



PARTNERSHIP URBAN MOBILITY

**ORIENTATION PAPER
IN BRIEF**

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This document reflects the discussion on the Partnership's future thematic focus at the time of its Kick-off Meeting in February 2017 and its second Partnership Meeting in May 2017. Specific mobility topics will be further elaborated at the Partnership Meetings – resulting in an Action Plan on Urban Mobility.

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THE URBAN AGENDA FOR THE EU

More and more people are living and working in cities. With the current European trend towards urbanisation, the importance of cities and urban areas is set to continue to grow. At the same time, cities are facing ever greater social challenges in respect of the environment, transport and social cohesion. The Urban Agenda aims to address those challenges. Cities are the place where European sectoral legislation comes together (in sometimes conflicting ways) and is being implemented. To fully exploit the potential of urban areas the urban dimension should be stronger embedded within EU policies. This explicitly does not mean new or more competences for the EU, but a better working method, focused on cooperation between the EU, Member States and cities.

The Urban Agenda for the EU was officially established by the Pact of Amsterdam, agreed by the EU Ministers responsible for urban matters in May 2016.

The Urban Agenda aims to promote cooperation between Member States, cities, the European Commission, European organisations and other stakeholders in order to achieve a sustainable, socially inclusive, innovative and economically powerful Europe. The Urban Agenda sets out a new way of working together to stimulate growth, liveability and innovation in the cities, gain maximum benefits from their growth potential and successfully tackle current and future challenges.

This new approach includes the creation of a range of European partnerships aimed at:

- promoting the involvement of cities in EU policy making, and the development, implementation and evaluation of more 'urban friendly' European legislation ('Better Regulation');
- ensuring better access to and use of European funds ('Better Funding');
- improving the European urban knowledge base and stimulating the sharing of best practice and cooperation between cities ('Better Knowledge Exchange').

The partnerships will focus on twelve agreed priority themes of the Urban Agenda for the EU. One of these is the Partnership Urban Mobility.

Mobility is a cross-sectoral topic which affects all social groups and sectors of the economy. Therefore, most EU priority objectives are related to the Partnership issues. In particular, the challenges arising from air quality, climate, energy, jobs and economic growth must be addressed. It is crucial for the overall success of the Partnership that the Action Plans of other relevant Urban Agenda partnerships are interlinked with each other.

THE URBAN AGENDA FOR THE EU FOCUSES SPECIFICALLY ON THREE PILLARS OF EU POLICY MAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION:



“Drawing on the general principles of better regulation, EU legislation should be designed so that it achieves the objectives at minimum cost without imposing unnecessary legislative burdens. In this sense the Urban Agenda for the EU will contribute to the Better Regulation Agenda.”

Urban Agenda for the EU – Pact of Amsterdam, Article 5.1

“The Urban Agenda for the EU will not create new or increased EU funding aimed at higher allocations for Urban Authorities. However, it will draw from and convey lessons learned on how to improve funding opportunities for Urban Authorities across all EU policies and instruments, including Cohesion Policy.”

Urban Agenda for the EU – Pact of Amsterdam, Article 5.2

“Reliable data is important for portraying the diversity of structures and tasks of Urban Authorities, for evidence-based urban policy making, as well as for providing tailor-made solutions to major challenges.”

Urban Agenda for the EU – Pact of Amsterdam, Article 5.3



THE PARTNERSHIP

The Partnership Urban Mobility brings together five Member States, eight cities, two regions, the European Commission (DG REGIO, DG MOVE, DG ENV), the European Investment Bank, two leading European umbrella organisations (EUROCITIES, CEMR) as well as three further stakeholders (POLIS, UITP, ECF).

