



Cohesion Policy 2021-2027: Sustainable Urban Development - European Urban Initiative

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Research Policies & Urban Challenges
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Cohesion Policy support to cities in 2014-2020

Investments for sustainable urban development:

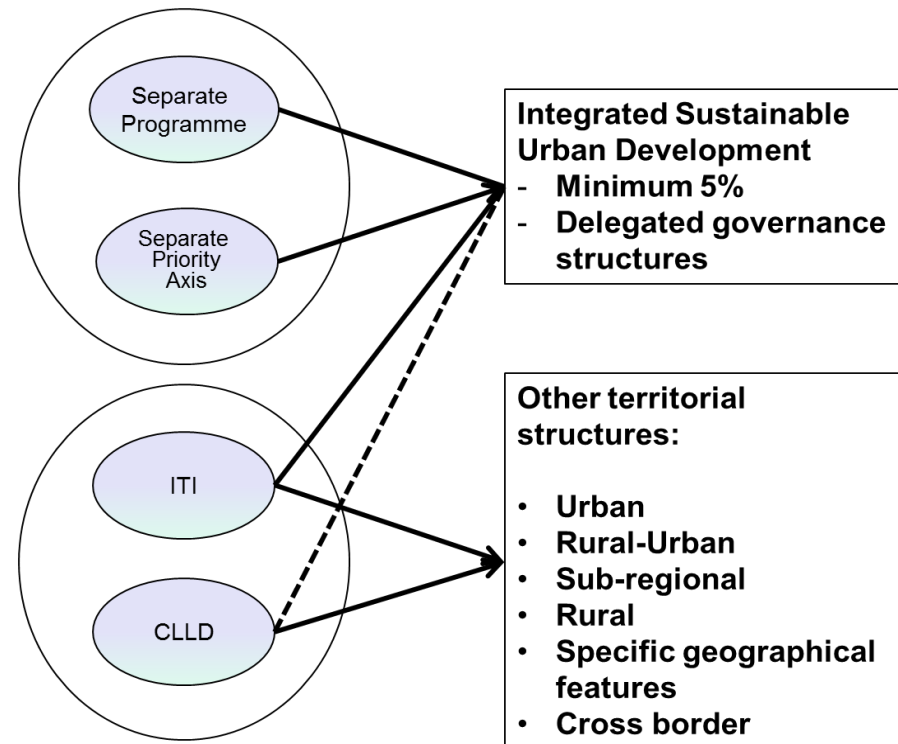
- Around EUR 15 billion (8%) of ERDF and EUR 1,5 billion ESF to sustainable urban development
- More than 900 urban strategies

Capacity building and exchange of good practices:

- Urbact III programme
- Urban Development Network

Experimentation:

- Urban Innovative Actions



Source: Van der Zwet A, Miller S and Gross F (2014) A First Stock Take: Integrated Territorial Approaches in Cohesion Policy 2014-20. EPRC

