

Driving change for better cities

URBACT in a nutshell
for localising SDGs

@ **CSG webinar**

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URBACT



Co-funded by
the European Union
Interreg

What is URBACT?

A European Territorial COOPERATION Programme
co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund

Since
2002



Over
1000
cities
involved



more than
150
networks

Mission

Promoting sustainable urban development through COOPERATION

Networking



Between European cities,
local actors & stakeholders

[Networks | urbact.eu](https://urbact.eu)

Investing in people & skills



Capacity building,
URBACT experts,
method & tools

Sharing knowledge



Exchange of good
practices, capitalisation

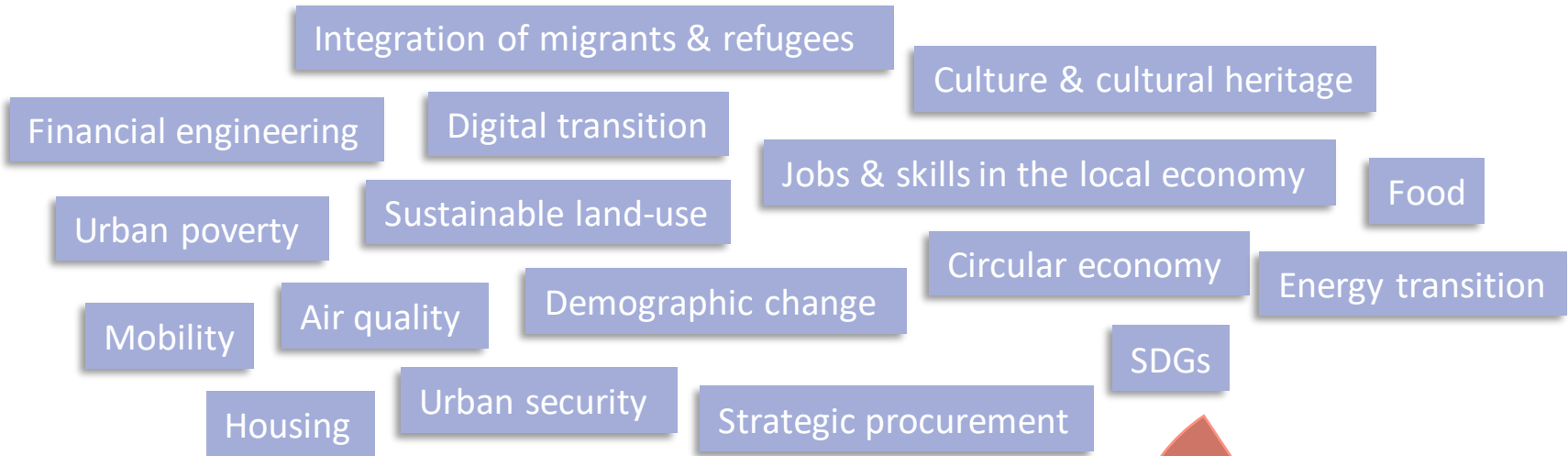
URBACT support and method [KNOW HOW]

- **Transnational exchange** – connecting cities, learning from peers
- **Tailor-made support** – pool of certified experts, tools & knowledge hubs, National URBACT Points
- **European co-funding** – up to EUR 850 000 per network for up to 2.5 years
- **Co-producing local strategies** – sharing good practice & knowledge, planning and testing actions
- **Integrating different policies & levels of governance** – quality, coherence & sustainability (funding)
- **Participation in practice** – engagement of stakeholders and citizens (URBACT Local Groups)



Topics

Cities choose their project theme & share knowledge



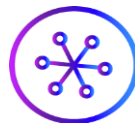
**Cross-cutting topics
(EU priorities)
for all projects**



GREEN
TRANSITION



GENDER
EQUALITY



DIGITAL
TRANSITION



SDGs



EU priorities supporting SDGs & their localisation



Urban Agenda for the EU | UAEU (urban-initiative.eu)



Co-funded by the European Union



New Leipzig Charter (europa.eu)

Delivering on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (europa.eu)

URBACT Co-funded by the European Union Interreg

URBACT III pilot project

Global Goals for Cities

Strategic partnership for peer learning and planning to localise SDGs

- Network of **19 European cities**
- From June 2021 to December 2022
- **Lead partner: Tallin (Estonia)**
 - Klaipėda (Lithuania)
 - Braga (Portugal)
 - Bratislava (Slovakia)
 - Gävle (Sweden)
 - Glasgow (United Kingdom)
 - Heraklion (Greece)
 - La Rochelle (France)
 - Manresa (Spain)
 - Reggio Emilia (Italy)
 - Schiedam (Netherlands)
 - Veszprém (Hungary)
 - Solingen (Germany)
 - Mouscron (Belgium)
 - Trim (Ireland)
 - Ozalj (Croatia)
 - Jihlava (Czech Republic)
 - Dzierżoniów (Poland)



Global Goals for Cities | urbact.eu

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Global Goals for Cities – a strategic partnership for peer learning and planning of integrated actions to localise the UN Sustainable Development Goals in a systematic way in 19 European cities.