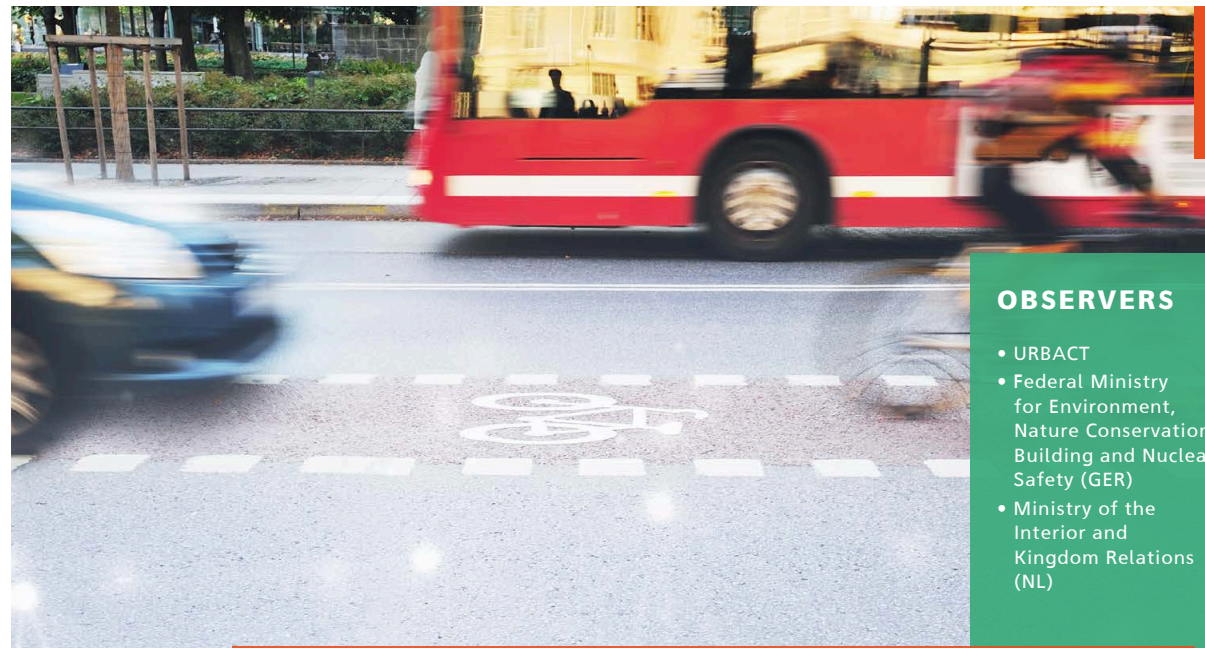
THE COORDINATORS

The Partnership is coordinated by the **City of Karlsruhe** (Executive and External Relations Department, Planning Department) and the Ministry of Regional Development of the **Czech Republic** (Department of Regional Policy, Urban Policy Unit). Both coordinators have established **Advisory Boards** which include mobility experts from other relevant national ministries, municipal departments, research institutions and universities as well as from public transport companies and the economy.

THE WORKING STRUCTURE

The **Urban Agenda Secretariat** consisting of Ecorys, EUROCITIES and the European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN) provides technical and administrative support to the coordinators.

A **Management Team** consisting of the coordinators, the secretariat and the European Commission coordinates the Partnership's day-to-day business in weekly meetings. The thematic discussion takes place in **Working Groups** where partners focus on specific mobility issues. Their outputs are discussed at **Partnership Meetings** which take place up to five times a year, depending on progress. If possible, the Partnership Meetings are linked to relevant conferences and workshops to offer an additional knowledge exchange on the Partnership's focus topics. **External Experts** can be consulted for an additional expertise on certain topics.



OBSERVERS

- URBACT
- Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (GER)
- Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations (NL)

PARTNERS

8 Cities, 2 Regions:

- Bari (IT)
- Bielefeld (GER)
- Burgas (BG)
- Gdynia (PL)
- **Karlsruhe (GER)**
- Malmö (SE)
- Nijmegen (NL)
- Skåne Region (SE)
- Torres Vedras (PT)
- Wallonia Region (BE)

5 National States:

- Cyprus
- **Czech Republic**
- Finland
- Romania
- Slovenia

2 EU Institutions:

- **European Commission**
DG REGIO
DG ENV
DG MOVE
- **European Investment Bank (EIB)**

2 Umbrella Organisations:

- Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)
- EUROCITIES

Stakeholders:

- European Cyclists' Federation (ECF)
- POLIS
- UITP

SUPPORT

Urban Agenda Secretariat: Ecorys, European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN), EUROCITIES
External Experts

PROJECT PHASES



The Partnership is set up to run for a period of three years (2017-2019). A Draft Action Plan will be developed within the first project year, to be amended and finalised after a Europe-wide consultation phase in early 2018. The final Action Plan addressing all relevant levels of governance (local, regional, national and EU-level) is scheduled for September 2018, whereby individual actions are non-binding in character. This will be followed by an implementation phase in 2018-2019.

