Driving change for better cities

UNIDAS4EU
TRANSFER NETWORK

QUARTERLY NETWORK JOURNAL 1

LINDA AINOUCHE
LEAD EXPERT

15 October 2026

URBACT

Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

Contents

A. Introducing UNIDAS4EU

B. Learning from the Understand Phase

C. Turning Findings into a Transfer Methodology

D. Capturing & Sharing Network Learning

E. Moving towards Adaptation



Meylan, City visit,
Future Maison des Solidarités under development
09.04.2026

URBACT

Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

From
Understanding Local Systems
to
Shaping Transfer

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg



A.
Introducing UNIDAS4EU

Kyiv, ULG Meeting,
City Centre for Gender Equality, Prevention, and Combating Violence
22.09.26

URBACT

Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

1. Six Territories, One Shared Challenge

UNIDAS4EU brings together six partner territories to strengthen coordination in responses to domestic and gender-based violence.

Challenge: How can institutions connect their responsibilities so that support continues from first contact through referral and follow-up?

Ambition: Adapt UNIDAS Good Practice coordination principles to different local systems.

The partners differ in geographical location, territorial scale, population profiles, governance structures and experience in responding to domestic and gender-based violence.



URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

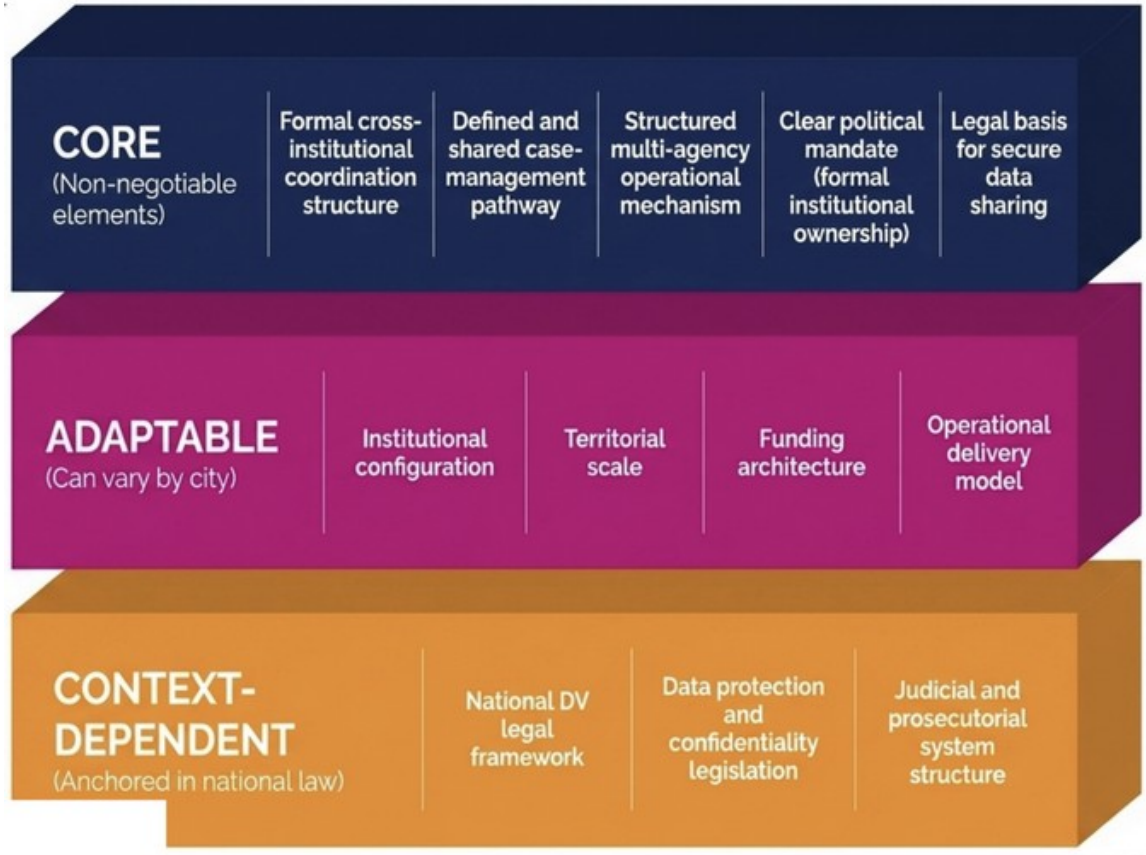
2. UNIDAS: How Territorial Coordination Works