About Tallinn

- **Location:** north-western Estonia
- **Size:** 159,3 km²
- **Population:** 458 586

Tallinn is the capital and largest city of Estonia, situated on the northern coast of the country and divided into eight city districts. As a historic port city, Tallinn has historically become an important bridge between East and West. The city is a unique mix of a Hanseatic old town connected to a thriving business centre with skyscrapers, hotels, conference and leisure venues. Tallinn has made a name for itself as one of the world's smartest cities and it is one of the biggest startup hubs of the whole region. As European Capital of Culture in 2011, the city has an emerging cultural scene and well-preserved heritage. Its picturesque Old Town is included in the UNESCO World Heritage List and cultural tourism is important for the city. Tallinn will be the European Green Capital in 2023.



Starting point

What was already done?

SDGs were comprehensively integrated to "Estonia 2035" strategy. As "Tallinn 2035" development strategy was developed in parallel with the national strategy, the city and the state council contributed to both processes.

Development documents in Tallinn



Challenges and opportunities

For localising the SDGs in Tallinn

Challenges

- There was low awareness on SDGs among city departments and ULG members.
- A level of fear of increasing workload (mild form of ergophobia) was perceivable.
- It was difficult to maintain the interest of ULG members to participate in all the ULG meetings.
- Tallinn 2035 was already adopted, which made it hard to explain the benefits of working with the SDG-s framework.
- It was important not to create another vision level next to "Tallinn 2035".

Opportunities

- Many ongoing processes made it easier to integrate SDG-s such as indicators, operational programme, guidelines etc., as they were not finalized beforehand.
- SDG-s help to make the framework around "Tallinn 2035" more coherent and add a layer of global context.

Participatory process

ULG structure and size

Members included municipal staff from different city departments and administered institutions.

Meeting highlights

One of the many highlights of ULG meetings was the development of indicators, which was a long and complicated process. Another important aspect has been raising the awareness of the ULG members on SDGs, who now have a clearer under-

standing how the SDGs are in fact inter-linked to their everyday work tasks. Two final ULGs were organised specifically for private sector companies, where best practices on how to integrate SDGs into their businesses were shared.



Focus of the Integrated Action Plan

The Integrated Action Plan for Tallinn for the years 2023-2025 will be implemented through the "Tallinn 2035" development strategy implementation plan. It involves actions for integration, monitoring and communication of sustainable development goals, as well as compiling Tallinn's first VLR, taking into account the strategic goals and objectives agreed in the develop-

ment strategy "Tallinn 2035". The Integrated Action Plan supports the implementation of "Tallinn 2035" holistically, taking the sustainable development goals into account. The localization of the Sustainable Development Goals helps to create a broad-based and internationally unambiguous framework for guiding the city's development and provides an addition-

nal opportunity to systematically assess the city's contribution to the global goals.

Alongside a set of guidelines have been created, intended for use by the Tallinn Strategic Management Office for the integration of its parts into the city's strategic planning system and necessary processes.

Spotlight on...

With the aim of raising awareness about SDGs among the general public the SDGs outdoor exhibition was opened in the city centre of Tallinn. The exhibition is based on the comics drawn by Margreet de Heer called "The Planet and the 17 Goals". It illustrates the global goals in an easily understandable and fun way.

Tallinn 2035 development strategy implementation plan was adopted by the City Council in October 2022. The plan includes 314 indicators and many of them will be used for monitoring SDGs as well. The chapter of City Management and Support Services in the Implementation Plan will include integral parts of the Integrated Action Plan.



Most impacted SDGs



Collaboration with the Council
of European Municipalities
and Regions (CEMR)



Local & Regional
Europe



Reference Framework
for Sustainable Cities



Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities - RFSC



Global Goals for Cities partner city Gävle

Global Goals for Cities Learning Kit



Global Goals for Cities Learning Kit



Project
results

Global Goals for Cities Learning Kit | urbact.eu



URBACT



URBACT IV flagship project on SDGs



Cities for Sustainability Governance

Holistic sustainability through strategic use of SDGs

- Network of **9 European cities**
- From June 2023 to December 2025
- **Lead partner: Espoo (Finland)**
 - Braga (Portugal)
 - Gabrovo (Bulgaria)
 - Košice (Slovakia)
 - Tallinn (Estonia)
 - Valencia (Spain)
 - Jablonec nad Nisou (Czech Republic)
 - Agios Dimitrios (Greece)
 - Mannheim (Germany)





Join [u]s!

Call for projects

- Good Practices
(call open till 30 June 2024)
- Transfer Networks (2025)
- Action Planning Networks (2026)

[Get Involved! | urbact.eu](https://urbact.eu)



[Subscribe to URBACT's newsletter! | urbact.eu](https://urbact.eu)

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Have your say on the future URBACT!

INTERREG stakeholder **consultation** on Cohesion policy post 2027

- URBACT **online survey** – open to the public till 31 July 2024
- Focus on **cities' needs** and **cooperation**
- **Participate** and **share!**

SDGs!

Shape the future! | urbact.eu



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