

IUC Urban Cooperation Action Plan (U-CAP) Summary

City:	Mannheim	Chongqing, Zhengzhou
Province, State, Department...:	Baden Württemberg	Chongqing, Henan
Country:	Germany	China
Population:	305,780	N/A
Size (km²)	145km ²	N/A
Period of cooperation	May 2017 – June 2019	
Cooperation Themes:	Logistics Advanced manufacturing Innovation support to the local economy	
Related SDGs and Urban Agenda topics:	SDG 9 Sustainable industrialization and foster innovation EU UP Jobs and skills in the Local Economy	
Key focus of cooperation themes:	<p>Logistics: Launching a cargo railway connection between China and Mannheim to boost bilateral economic exchange</p> <p>Advanced manufacturing: Developing a training curriculum on industry 4.0 for Chinese academic / industry partners</p> <p>Innovation: Establish permanent representation offices in Mannheim and Chongqing to engage with innovation partners in a structured way</p>	
Key challenges of cooperation theme:	<p>Logistics: existing cargo railway lines between China and Germany challenge Mannheim's attempt to establish and own one to support the local economy</p> <p>Advanced manufacturing: Mannheim's smart production network – promoted by Mannheim City Council - willing train Chinese industry partners on industry 4.0 and to establish a demo lab.</p>	
Main objectives of cooperation as described in the U-CAP:	Launch concrete cooperation projects in the above-mentioned fields and advance to thematic networking through cluster UCAPs (especially smart city)	
Short description of main activities and key outputs (e.g. pilot projects):	1. Signing Joint Statement for cooperation with Chinese cities in May 2017 in Brussels. Participating at the 12 th EU-China High Level Seminar on Regional Policy.	



2. [Visit to Mannheim](#) by Chinese cities (June 2017) - A delegation with representatives from NDRC, Chongqing, Shantou and Longyan visited Mannheim.
3. [August 2017](#): Visit to Chongqing (China) by Mannheim's Deputy Mayor Christian Specht and the Head of International Cooperation David Linse to discuss possible cargo railway cooperation.
4. Participation at the [Local Action Plan workshop](#) in Beijing (23 October 2017).
5. [November 2017](#): Participation at the IUC Global Event in Brussels. Delivery of a speech by David Linse.
6. [November 2017](#): Visit to Mannheim by several Chinese cities to learn about Mannheim's smart production base and its network, robotic technologies applied in medical sector, its implementation of the SDGs and its involvement in European Joint R&D Programs.
7. [January 2018](#): Delegation from Yuxin'ou Cargo Railway company and Chongqing visits Mannheim to discuss possible cargo railway line.
8. [July 2018](#): Visit of an official high-level delegation from Chongqing City to Mannheim. Discussion with Mannheim city authorities and stakeholders from the business community the implementation of two pilot projects: On the one side, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the City of Mannheim and the Yuxinou (Chongqing) Logistics co. for the implementation of a direct cargo railway connection between both cities. Both sides discussed also about the implementation of bilateral representation offices to strengthen cooperation in other areas like advanced manufacturing and research.
9. [July 2018](#): Mannheim joins the EU cities one-week mission to China.
10. [October 2018](#): EU's IUC Pilot Project Started: Cargo Railway Connection between Mannheim and Chongqing
11. [April 2019](#): After participating in a cluster meeting in Hannover, Chinese delegates visited Mannheim to explore smart manufacturing cooperation (vocational training).
12. [June 2019](#): EU-China Regional Innovation Conference held in Mannheim
13. [November 2019](#): Participation of Mannheim business representatives at the IUC vocational training event in Xian on industry 4.0 and smart production.



	<p>14. <u>January 2020</u>: Coaching meeting with IUC team in Mannheim. Discussion of possible next steps.</p> <p>15. <u>March 2020</u>: Mannheim presents at the Liuzhou – European Cities virtual Covid19 exchange.</p>
<p>Expected results and benefits:</p>	<p>Achievements up to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Direct connection for freight trains from Mannheim to Chongqing in China was officially put into operation. → First European-Chinese Business & Regional Innovation Forum held in Mannheim. The event was attended by more than 120 high-level representatives from politics, business and research. → Establishment of a permanent representation of Chongqing in Mannheim → Further MoU and agreements possible in the following fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Smart Production – Innovation – Logistics

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