



FIN-URB-ACT

Integrated Urban Actions for Fostering and Financing
Innovative Economies and

FIN-URB-ACT Strategy for the FINAL Report



European Union
European Regional Development Fund

Connecting cities
Building successes



The Final Report for FIN-URB-ACT was elaborated together with the Lead Partner (Patrick Fourquette), The Lead Expert and the Thematic Coordinator (German Association for Housing, Urban and Spatial Development). The content was discussed with all FIN-URB-ACT Partners.

The Final Report will be made of two parts:

- 1: The Overall Final Report**
- 2: The Executive Summary**

1. The Overall Final Report:

The Overall Final Report will be burned on a CD, since there will be numerous Annexes from the partners. The Final Report will be also made for distributions. The Final Report will also conclude the outcomes of the Executive Summary.

DRAFT CONTENT FINAL REPORT for FIN-URB-ACT Project

The final report will be made of 2 parts:

- **the executive summary**
- **detailed attachments**

1 the executive summary

1.1 Project rationale *2 pages*

Introduction

Project description main issues thematically

Project set-up (how many partner, how many countries covered, which partners, how many experts involved + their role

Objectives set by the partnership (main objectives and sub-objectives)

1.2 FIN-URB-ACT Approach *(1 page)*

- overall description of the approach (LSG, LAP, exchange)
- what took place (LSG meetings locally, thematic meetings on EU level)
- expert support

1.3 Results – Main findings by themes *(4 workgroups) (6 + x Pages)*

- a) Illustration of the 4 themes with examples of instruments and actions implemented in the LAPs
- b) Added value of the project for the partner cities (table)
- c) Conditions of success

- 2 **LAP Summaries: what was achieved by each partner city with tables of LSG Members (40-60 Pages)**
- 3 **Commented table of exchanges of experience in the network (City to City)**
1-2 Pages
- 4 **Table of network meetings with themes**
- 5 **Financial data (General Overview Table 1.1.)**
- 6 **Annexes**

2. The Executive Summary:

The Executive Summary will be the most important outcome for communication issues. It will be translated in all partner languages and will summarise the most important implementations of the LAPs and the best practices that have been developed by the partners. The Executive Summary will be a printed output with approximately 15-20 Pages.

WORK GROUP 1: Cities and Managing Authorities

- Edinburgh: Abstract to the ESIF, East of Scotland Investment Fund
- Reims used FIN-URB-ACT to formalise the cooperation between the city and the Managing Authorities (local policy as a whole/ parts supported by a formal agreement between the city and the Managing Authorities with the city as a matching fund in the project, there was a formal agreement and a formal application)
- Aachen: involvement of their Managing Authorities on how to form a Euroregion in relation with the necessity to form clusters → Elat = Methodology to form a European Cluster? What kind of relationship does it mean, what kind of relationship with their Managing Authorities → what is valid for Aachen is it the cooperation platform of Brigitte Grandt
- Gliwice: Managing Authority: cooperation between the city and the Silesian centre of Entrepreneurship
- Galati: started the dialogue with the MAs (mid term evaluation/ Galati survey change in the measure)
- Maribor: Concept of Town Centre Management including the Managing Authority. The MA could get involved (technical/legal study) the city is waiting for political decisions
- Aveiro: comprehensive application with the Managing Authorities which was submitted for funding by the structural funds; For each action they have put several components in their programme → this is a different approach of the traditional approach, there are no more single project but a whole package of measures being submitted to the MA

First draft of the conclusions:

- Definitely the relationship and the role between the cities and the Managing Authorities is really complementary

- However, the MA can give the cities access to EU funding
- MA realised that cities can design comprehensive projects, with an integrated approach, this can be illustrated with Aveiro, Galati and Edinbrugh (ESIF with capacity of another diversification, leverage effect with the OP's and other local authorities and also with Aachen (TTR/Elat) and Reims with the application to existing OP's when cities have not been involved in the design
- NRW: a kind of model to use (Brigitte Grandt)

