



## Interregional contribution to the Urban Agenda for the EU

This paper aims to inform the coordinators and participants of the partnerships of the Urban Agenda for the EU how the four interregional cooperation programmes, **ESPON, Interact, Interreg Europe and URBACT<sup>1</sup>**, can contribute to the objectives and work of the partnerships with concrete inputs and activities.

Funded by the European Regional Development Fund, the four programmes are active in the entire EU territory with the objective to **improve the quality of urban, regional, national and EU policies** by providing **evidence, knowledge, tools** and **networking activities** to regional and local bodies in different countries.

Over the years, the four programmes have gradually extended their cooperation and mutual support. Since 2012, workshops at the European Weeks for Regions and Cities and common papers are among concrete joint initiatives. In the framework of the Urban Agenda for the EU, the four programmes are in best position to support the partnerships with existing and new knowledge, expertise and networking opportunities.

Upon the specific demand by the partnerships and when relevant, the four programmes, working individually or jointly, can develop tailor-made reports, data and tools, thematic inputs for events, publications, organise policy labs, seminars etc. To this end:

**URBACT** shall (continue to) contribute to the partnerships as follows:

- Participate in the two coordination bodies of the UAEU (DG meeting on Urban Matters and Urban Development Group) and in the Partnerships.
- Propose to the DG meeting on Urban Affairs, after approval of the URBACT Monitoring Committee, urban authorities to be part of **the partnerships** (as foreseen in the Pact of Amsterdam).
- **Bring knowledge and expertise** to all partnerships, from cities involved in URBACT networks<sup>2</sup>, experts and URBACT Secretariat.
- Connect its **capitalisation activities** (working groups, policy labs, seminars, publications) to topics of the Urban Agenda for the EU.
- Contribute with its **communication activities** to the upscale of the Partnership topics at European level, through the URBACT website,

<sup>1</sup> Further definitions and contact details of the programmes are provided at the end of this paper

<sup>2</sup> Currently 200 cities in 27 networks

National URBACT Points, and the URBACT City Festival planned 4-5 October 2017 in Tallinn.

- Disseminate Good Practices related to Partnerships topics in all Europe through its Transfer Networks to be launched at the beginning of 2018.

**ESPON** can contribute to the partnerships as follows:

- Support stakeholder proposals for **targeted analysis**. Urban partnerships can consider submitting a proposal for targeted analysis to support the elaboration, monitoring or implementation of an Action plan.
- Develop a **working paper and/ or a policy brief** synthesising the outcomes of previous or ongoing research on a certain subject and presenting relevant policy advice.
- Develop, when possible, **specific datasets** on certain urban subjects and integrate them in ESPON online tools.
- Support the implementation and evaluation phase of the Action Plans with **monitoring tools** that could emphasise the lessons learned, results achieved for existing partnerships and inspire new ones.
- Organise a dedicated workshop on an **ex-ante territorial impact assessment** (quick-scan) for a proposed policy intervention.
- Support the debate on the topic of the Urban Partnership by organising a dedicated **workshop** or during bi-annual **ESPON seminars**.
- Promote the Urban Agenda through ESPON's channels

**INTERACT** can contribute to the partnerships as follows:

- Providing **information and contact** related to the Interreg response to migration related challenges,
- Connect part of its **capitalisation activities** (networks, seminars, publications) to some topics of the Urban Agenda for the EU.
- Contribute through its **communication activities** to the upscale of the Partnership topics at European level, through the Interact website
- Providing information and training related to the use of **financial tools, new territorial development tools** (CLLD, JAP, ITI) that could be implemented at urban level,
- Spread information and providing access through the several **EU networks** that Interact implements and runs, as well as, its Monitoring Committee
- With **KEEP**: the database of projects and beneficiaries of European Union programmes dedicated to cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation within the EU, and between Member States and neighbouring countries.

