

Open call for city partners to join the development of a new URBACT network dedicated to:

Remote and Hybrid work for Thriving Cities – Remote-IT

Dubrovnik Development agency DURA is proposing to be the Lead Partner city for a network dedicated to the topic of Remote and Hybrid work for Thriving Cities (working title). We are now looking for 8-9 other partner cities that are interested in this topic and want to join us in submitting an application within the URBACT IV open call.

1. Context:

[The URBACT IV call for Action Planning Networks](#) (networks that work on creating a local strategy for tackling a challenge) was launched early January 2023, with a deadline for submission of application 31st March 2023. Main advantages for taking part in an URBACT project are briefly explained [here](#).

2. Focus of our proposed network:

The future of work is hybrid, yes? Well, maybe. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly accelerated the transformations around remote working. While now there are strong forces attempting to push for a return to the offices that organisations have built up over the decades, it seems the workforce is also motivated to partially keep their work-from-home or remote work arrangements. In addition, the rise of the phenomenon of “digital nomads”, independent professionals that can work remotely from any location of their choice, has created both opportunities and challenges for the places they choose to relocate.

Remote and Hybrid work for Thriving Cities network aims to support cities in understanding and finding solutions for the future of work, while enhancing quality of life of city residents and boosting the local economy.

Key words: hybrid work; digital nomads; future of work; economic development; wellbeing and quality of life; digital transition; green economy

Key challenge areas we want to address:

- Impact of digital nomads on sustainable tourism practises
- Impact of hybrid work on urban landscape (real estate, urban planning, public space amenities, access of urban public services) and transition to a carbon neutral economy (shift in urban mobility patterns)

- Rethinking digital transformation through developing an enabling environment for remote working, prioritising wellbeing of residents and local economy competitiveness

3. Our experience

- strong URBACT experience, we have been a city partner in 4 different networks;
- extensive European project management and international cooperation experience;
- strong commitment of all city stakeholders towards sustainable tourism practices. Thus, the topic of digital nomads is of particular strategic interest for us.

4. Get in touch by 20 February 2023!

If you are interested in joining this emerging network as partner city, please contact us by 20 February 2023, writing a short paragraph with your motivation and city's profile:

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Thank you!