



EDITORIAL

As part of EU's Blue Growth strategy, the coastal and maritime tourism sector has been identified as an area with special potential to foster a smart, sustainable and inclusive Europe. It is the biggest maritime sector in terms of gross value added and employment and, according to the Blue Growth Study, is expected to grow by 2-3% by 2020. In 2012, Cruise tourism alone represents 330,000 jobs and a direct turnover of €15.5 billion and is expected to grow.

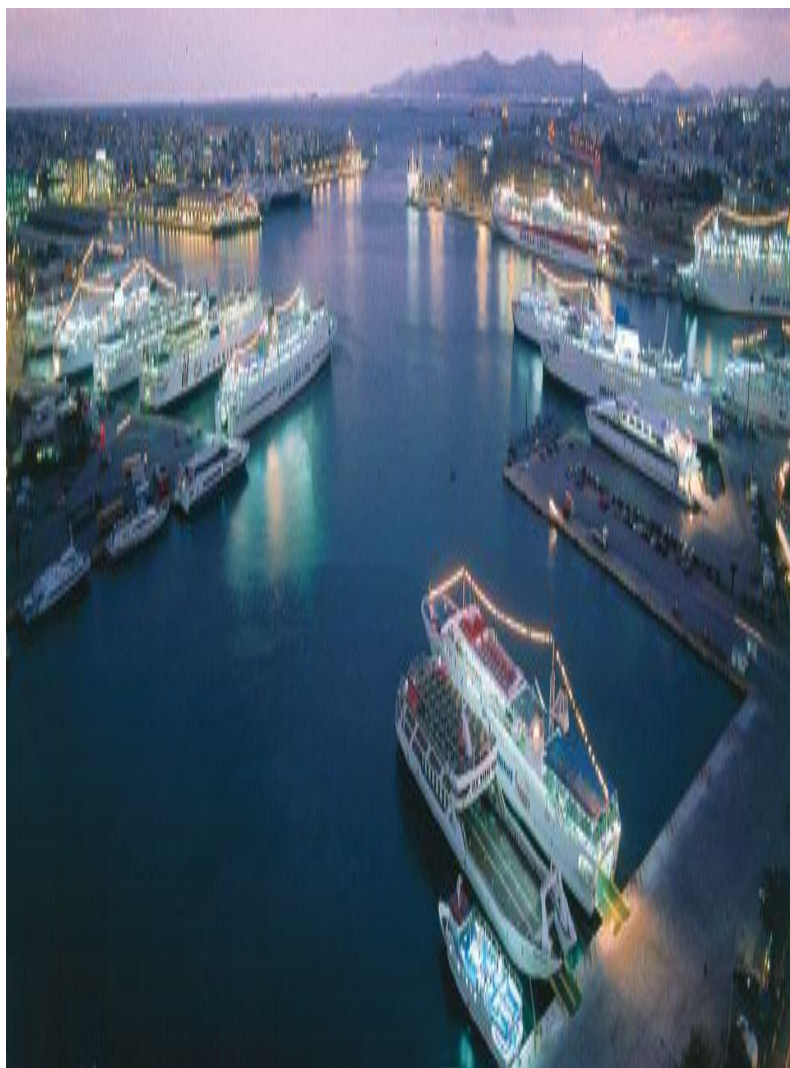
With Europe's maritime tourism sector employing 3.2 million people generating €183 billion each year, the Committee of the Regions adopted an opinion on a European Strategy for Coastal and Maritime Tourism reacting to recent European Commission's proposals on the issue.

Actually, what is urgently needed is a far more coherent and ambitious tourism strategy between local, national and EU governments.

Crucially, bolstering the tourism sector requires a strategy designed to meet the specific needs of each coastal and maritime region. The EU should focus its efforts to encourage those coastal regions whose economies rely so heavily on tourism to exploit their unique local and regional services and products, whilst protecting the environment.

By promoting the diversification of the sector the problem of seasonality could be tackled attracting tourists all year around and so boosting local economies.