Interreg Europe can contribute to the partnerships as follows:

- Provide regular updates on the results achieved by the running Interreg Europe projects addressing issues relevant to the Urban Agenda (e.g. smart cities, innovative procurement; energy transition, sustainable transport, circular economy)
- Bring **knowledge and expertise** from cities and regions involved in these projects
- Contribute to the Urban Agenda debate through its Policy Learning Platforms activities (e.g. peer reviews, thematic events, publications)
- Contribute through its programme **communication activities** to promote topics related to the Urban Agenda

## Contribution to the 12 partnerships of the Urban Agenda for the EU

### *Existing and upcoming evidence and networking opportunities*

	ESPON	INTERACT	Interreg Europe	URBACT
<b>Air Quality</b>		KEEP database <a href="https://www.keep.eu/keep/">https://www.keep.eu/keep/</a>	/	✓ Expert ✓ URBACT networks " <a href="#">CityMobilNet</a> ", " <a href="#">Freight tails</a> "
<b>Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Applied research activity "<a href="#">Possible European Territorial Futures</a>" (Interim – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017, final – end 2017)</li> <li>✓ Data on residential housing prices (2017)</li> </ul>	KEEP database <a href="https://www.keep.eu/keep/">https://www.keep.eu/keep/</a>	/	✓ Expert
<b>Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Policy brief "Territorial and urban aspects of migration and refugee inflow" (with EUKN, CEMR, Eurocities, November 2015)</a></li> <li>✓ Applied research activity "Flows of migrants and refugees" (2017-2018)</li> <li>✓ Targeted analysis activity "<a href="#">Territorial and urban potentials connected to migration and refugees flows</a>" - Lead stakeholder – Emilia-Romagna region (2017-2018 1<sup>st</sup> half)</li> </ul>	Network "Interreg response to migration-related challenges"	/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Expert</li> <li>✓ URBACT network "<a href="#">Arrival Cities</a>"</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Working paper on migration and refugee issues (2017)</li> </ul>			
<b>Urban Poverty</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Projects:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">ATMforSMEs</a> (micro finance)</li> <li>- <a href="#">SOCIAL SEEDS</a> and <a href="#">RaiSE</a> (Social enterprises)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Expert</li> <li>✓ Report <a href="#">Against Divided Cities in Europe</a></li> <li>✓ Report <a href="#">Integrated Regeneration of Deprived Areas and the new Cohesion Policy approach</a></li> <li>✓ URBACT networks "<a href="#">Boostinno</a>", "<a href="#">Change!</a>", "<a href="#">Vital Cities</a>", "<a href="#">MAPS</a>", "<a href="#">CIA7</a>", "<a href="#">Stay Tuned</a>", "<a href="#">URBinclusion</a>"</li> </ul>
<b>Jobs and skills in the local economy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Applied research activity "<a href="#">Geography of New Employment Dynamics in Europe</a>" (Interim – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017, final – end 2017)</li> <li>✓ <a href="#">Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in European Regions and Cities</a> (Interim – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017, final – end 2017)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Projects on entrepreneurship:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">SPEED</a></li> <li><a href="#">UPREBORN</a></li> <li><a href="#">IEER</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Policy Learning Platform related activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Expert</li> <li>✓ Reports "<a href="#">More Jobs: Better cities</a>", "<a href="#">Job Generation for a jobless generation</a>"</li> <li>✓ URBACT networks "<a href="#">Agri-Urban</a>", "<a href="#">CityCenterDoctor</a>", "<a href="#">Gen-Y-City</a>", "<a href="#">IN-Focus</a>", "<a href="#">REFILL</a>", "<a href="#">RESILIENT EUROPE</a>", "<a href="#">RETAILINK</a>", "<a href="#">TECHTOWN</a>", "<a href="#">Creative Spirits</a>", "<a href="#">INT-HERIT</a>", "<a href="#">JobTown2</a>",</li> </ul>
<b>Circular economy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Applied research activity "<a href="#">Possible European Territorial Futures</a>" (Interim – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017, final – end 2017)</li> <li>✓ Applied research activity "Circular economy and territorial consequences" (2017-2018)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Projects :               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">BIOREGIO</a></li> <li><a href="#">CESME</a></li> <li><a href="#">CircE</a></li> <li><a href="#">RETRACE</a></li> <li><a href="#">SYMBI</a></li> <li><a href="#">TRIS</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Policy Learning Platform related activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ URBACT Network "<a href="#">Agri-Urban</a>"</li> </ul>