WORK GROUP 2: Small Scale Projects

- Edinburgh: Survey on small scale projects
- Reims: short abstract on what they have found from the survey
- Reims had a comprehensive programme, could be a model for other cities
- Linz: mapping methodology
- Leipzig designed and implemented the micro-creditfund including the respective advisory services
- Gliwice: with the survey Gliwice realised the weakness of organisation confirmation that they have a role to play herewith they gained there legitimacy.
- Gijon: made the survey on innovative businesses
→ outcome of 17 suggestions for improvements and 18 conclusions
- Gijon: Microcredits
- Town Centre Management
- Galati: Small businesses: survey was very useful to gain more information locally. Although many EU surveys exist, however targeted approach shows more a more detailed results which could influence the measures during the midterm evaluation of the SME support programme
- Galati is preparing a comprehensive support package like Aveiro (skeleton) and could reach the level of consultancy in order to make the measures more SME friendly; comprehensive application und the umbrella of the city. Galati is following the same path as Aveiro
- Maribor: Small businesses: concept of Town Centre Management including the Managing Authority. The MA could get involved (technical/legal study) and is waiting for political decisions; particular exchange with Gijon

First draft of the conclusions:

- Main question: several instruments have been designed, are surveys useful? YES
- Yes, as they are useful for targeted businesses to change the local policy; outcome for Galati: the city can be the coordinator (influence with the relation to the Managing Authorities)
- the survey can be used for the mapping as a smooth and comprehensive approach for further mapping methodology as it was developed by Linz an tested by Aveiro
- Survey and the mapping methodology are complementary
- System can be seen by the stakeholders, and the system can be seen by the users of the survey
- One stop shops: common with innovative SMEs (Reims/Gliwice)
- Targeted application of specific instruments: Micro Fund, leverage effects

WORK GROUP 3: Innovative and High Tech Projects

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- Edinburgh: with the ESIF
- Aachen: Description of the project Elat: How to reach a critical mass, how to reach out businesses to form a cluster with neighbouring regions?
- Linz: Mapping Methodology innovative Industries/ Gründerkompass → As a one stop shop Survey methodology is applicable/ survey shows what is missing → Relations to the survey in Reims, main issue that needs to be addressed is a single advisor mapping system and survey developed by Linz was applied by Aveiro. Gliwice has it in mind.
- Gijon: feasibility of the Venture Capital Fund
- Comprehensive paragraph for businesses needs: Investor Readiness Arena (innovative) or the PREBIZ (with the combination of existing services, support to business plans, preincubator).

WORK GROUP 4: Communication

- Edinburgh: external communication ESIF (involvement of media, involvement of the website, business gateway to show local instruments)
- Reims: Communication: 50% by the region; CREA Reims, small scale/ innovative industry → as a comprehensive instrument
- Leipzig: Communication: what is the municipality doing at the moment in order to make raise the awareness of the Microcredit fund? Communication campaign under which umbrella? → a strong commitment is good for the major/city as the MC Fund is an offspring from the moreover, Leipzig, need to communicate that the Microcredit Fund is fully designed by the municipality in order to develop other projects
- Gliwice: establishment of the Website, having evaluated the survey, Gliwice realised shortcomings in local SME support schemes. They have to prepare the internal communication in order to take political position on SME support as central and pivotal, moreover Gliwice started to apply for funding with the local University
- Aveiro: Communication: investor readiness arena, teaching entrepreneurship in secondary schools

First draft of the conclusions:

- All cities had a strong communication plan
- The communication plans have to have several dimensions internal (see Leipzig, Gliwice) and External (Edinburgh, Aveiro)
- Important dimension: exchange of experience makes the network valuable and leads to mutual fertilisation

URBACT II

URBACT is a European exchange and learning programme promoting sustainable urban development.

It enables cities to work together to develop solutions to major urban challenges, reaffirming the key role they play in facing increasingly complex societal challenges. It helps them to develop pragmatic solutions that are new and sustainable, and that integrate economic, social and environmental dimensions. It enables cities to share good practices and lessons learned with all professionals involved in urban policy throughout Europe. URBACT is 181 cities, 29 countries, and 5,000 active participants

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