Towards an EU-wide Maritime and Coastal Tourism Strategy



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Business & Development Planning



Strategic EU funding planning for Smart Cities

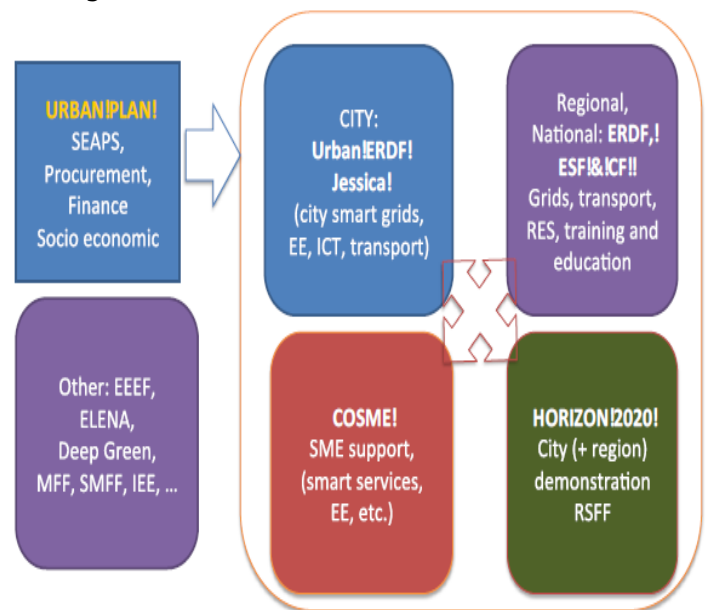
The impact of the new EU funding mechanisms on smart city development will largely depend on the national, regional and local authorities. The EU funding mechanisms offer regions an opportunity to set their priorities in line with the development of smart regions and smart cities. In fact, the thematic concentration emphasis for the new programming period provides the right framework. The possibility to use innovative financial mechanisms to develop smart and sustainable regions may also potentially contribute, which should include a strong urban element if the strategy seeks to achieve tangible impacts.

It is thus in the hands of the national and regional authorities to design the right framework and involve the local authorities and the municipalities to work in designing a coherent smart economy not only on infrastructures, but also on building the services and the human resources for the future. This requires a strong local engagement and integrated approaches to planning. Many regional programmes in the past have lacked strategic focus and integrated actions. This aspect was already recognised for the 2007–2013 programming period, which led to a request by the European Commission for more strategic planning. The climate challenge and the economic crisis have further reinforced this need. The results are now more focused, and strategic proposals with a wider and more flexible set of instruments are available to the regions.

Nevertheless, there are key essential elements regions and cities need to complete to be able to develop a coherence strategy:

- (a) Understanding the situation of the region/city;
- (b) Understanding its strengths and weaknesses;
- (c) Developing a vision for the city within its surrounding region based on its strengths, and understanding the required inputs to achieve ambitious but realistic goals;
- (d) The goals need to be based on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), which should allow more effective programming and tracking of progress.

Figure shows how an urban plan can be linked to support from a variety of funding sources. The ERDF urban funds can support JESSICA-style instruments for infrastructure development, which can be linked to energy and transport grids supported by the ERDF and Cohesion Fund, as well as human capital development by the ESF. The support instrument COSME for SMEs can also provide support, in particular for innovative SMEs. Finally Horizon 2020 can be used for demonstration projects and new technology deployment. While some of these funds are managed by the regional authorities, some others are not (COSME, Horizon 2020), which makes programming more complex. These funds require a strong commitment on the part of city authorities to collaborate with the private sector. In fact, without the strong involvement of local stakeholders integrated planning cannot be successful.



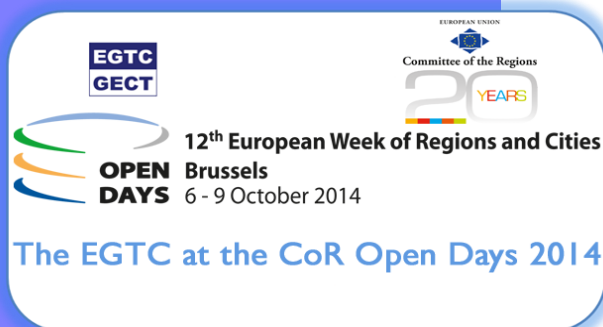
The Voice of E.G.T.C.s



The EGTC EFXINI POLI – SolidarCity at the OPEN DAYS 2014

The interregional cooperation projects carried out by EGTC EFXINI POLI – Network of European Cities for Sustainable Development, were presented by the General Director, Dr. Nikos Krimnianiotis, in the workshop organized by the Committee of the Regions (CoR) during the OPEN DAYS 2014 in Brussels. The workshop's title was "The EGTC in the long haul, Interreg and other Opportunities". Its goal had been the discussion of interregional cooperation among EGTCs of Europe and the cooperation opportunities offered by the upcoming programme INTERREG EUROPE. Dr Nikos Krimnianiotis, started his speech with a brief presentation of the course of the EGTC EFXINI POLI from its foundation in 1995 as Network Greek Municipalities and the conversion of an EGTC in 2012, until today.

