RESEARCH & INNOVATION
CITY PLANNING
& REGENERATION

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RESEARCH & INNOVATION FOR CITY PLANNING & REGENERATION

- Pushing the boundaries through research and EU Policy and funds;
- Established Programmes;
- H2020 principles;
- Action Plans as a basis to “best practice planning” and successful funding;
- Examples from Integrated Planning through research.
Pushing the boundaries through research and EU Policy and funds;
Funding through Research and pilots has grown exponentially;

**European Fund for Strategic Investments**

The EFSI is one of the 3 pillars of the Investment Plan for Europe and aims to overcome current investment gaps in the EU by mobilising private financing for strategic investments. It consists of a €21 billion guarantee from the European Commission and the European Investment Bank.

**Urban Innovative Actions**

The UIA initiative provides urban areas throughout Europe with resources to test new and unproven solutions to address urban challenges. The initiative has a total budget of €371 million for the period 2015 to 2020.

**URBACT**

URBACT is a European exchange and learning programme that promotes sustainable urban development and helps cities work together to develop pragmatic solutions to urban challenges. URBACT is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, the 28 EU member countries, Norway and Switzerland. Covering the period 2014 to 2020, URBACT III has a budget of €96.3 million.

**H2020**

The Horizon 2020 programme is the biggest EU research and innovation programme, with €80 billion of funding available between 2014 and 2020.
Growth of other established Programmes: Inter-Regional Cooperation;

INTERREG

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<td>COMMITMENT BUDGET (ECU)</td>
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INTERREG 2014-2020

- 107 INTERREG PROGRAMMES
- 2.8% OF THE VFPU (EUROPEAN FUND FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT)
- 351.8 BILLION EUROS
- 28 INTERREG PROGRAMMES
- 60 INTERREG II (1994-1999)
- 12 INTERREG IV (2007-2013)
- 1 INTERREG V (2014-2020)

1.1 BN (ECU) = 3.8 BN (ECU) = 5.8 BN (ECU) = 8.7 BN (ECU) = 10.1 BN (ECU)
RESEARCH & INNOVATION FOR CITY PLANNING & REGENERATION

- Growth of other established Programmes: Specific Networks;

CIVITAS

CIVITAS is a network of cities for cities dedicated to cleaner, better transport in Europe and beyond. Since it was launched by the European Commission in 2002, the CIVITAS Initiative has tested and implemented over 800 measures and urban transport solutions as part of demonstration projects in more than 80 Living Lab cities Europe-wide.

The knowledge garnered through these practical experiences is complemented, and supported, by a number of research and innovation projects (ECCENTRIC, PORTIS and DESTINATIONS), also run under CIVITAS. These research projects look at ways of building a more resource efficient and competitive transport system in Europe.

- Measures are reaching 52.4 million citizens; Total budget: approx. EUR 250 million
- Total EC contribution: approx. EUR 180 million
Integrated Actions through H2020 Programme:

Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with nearly €80 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014 to 2020) – in addition to the private investment that this money will attract. It promises more breakthroughs, discoveries and world-firsts by taking great ideas from the lab to the market.

Horizon 2020 Structure

- **Scientific Excellence**
  - Promoting Research Council
  - Future and Emerging Technologies (FET)
  - Maria Skłodowska-Curie research grant scheme
  - Research Infrastructures

- **Industrial Prefeminence**
  - ICT
  - Key Enabling Technologies (KETs)
    - Nanotechnologies
    - Photonics
    - Nanotechnologies
    - Advanced materials
    - Production systems
    - Biotechnologies
  - Space
  - Innovation in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)
  - Access to Risk Finance

- **Societal Challenges**
  - Health, well-being, and ageing
  - Food security, bioeconomy
  - Safe, clean, efficient energy
  - Intelligent, green, integrated transport
  - Climate, environment, raw materials
  - Inclusive, innovative society, secure, independent
  - Security

Spreading of best practices and widening participation

Science with and for society

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
Action Plan development and compilation proves to be the best tool:

- It establishes a “Brief” for actions;
- It sets priorities (including (NRPs) National Reform Programme);
- It sets the project within National and EU Priority Axis;
- Establishes a planned process for research;
- Promotes consultation process and democratisation in planning;
- Stepped approach considers: Research and Innovation as a process for forward planning.

**URBACT funding**

Has made a significant impact of Action Planning as a tool towards long-term City Planning;
- It has also established a modus using the principle of URBAN LOCAL SUPPORT GROUPS;
- It supports through a “spin off” fund planning for infrastructural funding as in the case of ERDF projects;
- Established fora for expertise for cities and a database or reference of projects and initiatives;
- A network of cities with extensive experiences in good practice.
Tangible examples: Integrated Planning through research;

Main Beneficiary: Grand Harbour Regeneration Corporation

Other Beneficiaries: The 3 Cities in Cottonera (South East Region Malta)


Funding: ERDF 104: Stronger Cottonera Communities - The citizens right to accessibility and mobility (€8,610,410)


The purpose of this project was to launch an integrated urban regeneration project for Cottonera. The interventions include: enhanced transit areas, the development of the public realm through embellishment and the upgrading of social conditions through housing programmes. These projects were directed at strengthening neighbourhoods in the locality and instil sustainable regeneration through better accessibility and mobility.

