

## March 2011



Welcome to the February 2011 edition of the RunUP thematic network newsletter. If you would like any further information on the RunUP project please contact [alexcook@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:alexcook@gateshead.gov.uk) or visit [www.urbact.eu/runup](http://www.urbact.eu/runup)

### RunUP Closing Conference – Save the Date GATESHEAD, United Kingdom

The RunUP project, established in 2008, now enters its final stages as the countdown towards the closing conference begins. The Closing Conference, which will take place in Gateshead on 12 May 2011, will mark the end of the main programme of activity in what has been widely regarded as a successful project to date.

The conference will look the Local Action Plans that each partner has designed to ensure effective cooperation between academic institutions and cities ultimately creating stronger, more resilient economies in each partner city.

Baltic Place on Gateshead Quays will provide the location for the closing conference. Speakers will be confirmed shortly so keep an eye on the RunUP website for up to date information [www.urbact.eu/runup](http://www.urbact.eu/runup)

If you would like to find out more please contact, Alex Cook on +44 191 433 2073 or email [alexcook@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:alexcook@gateshead.gov.uk)



### URBACT Thematic Pole Meeting PARIS, France

In February 2011, the RunUP Project Manager, Chris Wilson, and the Lead Expert, Clive Winters, attended the latest Thematic Pole meeting organised by the URBACT Secretariat in Paris.

As the 'Call 1' networks are now in the final phases of their projects, the main focus of the meeting was for Lead Partners and Lead Experts to discuss with URBACT the requirements for the production of final outputs and Local Action Plans, and the proposed timetable and structure of closing conferences.

As Lead Partner of RunUP we will be producing regular updates and newsletters in the coming months about the closing conference and the project closure requirements.



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**URBACT have taken a decision that the 2011 Annual Conference will be replaced by a Summer University for ULSG organisations, which will be held in Kraków, Poland, 29th-31st August 2011.**

The objective of the event is to create a community of work of ULSG members aimed at providing networking opportunities, and the Secretariat have confirmed that Call 1 projects are welcome to attend and share their experiences and reflections. Each Project Partner is invited to nominate 2 delegates – 1 of which must be the project's local coordinator – and at least one delegate must speak English. The costs associated with attendance will be eligible (for Call 1 Project Partners) if the ULSG budget category is under spent and formal approval from the URBACT Monitoring Committee will also need to be sought.

The Secretariat is keen to establish whether Call 1 Project Partners are interested in attending the ULSG Summer University. All RUnUP Project Partners are therefore asked to provide their comments on this proposal to Chris Wilson, RUnUP Project Manager. Project Partners are also asked to note other important dates from the URBACT Secretariat, namely that December 2011 will see the launch of the 3rd Call for project proposals, with applications due for submission by March 2012. It is anticipated that final decisions on the approval of Call 3 projects will be made by May 2012. Call 3 projects would typically run from June/July 2012 until the end of the current URBACT Operational Programme in 2015.

## RUnUP Local Action Plans

Project Partners are reminded that a core component of URBACT is the completion of a Local Action Plan (LAP). Given that the RUnUP Closing Conference dates have now been confirmed as 11th and 12th May, the LAP should be fully complete and available on the RUnUP minisite by the end of April at the very latest. The Lead Partner and Lead Expert have already reviewed a number of LAPs from RUnUP Project Partners and provided specific feedback to those Project Partners, but draft LAPs have not yet been received from all Project Partners. Please send all draft or revised LAPs to the Lead Partner and Lead Expert by no later than 31st March 2011 so that we can assist you by providing you with timely feedback.

The key issues that specifically need addressing are:

The LAP should be between 30 and 40 pages in length and be introduced by the local Mayor (or University Rector or business representative). The overall strategic background needs to be incorporated relating to economic development and the role of universities - essentially relating to the RUnUP actions 1.1, 2.1 and 3.1.

The actions need to be detailed including financing information, timescale, lead partner, and other partners involved. The actions need to consider the role of the University and the municipality/local authority in their delivery. Each action should be detailed in one complete page of A4 text. A number of the current draft LAPs identify new studies, analysis activities or reports. The LAP is about action - it is about what will be delivered to drive change and meet the requirements of the local community. The action should be precisely defined in terms of approach and target audience, measurable in terms of what is to be achieved and the anticipated impact, and with a defined timeframe. A tabular approach at the start of the action description should be considered.



The actions should be listed in a summary table following the detail of the actions. This should be one page maximum and briefly summarise all of the actions, lead organisation, other stakeholders, financing route and timescale. The LAP should include a concluding summary giving a view on the impact that the collective actions will have on the city.

As the Lead Expert has previously highlighted, the URBACT Secretariat has provided a tool for assessing LAPs. Although this has been designed mainly for URBACT phase 2 projects, rather than phase 1, project Partners are recommended to look through this tool and consider the points under the sub headings stated. In particular, Project Partners should consider the sections on Finance and Project Planning.

## Message from the **Lead Expert** **Dr. Clive** **Winters**



**The closing conference on May 12th in Gateshead marks the end of nearly 3 years of work for RUnUP in delivering a base line study and full application in the development phase and a series of linked local activities and transnational events and study tours.**

For the project partners the conference will see the finalisation of the Local Action Plans which have been delivered through the URBACT Local Support Groups in their respective cities. Their implementation will continue after the end of RUnUP and the actions being delivered will hopefully deliver the results expected of enhanced co-operation between cities and their local universities. To find out more about the journey and activities of our partner cities please do attend the final conference in Gateshead and the RUnUP section on the URBACT website.

**Dr. Clive Winters, RUnUP Lead Expert**