Urban Innovative Actions

Main objectives

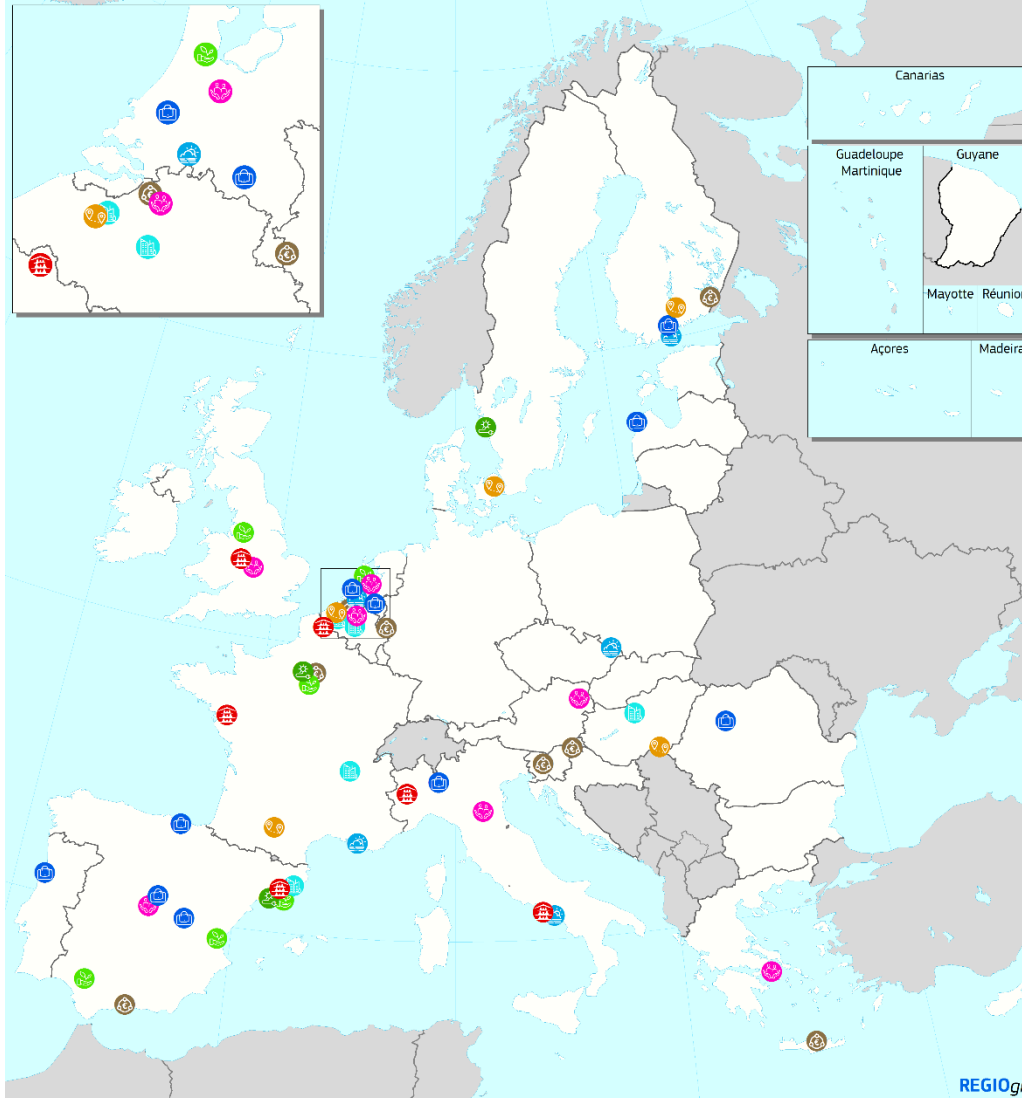
- ...“To identify and test new solutions which address issues related to sustainable urban development and are of relevance at Union level.”... (*Art.8 ERDF Regulation 2014-2020*)
- To provide urban authorities with resources to test how new and unproven solutions work in practice and how they respond to the complexity of real life
- To draw lessons and share knowledge with other urban authorities across Europe

Urban Innovative Actions










- **Thematic coverage:**
topics of the Urban Agenda for the EU
- **Beneficiaries:** main urban authority (>50.000 inhabitants), delivery partners + wider group of stakeholders
- **State of play:**
 - 3 Calls for Proposals launched
 - More than 700 proposals received
 - 55 projects currently ongoing
- **Last Call for Proposals:**
 - Opening in September 2019
 - Budget: €80-100 ml
 - Topics:
 - Air Quality
 - Circular Economy
 - Demographic change
 - Culture and cultural heritage

<https://www.uia-initiative.eu/en>





Urban Innovative Actions: Approved projects

-  Adaption to climate change
-  Integration of migrants and refugees
-  Air quality
-  Jobs and skills in the local economy
-  Circular economy
-  Urban mobility
-  Energy transition
-  Urban poverty
-  Housing

