

LC-FACIL

## Sustainable Development Assessment Diagnostic Tool

Connecting cities  
Building successes



This Assessment tool has been developed by city level practitioners within the URBACT L-C FACIL Network to complement the work being undertaken by the MS/I Group in the development of the Reference Framework for Sustainable Urban Development as described in the EU Leipzig Charter. This concept prototype has been developed to better describe the process and approach that should be adopted. The aim is that the format and content of this tool will be incorporated into the wider Reference Framework.

From a city point of view we are keen that the final product is presented in such a way that it guides city practitioners through a positive journey of discovery and improvement, offering a range of clear, practical and manageable steps. Some cities will be interested in ranking and benchmarking themselves and their activities (and this product does allow for this by having a scorecard). However, it is vital that we recognise that European cities are not all coming from the same starting point and we want this process to be inclusive not competitive.





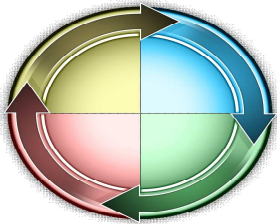
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












### Scale



- a City Wide Strategy 
- b Area based Project 
- c Theme based activity (link to
  -  Governance management
  -  (Social)
  -  (Economic)
  -  (Environmental)




### Stage

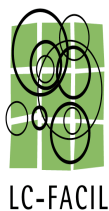


- Evidence gathering 
- and assessment 
- Strategic 
- Option setting 
- Consultative 
- engagement 
- Priority setting 
- Strategy formula 
- Resource 
- assessment, Partners 
- formation 
- Implementatio 
- Review & monitoring 
- Improvement 

### Outcome



- a short list of overarching outcomes / benefits / impacts
- (Social) 
  - (Economic) 
  - (Environmental) 



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## Sustainable Development Assessment diagnostic tool: Where am I now?

Each of the following questions has been designed to help identify your starting point from a variety of perspectives. As such we have designed these questions as a series of statements that might best describe your position. →1. Download the tool to your desktop – it is a standalone Excel file. → 2. For each question, choose the statement that best describes your position in drop down list in column H – note: you can only answer A, B, C or D. → 3. Each answer will generate a response – Go to the summary scorecard worksheet to see your results The responses will help you to identify what to review and point you to resources that will help. OPTIONAL - the Summary will also produce a scorecard (this function will be useful if you interested in benchmarking or you want to assess areas strength / weakness)

Pillars	Theme	Aspect	A	B	C	D	Answer
Management / Governance	Planning	Baseline Evidence	We consciously use a selection of strategic indicators that cover the full spectrum of sustainability, with particular emphasis on the organisation's key areas of impact. We have a dedicated resource for interpreting and analysing local intelligence.	We collect and interpret various types of social, economic and environmental data. We have some resources for interpreting and analysing local intelligence.	We collect data on a number of areas of sustainability such as broad economic performance, demographics and waste management. People from various departments collect the data, however there is no over-arching responsibility assigned for the process as a whole.	We do collect some information such as population statistics etc. We have no dedicated statistical analysis function within the organisation.	A
		Resource / funding					
		Competencies					B
	Implementation	Stakeholder consultation					
	Review	Evaluation					A
	Improvement						
		Partnerships / co-operation					
		Deprived neighbourhoods / Inequalities					

