



# The Housing Project

## General policy recommendations

### City to European level

AN URBACT II PROJECT



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**Final Conference Brussels 16 March 2011**

Connecting cities  
Building successes



# General policy recommendations for the city level and for a future Cohesion Policy + Europe 2020 Strategy integrating housing

## The framework for recommendations on Sustainable Housing:

- **Important role of housing**
- **Very broad inter-relations with various fields**
- **High impact of measures in housing**



# General policy recommendations

## Levels to address:

- **Other European cities and regions**
- **National level**
- **EU policies –  
Cohesion Policy and Europe 2020 Strategy**
- **European programmes and institutions**

# SUITE 11 policy recommendations

## Cities and Regions

1. Think '**integrated**' from the beginning:
  - sustainability triangle (economic, social, environmental)
  - across territorial scales (local/urban/regional).
2. **Focus on one** sustainability pillar and link the others to it.
3. Secure **local political support** and leadership from the onset.
4. Build trust over the **long-term**.
5. Dare high **initial investment**:
  - make a strong case to investors and decision-makers on the expected pay-off.
6. Ensure robust **institutional agreements**. >>>>>

## SUITE 11 policy recommendations *(con'd)*

### Cities and Regions

7. Integrate sound **evidence** and prospective analysis.
8. Consider maintenance of **physical stock** as greatly contributing to sustainability in some case.
9. **Integrate 'soft measures'** (services, empowerment) in physically driven projects.
10. View **homelessness policies** as integral part of housing policy.
11. **Promote EU housing-related activities** and contribute to the discussion from the cities-point-of view.

# SUITE policy recommendations *(con'd 2)*

## Cities and Regions

Numbers – **1+1+1 is more than 3**

Time – **longer term gets the upper hand**

Evidence – **prove the value**

Extension – **think big**

Mix – **find the recipe**

## SUITE policy recommendations

### National Level

- **Promote** the integration of **housing-related funding** at national level and within the future Cohesion Policy.
- **Promote** and support the integration of **housing-related projects** into your Operational Programmes (ERDF) and into other EU-funded programmes (ESF and more), and secure **national co-funding**
- **Start a national Exchange Forum on housing** on how to proceed on a national to local level.
- **Encourage coordinated action on regional level** for the use of Structural Funds for housing.
- Encourage progress **from pilot projects to mainstreaming.**

# SUITE policy recommendations

## European Policies

- Maximise the **benefits from broader European frameworks** in connection to housing and urban issues (e.g. funding, exchange, support for city-level initiatives)
- Support **exchange and training activities** on how to integrate housing related action.
- Continue the URBACT Programme as a support for city (housing) policy.





## SUITE policy recommendations

### Cohesion Policy and European Funding ERDF

- **Maintain funding** for housing-related measures in the next funding period 2013
- Develop a sound **common framework** for the currently split-up funding schemes (energy efficiency, marginalised groups, NMS refurbishment)
- Raise awareness on the **national POLICY level**, then filter down to Managing Authorities level (mandate, support, training)
- Propose **coordination among regions** on priorities in funded housing measures, disseminate good practice
- Organise a **conference** on 'the relevance of housing in Cohesion Policy and ERDF Funding' a.s.a.p., bringing together relevant European stakeholders from ALL fields.

# SUITE policy recommendations

## Outlook

*Towards an integrated sustainability in housing -*

Housing **plays a key role !** Based on the Three Dimensions >

- Ensures a better quality of life
- Is a factor of stability for households
- Plays a leading role in integrating the disadvantaged
- Creates jobs

**HOWEVER, these goals require broad cooperation.**

**Cities on the forefront** of the most pressing challenges

Encourage them to meet these challenges but moreover

**to be frontrunners.**

Grazie Thanks  
Danke **Merci** Gracias  
**Ευχαριστώ** multumesc  
Takk dziękuję dakujem hvala  
**Obrigado** dziękować  
tänan kiitos köszönöm aciu  
Tack děkuji paldies  
**nizžik ħajr dank u wel**

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