Without coordination	Operational changes	Benefits	UNIDAS Solution
Repetition of stories across services. No clear responsibility per case	Survivors do not get lost between services	Faster protection, fewer dropouts, higher trust	One manager per case. Clear accountability
Duplicated efforts, higher costs	Institutions stop working in parallel	Time and resources are not wasted	Single efficient coordinated network
Long delays, worse in rural areas	Equal access across a territory	Service quality is consistent. Protection becomes more consistent	48h response everywhere, faster for high-risk cases
Siloed data per institution	Data becomes useful	Usable territorial monitoring.	Shared territorial dashboard
Institutional fragmentation	Political obligation is operational	Policies translate into actions	Clear roles and responsibilities

The UNIDAS Good Practice connects existing services through shared procedures, clear responsibilities and coordinated case management.

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

3.Core Conditions for Transfer



Transfer depends on whether the core elements are operational, not only on whether they formally exist.

Each city's transfer capacity differs depending on its local context and national law.

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg



B.
Learning from the Understand Phase

Budapest XII, City Visit,
Family Support and Child Welfare Centre
23.03.2026

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

4. Key Milestones

13 January

First online network meeting

Introduction, roles, coordination and the transfer approach.

24 February

Preparing the city visits

UNIDAS governance and transfer methodology.

March–April

Partner-city visits

Local systems, stakeholders and transfer conditions.

29–30 April

First transnational network meeting

TNM 1 in Felgueiras, Portugal.

19 June

Online ULG kick-off meeting

Stakeholder engagement and preparation of local ULG work.

25–27 August

URBACT Summer University

Cork, Ireland.

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

Date · 2026	City	What the visits made visible
19–20 March	Drama	Active support and political commitment. The emerging counselling centre offers an opportunity to structure coordination and follow-up.
23–24 March	Budapest XII	Established reporting and professional cooperation, but no shared domestic violence case pathway.
26–27 March	Vicenza	Developed specialised support around CEAV. Continuity beyond the centre and coordination between agencies remain key questions.
9–10 April	Meylan	Active institutions across several governance levels, but no shared operational case-management pathway.
13–14 April	Bétera	Structured risk assessment and specialised support. Maintaining continuity when cases move beyond municipal services remains a challenge.
29–30 April	Felgueiras	UNIDAS fifth anniversary, international seminar and network meeting. Observation of the model and comparative discussion of city-visit findings.
No city visit conducted	Kyiv	Assessed through institutional exchanges and supplied information.

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

5.City Visits

The visits assessed how the Good Practice core elements function in each local context, focusing on:

1) Entry points: where survivors first access support.
2) Responsibilities: which institutions intervene and who coordinates follow-up.
3) Case pathways: how cases move between services.
4) Operational coordination: how institutions work together in practice.
5) Information flow: how data are shared and used for monitoring.

6) Transfer conditions: existing strengths, gaps and adaptation needs.

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

6. Felgueiras: Five Years of UNIDAS and TNM 1

On 29-30 April, the programme combined UNIDAS's fifth anniversary and the first UNIDAS4EU transfer network meeting, bringing together institutional partners, practitioners and city representatives.

- Looking back at five years of territorial coordination across eleven municipalities.
- Exploring how shared procedures and clear responsibilities connect existing services.
- Discussing the city-visit findings and preliminary Transferability Study conclusions presented by the Lead Expert.

A shared basis for discussing transfer across the network.



URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

7. URBACT Summer University (USU)

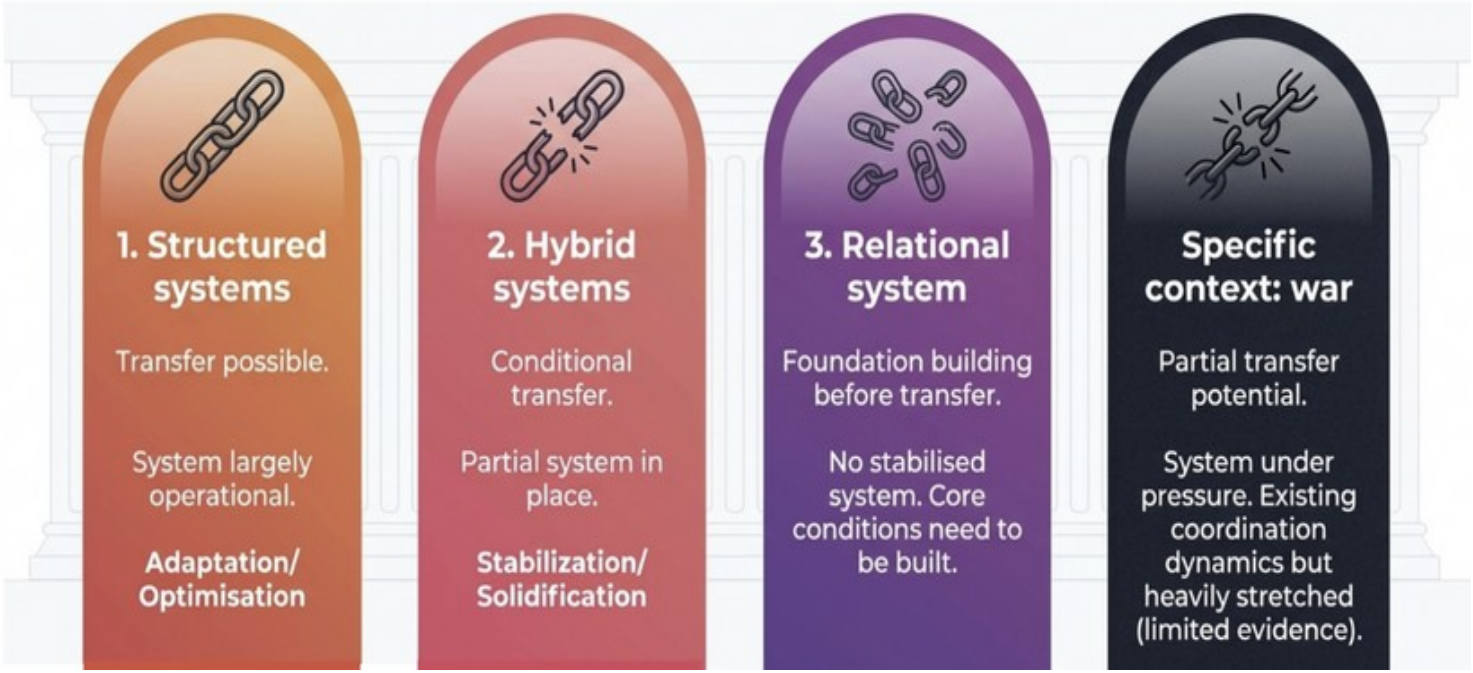
25–27 August 2026 in Cork

Prior to USU, the Lead Expert prepared partners through ULG assignments and bilateral meetings to map local actors and consider possible activities.

USU sessions took place at three levels: 1) plenary sessions, 2) Hub sessions with three other networks and 3) sessions within the network to focus on “missing stakeholders”: actors whose involvement could strengthen local coordination and the transfer process.



8. System Configurations for transfer capacity across the network



Different starting points require different transfer priorities.

Transfer depends less on tools than on operational maturity.

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

9. Six Territories, Different Starting Points

No partner city demonstrates full alignment with the UNIDAS core elements.

These asymmetries influence the type of transfer pathway realistically achievable in each city by the end of the project.

Type 1 / Structured Systems differ
Institutionalised coordination, independence from individuals.
- **Bétera**: strong national embedding
- **Vicenza**: advanced but locally uneven

Type 2 / Hybrid systems are not homogenous
- **Drama**: Operational transition. Institutional anchor heavily driven by individuals.
- **Meylan**: Institutional transition. Weak operationalisation with high dependence on individuals.