Joint policy brief " <a href="#">Pathways to circular economy, October 2016</a> "				
<p><b>Digital transition</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Activity on Digital Health (2017-2018)</li> <li>✓ Policy Brief "Territorial and urban dimensions of digital transition in Europe", (second semester 2017)</li> </ul>		<p>3 projects: <a href="#">ERUDITE</a>, <a href="#">SKILLS+</a>, <a href="#">CISMOB</a></p> <p>Policy Learning Platform related activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Expert Report "<a href="#">New Urban Economies</a>"</li> <li>✓ URBACT networks "<a href="#">Interactive Cities</a>", "<a href="#">Smart Impact</a>"</li> </ul>
<p><b>Urban Mobility</b></p>		<p>Sustainable transport network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 14 projects on urban mobility and sustainable transport: <a href="#">PROMETEUS</a>, <a href="#">OptiTrans</a>, <a href="#">SCHOOL CHANCE</a>, <a href="#">LAST MILE REFORM</a>, <a href="#">InnovaSUMP</a>, <a href="#">RESOLVE</a>, <a href="#">DEMO-EC</a>, <a href="#">REGIO-MOB</a>, <a href="#">TRAM</a>, <a href="#">EV Energy</a>, <a href="#">SMART-MR</a>, <a href="#">CISMOB</a>, <a href="#">CYCLEWALK</a></li> <li>✓ Policy Learning Platform related activities. (<a href="#">Sustainable</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Expert Report "<a href="#">Motivating mobility mindsets</a>"</li> <li>✓ URBACT networks "<a href="#">CityMobileNet</a>", "<a href="#">Freight Tails</a>", "<a href="#">Active Travel</a>"</li> </ul>

			<a href="#">transport policy recommendations</a> )	
<b>Sustainable use of land and Nature-Based solutions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">EU-LUPA - European Land Use Patterns (2013)</a></li> </ul>		<p>12 projects dealing with sustainable use of land and nature preservation:</p> <p><a href="#">BIOREGIO</a>  <a href="#">CESME</a>  <a href="#">CircE</a>  <a href="#">RETRACE</a>  <a href="#">SYMBI</a>  <a href="#">TRIS</a>  <a href="#">ENHANCE</a>  <a href="#">GPP4Growth</a>  <a href="#">TANIA</a>  <a href="#">ECOWASTE 4 FOOD</a>  <a href="#">INTHERWASTE</a>  <a href="#">COCOON</a></p> <p>Policy Learning Platform related activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Expert</li> <li>✓ Reports "<a href="#">Sustainable regeneration of urban areas</a>", "Urban regeneration before and after the crisis" (to be published in April/May 2017)</li> <li>✓ URBACT networks "<a href="#">Second Chance</a>", "<a href="#">Sub&gt;Urban</a>", "<a href="#">Re-Generation</a>", "<a href="#">Resilient Europe</a>", "<a href="#">MAPS</a>", "<a href="#">REFILL</a>"</li> </ul>
<b>Climate adaptation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">ESPON CLIMATE - Climate Change and Territorial Effects on Regions and Local Economies in Europe (2011)</a></li> </ul>	Climate change network		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ URBACT network "<a href="#">Resilient Europe</a>"</li> </ul>
<b>Energy transition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Applied research activity "<a href="#">Low carbon economy</a>" (Interim – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017, final – end 2017)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 14 projects:  <a href="#">SET-UP</a>  <a href="#">BUILD2LC</a>  <a href="#">CLEAN</a>  <a href="#">EMPOWER</a>  <a href="#">LOCARBO</a>  <a href="#">REBUS</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Expert</li> <li>✓ Report "<a href="#">Building energy efficiency in European cities</a>"</li> </ul>

