

OPENING DAYS 2012: DRAFT PROGRAMME

Urban related workshops

Opening Session – Monday 08 October 2012-09-05

Monday, 8 October

16:00 – 18:00 **08A01**

OPEN DAYS OPENING SESSION

Organisers: Committee of Regions, European Commission Directorate-General for Regional Policy, European Parliament

Venue: European Parliament, Hemicycle

Workshops – Tuesday 09 October 2012

09:00 – 10:45 **09A03**

Developing an urban policy for the EU in the 21st Century - a shared responsibility of public and private stakeholders

Followed by networking event

Organisers: European Economic and Social Committee - Section on Economic and Monetary Union, Economic and Social Cohesion (ECO)

Brief: The global environment will oblige Europe's urban areas to develop their competitiveness by investing in innovation, education and employment, guided by Europe 2020 principles. They must enhance their attractiveness to obtain investments leading to growth and jobs. Territorial policies must be adapted to the 21st Century adding value and leading to strong city-regions capable of competing with the best. Which partners are needed? How should they interact with the authorities? How to evaluate their effectiveness and what value added does the EU offer?

Three case-studies will demonstrate the shared responsibilities of public and private stakeholders and examine keys for success.

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors Building, Room JDE 63

09:00 – 10:45 **09C03**

Policy, practice and evidence - delivering results in urban mobility through interregional cooperation

Organisers: DG REGIO E1, ESPON, INTERACT, URBACT, INTERREG IVC

Brief: In today's climate of budget reductions and increasing pressure to deliver cost-effective policies, policy-makers need access to tried and tested methods and evidence of successful practices. Territorial cooperation programmes (ESPON, INTERACT, INTERREG IVC and URBACT) can provide tools to help cities and regions improve their performance. This panel session will showcase the direct benefits for sustainable mobility in the cities of tomorrow and how Green Growth is intricately linked with viable smart transport systems.

The INTERREG IVC and URBACT programmes – funding exchange of experience on regional and urban level – will demonstrate their past impact and future potential in delivering results. The individual experience of two project partners, from old and new member states, will illustrate the direct impacts on their own integrated mobility planning from the exchange of experience process.

In addition, an exclusive preview of capitalisation work will be presented. Experts will give examples of the knowledge created and how it can be transferred to and exploited by other cities and regions across Europe.

With innovative new findings related to transport accessibility at regional/local scale and patterns across Europe, ESPON will demonstrate its contribution to the evidence base for policy-makers in making informed decisions. Finally, the INTERACT programme will provide an overview of cross-border and transnational strands of European Territorial Cooperation with respect to sustainable mobility.

This panel will explore how exchange of policy experience combined with territorial evidence data can create added value European networking to enable regions and cities to deliver results and achieve EU 2020 goals.

Venue: European Commission, Centre Borschette, Room 0D

09:00 – 13:00 **09A09**

Be SMART-think CITY!- How to match smartness, sustainability and inclusion in governing Europe of tomorrow?

Organisers: Be SMART-think CITY!

Brief: Within the next Multiannual Financial Framework new opportunities for cities in post 2013 perspective will be available. A number of modern instruments shall be provided for regional and local authorities in order to facilitate sustainable and integrated development of urban areas. Moreover, effective urban performance is to be achieved only by holistic problem-solving approaches. Therefore, it is the right time to start preparation towards practical implementation of already defined attributes of SMART CITIES. Our multidisciplinary debate will give the participants opportunity to discuss breakthrough solutions towards the ‘traditional’ concept of Smart Cities (e.g. ICT solutions, clean transport, energy efficiency) as well as addressing societal and environmental challenges (health, active aging, education, water scarcity). All these elements can not be separated when achieving goals of the strategy Europe 2020, Cohesion Policy and Horizon 2020 in an integrated manner.

Venue: Art 56, Arts-Loi 56

11:15 – 13:00 **09B03**

Debate ‘URBELAC network: exchanging best practice on sustainable urban development between Europe and Latin America’

Organisers: European Commission, DG REGIO B1

Brief: Through the URBELAC (Urban European and Latin American and Caribbean Cities) network supported by the European Commission (Directorate-General for Regional Policy) and the Inter-American Development Bank, Latin American and European cities have begun exchanges of best practice on urban development topics as urban revitalization, mobility, environment, and education.

URBELAC, through round tables, working groups, field visits and permanent exchanges, is a platform to encourage direct exchanges between cities facing similar problems by sharing information, best practices and lessons learnt; and to facilitate the identification of a common set of indicators needed to measure the impacts on

sustainable development and to conceptualize integrated development processes of cities according to the guidelines for sustainability. This workshop will focus on what activities have been carried out, with presentations on urban development issues from Europe and Latin America.

