

Regional Workshop on Sustainable Urban Transitions
9th of March 2022
9:30 – 13:30 (Latvia timezone)
online

Motivation

Transitions towards sustainable urban areas are key to achieve the ambitious European and global sustainability goals. Many efforts are taken to transform our towns, cities and urban areas. Research and innovation plays an important part to drive urban transitions and provide evidence for sustainable urban development.

At European level, the intergovernmental initiative JPI Urban Europe is running a transnational research and innovation programme with the aim to strengthen such efforts by creating evidence and building capacities in research, policy, business and society. The outreach to different European regions and the mobilisation of urban stakeholders across Europe comprise important activities of this programme¹ to ensure that the R&I priorities meet the needs of urban stakeholders and correspond with national and regional strategies.

Aim of the workshop

Accordingly, the workshop aims at

- Offering an overview of R&I funding opportunities for sustainable urban development from national to transnational level
- Identifying thematic priorities as well as stakeholder requirements for engaging in JPI Urban Europe and the upcoming Driving Urban Transitions partnership
- Discussing the national needs for coordination and exchange in order to establish a model to increase the long term impact of the JPI Urban Europe
- Inspiring future urban development activities by JPI Urban Europe funded projects

Participants

The workshop is open for all stakeholder groups active in urban development, in particular governmental bodies, city administration, local initiatives, industry, entrepreneurs, infrastructure providers, and researchers.

Agenda (draft)

9.30 Welcome by Arnis Kokorevičs, Latvian Council of Sciences

9.40 Introduction to JPI Urban Europe and DUT Partnership - Margit Noll, Chair of the Management Board

10.00 The Latvian national context – Overview of national urban strategies and urban programmes (TBD)

10:15 Success Stories (Example about Latvian partner participation in JPI project (connected with thematic of Urban Europe):

¹ These activities are partly funded by the H2020 project EXPAND II, Grant agreement No 857160

- **Example (Success story) about project realized by Latvian partner based on national or other (not JPI) financing resources and connected with thematic of Urban Europe:**
 - **Urbanising in Place – Building the Food-Water-Energy Nexus from Below** - Liene Jēkabsone, Art Academy of Latvia;
 - **The Housing-Integration-Nexus: shaping exchange and innovation for migrants’ access to housing and social inclusion** - Janis Laksevics, University of Latvia.

11.00 *Break*

11:10 Overview of national resources (financing instruments) which will be utilized for R&D&I projects connected with thematic of Urban Europe - Janis Paiders, Deputy director, Ministry of Education and Science.

11:30 Regional challenges and requirements for participation in JPI Urban Europe and the DUT partnership – interactive session moderated by JPI Urban - Moderator: Gilda Massa/Margit Noll/ Paola Clerici

- Regional challenges and priorities for sustainable urbanisation
- Requirements and opportunities for developing a regional/national coordination model to create higher impact from R&I in urban topics
- Requirements and conditions for science-policy cooperation to achieve a better mobilisation and involvement of city administrations and urban stakeholders in R&I activities

13:00 Wrap up of the discussion, Tools for interaction: <https://mentimeter.com>.

13.15 Assistance of National Contact Point - Jānis Ancāns, Head of National Contact Point, Latvian Council of Science;

13.25 JPI Urban next steps, upcoming activities and closing of the meeting - Margit Noll, Chair of the Management Board.

Workshop Registration: **FILL OUT IN GOOGLE FORM** or copy a link into browser: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe8qghiljMFTKsFLtI9eFsw6x-XianfdFsbeFcnBsXzP5xJ-g/viewform?usp=sf_link

ZOOM link will be distributed to registered participants: 07.03.2022

Please distribute this information to your colleagues and other potentially interested persons !

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