<b>Social</b>	<b>Housing</b>						
			We have an accurate perception of the current housing market and of future demand including an audit of empty houses and renovation needs. We have a full adopted housing strategy which has regard for appropriate housing mix , affordability, building typologies, commercialization types (buy or rent), highest environmental standards, policy on minimizing empty houses. There is an appropriate level of control over the location, quantity and standard of housing development. Urban design codes are in place, linked to wider sustainability criteria. Integration of sustainability criterias in technical building codes and its application. Building regulations and polices are monitored and enforce. There is a high degree of connection between housing and other aspects of non - spatial planning / regeneration.	We have some perception of the current housing market and future demand by applying a level of objective assessment / survey. We have a number of established housing policies which have regard most areas of housing mix, affordability, building typologies, and environmental standards, There is some level of level of control over the location, quantity and standard of housing development but this is not univirsally applied. There are some urban design codes and building regulation in place linked to wider sustainability criteria. Building regulations and polices are often not monitored orenforce. There is a small degree of connection between housing and other aspects of non - spatial planning / regeneration.	We have little perception of the current housing market and future demand and what we know is anecdotal. We have few established housing policies . There is some level of level of control over the location, quantity and standard of housing development but this is limited. There are no urban design codes and very few building regulation in place but none that would relate to wider sustainability criteria. Building regulations and polices are often not monitored orenforce. There is a slittle or no connection between housing and other aspects of non - spatial planning / regeneration.	We do not have a fully adopted housing strategy, development tends to be controlled by opportunity in and ad hoc and unplanned way. There is little understanding of the local housing market. There is little control over the standard of housing development. There are no urban design codes and very few building regulation in place but none that would relate to wider sustainability criteria. Building regulations and polices are often not monitored or enforce. Regulations are impossible to enforce in many areas of the city. There is no connection between housing and other aspects of non - spatial planning / regeneration.	<b>D</b>
	<b>Access to Services</b>						
	<b>Skills</b>						
	<b>Education</b>						
	<b>Social cohesion</b>						
	<b>Quality of Life</b>						<b>B</b>
	<b>Health</b>						
	<b>Culture</b>						<b>A</b>
		<b>Sectoral Mix</b>	<b>Diversification</b>	Using a robust assessment process we are clear about which areas contribute added value and distinctiveness to the local economy. We know which sectors we need to encourage to achieve a more balanced and resilient economy. We are able to forecast the growth in economic activity against a range of potential scenarios and we are able to model impact over time. We successfully intervene to ensure the long term vibrance and sustainability of the local economy. We are able to see how our economic mix contributes to the wider regional / national economy.	We have an idea about what areas contribute added value and distinctiveness to the local economy but we do not have a sophisticated tool for assessing added value. We do not have a shared understanding of which sectors we need to encourage to achieve a more balanced and resilient economy. Our actions tend to be predicated on achieving short to medium term outputs based on responding to external factors / opportunities. We are not able to clearly articulate how our economic mix contributes to the wider regional economy.	We see the need for greater diversification but despite our efforts we have had limited success to date in attracting a greater mix. Our economy is vulnerable to future shocks as it is overreliant on one or two key sectors / employers. We would not know how to identify areas which contribute added value and distinctiveness to the local economy. Our economic development actions tend to be predicated on achieving short term goals based on responding to external factors.	We are heavily reliant on one or two major employers and / or sectors. We do not currently encourage greater diversification. We do not know what our key economic assets and weaknesses are. We would struggle to judge what impact we might have. There is no dedicated economic development function.

<b>Economic</b>		Clustering					
		Enterprise					<b>C</b>
		Local Production					
		Innovation					<b>B</b>
<b>Physical environment</b>		Functional mix of the town					<b>C</b>
		Urban sprawl is limited	We have Urban development plans in place which aim to curb urban sprawl and revitalise existing built up areas. Compactness is promoted in order to optimise the use and functionality of public transport and to guarantee access to public facilities, services, and local economic activities. Areas for future transformation and city spatial development are allocated	We have Urban development plans in place which aim to curb urban sprawl and revitalise existing built up areas but they are not universally enforced. Our plans dont necessarily promote urban compactness nor do they optimise the use and functionality of public transport local services, and employment. Some limited areas for future transformation and city spatial development are allocated .	We have some Urban development plans in place which aim to curb urban sprawl and revitalise existing built up areas but they are only partly enforced. Our plans dont promote urban compactness nor do they optimise the use and functionality of public transport local services, and employment. The city does suffer from s degree of uncontrolled development and sprawl and there are still pockets of dereliction in the inner core.	We are not able to influence development in our city. The city plan is not adhered to or respected. Large areas of our inner city core are derelict or under-utilised. Services, employment and the transport infrastructure are disjointed and dispersed.	<b>A</b>
		City development under control					<b>A</b>
		Urban nuisances are minimised					<b>B</b>

**Environmental**

Public & Green spaces

Easy access to green areas

**C**

Buildings and Heritage

**A**

Transport / connectivity

Waste Management

**A**

Natural resources and bio diversity

Energy efficiency & Climate change



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## Sustainable Development Assessment diagnostic tool: Where am I now?

