



# Together towards the Urban Agenda for the EU

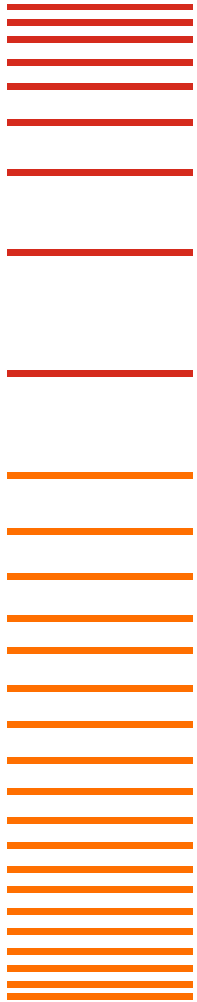
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**EU**  
**2016**

# Urban Agenda for the EU: Why?





# Urban Agenda for the EU: Why?

*Cities are places where opportunities and challenges meet*



# Local and regional authorities more important in EU policy through the years

**1987** European Single Act: specific responsibility for regional policy

**1989** First regulation Structural Funds

**1992** Maastricht Treaty:

- Acknowledgement importance local and regional authorities for EU policy,
- Creation of CoR

**2007** Lisbon Treaty:

- Acknowledgement autonomy of local and regional authorities
- Subsidiarity principle also applies to local and regional authorities



**Aim of the Urban Agenda for the EU:  
Creating the conditions at EU-level for  
cities to blossom**



# Cities: need for more “urban-friendly” EU policies

## **Better regulation:**

Adaptation of regulations to local actions. EU rules that hinder local action (e.g. state aid), urban impact assessments

## **Better funding:**

cross-sectoral financial instruments, simplify use of funds, more possibilities to combine funds

## **Better knowledge:**

improve knowledge and data (exchange), guidebooks, try and exchange innovative actions



# Pact of Amsterdam: Launching the Urban Agenda for the EU

- Operational Framework
- Priority Themes
- Joint actions
- Working method of Partnerships
- New form of cooperation between stakeholders



# Themes of the Urban Agenda for the EU

**1. Urban poverty**

**2. Housing**

**3. Inclusion of migrants and refugees**

**4. Air quality**

5. Sustainable use of land and Nature-Based solutions

6. Circular economy

7. Climate adaptation

8. Energy transition

9. Urban mobility

10. Jobs and skills in the local economy

11. Digital transition

12. Innovative and responsible public procurement





# Thematic Partnerships

- Focus on priority themes
- Concrete, case based approach -> result oriented
- Membership: member states, cities, EC, other stakeholders
- NL facilitates first 3-4 partnerships -> launch during NL presidency
- Formulation of proposals for better regulation, better funding, better knowledge exchange



# Partnership on Air Quality

## Coordinated by the Netherlands

The objective is to realise systems and policies to ensure a good air quality for human health. This will cover: legislative and technical aspects linked to a wide range of polluting sources such as cars, industries, agricultural activities, etc.

## Partners

- \* Urban areas: London (UK), Helsinki (FI), Utrecht (NL), Milano (IT), Constanza (RO))
- \* MS: Netherlands, Croatia, possibly France
- \* Others: European Commission (DG Regio, DG ENVI, DG Research, DG Move, DG AGRI, DG Connect DG Connect & DG Grow), Duisburg Consortium & Eurocities



# Towards the Pact of Amsterdam

➤ **Different preparatory meetings (March-May 2016)**

➤ **30 May 2016:**

- **Informal ministerial meeting**
- **City Makers Summit**
- **Forum on the Urban Agenda for the EU**

➤ **21 June:**

- **Council Conclusions**



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