WHAT IS THE EUI?
About the Initiative
The 2021-2027 Cohesion Policy legislative package includes the establishment of the EUI as an EU instrument, the successor to the Urban Innovative Actions implemented during the 2014-2020 programming period.

EUI is a European Union instrument and is managed by the European Commission's DG Regional and Urban Policy.

EUI has a total **ERDF budget of €450 million** for 2021-2027.
EUI Main Objectives

(i) to strengthen integrated and participatory approaches to sustainable urban development, and
(ii) to provide a stronger link to EU policies, and in particular to Cohesion policy.

The initiative is aimed to offer coherent support to cities to overcome the current fragmented landscape of manifold initiatives, programmes and instruments in support of cities under Cohesion policy.
THE INITIATIVE HAS BEEN CREATED

in order to

▸ identify and test innovative, transferable and scalable solutions to sustainable urban development problems of particular relevance at EU level

▸ building cities’ capacity for sustainable urban development

▸ communicating, disseminating knowledge from implemented projects and further building on the lessons learnt and their experience
CALLS FOR PROPOSALS
STRONGER LINKS WITH THE COHESION POLICY OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS’ CONTRIBUTION TO ACHIEVE THEM

EUI-IA Calls for Proposals:

- organised on topics defined by the EC building on the New Leipzig Charter and on Commission’s priorities presenting a cross-sectorial dimension, such as the green and digital transitions
- specify the Cohesion policy objective(s) targeted by each topic within each Call
- propose a set of indicators against which to measure output and results
EUI at Cities Forum 16-17 March, Turin

Sessions

➤ Official launch of the European Urban Initiative: innovating, sharing and inspiring for sustainable urban development in Europe

➤ How can cities build their capacities on sustainable urban development under the European Urban Initiative?

➤ A renewed Urban Agenda for the EU: implementing the next generation of Partnerships for cities of all sizes
EUI Strand B1 - Capacity Building

Objectives

- **Improve the capacities of cities** to design and implement sustainable urban development (SUD) strategies, policies and practices in an integrated and participative way.

- **Improve the quality of the design** and overall implementation of sustainable urban development (SUD) strategies, policies and practices.
EUI Capacity Building

Core activities and Launch of Calls

City-to-city exchanges
- In-person visits or online exchanges carried out among groups of two to four cities. The aim is to share knowledge and know-how on a specific implementation challenge related to SUD.

Peer reviews
- A defined set of activities carried out by a cohort of cities aimed at improving the design and implementation of their SUD strategies through a process of review and provision of recommendations by peers and experts.

Events (SUD sessions)
- Events aimed at sharing knowledge and know-how related to SUD organised in various formats (seminars, workshops, trainings) and at different scales (EU-wide, multi-country, or country-specific), mixing expert-led and peer-to-peer learning.
EUI Innovative Actions – 1st Call for Proposals
Number of Applications by Member State

- 99 applications received with 21 Member States represented
125 Urban Authorities applied for the 1st Call

Small and Medium size cities (less than 250,000 inhabitants) account for 86% of cities who applied

All cities with under 50k inhabitants are Associated Urban Authorities part of a proposal led by a Main Urban Authority.
Delivery Partners

• A **total** of **479** Delivery Partners

• **Average Number** of Delivery Partners per proposal: **5**

• The **highest number** of Delivery Partners in one proposal: **12**

• **48%** projects have **5 or more Delivery Partners**
ERDF

- **Average** ERDF requested – EUR 4 443 760
- **Maximum** ERDF requested – EUR 5 Million
- **Minimum** ERDF requested – EUR 1 136 512
What’s next?

March
- Announcement of Topics of Call 2
- Launching of Capacity Building Activities

May/June
- Launch of Innovative Actions Call 2
- Announcement of Selected Projects Call 1

June-August
- 3 in-person Applicant Seminars
- Online Q&As
- 1:1 Online Consultations

Sept
- Closure of Innovative Actions Call 2
Joint Partnership  EUI and URBACT

• Continuous joint work and coordination with URBACT
• Identifying opportunities and cooperation on upcoming capacity building and knowledge activities
• Joint work in defining the appointment of NUPs/UCPs
• Strong cooperation to develop the knowledge sharing platform
  • PORTICO: first interactive mock-up version to be tested at Cities Forum
  • First version ready in Fall 2023
Thank you for your attention!