

IUC Urban Cooperation Action Plan (U-CAP) Summary

City:	Burgas	Shantou, Zhengzhou
Province, State, Department...:	Burgas	Guangzhou, Hainan
Country:	Bulgaria	China
Population:	230.000	5.389.328 / 9.568.000
Size (km²)	253.6 km ²	2.248.4 km ² / 7.507 km ²
Period of cooperation	May 2017- December 2018	
Cooperation Themes:	Inclusive and sustainable economic growth Smart cities and regional / urban innovation and competitiveness	
Related SDGs and Urban Agenda topics:	SDG 7, 9, 11, 17, EU UP Jobs and skills in the Local Economy	
Key focus of cooperation themes:	<p>The city of Burgas is an important industrial, commercial, transport, tourism, and administrative center. The economy has a diverse character, which makes it an economic leader in the region. They are focusing on ensuring good roads and railway connectively.</p> <p>Burgas' current plan for energy supply includes an effective and stable management of energy resources and the green economic growth, offering high quality services for the population, healthy and accessible environment, with real perspectives for business investments. Therefore, renewable energy and energy efficiency are key sectors to achieve this goal.</p> <p>Shantou is the economic center for the north part of Guangdong Province in South East China. Manufacturing accounts for a large and increasing number of jobs and toy manufacturing is the city's leading export industry.</p> <p>Zhengzhou is one of the most important cities in inland China. It is the second largest city in central China, after Wuhan. It is the economic center of the province and the surrounding areas such as southeastern Shanxi and southwestern Shandong. Due to its strategic location in one of the most populous areas in the world (nearly 100 million people in Henan alone) and in China's</p>	



	<p>railway, road and aviation transport networks, Zhengzhou is increasingly attracting domestic and international investment as well as migrants from other areas, transforming the city into one of the largest economic centers in China.</p> <p>Zhengzhou and the surrounding area have large reserves of coal and other minerals. Coal mining and electricity generation are traditionally important in the local economy.</p>
<p>Key challenges of cooperation theme:</p>	<p>Together these cities have been focusing on connectivity and transport. By exchange and cooperation on port logistics they work together to improve the railway and por connection.</p>
<p>Main objectives of cooperation as described in the U-CAP:</p>	<p>Launch concrete cooperation projects to improve the connectivity of Burgas with Chinese cities.</p>
<p>Short description of main activities and key outputs (e.g. pilot projects):</p>	<p>→ June 2017: Participation of Burgas in the XI. EU-China High Level Seminar on Regional Policy and signing of the joint statement for collaboration with Chinese cities.</p> <p>→ October 2017: Participation of Burgas at the Local Action Plan workshop in Beijing (23 October 2017) and follow-up visit to Changchun and Zhengzhou. Workshop with DRC Zhengzhou, cluster meetings in logistic sector, smart city and urban development, technology innovation. Visit to Zhengdong Economic Development Zone in Zhengzhou. Field visit to Changchun Jingyue zone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An agreement was signed for cooperation and jointly operating the Zhengzhou - Burgas railway line as part of the new Silk Road, where Burgas will be the gateway to Europe and the first European distance.
<p>Expected results and benefits:</p>	<p>Proposed pilot projects:</p> <p>1. Railway & port cooperation: Involvement of stakeholders for the operation of the above-mentioned line. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Zhengzhou municipal government - Government and main coordinator → Zhengzhou DRC - in charge of communication and coordination on the operational level → Zhengzhou International Railway Hub Logistics Company - main platform for cooperation. → Explore engagement of Yuxin'ou company - operator of the Chongqing-Xinjiang-Europe railway express.



- [Port of Burgas Ltd.](#) - a port of public transport of national importance. It processes bulk and general cargo. Serves passenger and cruise ships.
- [Bulgarian Ports Infrastructure Company \(BPI Co.\)](#) - Manages the port infrastructure of the public transport ports of national importance and provides traffic management and shipping information services.
- Municipality of Burgas - Local authority
- Bulgarian State Railways - National railways carrier
- [Industrial Logistics Park Burgas](#) - a joint-stock company with shareholders Municipality of Burgas (49%) and National Company Industrial Zone 51% with 100% state capital. Responsible for building, managing and marketing of the industrial area of a modern type

2. Support the exchange of business and the local economy
- Involve the [Business Incubator Burgas](#) to support start - up companies and entrepreneurial enterprises

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