Type 3 / Relational system contrast
- Budapest XII: Strict individual-dependency with static interaction-based coordination

Specific context
- Kyiv: In crisis system heavily stretched and reliant on individuals (limited evidence)

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg



C.
Turning Findings into a Transfer Methodology

Vicenza, City Visit
ULG meeting
27.03.2026

URBACT

Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

10. Network City Systems

Traffic-light assessment of operational maturity across partner cities

City	Formal cross-institutional coordination	Defined and Shared pathway	Structured multi-agency mechanism	Clear political mandate	Legal basis for data sharing
Bétera	Strong but multi-level	Partial	Existing	Strong	Strong nationally, weaker locally
Budapest XII	Formal but reporting-oriented	Absent	Partial	Present	Weak
Drama	Emerging	Weak/Absent	Weak	Strong	Weak
Kyiv	Strong	Existing around Centre	Operational under wartime conditions	Strong	Developing/fragmented
Meylan	Existing but non-operational	Partial	Weak	Emerging	Fragmented
Vicenza	Advanced around CEAV	Strong internally, weak inter-agency	Partial	Strong	CEAV data, weak integrated system

Formal coordination does not automatically create operational coordination.

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

11. Transfer Logic/Priority

System maturity determines transferability

CITY	TRANSFER LOGIC/PRIORITY
Bétera	Strong structural base Need: alignment
Budapest XII	Weak foundation Need: structural backbone
Drama	Under construction Need: build core components
Kyiv	Under pressure but structured Need: consolidation
Meylan	Institutional framing Need: operational structuring
Vicenza	Advanced but uneven Need: stabilisation

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

12. Methods and Tools Supporting Transfer

1. **OBSERVATION AND SYSTEM MAPPING** Each city visit combines field observation, stakeholder interviews, institutional mapping, and assessment of the five GP core elements through a common observation grid.
2. **TNMS & COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS** Cities collectively review transfer constraints, structural gaps, and practices through TNMs and comparative review sessions.
3. **LOCAL TESTING ACTIONS** Each transfer city tests selected coordination components tailored to the city's institutions and geography.
4. **ULG-BASED LOCAL ADAPTATION** ULGs discuss barriers, validate adaptation priorities, and support local implementation.
5. **MONITORING AND ADJUSTMENT** Transfer priorities are refined through bilateral meetings, monitoring reviews and local testing feedback. Monitoring activities will identify opportunities for digitisation.
6. **CONSOLIDATION AND RE-USE** Tested practices, governance arrangements, and operational mechanisms are progressively consolidated into local transfer plans and final network outputs.

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

13. URBACT Local Groups progress

City	Local progress	Focus
Bétera	ULG meeting on 7 July; bilateral with the Lead Expert on 22 July.	Compact operational group; Puntos Violeta proposed as a testing action, subject to methodological validation.
Budapest XII	ULG meeting scheduled for 25 October.	Meeting outcomes pending.
Drama	ULG meetings on 18 and 25 September.	AITHRA's potential coordination role and the Ladies' Union's contribution to referrals, follow-up and identifying gaps.
Kyiv	ULG meeting on 22 September.	Coordination, referral mechanisms and continuity of support under wartime conditions.
Meylan	Working-group proposals discussed on 17 September; CLSPD plenary planned for 8 December.	Violence-focused group linked to URBACT. Membership to be finalised; working groups planned to start in early 2027.
Vicenza	ULG meeting scheduled for 16 October.	Meeting feedback pending.