Later, he referred to several Interregional projects that EGTC EFXINI POLI takes part in, on behalf of its members, either as a member of a partnership or as a Lead Partner.



Three projects were presented, one in the social sector and two in Environmental Management. Dr Nikos Krimnianiotis closed his presentation referring to a proposal for cooperation on the thematic topic of "Innovation in Employment". Precisely, the three territorial cooperation projects presented and the project idea for Innovative Employment are briefly presented, below:

1. SOLIDARCITY, The role and involvement of Local Authorities to the Employment rate increase (recently completed).

It had been a project financed through INTERREG IVC programme with partners from Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Italy, United Kingdom and Finland. Pilot actions were implemented in Greece, Bulgaria and Italy and two of the outputs available are the Guide for creation of Time Banks and "SolidarCity Houses" Guide.

2. ZEROWASTE PRO Solid Waste Management

It is a project financed through MED 2007-2013 CAPITALISATION programme with partners from Greece, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, France and Malta and key deliverables:

- Green Solutions Guide for waste management
- Training guide for executives of Local Government in green solutions for waste management.
- Manual for online tool that helps in measuring the CO2 footprint of the Municipalities and Regions.



- White Paper for SMEs and Industrial Areas in relation to the production and management of their waste

3. Regions for Recycling – R4R, Solid Waste Management

It is a project financed through INTERREG IVC programme, with partners from Greece, Belgium, France, Portugal, Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Spain, Estonia, Austria, Ireland, and Denmark with the main deliverable: "Development of a methodology by which each region will evaluate the performance of recycling and tool that will help to compare their recycling performances at European Level".

4. INNOVATION IN EMPLOYMENT

The idea "Innovation in Employment" has a direct connection with the Guaranteed Employment after Vocational Training. Having a huge experience in the field of vocational training and deep knowledge of the ESF resources use, we know in practice that employment after training is minimal to zero. The EGTC EFXINI POLI, trying to find a way out, drawing on years of experience in the implementation of a variety of innovative employment projects under the Community Initiatives and having as a basic rule to use only existing resources (physical and financial), developed, together with its members, a study-proposal regarding Ten-year Guaranteed Employment in the primary and secondary sectors of the Economy. The idea is based on the cultivation of the abandoned public land with Herbs or Medicinal plants following specific methods of organizing work.

The proposal of Dr. Nikos Krimnianiotis to the participants had been the cooperation of EGTCs of Southern Europe with EGTCs of Northern Europe in order to implement a pilot project, areas of the South will produce medical herbs since they have the appropriate climatological conditions while the areas of Northern Europe, will work on the Industrial processing of essential oils (A/F) to absorb the quantity of the South.

The idea is believed to be sustainable and has been positively assessed in advance by experts. The method of BUSINESS INCUBATORS will be applied. The INNOVATION on EMPLOYMENT, lies upon the development of an incubator system which will need only an initial funding and no additional funding, while at the same time new beneficiaries will be able to be integrated every one or two years. The result in 10 years will be:

- a) doubling of the number of employees
- b) a GUARANTEED EMPLOYMENT for at least 10 years

President Van Staa asked to discuss the proposal at a special meeting of the EGTC Platform in January 2015 devoted exclusively to the topic of EGTC and Employment.



EU funded Projects of Greek Local Authorities

Municipality of Alimos:

PLAY EUROPE

Promotion of the Leadership of Active
Youth in Europe

(Europe for Citizens, 2007–2013)

PLAY Europe project intends to promote active leadership at European level among the youth of different EU countries, in order to improve the competence and skills of future political leaders towards European Agenda understanding and setting. This action will be implemented through a permanent cooperation among public authorities coordinated by ELISAN network and composed by public events, seminars, workshop, public debates and study visits. The participants (young people aged 18–30) will be asked to update the Europe 2020 objectives & themes in the field of Social Policies, in order to prepare a new document called Social Europe Agenda 27. The entire project will be accompanied by a strong dissemination and raise awareness action led by ELISAN all over Europe. Coordinator: ELISAN – European Local Inclusion and Social Action Network (IT). Partner countries: FR, BE, GR, NL Venue: Venice (IT), Marseille (FR), Ghent, Brussels (BE), Alimos (GR), Rotterdam (NL) Grant awarded: 144.000 €



In a wonderful Greek setting, between Athens and Alimos, took place on 17–20 September, the fifth event of the Play Europe project. The young European leaders faced this time the issue of *volunteering and citizenship*.

