

# International Urban Cooperation Fostering Sustainable Urban Development on a global scale

JAPAN 5<sup>th</sup> Exchange Meeting of the EU and Japanese Cities  
Brussels - 20.11.2019

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# CONTENT

- Highlights of city-to-city cooperation
- Resources and solutions
- Next steps and upcoming opportunities



# WHAT IS THE IUC?

The International Urban Cooperation (IUC) programme aims to enable cities and regions to link up and share solutions to common problems.

It is part of a long-term strategy by the European Union to foster sustainable urban development in cooperation with both the public and private sectors.

The IUC programme activities will support the achievement of bilateral policy objectives as well as major international agreements on urban development and climate change, such as the Urban Agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the Paris Agreement.

*How has the IUC contributed to foster sustainable urban development and to strengthen urban diplomacy until now?*



**1** City-to-City cooperation on sustainable urban development

**2** Sub-national action under the Global Covenant of Mayors initiative



**3** Inter-regional cooperation on innovation for local and regional development



An aerial photograph of Florence, Italy, showing the dense urban landscape with its characteristic red-tiled roofs. The Florence Cathedral (Duomo) with its large red-tiled dome is a central feature. In the background, the Arno River and the rolling hills of the Tuscan region are visible under a clear sky. A semi-transparent blue banner is overlaid on the lower half of the image, containing the title text.

# CITY-TO-CITY COOPERATION

# CITY PAIRINGS



- **164 cities** already involved
- **81 EU cities** from 22 countries
- 15 **Chinese** cities
- 11 **Japanese** cities in 10 pairings
- 10 **Indian** cities
- 5 **Argentinean** cities
- 7 **Brazilian** cities
- 8 **Colombian** cities in 6 pairings
- 4 **Chilean** cities
- 4 **Peruvian** cities
- 7 **Canadian** cities
- 5 **Mexican** cities
- 8 **US** cities



# GLOBAL PAIRINGS





## WEST ATHENS AND MÉRIDA FOCUS ON SOCIAL PARTICIPATION IN SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY PLANNING

Through their partnership, West Athens and Mérida are establishing a strategic approach to developing effective Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs), as well as finding ways to better involve societal stakeholders in the implementation process.

SUMPs must aim to meet the demand for urban mobility whilst improving quality of life. To be successful, SUMPs should be developed across different policy areas and sectors, in cooperation with different levels of government and administration, and in conjunction with citizens and other stakeholders.

Social participation is a vital component of SUMPs. Social participation can take many forms, from consultative means, such as polls, which gauge whether mobility projects have sufficient acceptance levels from the public, to pro-active processes, such as crowd-funding,





## ROTTERDAM AND SURAT TAKE AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO RESILIENT WATER MANAGEMENT

Rotterdam and Surat were officially paired as part of the IUC programme in 2017, but have been collaborating since 2015 within the 100 Resilient Cities network. Both cities have a resilience strategy in which resilient water management and climate resilience are a priority. The cities are focusing their IUC partnership on tackling issues related to water management, such as improving the quality of drinking water, mitigating water pollution from industrial and agricultural run-off, protecting against flooding, and effectively treating sewage.

Taking a holistic approach to challenges can result in significant cross-sectoral benefits. Instead of looking at problems in silos, try connecting the different elements of a system so that you can approach it as a whole. This often means working with other departments and stakeholders.

One specific area of cooperation is water quality monitoring. Surat was inspired by Rotterdam's integrated water management approach, where several parties monitor water quality aligned to collectively set goals and methods. Surat's approach to water topics has inspired Rotterdam to think in a different way. Tackling water management on a much grander scale has encouraged the Dutch city to look at the scalability of its own efforts on climate resilience.



## PARMA AND FREDERICTON DEVELOP A NEW PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT MODEL TO INCREASE INCLUSION

Following an exploration of the two cities' priorities, Parma and Fredericton are focusing their IUC cooperation on increasing female participation in local government leadership and creating a transferable public engagement model that actively addresses the issue of inclusiveness for marginalised groups.

The aim of the pairing is to develop a methodology to assess and identify obstacles to the development of women's careers. This methodology will be designed to be both transferable to other countries and applicable to other marginalised segments of the population.

The city authorities reached out to the University of Parma for support in designing the methodology.

Though the tool developed Parma and Fredericton will examine the impact of legislative intervention on barriers to female participation in local government leadership positions.

# THEMES

Mobility &  
transport  
(34)

Smart cities  
& innovation  
(47)

Water  
resources &  
management  
(14)

Poverty,  
social  
inclusion &  
urban  
regeneration  
(11)

Circular economy,  
waste &  
sustainable  
production/  
consumption  
(20)

Nature-based  
solutions,  
climate  
adaptation  
(14)

Climate  
mitigation &  
sustainable  
energy  
(12)

What next?  
Connect & exchange  
with other cities and  
pairings!