Venue: European Commission Centre Borschette, Room 0B

14:30 – 17:00 **09A18**

Climate change adaption and EU cities

Organisers: European Commission, DG CLIMA C3, European Commission, DG REGIO C2

Brief: Climate mitigation and adaptation is an increasingly important part of urban development policies, and cities in Europe are considered key for the implementation of these policies and achieving effective climate adaptation. Cities are already adapting but, according to the European Environment Agency (EEA), still in a piecemeal manner. More integrated and systematic approaches are needed that understand adaptation efforts not only as a disaster risk response, but as an opportunity for upgrading urban systems – technical, institutional and societal. Understood that way, climate adaptation can offer a stepping stone to develop resilient and sustainable cities and regions supporting the Europe 2020 strategy goals of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The session will address the challenges, opportunities and ingredients, when developing integrated approaches to climate adaptation at the local level. The expected outcome of the session is an increased understanding of the success factors and barriers in effective and efficient mainstreaming of climate adaptation into urban development in European cities.

The session will be organised as a panel discussion, with the interaction of participants a key feature. The facilitator will introduce the topic and outline the dimensions of local climate adaptation. The discussion will be implemented in three rounds, with a particular focus: challenges & barriers, opportunities, and success factors.

The workshop will be supported by a major Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA) project ‘Adaptations strategies in EU cities’ and held in cooperation with both the EEA and the Metropolitan Research Institute Budapest, the main contributor to the handbook ‘Climate-friendly cities’. It will be co-chaired by the Directorate-General for Regional Policy (DG REGIO) and DG CLIMA. As panellists, participating cities to the Covenant of Mayors are foreseen, such as climate change managers from the cities of Ancona (IT), Helsinki (FI), Birmingham (UK), London (UK) and/or Copenhagen (DK).

Venue: European Commission, Centre Borschette, Room 0C

Workshops – Wednesday 10 October 2012

09:00 - 10:45 **10A01**

The potential of community-led local development (CLLD) in cities

Followed by networking event

Organisers: European Commission, DG REGIO, URBACT

Brief: This workshop aims to show case the wide range of projects that could be supported by Community Led Local Development in cities based on the experience of URBACT local support groups and local action plans:

1. Area-based regeneration projects, through the case of integrated approaches to deprived neighbourhoods, as illustrated by Kobanya, partner of the URBACT network “REG GOV”
2. Policies dedicated to specific target groups, as illustrated by the case of Antwerp, partner in a highly participative URBACT project called My Generation which put youth in the community driving seat
3. Integrated projects with a thematic focus such as employment, as illustrated by the case of Basingstoke, Lead partner of the URBACT network “ESIMEC” focusing on integrated demand-led labour market strategies.

All of these projects will consider how the principles of community led local development can be best adapted to ensure that it becomes a powerful tool for promoting more sustainable models of development in our cities over the next period of EU funding.

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors Building, Room JDE 51

09:00 - 10:45 **10C01**

RegioStars Awards 2013 - CityStar (presentation of the finalists)

Organisers: DG REGIO - RegioStars

Brief: This workshop will showcase some of the most innovative and inspiring projects which have received investment from EU Cohesion Policy.

Five projects, selected as 2013 RegioStars Awards finalists in the category 4 - 'CityStar: Integrated approaches to sustainable urban development' - will be presented as examples for other regions of the excellent and innovative work being done on the ground:

- "WienWin' – Vienna, Austria
- "Park Spoor Nord" – Antwerp, Belgium
- "Neighbourhood Management Berlin" – Berlin, Germany
- "Revitalisation of Mill islands" – Bydgoszcz, Poland
- "MalmöLund – Metropolitan region" – Malmö, Sweden

The annual RegioStars Awards have been organised by the European Commission since 2008 to identify good practices in regional development and to highlight original and innovative projects which could be attractive and inspiring to other regions.