NB: Dr Malcolm Borg was the Project Leader for ERDF 104 and 183 from 2008 to 2010 after developing Planning and Design Briefs together with the Projects Development Coordination Unit. The ERDF 104 Plan was presented as a pilot during the Leipzig Charter talks during the Slovenian Presidency (2008).
Tangible examples: Integrated Planning through research;

Main Beneficiary: Transport Malta Valletta and Floriana LCs

Other Beneficiaries: Valletta and Floriana Local Councils (South East Region: Malta)

Initial “Planning” Funding: INTERREG III C SOUTH establishing Masterplan (2004-2007);

URBACT “HERO” (2010);


Funding: ERDF 183: Vertical Connection - Better accessibility through innovative and cleaner transport (€2,355,569)


The project is designed to provide greater access between Valletta’s waterfront and the heart of the City through a vertical link. Hence encourage a modal shift towards non-car modes when commuting to Valletta.

NB: Dr Malcolm Borg was the Project Leader for ERDF 104 and 183 from 2008 to 2010 after developing Planning and Design Briefs together with the Projects Development Coordination Unit. The ERDF 104 Plan was presented as a pilot during the Leipzig Charter talks during the Slovenian Presidency (2008).
Tangible examples: Integrated Planning through research;

Main Beneficiary: South East Region (5 Cities & 10 Towns)

Other Beneficiaries: Central Government

Initial “Planning” Funding: URBACT “REPAIR” (2009-2011); Covenant of Mayors (2015-)

Funding: ENERSHIPS HORIZON 2020 (2013-to date)

The project The project “Enerships” will support the implementation of Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) to achieve the EU 2030 aims through a comprehensive, integrated and co-operative planning process, based on Local Energy Partnerships to boost implementation. Within the Enerships project partners from 9 countries will cooperate with 23 selected, participating Local Authorities (22 cities and 1 association of 11 municipalities, 22 CoM signatories out of 33 in total) for the development of a suitable “implementation support package” to carry out the activities appointed in their SECAPs. The Enerships for SECAPs package will be transferable to any European municipality and ultimately help achieve the ambitious goals of the EU for 2030.
Tangible examples: Integrated Planning through research;

Main Beneficiary: Paola local Council

Other Beneficiaries: SE REGION (adjacent Councils) Tarxien, Santa Lucija, Fgura.

Initial “Planning” Funding: URBACT “REPAIR” (2009-2011);

INTERREG “AT FORT” & “Hybrid Parks” (2009-2014)

Funding: LOCAL REGENERATION SOUTH REGIONAL COUNCIL (Euro 3M): (2016-to date)

Paola Square is the main transit hub of the second busiest commercial centre in the Harbour Area of Malta. The project is an example in the introduction of democratisation in planning (with citizens voting for “best plan”) targeting greater mobility and accessibility through a re-designing of the area; elimination of dead space, linking gardens and parks and creating shared space.
Tangible examples: Integrated Planning through research;

Main Beneficiary: SOUTH EAST REGION & VALLETTA

Other Beneficiaries: CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Initial “Planning” Funding: URBACT “CITYMOBILNET” (2016-);

CIVITAS “DESTINATIONS” (2016)

Funding: ERDF targeting (Euro 5M): (2017-2020)

CITYMOBILNET and DESTINATIONS are establishing a SUMP (Strategic Urban Mobility Plan) for the South East Region targeting transit and mobility in the South East Region through for alternative transit systems, green transport, promoting mobile split, walkability and safety.

An integral part of the South East Region Action Plan and the Regional Economic and Socio-Cultural Plan. As flagship projects these projects are driven by the UN Principles but also referring to National Priorities and EU Priority Axis.

http://www.regjunxlokk.org/action-plan.html

http://www.regjunxlokk.org/south-east-esc-plan.html
Dr Malcolm Borg is a planner by profession and training, and holds a Ph.D. in planning and urbanization from the University of Leeds, UK. He was awarded a scholarship in heritage management, with research undertaken at La Sapienza in Rome and the Istituto Technico in Turin, and for the past 15 years, he has been a lecturer and tutor in the fields of heritage management and economics of heritage at the Institute for Conservation Management and Cultural Heritage (ICMCH) and other UOM Departments. Dr Borg worked in the planning sector for the past 20 years, within the Environmental Management Unit of the Malta Environment and Planning Authority, and previously held posts of Policy Coordinator and Project Manager with the Ministry for Youth and the Arts, the Ministry for Urban Development and Roads, and the Ministry for Infrastructure, Transport and Communication. He was specifically engaged in the launching, development and monitoring of regeneration projects and the development of national policy related to urban development, planning, regeneration and the implementation of EU Directives and Charters. Dr Borg also compiled Development Briefs and Action Plans for the Dock No. 1 Project in Cottonera and the Vertical Connection in Valletta. He was also responsible for the Competition and Planning Brief for the Hagar Qim and Mnajdra Heritage Park (WHS) and the Tentative List for Malta UNESCO Sites.

Dr Borg is a recognized URBACT Thematic Expert and has been involved in the compilation and management of ERDF projects and other EU and International funded programmes. He is also a member of the Malta Chamber of Planners and the Planning Institute Australia. He is currently a director and planning consultant with Arts and Culture Victoria and a UN Global Cities Advisor currently engaged in various assessments of European Cities and the South-East Region in Malta and the applications of Circles of Sustainability Approach and City Scan for Australian Cities.

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