0 500 km

Urban Agenda for the EU - 12 Priority Themes



INCLUSION OF
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES



AIR QUALITY



HOUSING



URBAN POVERTY



CIRCULAR
ECONOMY



CLIMATE
ADAPTATION



ENERGY TRANSITION



URBAN
MOBILITY



DIGITAL TRANSITION



PUBLIC
PROCUREMENT



JOBS & SKILLS
IN LOCAL ECONOMY



SUSTAINABLE USE
OF LAND AND
NATURE-BASED
SOLUTIONS

Two new partnerships starting:

- Security in public place
- Culture and Cultural Heritage

Cohesion Policy 2021-2027: objectives

11 objectives simplified and consolidated to 5:

1. **A smarter Europe** (innovative & smart economic transformation)
2. **A greener, low-carbon Europe** (including energy transition, the circular economy, climate adaptation and risk management)
3. **A more connected Europe** (mobility and ICT connectivity)
4. **A more social Europe** (the European Pillar of Social Rights)
5. **A Europe closer to citizens** (sustainable development of urban, rural and coastal areas and local initiatives)

2 horizontal objectives:

- Administrative capacity building
- Co-operation between regions and across borders (embeds co-operation in mainstream)



Cross-cutting nature of Policy objective 5: it can use all investment categories and indicators from PO1-4!

Integrated Territorial Development 2021-2027

Shared management

(Partnership + Multi-level governance)



COHESION POLICY

What is integrated?

Multi-sectoral
Multi-level
Multi-stakeholder

Multi-territorial
Community-led

Integrated	Place-based
Macroregional strategies	Transnational/cross-border
Partnership Agreement	National
Programmes	Regional/national
Territorial strategies (Art. 23)	Functional (<i>Functional urban area</i>)
Local strategies (Art. 26)	Subregional (<i>metropolitan region</i>)
	Local admin (<i>City/town/suburb</i>)
	Community (<i>urb. neighbourhood</i>)

Urban dimension of Cohesion Policy 2021-2027: legislative proposal

- Policy objective 5 'Europe closer to citizens'
- Urban earmarking 6%
- Flexibility in applying integrated territorial development measures

European Urban Initiative (EUI) - legislative proposal

- EUR 500 000 000 allocated to the European Urban Initiative under direct or indirect management by the Commission
- This initiative shall cover **all** urban areas and shall support the Urban Agenda for the EU
- Strands of support:
 - (a) support of capacity-building;**
 - (b) support of innovative actions;**
 - (c) support of knowledge, policy development & communication.**

European Urban Initiative: rationale (1)

- Number and intensity of challenges facing urban areas will be more pressing in the future
- Responding to challenges in efficient and effective manner will require cities to scale up cooperation, seek new solutions, share knowledge
- Coherence of support offered to the cities



European Urban Initiative: rationale (2)

- Dedicated block of funding to support cities and the Urban Agenda for the EU
- Improved governance, higher effectiveness and efficiency of support for cities

EUI: (a) support of capacity-building

- Supporting urban practitioners and local stakeholders to improve their capacity to develop and implement sustainable integrated urban strategies and actions:
 - **Cooperation networks**
 - **Good practises and transferability**
 - **Trainings and support**

Strand (a) aims to build on the experience with URBACT, UDN and other pilot initiatives launched during the current programming period.

EUI: (b) support of innovative actions

- Innovative projects to identify and test new solutions in the area of sustainable urban development, which address issues that are related to sustainable urban development and are of relevance at Union level.

Strand (b) aims to build on the experience of the UIA and other Union programmes.

EUI: (c) support of knowledge, policy development and communication

- Support the deepening and evidence-based demonstration of urban facts and policies
- Capitalising of results of experiences and expertise 'from the ground' and from the knowledge providers (ESPON, JRC, JPI Urban Europe, Horizon Europe) - knowledge platform
- Help framing urban policy developments within the EU and bridge with other EU programmes
- Sustain the international dimension of the Urban Agenda
- In cooperation and with the agreement of the Member States, support the further development of the Urban Agenda for the EU post 2020.

Thank you for your attention!

- Urban research influencing policy making and investment decisions?
- What enablers need to be in place?
- Capacity of (urban) authorities to internalise urban research?



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