Pillars	Theme	Aspect	Commentary	Interlinkage	Good practice examples and Link		
<b>Management / Governance</b>	Planning	Baseline Evidence	You will need to ensure that you frequently review the accuracy and relevance of the indicators you have chosen. You will need to put in place levels of scrutiny to ensure that the intelligence unit provides fair and objective reporting. You will need to ensure that you are adopting an open and transparent approach to the sharing of the intelligence you collect. You may wish to consider good practice in this area by logging onto the J & J good practice site <a href="http://www.urorn.org">www.urorn.org</a>	Clear linkage with all pillars Possible conflict - the difficulty of arriving at a balanced picture across all themes.	1. J & J good practice site: <a href="http://www.urorn.org">www.urorn.org</a> - 2. case study xxx - 3 peer support from <a href="mailto:eiej.ojo@ijej.co.uk">eiej.ojo@ijej.co.uk</a>		
		Resource / funding					
		Competencies	0				
	Implementation	Stakeholder consultation					
	Review		0				
	Improvement						
<b>Social</b>	Partnerships / co-operation						
	Deprived neighbourhoods / Inequalities						
	Housing		You may want to consider undertaking measures to better understand your local housing market. Cross reference known information on population / demographics down to a neighbourhood level if this is available. Consider a range of public consultation and / or commission some research ( your local Further Education College or University may be willing to undertake this for free or at a reasonable cost perhaps). Carefully select a few housing related regulations were you know you will be able to enforced.	You will need to consider how your actions relate to Deprived neighbourhoods / Inequalities Energy Efficiency and Climate change transport connectivity POSSIBLE CONFLICT - with Economic activity - in areas of significant land constraints - use of brownfield sites, issues of housing in close proximity to heavy industry or nighttime economy.	<a href="http://www.eukn.org">www.eukn.org</a> <a href="http://www.eukn.org/urbanmatrix/">http://www.eukn.org/urbanmatrix/</a> <a href="http://www.cecodhas.org/">http://www.cecodhas.org/</a>		
	Access to Services						
	Skills & Behaviour						
	Education and innovation						
	Social cohesion						
	Quality of Life	0					
	Health						
	Culture	0					
<b>Economic</b>	Sectoral Mix	Diversification	Areas of feedback (to integrate into a text): pay attention to ensure that the stakeholders in the local economy are satisfied with the dialogue between them and the city, in order to avoid counterproductive or misdirected interventions.				
		Clustering					
	Enterprise		0				
	Local Food Production						
Innovation		0					
<b>Environmental</b>			0				
	Physical environment		You will need to set in process systems for consulting with the public on a regular basis to review your policies. People's perception of urban sprawl and urbanism may alter over time and you will need to reflect this. Monitor your regulatory practices to ensure that you are not stifling enterprise / growth. Ensure that you have a regular dialogue with neighbouring cities with regard to urban sprawl. Develop a number of future scenarios relating to urban capacity population growth, climate change globalisation etc - have the ability to map these over time and be prepared				
	Public & Green spaces		0				
	Buildings and Heritage		0				
	Transport / connectivity		0				
Waste Management		0					

	Natural resources and bio diversity				
	Energy efficiency & Climate change	0			





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Pillars	Theme	Aspect	Score(1 to 4)	Pillar Score (Average)	Total
<b>Management / Governance</b>	Planning	Baseline Evidence	4	2	2
		Stakeholder consultation	3		
	Implementation	0			
	Review	4			
	Improvement	0			
<b>Social</b>	Partnerships / co-operation		0	1	
	Deprived neighbourhoods / Inequalities		0		
	Housing		1		
	Access to Services		0		
	Skills		0		
	Education		0		
	Social cohesion		0		
	Quality of Life		3		
	Health		0		
Culture		4			
<b>Economic</b>	Procurement / supply chains		4	2	
	Sectoral Mix		0		
	Enterprise		2		
	Food / Energy Production		0		
	Innovation		3		
<b>Environmental</b>	Physical environment		4	3	
	Public & Green spaces		4		
	Buildings and Heritage		3		
	Transport / connectivity		2		
	Waste Management		4		
	Natural resources and bio diversity		0		
	Energy efficiency & Climate change		4		