

## IUC-NA Integrated Local Action Plan (i-LAP) Summary

November 2020

City:	Baltimore	Turin
<b>Province, State, Department</b>	Independent City part of the Baltimore Metropolitan Area	Capital city of Piedmont and of the Metropolitan City of Turin
<b>Country:</b>	USA	Italy
<b>Population:</b>	593,490	2,244,017
<b>Size (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	2,830.87/km <sup>2</sup>	6,827 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Period of cooperation</b>	June 2018- November 2020	

<b>Cooperation Themes:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social Innovation &amp; Social Entrepreneurship</li> <li>- Neighbourhood/Urban Regeneration</li> </ul>
<b>Related SDGs and Urban Agenda topics:</b>	<p><u>SDGs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8- Decent work and economic growth</li> <li>9- Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure</li> <li>10- Reduced Inequality</li> <li>11- Sustainable cities and communities</li> </ul> <p><u>EU Urban Agenda:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Jobs and skills in the local economy</li> <li>-Urban poverty</li> <li>-Housing in Cities</li> </ul>
<b>Key focus of cooperation themes:</b>	<p>Baltimore set out to learn about Torino's efforts regarding <i>neighborhood regeneration and social innovation</i>. That objective was met and has had a significant impact on how Baltimore is moving forward with its own strategic economic development plan. In particular, the <a href="#">Torino City Lab</a> initiative has been a significant source of learning and inspiration.</p> <p>Both cities can rely on robust knowledge assets to develop innovative urban policies. Particularly, to stimulate inclusive growth and to implement innovative public regulations to trigger new forms of citizen participation in delivering public services.</p>
<b>Key challenges of cooperation theme:</b>	<p>Turin underwent a massive process of urban transformation in the last 20 years due to a substantial fall in industrial production - key sector since the end of 19th century. The crisis hit the socioeconomic and physical body of the city, strongly influencing the urban development process. Jointly with other planning tools, the City Master Plan delivered in 1995 foresaw a momentous regeneration aimed at reconverting the large dismissed industrial areas, reframing urban mobility, addressing the existing built environment, generating new</p>



economies and vocations by transforming the "factory town" into a city of culture, knowledge and education. The global crisis in 2008 and major changes in political, financial, socio-economic local conditions contributed to make the end of this development cycle, and call for a new vision for the future more relying on urban metabolism, environmental awareness, sustainable use of land, inclusive and equal urban development and social innovation. The durable jobs crisis is penalizing particularly young people, who try to find a first or a new job, and adults unemployed. This is the cause of new urban poverty, which involves the economic but also the social sphere, with new needs to be met, reduction of civic participation and territorial identity, loss of trust in public authorities and uncertainty about the future. This precarious situation affects people and social groups who were unrelated to this phenomenon until few years ago. The new urban poverty is represented not only by a "state" but also by a "process" toward marginalization and exclusion.

**Baltimore** is home to growing private sector businesses in technology, financial and creative sectors that include companies like Under Armour, T. Rowe Price and Exelon. Despite its recent renaissance, Baltimore faces systemic urban issues of crime, poverty and disinvestment. Approximately 1 in 4 residents live below the poverty line and there are nearly 16,000 vacant properties throughout the City, many concentrated in East and West Baltimore. Although the City faces legitimate challenges, its affordability, east coast location (accessible to 2/3 of the US population overnight), attractiveness to millennials and entrepreneurs are all positive factors in reshaping the City's socio-economic profile. Efforts are in place to ensure that as the city improves, it does so in an inclusive and equitable manner. While attracting new residents is a key public policy, engaging existing residents to participate in the city's employment growth, educational attainment and wealth building aspects of future change will be paramount to achieving sustainable development.

**Main objectives of cooperation as described in the U-CAP:**

Baltimore:

- Objective 1:

**Develop an Entrepreneur Exchange Program.**

Explore the creation of an exchange program between Baltimore and Turin entrepreneurs and start-ups that promotes the growth of local companies by developing relations that could help start-ups expand in our respective foreign markets

- Objective 2:

**Develop a best practices guide for encouraging social innovation.**

Share summaries of best practices in both Baltimore and Turin that have significantly increase social innovation and explore opportunities to expand on these successes.

- Objective 3:

**Establish a "Baltimore Urban Center" similar to Turin and other EU cities.**

TURIN:

- Objective 1:

**Exchange of best practices on urban development projects (in particular "adaptive reuse of buildings")**

- Exchange has a specific focus on learning best practices from Baltimore about reactivation and adaptive reuse of vacant buildings and an agile approach to urban transformation.
- Sharing Torino's experience in setting up an urban center: organisation, role, objectives of a body intended to communicate urban change and to strengthen people's knowledge and involvement in city's transformations.

- Objective 2:



	<p><b>Share expertise in social innovation</b> Partner city could be inspired by Torino's best practices about supporting bottom-up initiatives that can produce positive impacts in terms of social inclusion and job creation.</p>
<p><b>Short description of main activities and key outputs (e.g. pilot projects):</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Webinars/Technical Session on the following topics:</b> <i>"how local networks and/or business relationships can collaborate"</i> <i>"social innovation ecosystems, equity and inclusion"</i></li> <li>• <b>Online workshop/Focus group on "adaptive reuse of buildings"</b></li> <li>• <b>Technical Visit + Conference:</b> Seven Delegates from Baltimore went to Turin for a Technical Visit Turin &amp; to participate in the <i>Open Innovation Summit</i></li> <li>• Inventory Baltimore Start-Ups on the Social Innovation Sector</li> <li>• Gather base information on Torino's Urban Center</li> <li>• <i>Note: finally activities cancelled due to pandemic travel restrictions</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Expected results and benefits:</b></p>	<p>Through the IUC programme Baltimore and Torino have had a precious opportunity to share practices, policies, and to connect innovators, entrepreneurs working on urban regeneration, local development. <b><i>The partnership with Baltimore may be deemed a success from different point of views.</i></b> The cooperation with Baltimore has been based on the desire to building up a "favorable international context" for local players, which have shown interest to learn from each other and create joint actions.</p> <p>Even if the Covid.19 has forced us to delete the scheduled last visit in Baltimore (May 2020), it's crucial to highlight what has been learnt, and how we want to continue the collaboration. In terms of learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>It was re-affirmed the important role that public institutions can play in promoting urban development in deprived urban area. (the Park Heights redevelopment project is a clear example)</i></li> <li>- <i>We studied an innovative financial instrument like Tax Increment Financing to sustain social infrastructures</i></li> <li>- <i>We got in touch with inspiring urban regeneration interventions such as the Seawall Development, based in Baltimore, which redevelops historic city buildings to create office spaces for non-profit organizations and housing for teachers. The intervention shows the importance of local communities to active urban revitalizations' processes and answering addressing housing emerging needs.</i></li> </ul> <p>In terms of international relations/investment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>More than 30 local actors have been involved in B2B dialogue with Baltimore delegation</i></li> <li>- <i>An international business partnership has been signed to launch an innovative project on social housing in Torino</i></li> <li>- <i>A Programme of acceleration has been jointly designed by two private actors to promote the exchange of startups between Torino and Baltimore</i></li> <li>- <i>The City of Baltimore has signed a letter of support for an application submitted by the City to Torino to Italian national fund Programme for investment in innovation and internalization</i></li> </ul> <p>A concrete Interest of American company to invest in affordable house project in Torino (Homes4All). As November 2020, the first steps have been taken to bring this project to fruition.</p>

For further information (including access to the full U-CAP), please **contact:**

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