			<a href="#">SOCIALGREEN</a> <a href="#">VIOLET</a> <a href="#">ZERO2</a> <a href="#">FINERPOL</a> <a href="#">ENERSELVES</a> <a href="#">BIO4ECO</a> <a href="#">COALESCCE</a> <a href="#">SUPPORT</a>	
			<p>Policy Learning Platform related activities.</p>	
<b>Innovative and responsible public procurement</b>			<a href="#">GPP4Growth on green public procurement</a>	<p>Policy Learning Platform related activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Expert</li> <li>✓ URBACT network "<a href="#">Procure</a>"</li> </ul>



**Contribution to cross-cutting issues of the Urban Agenda for the EU**

***Existing and upcoming evidence and networking opportunities***

	<b>ESPON</b>	<b>INTERACT</b>	<b>Interreg Europe</b>	<b>URBACT</b>
<b>Effective urban governance</b> (incl.citizen participation/new models governance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Applied Research activity Comparative Analysis of Territorial Governance and Spatial Planning Systems in Europe</a> ( Interim delivery 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2017, final 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2018)</li> </ul>		<p>Projects input on policy learning</p> <p>Programme events on policy learning process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Report '<a href="#">Social Innovation in cities</a>'</li> <li>✓ "<a href="#">The URBACT Local Support Group Toolkit</a>"</li> </ul>
<b>Governance across administrative boundaries</b> (urban-rural, cross-border, etc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Targeted Analysis activity ReSSI Regional strategies for sustainable and inclusive territorial development – Regional interplay and EU dialogue</a> (2016-2017, Interim delivery 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2017, final 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2017)</li> </ul>		<p>Input from projects dealing with ETC like: <a href="#">CRinMA</a>, <a href="#">KISS ME</a>, <a href="#">EPICAH</a>, <a href="#">PASSAGE</a>.</p> <p>Input from PLP.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ URBACT network '<a href="#">Agri-Urban</a>'</li> <li>URBACT study '<a href="#">New Concepts and Tools for Sustainable Urban Development 2014-2020</a>'</li> </ul>
<b>Sound &amp; strategic urban planning</b>			<p>Input from relevant projects (e.g. on urban mobility) and from Policy Learning Platforms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ URBACT network "<a href="#">sub&gt;urban</a>"</li> </ul>
<b>Integrated and participatory approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Targeted Analysis activity SPIMA Spatial dynamics and strategic planning in metropolitan areas</a> (2016-2017, Interim delivery, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2017, final 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2017)</li> <li>✓ <a href="#">Targeted Analysis activity TCA Thinking and Planning in Areas of Territorial Cooperation</a> (2016-2017,</li> </ul>		<p>Input from projects on policy learnings</p> <p>Programme events on policy learning process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Toolkit for Local Support Groups Cities of Tomorrow-Action Today</a>,</li> <li>✓ <a href="#">URBACT II Capitalisation, Key Messages</a></li> </ul>

	<p>Interim delivery, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2017, final 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">BEST METROPOLISES - Best Development Conditions in European Metropolises: Paris, Berlin and Warsaw (2012)</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">POLYCE - Metropolisation and Polycentric Development in Central Europe: Evidence Based Strategic Options (2012)</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">METROBORDER – Cross-Border Polycentric Metropolitan Regions (2010)</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">GROSEE - Growth Poles in South-East Europe (2013)</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">TANGO - Territorial Approaches for New Governance (2014)</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">FOCI - Future Orientation for Cities (2010)</a></li> </ul>			
<p><b>Innovative approaches, including Smart Cities</b></p>			<p>Input from relevant projects and from Policy Learning Platforms</p>	<p>✓ URBACT networks “<a href="#">BoostInno</a>”, “<a href="#">Creative Spirits</a>”, “<a href="#">Smart Impact</a>”, “<a href="#">TechTown</a>”</p>
<p><b>Impact on societal change</b> (incl. behavioural change, equal access to information, gender equality and women)</p>			<p>Inputs from relevant projects. (e.g. 3 projects on innovation in health) and from Policy Learning Platforms</p>	

