http://blogs.worldbank.org/psd/competitive-cities-which-are-they-and-why-should-we-care>

Consultations



New framework for technical measures in the reformed Common Fisheries Policy

The objective of this consultation is the development of a new technical measures framework in the context of the reformed Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). The main policy objective of this initiative is to support the objectives of the reformed CFP. Technical measures are a key tool to achieve these objectives. The new framework will also contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy by simplifying the fisheries policy, which has been criticised as being overly complex and difficult to enforce. This overarching policy objective will be achieved through the following specific objectives:

- Creation of a simplified regulatory framework that allows for regionalisation of technical measures.
- Reduction and avoidance of unwanted catches through improvements to fishing gears and effective spatial and temporal measures.
- Minimisation of the ecosystem impact of fishing gears through the mitigation of incidental bycatch of endangered, threatened or protected species and reduction of fishing pressure on sensitive habitats.

This consultation should ascertain the views of the main stakeholders on how to achieve these objectives considering both the measures themselves and the governance structure within which they operate.

Submission deadline: 14 May

Additional Information:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/maritimeaffairs_fisheries/consultations/technical-measures/index_en.htm

URBACT III, 2014-2020

The Final Draft version of URBACT III Operational Programme is ready. It is proposed that URBACT III will act as a European exchange and learning programme promoting sustainable urban development. It will enable European cities to work together to develop solutions to urban challenges and share good practices, lessons and solutions with all stakeholders involved in urban policy throughout Europe. It is now up to the wider EU public to give their opinions on the future of URBACT. The feedback of the stakeholders on the following questions are crucial on the following issues:

- What are the most important urban challenges faced by cities like yours? How can transnational exchange networks support cities in addressing these challenges?
- What kind of capacities and skills should be strengthened at local level to translate the lessons from URBACT networks into concrete action (e.g. in terms of city management, of policy instruments, policy areas related to urban issues, etc.)?
- How could the programme cater to these needs in terms of capacity-building activities?
- Which are the main obstacles for cities to participate in the URBACT programme?

Submission deadline: 13 May

Additional Information:

<http://urbact.eu/en/about-urbact/urbact-2014-2020/#consultation>

The Seminars of the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)



Working with Impact Assessment in the European Union

Date: 8–9 May

Location: Maastricht

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5429>

Risk Management in the Context of CAF and TQM

Date: 14–16 May

Location: Maastricht

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5455>

Using Citizens to Design Better Public Services: Choices, Challenges and Opportunities

Date: 22–23 May

Location: Maastricht

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5438>

Developing Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluating Projects Financed by the AMIF and ISF

Date: 22–23 May

Location: Maastricht

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5475>

European Territorial Cooperation: How to Build a Successful European Partnership for Better Use of EU Funds?

Date: 26–28 May

Location: Barcelona

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5459>

Public Sector Budget Review and Service Reform in Hard Economic Times

Date: 27–28 May

Location: Dublin

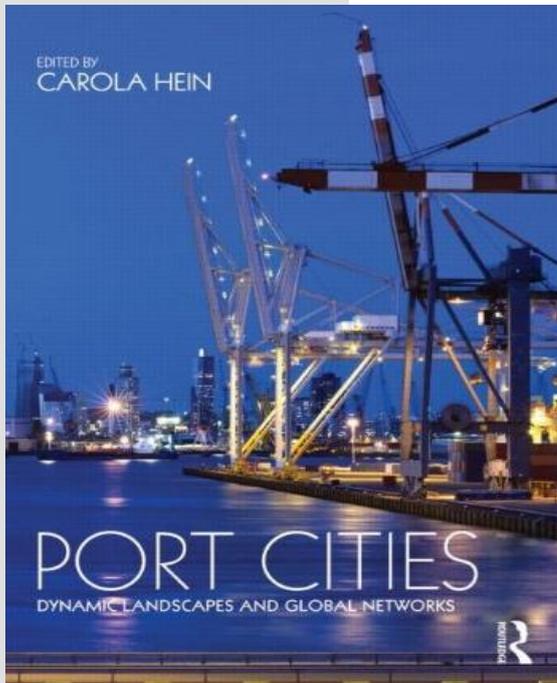
Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5439>



The Library of Local Government

Port Cities: Dynamic Landscapes and Global Networks



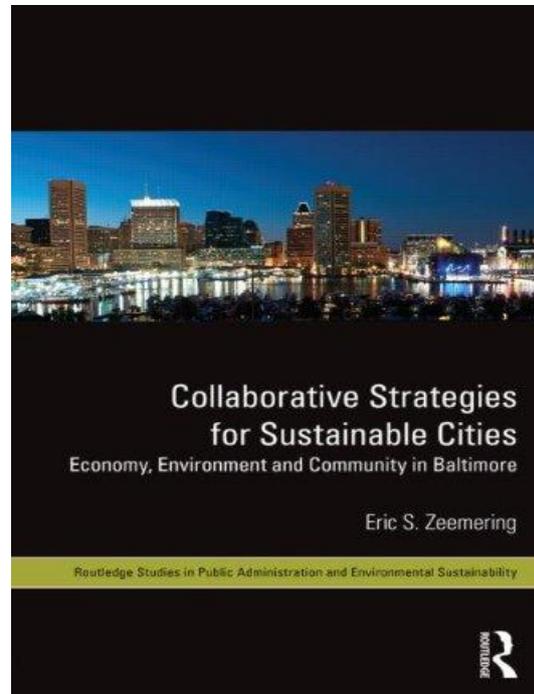
Pages: 304

C. Hein (edit.)

Publisher: Routledge, 2011

Ports have been and continue to be critical in not just the global movement of goods, but also the global movement of ideas, social change, and cultural phenomena, including architecture and urban form. *Port Cities* brings together original scholarship by both well-published and younger scholars from multiple disciplines and builds upon long-standing research on the international exchange of architectural and planning ideas. A carefully selected series of essays examines comprehensively and globally the changing built and urban environment of selected port cities. They explore similarities, dissimilarities, and how sea-based networking has influenced urban landscapes and architecture, socio-economic and cultural development from the nineteenth to the twenty-first centuries.

Collaborative Strategies for Sustainable Cities: Economy, Environment and Community in Baltimore



Pages: 176

Eric S. Zeemering

Publisher: Routledge, 2014

Collaborative Strategies for Sustainable Cities examines how cities define sustainability and form policy implementation networks to integrate sustainability into city programs. Using the city of Baltimore to describe and analyze the involvement of the participants in local sustainability efforts in rich detail, Eric S. Zeemering argues that when we think about the sustainable city, the city government is not the best unit of analysis for our investigations or policy planning. Instead, policy networks within cities carve out slices of a sustainability agenda, define sustainability in their own ways, and form implementation networks with city government officials, neighborhood and community organizations, funders, and state and federal agencies in order to achieve specific goals. When cities begin to integrate sustainability into policies and programs, surveying and understanding competing definitions of sustainability within the community may be central to their success.

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