THE OBJECTIVES

Climate change, urbanisation, congestion, pollution, the search for alternatives to fossil fuels and other limited resources, and the crisis of public budgets will shape the future of mobility in Europe. The demand for mobility must be met with varied and integrated measures and strategies for a resilient transport system. Urban mobility concepts must link metropolitan and suburban areas and tie in with cross-border traffic. Socially and environmentally compatible solutions must enhance the cityscape and conform to recent international agreements such as the Habitat III Agenda, the Paris Climate Agreement and Agenda 2030.

ADDRESSING REAL NEEDS

The Partnership complements existing initiatives to build on existing Commission papers on urban mobility. These include the Urban Mobility Package published in 2013, which encourages cities to develop integrated sustainable urban mobility policies to suit their needs and circumstances, placing an emphasis on the national level. Avoiding duplication, the Partnership aims to address

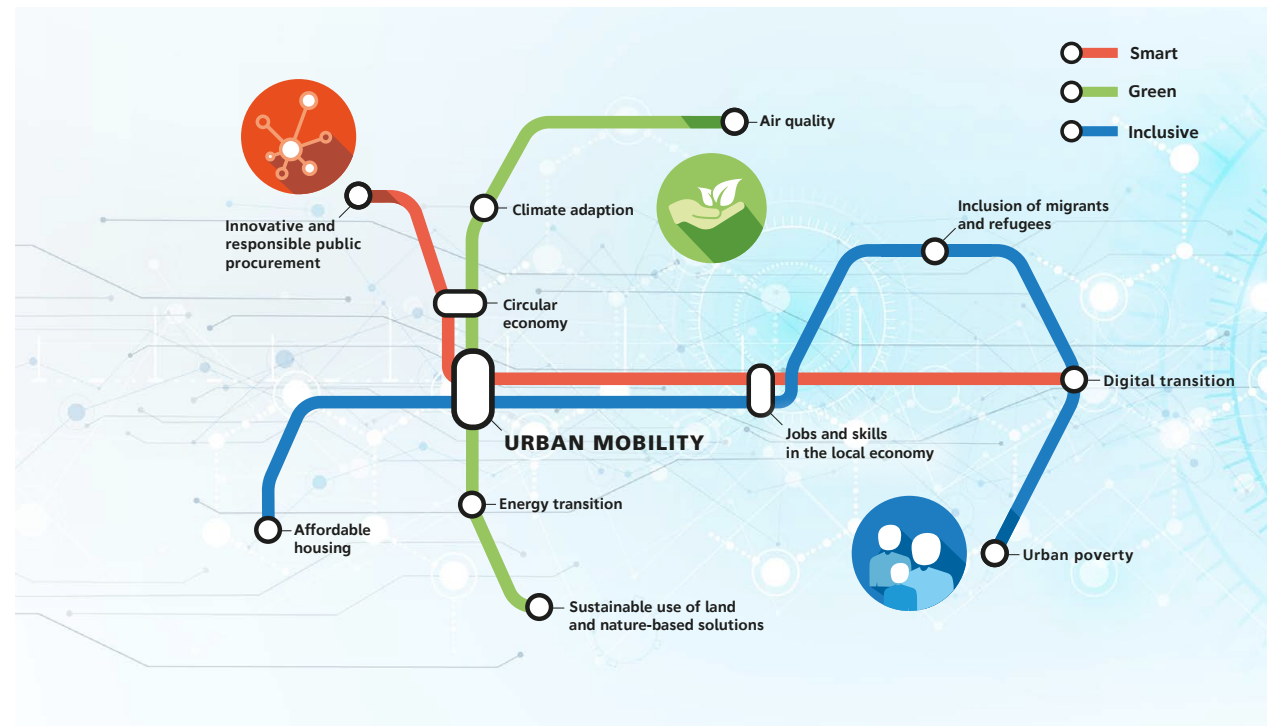
new issues. New actions must meet the real needs of a significant number of cities or Member States and should have a visible impact for European citizens. In order to ensure implementation, actions should be clear, detailed and feasible.

The Partnership seeks to set mobility in cities and functional urban areas within the broader context of sustainable urban development:

- Urban planning and mobility development represent two sides of the same coin: both depend on patterns of settlement and land use.
- Agreed limit values for climate, air quality and noise protection can only be reached by forging strong links between mobility and environmental quality.
- More than 130 cities across the European Union persistently fail air quality standards – with road transport being a key contributor to this.

- Mobility is a technical and social challenge. It is about understanding people's individual life and work conditions and focusing on their needs.
- The guiding principle is to integrate the full range of transport modes into an overall system and build on their respective strengths.
- Varied and complex challenges require a joined-up response. Infrastructure, service and organisational/regulatory measures must be implemented across all transport modes.