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg



D.
Capturing & Sharing Network Learning

Cork, USU
LP, LE and City Partners
27.08.2026

URBACT

Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

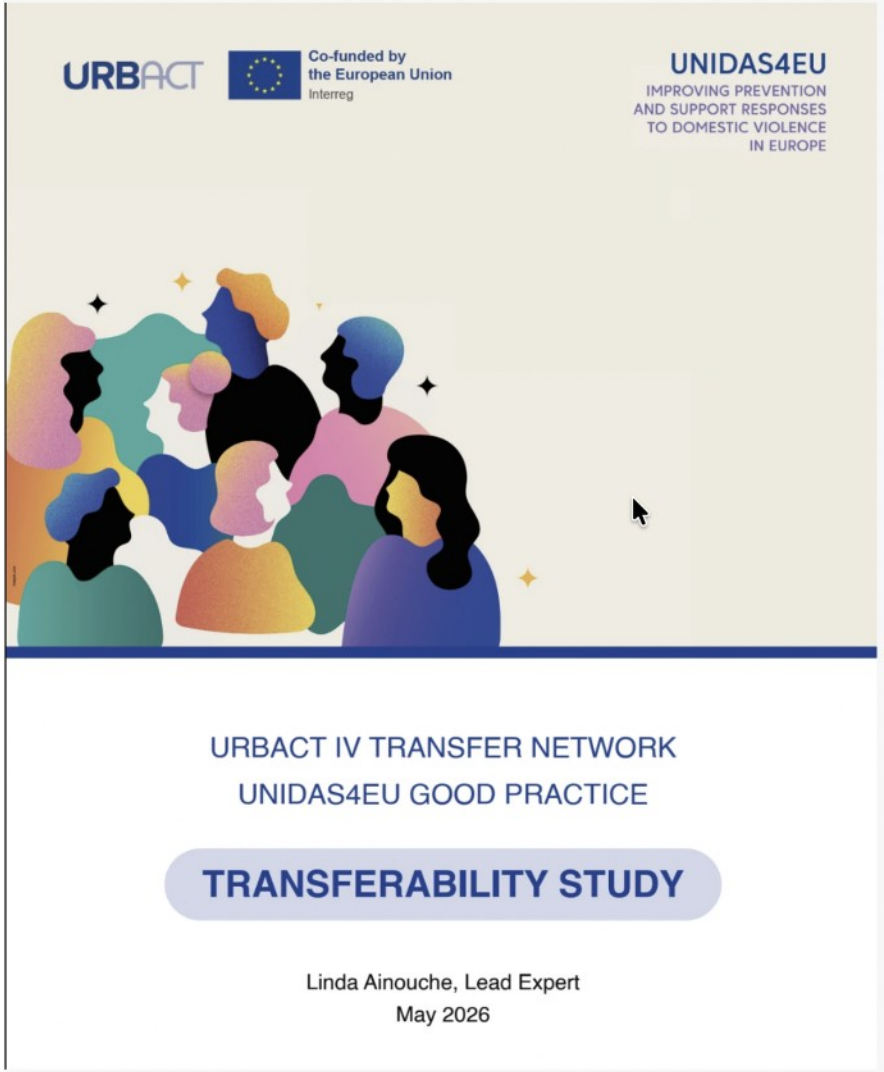
14. Network Production

Transferability Study
Linda Ainouche, Lead Expert

Analyses the UNIDAS Good Practice, partner-city systems and transfer conditions. Provides the basis for the network methodology and local adaptation.

First Article *What If the Missing Piece Was Never Another Service?*
Linda Ainouche, Lead Expert

Introduces UNIDAS through its fifth anniversary and presents the network's shared challenge and transfer ambition to a wider audience.



15. Emerging Lessons

Cooperation needs clear responsibilities.

Professional exchanges alone do not create a shared case pathway.

Local stakeholders give the diagnosis practical meaning.

Drama's ULG discussions explored who could coordinate cases and support referrals and follow-up.

Transfer priorities need local testing.

Proposed arrangements must be tested before their effectiveness can be assessed.

Learning goes both ways.

Partner experiences can also inform improvements to UNIDAS.

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg



E.
Moving towards Adaptation

Cork, USU
Drama City Representative
27.08.2026

URBACT

Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

16. From Diagnosis to Local Adaptation

Each city will work with its ULG to:

01 Address coordination gaps.

02 Identify the institutions responsible.

03 Adapt the relevant UNIDAS core elements.

04 Define a local testing action.

05 Use the findings to develop its Transfer Plan.

URBACT

Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg

17. Next steps

ULG work: discuss and validate local priorities

Bilateral exchanges: review progress, constraints and adaptation needs.

Bétera, 2–4 December 2026: TNM 2: examine case pathways, operational coordination and monitoring

Local testing: test selected coordination components and document what works and what needs adjustment.

Follow-up: use feedback and test findings to refine actions, responsibilities and implementation arrangements for Transfer Plans.



Bétera, City Hall
14.04.2026

URBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg