



URBACT II

Editorial Work

1- CONTEXT

The URBACT Programme

URBACT is a European exchange programme for integrated and sustainable urban development.

Through URBACT, cities come together to develop responses to the main challenges facing urban environments. The programme affirms their key role in addressing the increasingly complex challenges that face our society, helping them develop new, concrete, sustainable solutions that integrate economic, social, and environmental dimensions and allowing town planning professionals in Europe to share good practice and lessons gleaned from exchanges. The URBACT programme has enabled more than 500 cities in 29 countries in Europe to participate in thematic networks consisting of 10-12 cities involving more than 7,000 actors on the ground (local administrations, elected representatives, civil society, residents, etc.).

URBACT is jointly financed by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund) and the Member States.

For more information, visit www.urbact.eu

URBACT Projects

URBACT projects are the core of the URBACT Programme. They enable cities to work together, and to develop effective and sustainable solutions to key urban challenges. Each project is dealing with an urban topic such as, for example, inclusion for Roma populations, innovation in medium sized cities, etc.

URBACT projects primarily assemble cities - practitioners and elected officials - but also include local authorities, universities, research institutions and other public authorities from at least three Member or Partner States.

Every URBACT project:

- Shares experience to develop new, pragmatic, sustainable solutions that can be used by other city practitioners and policy makers in Europe;
- Enables its partners to benefit from the experience of all the involved cities in order to develop a Local Action Plan that provides an effective solution to real local issues. This plan is developed with the help of a Local Support Groups, which includes key stakeholders on the ground.

Each URBACT project has:

- A Lead Partner, who is responsible for the project's implementation and its administrative and financial management;
- A Lead Expert who accompanies the project for its entire duration.

Each project has a project mini-site on the URBACT website: <http://urbact.eu/en/our-projects/list-of-the-projects/>

There have been three calls for proposals resulting in three rounds of URBACT projects:

- First-call projects were closed in 2011;
- Second-call projects are currently closing their activities;
- Third-call projects are on going.

Nine Closing Projects

Nine URBACT projects from the second call for proposals have completed their programme of exchange and learning activities end 2012. The project partners have been working relentlessly for three years looking for joint, effective and sustainable solutions to major urban challenges. These projects have brought to light solutions that have proven effective and providing valuable support for policy makers and practitioners involved in tackling the major urban challenges: active inclusion, sustainable housing, opening up innovation, etc.

These nine projects are:

- **Active Travel Network** – tackling transport problems by promoting walking and cycling in small and medium-sized cities:
<http://urbact.eu/en/projects/low-carbon-urban-environments/active-travel-network/homepage/>
- **CASH** – cities' action for sustainable housing:
<http://urbact.eu/en/projects/low-carbon-urban-environments/cash/homepage/>
- **ESIMeC** – economic strategies and innovation in medium-sized cities:
<http://urbact.eu/en/projects/innovation-creativity/esimec/homepage/>
- **EVUE** – electric vehicles in urban Europe:
<http://urbact.eu/en/projects/low-carbon-urban-environments/evue/homepage/>
- **Links** – low tech inherited from the old European city as a key for performance and sustainability: <http://urbact.eu/en/projects/urban-renewal/links/homepage/>
- **OP-ACT** – options of actions for the strategic positioning of small and medium sized cities: <http://urbact.eu/en/projects/active-inclusion/op-act/homepage/>
- **Roma-Net** – integration of the Roma population in European cities:
<http://urbact.eu/en/projects/active-inclusion/roma-net/homepage/>
- **SURE** – socio-economic methods for urban rehabilitation in deprived urban areas:
<http://urbact.eu/en/projects/disadvantaged-neighborhoods/sure/homepage/>
- **TOGETHER** – developing co-responsibility for social inclusion and well-being of residents in European cities:
<http://urbact.eu/en/projects/quality-sustainable-living/together/homepage/>

2 – SECOND EDITION OF THE URBACT RESULTS' PUBLICATION

As it was done for the first-call projects with the 'URBACT Results' publication available in its online version at http://urbact.eu/fileadmin/general_library/Rapport_Urbact_II.pdf, URBACT Secretariat is planning to produce a similar publication highlighting the results, recommendations and outputs of these nine above-mentioned projects.

This second edition of the URBACT Results publication would include:

- An editorial;
- An introductory chapter;
- Nine project-related articles (one per project) each of them containing:

- One section on the project summary, results and outputs based upon the fact sheet submitted by the specific project and final publications of projects;
- Two sections focussing on the chosen in advance project partners, called “Zoom On”.

This publication would be an attractive and accessible document with about 50-60 pages.

3- PURPOSE OF THE SERVICE

The services requested are (1) the production of the content of the nine project-related sections; as well as (2) the collection of the content with selected project partners and the production of the “Zoom On” sections.

Each article (one per project) will have to include:

- An **introductory paragraph** (approx. 100 words);
- **Project results:** a section explaining the main results and recommendations of the project as well as its perspectives (approx. 1000 words). This section will be written based on the fact-sheets completed by the projects themselves and the project final publications (available on their project mini-sites).
- **Two “Zoom On” sections:** zoom on two selected project partner cities. Each “Zoom On” will include information about the local challenges of the partner, its URBACT Local Support Group experience and the results. These sections will have to be written based on a questionnaire completed by the partner as well as a phone interview with the partner. The selected service provider will have to coordinate the collection of questionnaires and other necessary information, required for producing these articles. The selected service provider will be provided with the questionnaire frame.

The articles will be written in English.

4 – SERVICE PROVIDER PROFILE

- A journalist background is required.
- Experience covering urban development issues and/or ETC programmes and their activities is desirable.
- Basic knowledge of the field of an integrated urban development and the related concepts is desirable.
- Ability to write plainly and clearly in English is essential (English native speaker).

Candidates have to present at least two samples of their published articles, one of them preferentially covering an issue(s) related with the urban development.

5 - TIMELINE

- **20 February 2013:** launching of the call on the URBACT website
- **13 March 2013:** deadline for submitting an offer
- **20 March 2013:** selection of the provider
- **20 March – 20 April 2013:** the service provider will be supplied with the completed fact-sheets and other information for preparing articles of project results and introductory paragraphs. He will also have to collect asap the content for the “Zoom On” sections (phone interviews and questionnaires) and produce those “Zoom on sections”.

- During this period, once the fact sheet for one project is provided, the service provider should deliver the first version of the complete article (including introductory paragraph, section with project results and two “Zoom On” sections) for the specific project within **two working days**. The planning process contains several phases of validation and amendments between the service provider and URBACT Communication team.
- **2 May 2013**: deadline for delivery of all validated articles

6 - METHODS OF ORGANISATION

The service provider must appoint and present a project manager as the sole interlocutor of the URBACT Secretariat for this service. This project manager will be responsible for coordinating all stages of the process, planning, and the quality of the final product.

A preparatory meeting to discuss URBACT Results Brochure development will be organised right after the selection of the provider at the URBACT Secretariat office or through Skype.

7 - OFFERS

Offers must highlight the cost of the writing of the nine articles (including introductory paragraph, section with project results and two “Zoom On” sections) of the second edition of the URBACT Results publication.

It shall include CV of the candidate and at least two samples of published articles, one of them preferentially covering an issue(s) related to urban development.

Offers must be sent to the URBACT Secretariat to Thierry PICQUART via e-mail: t.picquart@urbact.eu .

Offer to be sent no later than Wednesday, 13 March 2013

Interlocutors

Administrative and financial aspects:
Thierry PICQUART t.picquart@urbact.eu

Technical aspects:
Kristine SERGEJEVA – Communication manager: s.sergejeva@urbact.eu