The Partnership aims to foster sustainable and efficient mobility in urban areas, to help provide better services to citizens, and create new opportunities based on innovative solutions. These goals can be achieved only if they are included in EU policies and legislation. The Partnership will therefore put forward legislative, political and financial proposals at EU and Member States level to promote sustainable urban mobility and share best practice throughout the EU.



THE PRIORITY TOPICS

According to the initial list of priority themes in the Pact of Amsterdam and on the basis of the partners' interests, the Partnership will focus on the following specific mobility issues:



ACTIVE MODES OF TRANSPORT (WALKING, CYCLING) AND THE USE OF PUBLIC SPACE

Walking and cycling can deliver positive effects for urban areas. And yet, the failure to recognise their full potential occurs at all levels of governance. This presents challenges to funding and strategic planning, from the EU all the way down to local level. Specific solutions to regulatory challenges require a coherent vision and strategy.

The Partnership will focus on the connections between quality of life, mobility and urban planning, to build a European vision enjoying political support. It will look at results-driven funding frameworks and the implementation of current strategies and links to funding and incentives.



INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS AND SMART MOBILITY

Existing local frameworks can be improved to ease the transition to smart mobility. Regionally, multiple providers can provide mobility services within an integrated framework. Intelligent and smart transport needs to be defined more horizontally across modes.

There is a need to look into the ways in which citizens get involved in designing new solutions, and understand emerging business and financing models. New, innovative approaches require open data and open application programming interfaces (APIs).

Innovation moves very quickly whilst regulation does not keep up with the same pace. The challenge is to keep regulation flexible whilst encouraging innovation. Funding small-scale innovation and providing support to foster growth in funded projects requires a coherent overview of funding tools.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR CITIES/ REGIONS AND MULTI-MODALITY

Distinctions between transport modes and public and private transport are becoming increasingly blurred. This challenges public transport companies to develop innovative policy responses. A further challenge relates to standardising the public transport strategy in EU cities and aligning transport planning between regions and Member States. Public transport must become more competitive. The lack of national incentives for behaviour change, efficiency and clean mobility will be addressed.

Funding frameworks must include a city dimension to enable cities of all sizes to be involved in determining EU funding priorities in order to ensure that local needs are met. Effective regulation and funding must remain focused in order to ensure coherent planning at EU/ Member State, regional, and local levels. The EU can provide frameworks to implement local incentives, but whether the national level is best suited to manage the funding of local level actions remains open to question. Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs) are a key tool for resolving these issues.



GOVERNANCE AND PLANNING

Many transport challenges are met by local and regional governments close to citizens and competent in managing urban mobility. Nevertheless, policy decisions at EU and national levels are often taken without effective local collaboration. This can make it difficult to monitor strategy implementation, to ensure that municipalities and citizens are involved in preparing strategies at all levels, to promote transparency and make the case for strategic focal points throughout all levels of governance.



VISIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION

Involving political decision-makers from the local, regional, national as well as from the EU level is crucial for the Partnership's success. Therefore, the coordinators will establish strong working relations with the "**Member States Expert Group on Urban Mobility**" – a group set-up by the European Commission which brings together experts from national transport ministries. The coordinators will address the expert group with specific questions arising from the Partnership's work.

According to the multi-level governance approach of the Partnership, a **first meeting of high-level political representatives** will be hosted by the City of Karlsruhe within the setting of the IT-TRANS fair on Intelligent

Urban Transport Systems in March 2018. Within the Partnership's consultation phase all interested European cities are invited to make a contribution to the Partnership's Action Plan. A **Europe-wide online consultation** is a first step towards a coherent and widely supported Action Plan. In addition, an **Outreach Workshop** will be held in Karlsruhe in April/May 2018, giving urban planners and local mobility experts the opportunity to discuss in detail the specific actions set-up in the draft Action Plan. The coordinators will also be present at **EUROCITIES Mobility Forum** meetings to address further city representatives. The next Mobility Forum will take place in spring 2018 in Prague. The Partnership's communication strategy also includes regular guest lectures at relevant platforms and networks as well as articles in journals and newspapers.



FEBRUARY 2017
KICK-OFF MEETING IN PRAGUE



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For further information and the full version of the Orientation Paper please visit:
www.ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/urban-agenda
www.ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/urban-mobility



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