As in other occasions, several and very interesting inputs were brought. The theme of volunteering was analysed under various angles, examining the personal, social, organizational, and economical aspects. The interventions and the work of the group showed clearly that the initiatives supported by volunteers, particularly concerning the social sphere, are essential and connected not only to the target they address, but also to the economic and local governance. The youngsters have also stressed the key role of volunteers to help different organizations to carry out their tasks for internal management and external relations. In addition volunteers are also essential to support the delivery of better results thanks to the transfer of new skills and knowledge. Moreover the analysis on the concept of leadership is progressing and the Play Europe young leaders are currently making a video summarizing the findings from the research carried out during the course of the project.



International and European Conferences

URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE 2014 (London, 13 November)

Building on the success of past Future Cities events, the conference will look at how the cities of the future can innovate to provide world class, intelligent



infrastructure. The participants will be able to meet and network with 150+ authorities in urban planning, infrastructure, housing, construction, transport, energy and architecture for a day of insight, debate and action.

Additional Information:

<http://www.economistinsights.com/infrastructure-cities/event/urban-infrastructure-2014>

An Educating City is an Inclusive City (Barcelona, 13–16 November)

Barcelona will be playing host to the 13th International Congress of Educating Cities in 2014, to mark the 20th anniversary of the Association's founding in Barcelona, where the presidency has been held ever since.

13th International Congress
of Educating Cities 2014
Barcelona 13-16 November



Knowledge and education are the foundations to development and social inclusion in our society. That is why the local authority, as strategic-territorial goal leader, takes a broad view of education, beyond school and based on the idea of an educating city, where education becomes a tool for, a driving force to and an influence on personal and collective development, social inclusion and greater community coexistence and solidarity. Hence the theme of the congress: The Educating City is an Inclusive City.

Additional Information:

<http://iaec2014.bcn.cat/en/>

Going Green – CARE INNOVATION 2014 (Vienna, 17–20 November)

The International CARE Electronics Office is pleased to announce the Going Green – CARE INNOVATION 2014 conference and exhibition on Electronics and the Environment. It will take place in Schoenbrunn



Palace Conference Centre Vienna (Austria), which is situated in the Apothecaries' Wing of the famous building. This Symposium is the only platform for presenting the up-to-date progress on sustainable development and the development of eco-efficient electr(on)ic & automotive products.

Additional Information:

<http://www.care-electronics.net/CI2014/>

Rethinking the present and future of urban growth (Barcelona, 18–20 November)

Urban development is examined along six main tracks: smart society, technology, governance, energy, mobility and sustainable city. More than 300 of the world's top experts to debate their visions of sustainable and efficient city development at the Congress.



This is a senior level forum for debating, sharing knowledge and best practice, and creating synergies between the main stakeholders in the smart cities movement.

Additional Information:

<http://www.smartcityexpo.com/en/congress>

URBAN FUTURE Global Conference (Graz, 18–19 November)

The URBAN FUTURE global conference is one of the world's most influential events for sustainable city development and will help to shape a better future for cities. In cooperation with the United Nations, the event will host hundreds of delegates from around the world.



How cities deal with the projected growth, and how they can meet the new demands on infrastructure, resources, energy, mobility and housing needs without destroying their own livelihood, are without doubt the issues of the future. The URBAN FUTURE global conference focuses on exactly those issues: it is one of the world's most influential events for sustainable city development. Influential, because the event will go many steps further by enabling decision makers to develop cities in a much more sustainable way.

Additional Information:

<http://www.urban-future.at/en>

GREENCITY 2014 (Paris, 18–19 November)

GreenCity is your gateway to sustainable city expertise in and around Paris, in the heart of this metropolis. This milestone international gathering is an opportunity for businesses, scientists and



institutional stakeholders to spend two days enjoying exchanges. GreenCity 2014 will take place during the build-up to the 2015 Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris.

