

IUC-NA Integrated Local Action Plan (iLAP) Summary

June 2020

City:	Barcelona	New York City
Province, State, Department...:	Catalonia	New York City Metro Area
Country:	Spain	United States of America
Population:	1'620,809	8'500,000
Size (km²)	101.4 km ²	778 km ²
Period of cooperation	June 2018- June 2020	

Cooperation Themes:	Housing: Community land trusts, mandatory inclusionary housing, modular housing, tenant protections, inclusive and comprehensive planning and housing design, serving extremely low-income populations.
Related <u>SDGs</u> and <u>Urban Agenda</u> topics:	SDGs: 8- Decent work and economic growth 9- Industry, innovation, and infrastructure 10- Reduced inequalities 11- Sustainable cities and communities Urban Agenda: - Housing
Key focus of cooperation themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Models for promoting long-term housing and neighborhood affordability. - Harnessing innovative approaches to reduce the time and cost of affordable housing construction and renovation. - Mandatory Inclusionary Housing history, goals, and best practices. - Approaches to protecting tenants and prevent evictions such as rent regulation and attorney provision programs. - Community-led and inclusive approaches to housing and urban design, for example rezoning and community plans. - Innovative approaches to obtaining and leveraging financing to provide affordable housing for extremely low-income populations.
Key challenges of cooperation theme:	In terms of challenges, both cities have shared their concerns regarding the involvement of members of their staff beyond group meetings and the exchange of materials. Beyond the most committed staff and other stakeholders, they found it was difficult to keep people consistently involved throughout the process, given the day-to-day commitments they already had



	<p>and doubts about the immediate transferability of some of the lessons learned. Nevertheless, the feedback from those involved was always that these types of exchanges allow them to keep an open mind and consider aspects that might not have been initially considered.</p> <p>Another major challenge was the legal, economic, and cultural differences between both cities. On several occasions, participants might have felt that these differences made them incomparable. However, once acknowledged, differences did not represent a major limitation to their partnership. On the contrary, they even stimulated some interesting debates and encouraged them not to take for granted assumptions about what people think is affordable, decent (in terms of housing standards), or urgent.</p>
<p>Main objectives of cooperation as described in the U-CAP:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Refinement and expansion of pilot initiatives. Learn from each other’s housing initiatives and carry over lessons to inform existing and new pilot initiatives. - Capacity building for relevant municipal teams on Community Land Trusts (CLTs) and identify potential changes in existing programs and policies. -Experiment in the use of innovative construction techniques to lower the cost of housing construction and renovation. Encourage knowledge transfer and potential business relationships through webinars and site visits with stakeholders from the modular housing industry.
<p>Short description of main activities and key outputs (e.g. pilot projects):</p>	<p>Intersections 2018 Conference in Pittsburgh, USA One representative from each city attended the Intersections 2018 Conference in Pittsburgh, USA. As a result, they gained knowledge about the CLT model and how it is implemented in different contexts. They also networked with other professionals from the sector.</p> <p>International Social Housing Festival in Lyon, France One representative from each city attended the International Social Housing Festival in Lyon, France. As a result, they shared experiences from New York City and Barcelona with other European cities, met affordable housing stakeholders (Housing Europe conference), learned from comprehensive planning initiatives in Lyon and participated in a closed door meeting with the Eurocities Housing Working Group.</p> <p>2019 Reclaiming Vacant Properties (RVP) Conference in Atlanta, Georgia Representatives from NYC and Barcelona attended the 2019 Reclaiming Vacant Properties Conference in Atlanta, Georgia to deepen their knowledge on strategies to address vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated properties. They also learned from shared equity housing leaders to develop a detailed strategy on how to implement the CLT model in Barcelona and NYC.</p> <p>Modular Housing In November 2018, Barcelona and New York City jointly launched the “BCN – NYC Affordable Housing Challenge,” an initiative aimed at harnessing innovative approaches to reduce the time and cost of affordable housing</p>



	<p>construction and renovation. Proposals were evaluated by an expert committee composed of professionals from both cities. Finalists had their proposals exhibited in Barcelona in March 2019 at Ca l’Alier, the new headquarters for urban innovation in Barcelona, and they announced the winning project at the 2019 Smart City Expo Conference in NYC. Both cities also visited modular housing program managers and developers during the learning exchanges to gain first-hand experience of the similarities and differences in approaches and technology.</p> <p>Staff exchange and technical visit on Rent Regulation in Barcelona</p> <p>Two representatives from NYC attended the Smart City Expo World Congress in Barcelona. Additionally, Lucy Joffe (HPD, NYC) participated in a public debate with a representative from Berlin and Barcelona’s Councilor for Housing. Both cities exchanged strategies on how to implement rent regulations.</p> <p>Technical visit on Anti-Eviction Strategies and CLTs in NYC</p> <p>Two representatives from Barcelona traveled to NYC to participate in expert roundtables led by both cities to exchange best practices concerning anti-eviction and tenant protection strategies. They also participated in discussions with CLT NYC-based groups and visited local CLT projects. Both cities also gained a better understanding around eviction programs and mandatory inclusionary housing.</p>
<p>Expected results and benefits:</p>	<p>The IUC partnership allowed Barcelona and New York City to identify new ways of approaching the provision of affordable housing and tenant protections through Community Land Trusts, modular housing, and other initiatives, and to analyze how strategies from their partner city might fit into their own social, economic and legal context. Their partnership additionally enabled both cities to learn from the experiences of other European and USA cities.</p> <p>NYC benefited from learning about the specific processes the City of Barcelona employed with a Community Land Trust RFP, the innovative participatory design practices associated with the co-housing movement in Spain and Barcelona’s “right of first refusal” policy. New York City also learned about Barcelona’s emergency modular housing through their APROP program and was inspired to consider whether New York City’s modular housing program should be shifted for that purpose and its workforce development potential.</p> <p>Barcelona is considering incorporating NYC-like rules in their recently implemented mandatory inclusionary housing program to avoid discriminatory practices like the ones witnessed in NYC in the past. It has also allowed them to frame their programs and policies in the broader international policy debate, facilitating the use of concepts and materials that can now be understood by housing professionals across borders.</p>

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