

Driving
change
for better
cities

Join [u]s!

The call for Action Planning
Networks in a nutshell

Jenny Koutsomarkou,
URBACT Secretariat, 15/02/2023

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European Territorial Cooperation programme co-funded by ERDF

Since
2002



Over
1000
cities
involved



more than
150
networks

Promoting sustainable urban development

URBACT



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URBACT IV builds on URBACT III legacy:

- Networks of cities (three types)**
- Capacity-building activities**
- Communication & knowledge activities**

Three types of networks under URBACT IV

1. Action-planning networks

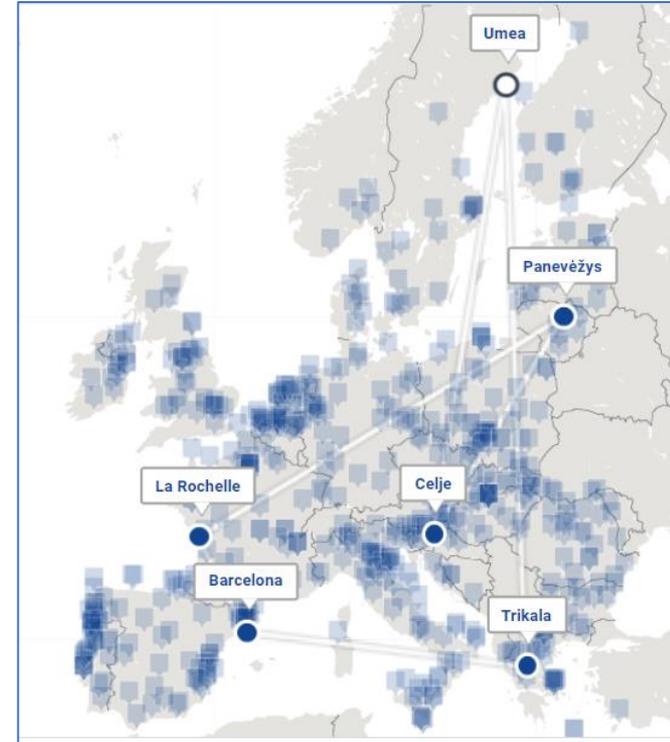
cities to co-produce Integrated Action Plans

Open from 9 January to 31 March 2023:

urbact.eu/get-involved

2. Transfer networks

cities to transfer & adapt an existing good practice from another city



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[Three types of networks under URBACT IV

3. Innovation transfer mechanism

cities to adapt the experience of a successful Urban Innovative Actions' project and develop an investment plan to implement it.

Novelty under URBACT IV

Novelties under URBACT IV

Collaboration with European Urban Initiative

Especially when it comes to:

National Contact Points

Innovation Transfer Mechanism networks

Capacity-building, communication

URBACT



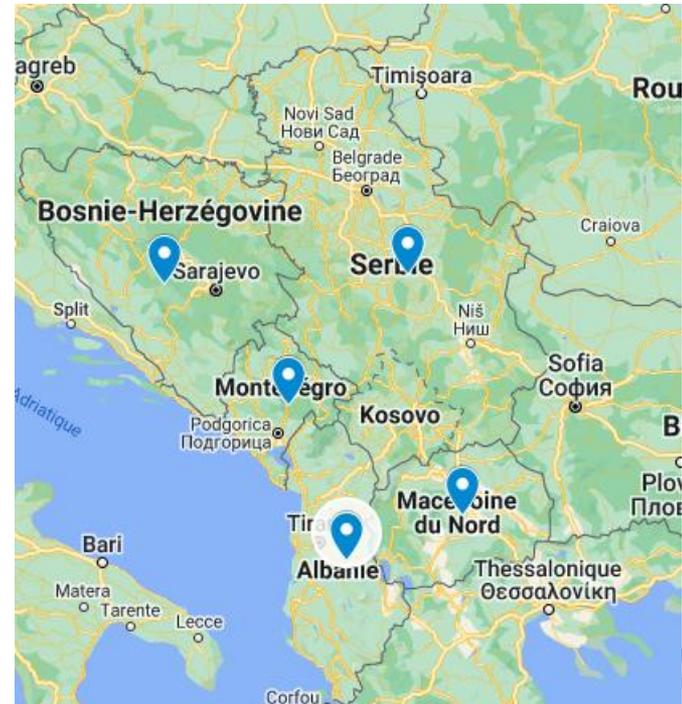
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Novelties under URBACT IV

Expanded geographical coverage

Cities from 5 EU pre-accession (IPA) countries:

Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia



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European Union

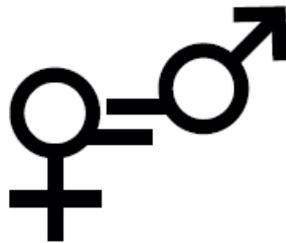
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Novelties under URBACT IV

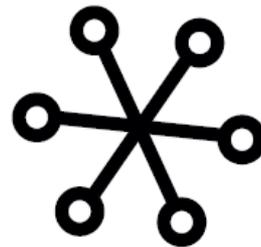
Principles to be taken into consideration by networks, knowledge hub, capacity-building activities



Green



Gender



Digital



THE OFFER

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Why apply?

