

June 2010



Welcome to the June 2010 edition of the RUnUP newsletter. This edition will contain information on the upcoming Thematic Network Event in Barakaldo, Spain, as well as feedback from other recent RUnUP events.
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Thematic Network Event

Innobak – Business Centre,
Barakaldo, Spain
17 June 2010



The final Thematic Network Event in the RUnUP work plan will take place at the Innobak business centre in Barakaldo on 17 June 2010. The event will focus on local strategies for talent attraction and retention, featuring introductions from the RUnUP lead expert Dr. Clive Winters, case studies from across the RUnUP network as well as several local stakeholders including the president of Inguralde Mr. Alfonso Garcia. For practical information please consult the guidance on the RUnUP website www.urbact.eu/runup or contact : m.lacabex@prospektiker.es

ULSG Study Visit: Coventry UK

The Lead Partner recently held a two day study visit to Coventry University Technology Park, which was hosted by our Lead Expert, Dr Clive Winters.

The aim of the visit was to explore the role of local universities and the wider development of enterprise and entrepreneurship, with a particular focus on the partnership activities of Coventry University. Discussions included identifying the core elements of the Coventry University model and the concept behind its role as an “enterprising university.”

The event included presentations from the Business Development Group of the University and associated Applied Research Institutes, as well as other



local development partners and agencies, such as:

- Coventry City Council
- Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry Coventry
- Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership

The Lead Expert’s pre-visit report is available on the RUnUP minisite, and all further visit-related documentation will be posted on the site in due course. www.urbact.eu/runup



Exhibition on education, training and employment guidance in Campobasso



Members of the Campobasso RUnUP ULSG organised an event in the Molise region earlier this year focussing on giving guidance to students on education, training and employment. The event, called 'Clear Ideas' was hugely successful with over 4000 attendees over the course of three days, with 92 events and 52 exhibitors. The success of the

event was largely due to the collaborative environment which the RUnUP ULSG has created in Campobasso and the wider region of Molise, with several of the ULSG members involved in its delivery.

For further information please contact Silvia Reale reale@unimol.it

URBACT Thematic Pole Capitalisation Meeting, Paris

In May, the RUnUP Project Manager and Lead Expert attended one of the regular Thematic Pole meetings arranged by the URBACT Secretariat. As project partners will be aware, RUnUP has been grouped with a number of other networks within the URBACT programme in the "Innovation and Creativity Cloud."

The aim of the cloud is to develop a common understanding of what open innovation is and how cities can be involved. Lead Partners and Lead Experts are working together to identify approaches and outputs of the networks involved in the cloud to share information about key organisations, events, and research on open innovation.

The purpose of this work is to inform a workshop-style discussion around open innovation at the 2010 Annual Conference in Liege (30th November-1st December 2010). In addition, another key output from the cloud is a proposal to hold a "city lab" in Spring 2011. A key tool in preparing for the city lab will be the development of case studies from individual partner cities throughout the cloud. This will be discussed in more detail with RUnUP project partners at the forthcoming RUnUP Project Management Group meeting in Barakaldo on 18th June 2010.

For further information please contact chriswilson@gateshead.gov.uk



Message from the **Lead Expert**

Dr. Clive Winters



Now that the month of May has now passed our thoughts maybe starting to turn to holidays and an enjoyable summer on the beach. But for the first phase URBACT II networks and RUnUP in particular this also marks the start of the final 12 months of the network.

At a network level, the month of May witnessed the completion of the RUnUP study visit programme with the visit to my home City of Coventry. The RUnUP partners learnt about the strong partnership relationships of the local economic development organisations located within the City and the emphasis placed on applied research by the University.

Alongside this June will also see the last of the Thematic Network Events being hosted in Barakaldo with a particular focus on local talent attraction and retention and with partner presentations from Gateshead and Solna. Such visits and events, the detailed reports from which you can find on the URBACT website, provide a unique opportunity to hear and to see practice from other cities and to discuss with economic development professionals the different approaches undertaken across Europe, the cultural contexts and the relative strengths and weaknesses of economic development actions.

Both the study visits and thematic events have provided a valuable input into the work of the Urbact Local Support Groups operated by each of the RUnUP partners in particular to the development of the Local Action Plan's. These are a fundamental part of the URBACT approach and provide a mechanism for real transformation at a local level. The draft action plans from the RUnUP network are now being written. The finalisation of the local action plans during the autumn and winter of 2010 and their ongoing implementation will provide for a real assessment on the impact and long term sustainability of the actions of the network.

Happy holidays.

Clive