empowerment)				
<b>Small- and medium-sized Urban Areas and polycentric development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">TOWN – Small and Medium-Sized Towns (2014)</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">SGPTD - Secondary Growth Poles and Territorial Development in Europe: Performance, Policies and Prospects (2012)</a></li> </ul>		Input from relevant projects and from Policy Learning Platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ URBACT networks: “<a href="#">CityCenterDoctor</a>”, “<a href="#">RetailLink</a>”, “<a href="#">INT-HERIT</a>”</li> </ul>
<b>Urban regeneration</b>			Input from relevant projects and from Policy Learning Platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Report Integrated Regeneration of Deprived Areas and the new Cohesion Policy approach</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">URBACT Networks “2nd Chance”, “sub&gt;urban”, “Re-Generation”, “MAPS”, “REFILL”</a></li> <li>✓ "Urban regeneration before and after the crisis" (to be published in April/May 2017)</li> </ul>
<b>Adaptation to demographic change and in- and out migration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">DEMIFER - Demographic and Migratory Flows Affecting European Regions and Cities (2010)</a></li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Report <a href="#">‘From crisis to choice: Re-imagining the future in shrinking cities’</a></li> </ul>
<b>Provision of adequate public services of general interest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">SeGI - Indicators and Perspectives for Services of General Interest in Territorial Cohesion and Development (2013)</a></li> </ul>		Input from relevant projects and from Policy Learning Platforms	

**More information and contacts**

**ESPON is the provider of territorial evidence at European level.** ESPON supports an evidence-based policy development in relation to the aim of territorial cohesion and a harmonious development of the European territory. The programme produces (1) comparable, pan-European territorial evidence on regions, cities and larger territories, (2) offer stakeholders targeted analyses and (3) provide data and tools for policy making. Moreover, ESPON stimulates the use of European territorial evidence in policy making and programming through (4) wide outreach activities and policy briefs tailor made to the ongoing policy discourse. For more information visit [www.espon.eu](http://www.espon.eu) and contact Ilona Raugze, Director of ESPON EGTC, [ilona.raugze@espon.eu](mailto:ilona.raugze@espon.eu), +352 20 600 280

**Interact works towards increasing the effectiveness, quality, impact and awareness of Territorial Cooperation programmes.** It offers advice on all phases of the programming cycle, supports the organisation of thematic workshops, seminars and conferences, promotes Territorial Cooperation and provides good practices. As part of this mission, Interact supports networking and communication within the EU macro-regional strategies, develops cross-programme thematic capitalisation activities, proposes EU-wide harmonised procedures and promotes innovative cooperation practices. For more information visit [www.interact-eu.net](http://www.interact-eu.net) and contact Petra Masáčová, Head of the Managing Authority/ INTERACT Secretariat, [Petra.Masacova@region-bsk.sk](mailto:Petra.Masacova@region-bsk.sk)

**Interreg Europe acts as an exchange and learning programme to improve regional development policies in particular Structural Funds programmes under the Investment for Growth and Jobs goal (Goal 1) and when relevant under the European Territorial Cooperation goal (Goal 2).** Many regions in Europe are facing similar challenges related to research and innovation, SME competitiveness, low carbon economy and environment and resource efficiency. With the "Interregional Cooperation Programme Interreg Europe", the EU provides regional and local authorities with a tool to share implemented good solutions for common problems, to avoid losing time and money by reinventing the wheel and repeating the mistakes others already made. The programme serves therefore as an accelerator for local and regional development. For more information visit [www.interregeurope.eu](http://www.interregeurope.eu) and contact Erwin Siweris, Director of Interreg Europe Secretariat, [E.SIWERIS@interregeurope.eu](mailto:E.SIWERIS@interregeurope.eu)

**URBACT is the European programme fostering integrated urban development across Europe.** Since 2002, URBACT finances and enables cities to work together to develop new and sustainable solutions to major urban challenges, through networking activities, knowledge-sharing, and capacity-building for urban practitioners. For more information visit [www.urbact.eu](http://www.urbact.eu) and contact Emmanuel Moulin, Head of the URBACT Secretariat, [e.moulin@urbact.eu](mailto:e.moulin@urbact.eu), +33 185 58 61 86