- To get inspired by other cities across Europe
- To develop & implement actions in response to your local challenges
- To strengthen your skills in participatory & integrated policy-making
- To make a difference in your city

✓ **OPEN TO ALL THEMES/ POLICY CHALLENGES** in line with EU Cohesion policy objectives

+ Cross – cutting aspects to be tackled during the journey: Digital transformation, Gender, Green transition



What to expect?

Exchange & learning
activities amongst cities



An URBACT
Local Group

Capacity
building



Testing actions

Communication
and visibility



Up to
EUR 850 000
per network



An Integrated
Action Plan

Support by

URBACT
Experts

URBACT
Secretariat

National
URBACT Points

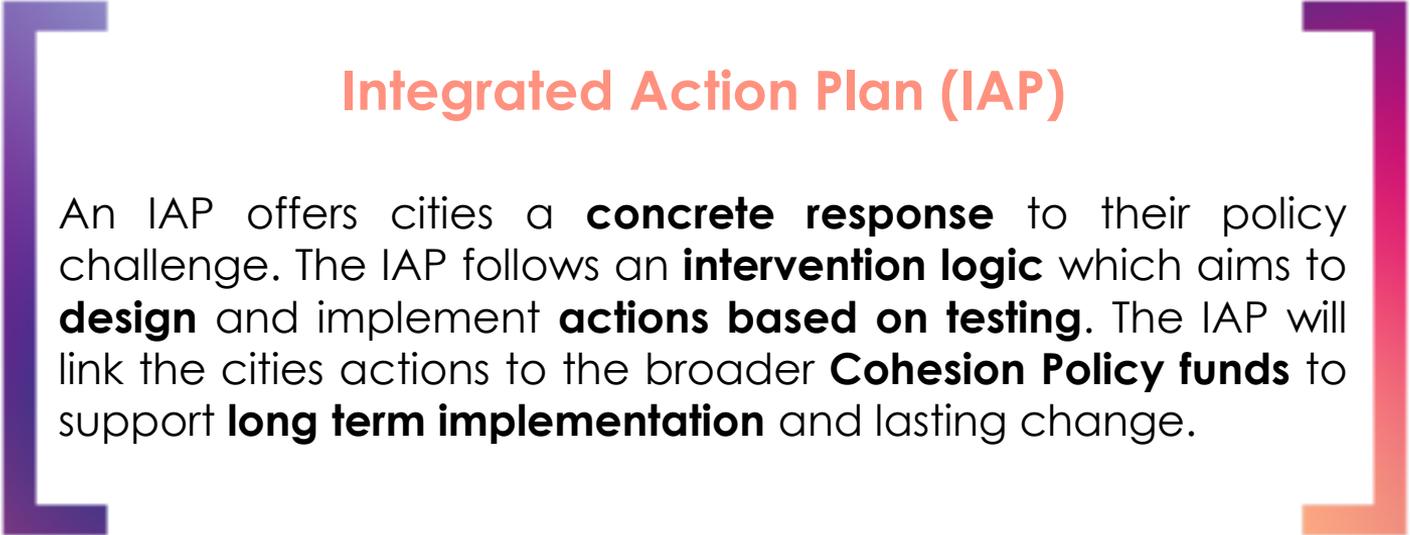
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Key expected result



Integrated Action Plan (IAP)

An IAP offers cities a **concrete response** to their policy challenge. The IAP follows an **intervention logic** which aims to **design** and implement **actions based on testing**. The IAP will link the cities actions to the broader **Cohesion Policy funds** to support **long term implementation** and lasting change.



How?

By providing a *safe space* with 31-month *step by step* journey



- Designing customised methodology for network exchange and learning
- Setting up URBACT Local Groups

- Exploring solutions, practices, case studies and providing inspiration
- Engaging stakeholders by testing and co-designing actions

- Focusing on operationalisation by drawing lessons from testing activities
- Identifying the necessary and possible resources for specific actions

- Celebrating and sharing future prospects of “Ready to implement” Integrated Action plans.