Additional Information:

<http://www.greencity-event.com/en/>

Decision Models for Smarter Cities (Brussels, 18 November)

The emergence of new technologies is key to achieving sustainable mobility in smart cities. At this conference experts from innovation companies



and researchers will share latest ideas and developments in the field of intelligent mobility, sharing insights into how we will move around in cities tomorrow, and what future vehicles will look like.

Additional Information:

<http://www.imobilitychallenge.eu/roadshow/view/id/15>

Launch Conference of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) (Brussels, 18 November)

The Launch Conference of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR), which is organised by the Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in cooperation with the European Commission, and together with the Adriatic and Ionian Initiative and Marche Region (as Presidency of the Adriatic–Ionian Interregional Group in the Committee of the Regions), is gathering all key actors to create the framework for its implementa-



tion. The governance and management structures of the Strategy, currently under development, will be organised around its four pillars, namely: "Blue Growth", "Connecting the Region" (Transport and Energy), "Environmental Quality" and "Sustainable Tourism".

Additional Information:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/adriat_ionian/launch/index_en.cfm

Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation (Guangzhou, 27–29 November)

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.



我的城市我的梦 • My City My Dream

Against the background of a rapidly changing social, economic and environmental context in the 21st century, the Guangzhou Award contributes to the progress of city performances by promoting innovations in the public sector and presenting a platform for cities and regions around the world to share and disseminate their achievements.

Additional Information:

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

2014 Annual Polis Conference (Madrid, 27–28 November)

The 2014 Polis Conference is a major platform for cities, metropolitan areas and regions to exchange on their transport challenges. High-level plenary



sessions are complemented by technical sessions showing innovation in policy and practice across the transport spectrum.

Additional Information:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/adriat_ionian/launch/index_en.cfm

European Affairs

European Entrepreneurial Region (EER)

The Committee of the Regions has launched the 2016 edition of the European Entrepreneurial Region (EER) Award. Any EU region or city, regardless of their size or wealth, with outstanding, future-oriented entrepreneurial strategies can apply until 16 March 2015. The most successful, forward-looking and promising strategies will be rewarded and monitored over the coming two years. An Info Day about the Award will be held (and web-streamed) on 23 October.



The EER initiative was launched by the Committee of the Regions (CoR) in 2009 in order to contribute to mainstreaming the EU Small Business Act principles at regional and local level, as well as to boost the achievement of the goals of the EU's growth strategy – Europe 2020 – in the fields of innovation and entrepreneurship. Local and regional authorities are given the chance to demonstrate their commitment to promoting SMEs and entrepreneurs as key players in strengthening the economy and harnessing their potential to create growth and jobs.

The competition is open to all EU territories below the level of the Member State that are endowed with competences at a political level and able to implement an overall entrepreneurial vision. They could be successful or lagging behind but commitment to implementing changes to develop their entrepreneurial potential. Communities, autonomous communities, departments, Länder, provinces, counties, metropolitan areas, large cities, as well as cross-border territories such as EGTCs and Euro-regions may apply.

EU coastal tourism strategy must go local to boost growth and create jobs

The Committee of the Regions has called for an EU-wide maritime and coastal tourism strategy to be launched to tackle slow economic growth and persistently high levels of youth unemployment in Europe. The Committee – the EU's assembly of local and regional authorities – also argued that the EU must go further to support the diversification of the sector, improve cooperation between Europe's coastal regions, and create a more coherent plan between local, national and EU governments.



With Europe's maritime tourism sector employing 3.2 million people generating €183 billion each year, the Committee of the Regions adopted an opinion on a European Strategy for Coastal and Maritime Tourism reacting to recent European Commission's proposals on the issue. Launching an EU-wide tourism strategy to contribute to delivering so-called "Blue Growth" can create much needed jobs, the Committee argues, but its success hinges on involving a range of different policies including environment, transport and training. The Committee also points to the importance of improving regional cooperation to share knowledge on tourism and raises serious concerns about the poor connections and transport infrastructure for some coastal regions – especially those so reliant on air transport, such as islands – which is restricting the flow of tourists and subsequently holding back growth.

Additional Information:

<http://cor.europa.eu/en/news/Pages/coastal-tourism-strategy.aspx>

Regional implementation of the SBA

In order for SMEs to flourish, a winning concept which boosts competitiveness and shapes a sound business environment is vital. With 23 Million SMEs spread out all over Europe, this is influenced in many ways, not only from EU and National level but also from Regional policies. And to maintain a broad base of SMEs is very important for the economic tissue of a region and thus for its wealth and sustainability. The EU contributes to its Member States', as well as its regions', success in this area by providing analysis, inspiration, programs and initiatives.