RegioStars 2013 has seen a record 149 applications from project promoters and regions from all Member States. The RegioStars Jury, chaired by Mr Luc Van den Brande, have chosen 27 across 5 categories that will compete for the final awards in a ceremony in February 2013. This workshop will be introduced and animated by two members of the RegioStars Jury

Venue: European Commission, Charlemagne, Room Jenkins

11:15 - 13:00 **10A06**

Capital Cities and regions: key to Europe's smart future

Organisers: Capital Cities and Regions network

Brief: Ten European Capital Cities and Regions will gather in the framework of the 10th edition of the Open Days to focus on efficient ways to implement the EU strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The debate will highlight the important role Capital Cities and Regions play in moving towards a greener economy in order to achieve smart growth for all. The debate will furthermore focus on and how Cohesion Policy can contribute to all this. Questions such as “is Cohesion Policy post -2013 the right tool for Capital Cities and Regions to achieve 2020 goals and can Cohesion Policy re-launch growth in the EU?” will be raised and addressed. While taking into account the current state of negotiations the participants will exchange views on what is currently on the table and if this package is adequate to achieve Europe 2020 goals and objectives.

Venue: Brussels Info Point (BIP), Place Royale 10

11:15 - 13:00 **10B09**

Contributing to rural-urban bonds in peri-urban regions

Organisers: Contributing to rural-urban bonds in peri-urban regions

Brief: In view of current developments in cohesion policy and rural development policy, the multi-annual financial framework and European initiatives such as RURBAN, this timely workshop will contribute to the debate on rural-urban bonds – particularly in peri-urban regions where there is growing pressure on space and resources.

Challenges include:

1. The limited integration of the city with its surrounding areas and the countryside where the physical barriers are not so visible (peri-urban)
2. Managing competition for resources by urban and rural functions.
3. Setting effective policies
4. Engaging all governance levels
5. Identifying and transferring best practices.

Venue: vleva, Liaison agency Flanders-Europe, Kortenberglaan 71

14:30 - 17:00 **10A16**

Innovative regions and cities for territorial development

Followed by networking event

Organisers: Committee of the Regions, Political Group European People's Party (EPP)

Brief: In order to achieve the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy, we have to focus more on innovation and research, while taking account of the innovation potential of regions and cities. It is therefore essential that regional politicians and policy-makers, as well as locally-based universities and research institutes begin to actively develop joint regional innovation strategies based on smart specialisation. In addition, the EU, national and regional research and innovation agendas must be coordinated.

A particular attention should be also paid to various financing sources, including regional and local budgets, business contributions and a number of EU financial instruments. For instance, EU cohesion policy and Horizon 2020 contribute to enhancing the skills and innovation capacity, as well as to developing instruments and cooperation that promote intra-European cooperation between regions.

EPP/CoR Group continues its contribution to the implementation of the EUROPE 2020 strategy, in the context of future Cohesion Policy 2014-2020. This year's workshop will focus on the Innovation Union flagship initiative, assessed from various angles such as: energy efficiency, SMEs and modernising public administration.

In addition the workshop will also showcase best practices in these fields and will be followed by a networking session.

The key findings of the debate will be documented on-line during the workshop and the participants will interact as well by voting to define the most relevant outcomes. This will facilitate the discussion at the networking event (Atrium 5, COR) that will follow the workshop.

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors Building, Room JDE 63

14:30 - 17:00 **10A17**

How can EU cohesion policy funds support the activities of Covenant of Mayors signatories?

Followed by networking event

Organisers: Committee of the Regions, Europe 2020 Monitoring Platform - Covenant of Mayors Office, Covenant of Mayors Office, European Green Capital Award

Brief: Local and regional authorities see both the urgency and the opportunity to reinforce their commitment to Europe's recovery by investing in sustainable energy. To achieve the ambitious goal of meeting and exceeding the EU target of a 20% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2020, local and regional governments should be supported in gaining access to finance. The panelists and the audience will discuss the importance of EU funding and innovative financing schemes to ensure the success and expansion of the Covenant of Mayors initiative. While the Covenant's focus on energy is fundamental, efficient use of resources is also important and many Covenant signatories already act in this field.

The debate will bring together signatories of the Covenant of Mayors, European Green Capitals finalists, Members of the Committee of the Region and representatives of the European Commission. Questions to be discussed include: How can the EU institutions support signatories in their efforts? How can cohesion policy funds be used to implement local sustainable energy policies? How can the Covenant be extended geographically and thematically?

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors Building, Room JDE 62

14:30 - 17:00 **10B15**

Fostering a better governance of territorial integration of urban areas

Organisers: European Commission, DG REGIO C2

Brief: Europe faces strong challenges with regard to the economic and financial crisis which affects public budgets and cities' budgets. Competition between cities may be a zero-sum game or even be detrimental to regional development. Cities' ability to contribute to Europe 2020 strategy objectives calls for a better integration of urban areas and joint work between cities. Governance is a core challenge in this context.

Both research work and practical examples will be presented in this workshop, illustrating how new forms of governance may foster this integration and positively impact on cities' performances, and the main principles that could be applied. Results of projects or studies funded under the URBACT programme, the European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN) and the EMI institute will be presented with a view to bridging the gap between current research and findings – based on European cooperation or comparative analysis – and the broader

usability of these by practitioners. The workshop will leave time for interactions with the audience in order to discuss questions and issues at stake in this context.

The following issues will be covered:

- Territorial integration of urban areas;
- New forms of multi-level governance for polycentric urban areas and cities' networks; and
- Connecting cities through new forms of partnerships.

Target group: Policy-makers from regional and local administration, ESF/ERDF Managing Authorities, representatives of civil society and other stakeholders.

Venue: European Commission, Centre Borschette, Room 1D

Thursday 10 October 2012

09:00 - 10:45 **11A01**

Community-led territorial energy roadmaps (CLLD)

Followed by networking event

Organisers: Energy Cities

Brief: The workshop will focus on community-led local development dedicated to sustainable energy issues, with a specific focus on foresight experiences. How can stakeholders and communities collaborate with local authorities in order to develop joint long-term energy roadmaps leading to a transition towards a sustainable energy future?

Representatives of local authorities involved in projects aiming at stakeholders involvement based on multi-actors governance will present their experiences. They will have the opportunity to discuss the role of the EU in supporting these processes with representatives of European institutions and stakeholders interested in local energy transition and the concept of low-energy cities.

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors Building, Room JDE 51

The OPEN DAYS UNIVERSITY- Preliminary Programme

Tuesday 09 October 2012

11:15 - 13:00 **09UNIV01**

Cities of tomorrow: Urban futures in a changing world

Organisers: The Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) Urban Europe

Brief: The future of Europe will be decided in its cities. Today, a majority of Europe's population lives in urban regions that generate a large portion of our welfare. They are engaged in a worldwide competition for quality of life, productivity and communications; they compete for investments and the 'best brains'. At the same time, they confront us with environmental damage, urban sprawl, problems of urban traffic and transport, social cohesion issues, including segregation of migratory groups, security problems, and the need to adapt to the climate change.

In trying to address global urban challenges and joint European solutions, the research Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) Urban Europe has set up a forward-looking activity that aims at partnering up with China in

identifying the megatrends driving the urban dynamics in both Europe and Asia. A reflection process was also launched by DG REGIO in 2010 on ‘Cities of Tomorrow’ that formed a part of the wider discussions on the future of regional policy and how it can support towns and cities to tackle the challenges of today. The workshop will build on and address the cornerstones of these developments and bring together top experts from both Europe and Asia for a scientific debate on urban futures in a changing world with high relevance for and attention to cohesion policy.

The JPI Urban Europe is a Member State-led initiative that coordinates the urban-related research programmes of the participating countries in order to exploit synergies between the national research programmes and European ones. The initiative will elaborate a Strategic Research Agenda and implement it through multi-annual joint actions and calls for proposals. The JPI Urban Europe represents a forward-looking research initiative with an integrated approach to sustainable urban development across its research interfaces of economy and innovation, mobility, society and ecology.

Venue: European Commission, Charlemagne, Room Mansholt

14:30 - 17:00 **09UNIV03**

Smart academic cities: the way to sustainable and inclusive regional growth

Organisers: European Office of Cyprus, Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe (UNICA)

Brief: In times of budgetary austerity, regions need to better capture the ‘transformative power of innovation’ and adopt more holistic strategies that take full advantage of their innovation potential. Universities cater for all three corners of the knowledge triangle and play a vital role in sustainable and inclusive regional growth by enhancing regional innovation through their research activities; promoting enterprise, business development and growth; contributing to the development of regional human capital and skills; and improving social equality through regeneration and cultural development.

This workshop is focused on the innovative concept of ‘Smart Academic Cities’ where all six dimensions of a ‘Smart City’ are applied: Smart People, Smart Economy, Smart Governance, Smart Mobility, Smart Environments, and Smart Living. A Smart Academic City can function efficiently only when all its actors cooperate together. The workshop will offer the floor to different city stakeholders: renowned academics and researchers in the field of urban development, policymakers, businesses, and students. It will showcase good practices and offer a lively forum for the exchange of ideas and knowledge on how Smart Academic Cities can foster regional and local economic development. The workshop moderator will facilitate the interaction between the panellists and the audience.

The workshop is supported by the Capital Cities and Regions Network (CCRN) regional partnership.

Venue: European Commission, Charlemagne, Room Mansholt