PROGRAMME
SUPPORT



Network experts



URBACT Toolbox



Digital



Gender



Green



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Apply to the URBACT call for Action Planning Networks!

Open: 9 January till 31 March
2023 at 15:00 CEST

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Network composition

Mainly cities from:



& Switzerland, Norway
Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina,
Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia

8-10 Partners



Lead Partner

Learn more on :
urbact.eu/get-involved

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Main beneficiaries

« CITIES » :

- **Cities, municipalities, towns**
- **Local agencies defined as public or semi-public organisations** set up by a city
- **Infra-municipal tiers of government** such as city districts and boroughs
- **Metropolitan authorities** and **organised agglomerations**

No limitations in terms of size and population

« NON - CITIES » :

- **Universities and research centres, Provincial/ Regional authorities, Managing Authorities (EU Cohesion and solidarity funds)**

Institutions from:

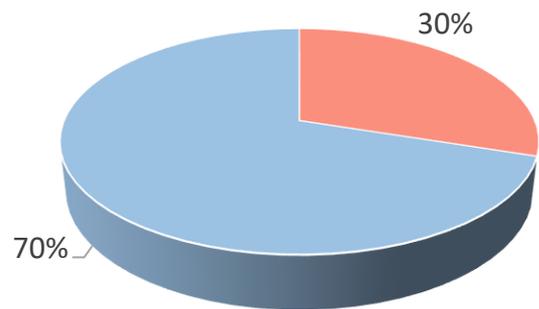
1. **27 EU Members States**
2. **Partner States** (Switzerland and Norway)
3. **IPA countries** (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia)*
4. **Other countries** (but on own costs)

**5 IPA countries novelty – check carefully if the legal framework is fully set and in place in a particular IPA country*

Partnership eligibility requirements

- ✓ **2 “non-city partners”** allowed per network
- ✓ **A beneficiary** can be a partner in **max. 2 approved networks**
- ✓ **A city can be a candidate Lead Partner of one Action Planning Network proposal only** (but can be additionally a Project Partner in another network)
- ✓ **Only cities from the 27 EU MS can be Lead Partners** under this call
- ✓ **A partnership** must include **partners** from **at least 7 different countries**

Partnership balance



- More Developed Regions
- Less Developed Regions & Regions in Transition

Partners from non-EU countries not counted in this geographical coverage of EU region types

Financial resources for the network

- Network budget:**
Up to EUR 850 000
(total incl. local co-financing)

+ Additional resources for expertise fees:

Up to 170 days of expertise = EUR 144 500

(paid by the programme directly)

Region type	Co-financing rate
Partners from EU « more developed regions »	Up to 65% by ERDF
Partners from EU « transition regions »	Up to 70% by ERDF
Partners from EU « less developed regions »	Up to 80% by ERDF
Partners from Norway*	Up to 50% by Norwegian national funds
Partners from Switzerland*	Up to 50% by a Swiss national fund
Partners from IPA countries*	Up to 95% by IPA Funds
Partners from other countries	Participation at own costs

**Information around the conditions to participate have to be checked with the national authorities concerned.*

A large, stylized graphic consisting of two vertical brackets. The left bracket is purple and the right bracket is a gradient from purple to orange. They are positioned on the left side of the slide, framing the text.

**How to find
partners?**

Partner Search Tool to:

- Submit a network idea
- Look for partners
- Find a network idea to join



Join [u]s!

Go to the URBACT Partner Search Tool and submit your idea!

urbact.eu/partnersearchtool

ACTION PLANNING NETWORKS

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The graphic features a central circular logo with the text 'ACTION PLANNING NETWORKS' and a network diagram. It is set against a red background with a large blue speech bubble containing the main text and URL. Logos for URBACT and the European Union are at the bottom.

Through the National URBACT Points

urbact.eu/how-find-us

NATIONAL INFO DAYS

Have a look at the events National URBACT Points are organising in your countries and languages to present the call! Save the date for the national Info Days:

- [BELGIUM: 17 January 2023, Brussels, from 14:00 to 17:00 CET](#)
- [BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA: 3 March 2023, online event](#)
- [CROATIA, 18 January 2023, from 11:00 to 13:00 CET, online event](#)
- [CZECHIA: from 18 January to 16 February 2023, 15 February in Liberec, 21 February in Prague](#)
- [ESTONIA: 12 January 2023, Tallinn](#)
- [FINLAND: 7 February 2023, Helsinki](#)
- [FRANCE & LUXEMBOURG: 1 February 2023, Paris](#)
- [GERMANY & AUSTRIA: 19 January 2023, online event](#)
- [GREECE & CYPRUS: 17 January 2023 from 10:00 to 16:00, Athens. 23 February 2023 from 10:00 to 15:00, Nicosia](#)