This guide was prepared for policy makers, stakeholders and managing authorities, especially at regional level, who want to implement the measures and recommendations of the Small Business Act at their level,

Additional Information:

http://bookshop.europa.eu/en/how-to-use-structural-funds-for-sme-entrepreneurship-policy-pbNBBN13001/issues/?PublicationKey=NBBN13001&EditionKey=NBBN13001ENC_PDF&CatalogCategoryID=cKYKABstttUAAAEjrpAY4e5L

The EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region was endorsed by Europe's leaders

The European Commission has welcomed the endorsement by EU leaders of the new EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) on 24 October 2014. The decision by the European Council gives the green light to the Strategy which was proposed by the European Commission last June. The Strategy covers four EU Member States (Croatia, Greece, Italy and Slovenia) alongside Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia. Comprising some 70 million residents, the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) paves the way for closer cooperation among the member countries in four key areas: 1) Blue Growth, 2) Connecting the Region, 3) Environmental Quality, and 4) Sustainable tourism. Building on the experience of the existing macro-regional strategies: the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, EUSAIR offers a framework for mobilising and aligning existing EU, pre-accession and national funding instruments, with commonly agreed strategic objectives. The participating countries are currently identifying the national and sectoral coordinators that will take care of the Strategy's implementation at a national and macro-regional level.



Additional Information:

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-1197_en.htm

International Affairs

Resilience.io

International Platforma for tracking funds

Resilience.io is an open-source, cloud-based regional platform, which gathers satellite/earth observation, open government and crowd-sourced economic, social and environmental data together in one place, in an understandable, palatable and visual format. Backed by an advanced systems model, resilience.io integrates human-ecological-economic systems and



resilience.io

calculates the current resource flows from economic, human and ecological activity and the impact on human well-being. With this base, it can be used to visualise and predict the outcome of different scenarios which results in better planning and decision-making for a achieving transformation to a more resilient city-region.

Importantly, resilience.io enables economically beneficial resource management to be funded through new direct investment into a wide variety of projects, which use and contribute to the data in the platform. It also insures against extreme risks, especially in energy, water and food security. It will improve understanding of complex integrated city-region systems, and because governance of resilience.io is collaborative, it will reduce siloed thinking and allow local users to make more robust decisions about the needs of the economy, environment and society.

Additional Information:

<http://ecosequestertrust.org/about/resilience-io-supported-by-the-ecological-sequestration-trust/>

2014's Best & Worst American Cities for People with Disabilities

When searching for a new city to call home, most people share a common list of priorities. Among their concerns are affordability, jobs, schools and attractions. But people with disabilities often have a larger list of considerations. Factors such as the accessibility of various facilities, the quality of health care and even the cleanliness of the air can take precedence. The availability of such elements allows them to play an important role in the community and make significant contributions to the economy.



In the United States, people with disabilities bring valuable skill sets to the workplace that build upon the strength and diversity of the American labor market. According to a U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics report, a little more than five million people with disabilities were employed in 2013. However, the unemployment rate for those with a disability continues to be almost double the rate for persons without a disability. In observance of Disability Employment Awareness Month, WalletHub identified the cities with the most suitable conditions for individuals with disabilities. We analyzed the 150 most populated cities across 23 key metrics, ranging from the number of physicians per capita to the rate of employed people with disabilities to park accessibility. By doing so, we aim to ease the process of finding the best place to live while managing a disability.

Additional Information:

<http://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-cities-for-people-with-disabilities/7164/>

Consultations



Ratification by the EU of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

The aim of this consultation is to solicit stakeholders' input on specific issues related to the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury. The results of the consultation will be used as input for the preparation of the Impact Assessment covering specific key areas where EU legislation may need to be amended such as:

- Import restrictions for metallic mercury from non-Parties to the Convention;
- Export ban for certain products containing mercury;
- Mercury use in new products and processes;
- Restrictions on certain processes where mercury is used;
- Mercury use in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM);
- Environmentally sound storage of non-waste mercury stocks.

Deadline: 14 November

Additional information:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/consultations/mercury_en.htm

Green paper on the Safety of Tourism Accommodation Services

Although the safety of tourism accommodation services is the competence of Member States, the presence of a strong cross-border dimension in this type of service suggests a reflection on their quality and safety levels across Member States. Consumers should indeed expect to be able to purchase tourism accommodation services with confidence for their own safety regardless of their choice of accommodation or destination within the EU.

The objective of this consultation is to gather input and quantifiable evidence from all relevant parties with an aim to evaluate fundamental aspects related to tourism accommodation safety: whether the existing instruments and their implementation throughout the EU are adequate and sufficient by measuring the nature and extent of the safety risks and their potential link to flaws or gaps in the current legislative framework, and to what extent they have an impact on the provision of such services across borders as well as on SMEs and vulnerable consumers, in order to make a clear distinction of what objectives are best met at which level.

Deadline: 30 November

Additional information:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_consumer/dgs_consultations/ca/consultation_20141130_tourism_en.htm

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



Change in Public Administration? Yes We Can!

Date: 17–18 November

Location: Maastricht

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5579>

Working with Impact Assessment at EU Level

Date: 20–21 November

Location: Maastricht

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5430>

Internal and External Audit of the EU Funded Programmes and Projects

Date: 24–26 November

Location: Maastricht

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5577>

Europe on the Internet – Finding your Way through the European Information Jungle

Date: 24–25 November

Location: Maastricht

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5507>

Internal and External Audit of the EU Funded Programmes and Projects

Date: 24–26 November

Location: Barcelona

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5577>

The Internal Market for Services: The Services Package and its impacts on Public Administrations

Date: 24–25 November

Location: Barcelona

Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5611>

Understanding EU Decision-Making: Principles, Procedures, Practice

Date: 27–28 November

Location: Maastricht

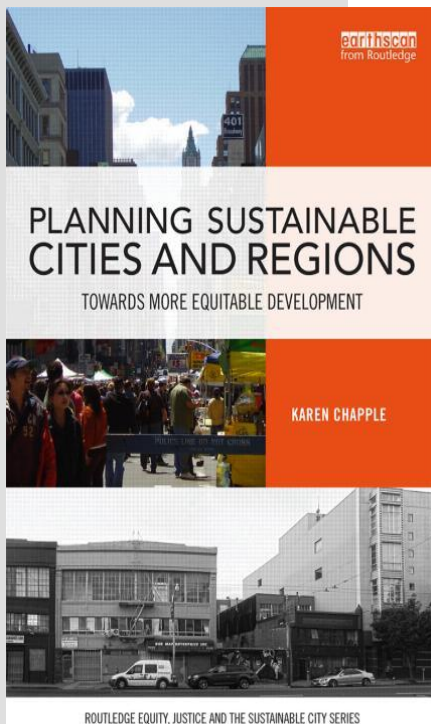
Additional Information:

<http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=5451>



The Library of Local Government

Planning Sustainable Cities and Regions: Towards More Equitable Development



Pages: 322

K. Chapple

Publisher: Routledge, 2014

Finally, a book about sustainability that fully accepts that the future will not be like the past. Boldly proclaiming that cities are inevitably moving toward livability, Chapple notes how traditional planning techniques cannot fully grapple with our changing demographics, the rise of the networked economy, and the shifting preferences of the next America. Utilizing the experience of the Bay Area – while making the appropriate caveats about the transportability of that experience -- she charts a different approach, one that addresses our distributional and environmental crises even as it neatly fits into an emerging economy that is both more regional and more entrepreneurial.

Struggling Giants: City-Region Governance in London, New York, Paris, and Tokyo



Pages: 344

P. Kantor, C. Lefevre

Publisher: University of Minnesota Press, 2012

Struggling Giants examines the transformation of four of the most significant metropolises: London, New York, Paris, and Tokyo. This volume analyzes the thorniest issues these sprawling city-regions have faced, including ameliorating social problems through public policies, the effect of globalization on local governance, and the relationships between local, regional, and national institutions. This ambitious comparison of the world's four most important global city regions stands out on three counts: first, it moves from the focus on the central city characteristic of most global city studies to an explication of the dynamics of their broader regions; second, it deals with the question of the governability of these regions and the extent to which they control their own trajectories; and third, it deals with the politics that differentiates these regions from each other rather than assuming that similar economic structures necessarily produce like outcomes. It is a significant contribution to our understanding of urban political economy.

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**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
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DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY
OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
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