



## THE ROLE OF CITIES IN SMART SPECIALISATION COLLABORATIVE AND MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE FOR URBAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

URBACT IN FOCUS FINAL CONFERENCE  
BILBAO, 19 APRIL 2018



# In focus

SMART SPECIALISATION AT CITY LEVEL

## April 19 (Thursday)

VENUE: Library CRAI - Conference Room – ATRIUM

Address: Universidad de Deusto, Ramón Rubial Kalea, 1, 48009 Bilbao

### 09:00 – 09:30 Registration and welcome coffee

Moderator: *Pilar Kaltzada*

### 09:30 – 10:00 OPENING

**Welcome speech** by Juan María Aburto, Mayor of Bilbao

**Opening statements**

### 10:00 – 11:15 CITIES IN RIS3: PROMOTING INNOVATION & INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

Key-note speech by **Kevin Morgan**, Cardiff School of City and Regional Planning, Cardiff University, member of the RIS3 mirror group.

Questions and answers

### 11:15 – 11:45 Coffee break

### 11:45 – 12:45 THE IN FOCUS JOURNEY

**Motivation of the network and work plan 2015-2018.** **Eva Salcedo**, IN FOCUS Project Coordinator, Bilbao Ekintza, City of Bilbao

**URBACT as a learning framework: impact at local level and the future of the Programme.** **Clémentine Gravier**, URBACT European Programme Capacity-Building Officer

### 12:45 – 13:15 TURNING CITIES INTO TIER-ONE S3 DEVELOPERS

**IN FOCUS Integrated Action Plans in a nutshell.** **Miguel Rivas**, Lead Expert for IN FOCUS

### 13:15 – 14:30 Finger food lunch

## 14:30 – 15:30 PARALLEL SESSIONS

### Introduction to parallel sessions

Moderator: **Willem van Winden**, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences. Ad-hoc Expert for IN FOCUS

#### **SESSION 1. Clusters better aligned to S3 priorities: role of cities as cluster facilitators**

*Room/Aula 1 (level 7)*

Moderators: Bucharest 3rd District and Bielsko-Biala

#### **SESSION 2. The entrepreneurial city: fuelling the local startup scene**

*Room/Aula 2 (level 7)*

Moderators: Frankfurt and Metropolitan City of Torino

#### **SESSION 3. Spaces for smart specialisation**

*Room/Aula 3 (level 7)*

Moderators: Porto and Bordeaux Métropole

#### **SESSION 4. Attractiveness. City's internationalisation pathway to smart growth**

*Room/Aula 4 (level 8)*

Moderators: Ostrava and Grenoble-Alpes Métropole

## 15:30 – 16:00 PLENARY ROUND UP (ATRIUM)

Moderator: **Willem van Winden**, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences. Ad-hoc Expert for IN FOCUS

## 16:00 – 16:30 Coffee Break

## 16:30 -17:15 PANEL DISCUSSION

### Introduction to panel discussion

Moderator: **Sally Kneeshaw**, URBACT Programme Expert

### **Panel discussion: Regional and local authorities talk together about smart specialisation: Bilbao and the Basque Country**

Panelists:

- **Nora Sarasola**, General Manager of Bilbao Ekintza, City of Bilbao
- **Carlos Peña**, Science, Technology and Innovation Advisor, Basque Government
- **Martina Pertoldi**, Expert in urbanism, territorial development, spatial planning, S3 Platform
- **Miren Estensoro**, Researcher, Orkestra, Basque Institute of Competitiveness

## 17:15 – 17:30 CLOSING STATEMENT

Closing statement by **Xabier Ochandiano**, Bilbao City Councillor for Economic Development, Trade and Employment.

## **Further information and registration**

Participation in the IN FOCUS Final Conference is open to professionals working in the field of economic development planning, such as local and regional governments, business agencies, development agencies, as well as enterprises, universities, citizens, etc., or anyone interested in smart specialisation strategies and collaborative and multi-level governance and leadership at the city level.

**Conference language:** English

The Conference is free to attend, but space is limited. **Registration is mandatory.** [Please register here.](#)

## **IN FOCUS**

Within the framework of the URBACT programme, IN FOCUS is a pioneering transnational network aimed at boosting the urban/metropolitan agenda on economic development by means of smart specialisation as overarching approach, while at the same time articulating better with RIS3 at regional level. Led by the city of Bilbao, IN FOCUS is also joined by Bielsko-Biala, Bordeaux, Bucharest, Frankfurt, Grenoble, Ostrava, Plasencia, Porto and Torino.

The IN FOCUS agenda is also supported by the Smart Specialisation Platform created by the European Commission and placed at the Joint Research Centre.

Learn more: <http://urbact.eu/In-Focus>

### Key contacts

IN FOCUS Lead Partner (Bilbao City Council, Bilbao Ekintza): Eva Salcedo (project coordinator)  
[infocus@bilbaoekintza.bilbao.eus](mailto:infocus@bilbaoekintza.bilbao.eus)