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**More
information**

On our website: urbact.eu/get-involved

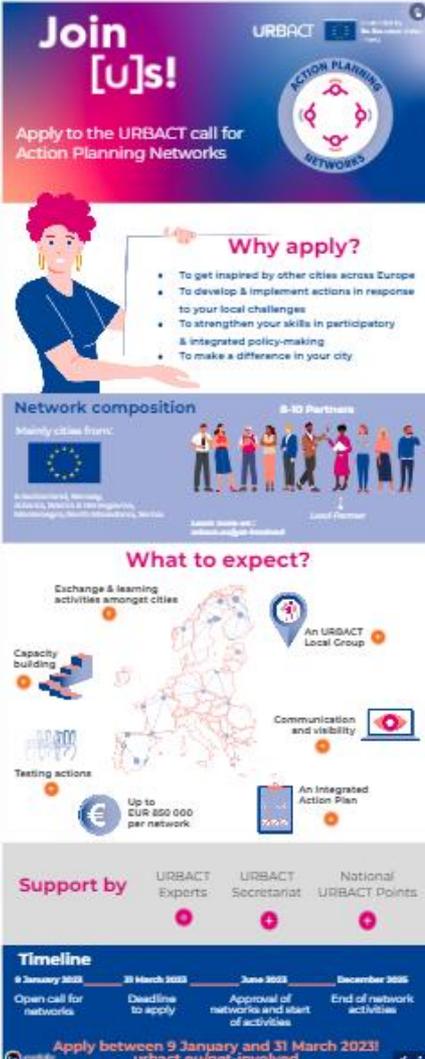
Main documents:

- ✓ Terms of Reference
- ✓ Guide for applicants
- ✓ Programme Manual



Infographic in every EU language

+ Visuals and news to communicate to your cities & regions



Join [u]s! URBACT 2023
Apply to the URBACT call for Action Planning Networks

Why apply?

- To get inspired by other cities across Europe
- To develop & implement actions in response to your local challenges
- To strengthen your skills in participatory & integrated policy-making
- To make a difference in your city

Network composition

Mainly cities from:  14 countries in Western, Eastern, North & Southern, Mediterranean, North-eastern, Nordic

Local groups are:     

What to expect?

- Exchange & learning activities amongst cities
- Capacity building
- Testing actions
- Up to EUR 850 000 per network
- Communication and visibility
- An URBACT Local Group
- An Integrated Action Plan

Support by URBACT Experts, URBACT Secretariat, National URBACT Points

Timeline

9 January 2023	31 March 2023	June 2023	December 2023
Open call for networks	Deadline to apply	Approval of networks and start of activities	End of network activities

Apply between 9 January and 31 March 2023!
urbact.eu/get-involved

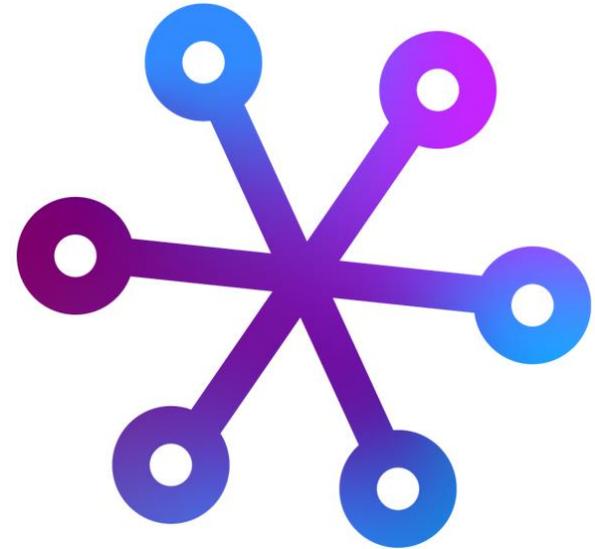
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[Join [u]s for the next online info sessions

- 7 March, 10:00 - 11:00 CET:
Time to submit your application - troubleshooting
- 9 March 10:00-11:00 CET:
Digital transition: is your city keeping up?

Join [u]s to:

- > *Understand what digital transition means for cities*
- > *Be aware of its potential for cities*



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**Even more
information ?**

 For further questions

✓ Contact apn@urbact.eu

✓ Subscribe to our newsletter

<https://urbact.eu/subscribe-newsletter>

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MORE INFORMATION AT
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