# GLOBAL RESULTS & OUTPUTS

4 Calls for cities

82 city pairings  
kicked off

IUC website – solutions  
database and pairing  
profiles

8 case studies drafted

5 webinars on  
sustainable  
development – 2 to  
come!

Knowledge Sharing  
platform developed;  
solutions and resources  
database

3 Regional Dialogues  
organized (North  
America, LAC and Asia)  
– 2 to come!

Exchange with other  
initiatives and  
organizations (UNDP,  
UIA, EU Urban Agenda,  
Future Cities..)

430 participants to the  
IUC city-to-city events

IUC twitter account  
launched - counting  
+960 followers

7 newsletters published,  
next edition to in June

2 publications & 2  
webinars on financing



# RESOURCES & SOLUTIONS

# ON THE WEBSITE

Solution Title	Provider Name	City, Country	Sectors	Markets	More...
Energy quality assurance	Grow Smarter project	Stockholm, Sweden	quality management, governance, construction, planning, energy efficiency	Europe	
Re-build of an industrial site: Ca l'Alfier	Grow Smarter project	Barcelona, Spain	building renovation, energy efficiency, lighting, renewable energy	Europe, industrial facilities	
Construction consolidation centre	Grow Smarter project	Stockholm, Sweden	logistics, construction, energy efficiency, transport, waste management	Europe	
Climate shell refurbishment	Grow Smarter project	Cologne, Germany	building renovation, energy efficiency, lighting, renewable energy	Europe, residential buildings, tertiary buildings	
Efficient and Smart Climate Shell and Equipment Refurbishment	Grow Smarter project	Barcelona, Spain	building renovation, energy efficiency, lighting, heating, renewable energy	Europe, buildings	
Open home Net	Grow Smarter project	Stockholm, Sweden	smart cities, energy efficiency, buildings, energy management	Europe, residential buildings, tertiary buildings	

Searchable

File upload & tagging

Topic/ SDG /EU Agenda search

Solutions

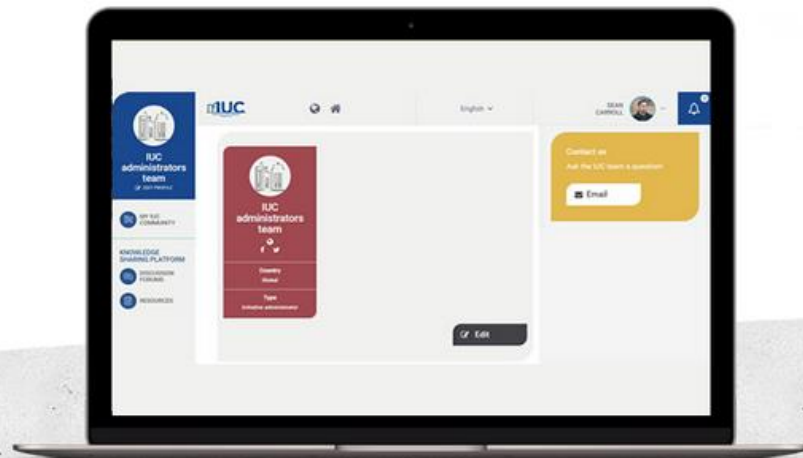


# KNOWLEDGE SHARING PLATFORM

## Knowledge Platform

The Knowledge Platform provides a space for IUC cities to connect virtually with their partners, access resources on sustainable development, and share their experiences.

**LOG IN HERE**



## Discussion Forums - International Urban Cooperation

In the [Discussion Forums](#) section IUC members have the chance to:

- **interact** with each other, share their experiences and expertise **on a wide range of topics**

- As an IUC member you also have the unique opportunity to [access in preview](#) the content of our **webinars**!

- In the “**private room**” section, you will have the opportunity to [bilaterally exchange knowledge and information with your partner city!](#)



### Topical discussions

A discussion forum for sharing knowledge and experiences on a range of topics, such as:

Mobility | Smart city | Climate mitigation, adaptation and energy | Water | Circular economy, waste and sustainable production and consumption | Nature-based solutions and rural-urban nexus

The topical forums are a tool to follow up on discussions held during the annual IUC CITY-TO-CITY events

Target group(s):  
global

# of forum topics:  
9

Enter



### IUC Webinars

Topic title	# Views	# Comments	Created	Updated	Author	Tag(s)
#5 From a linear to a circular city - how to get started?	23	0	30/04/2019	15/05/2019	7nönü Hayri	Circular economy
#1 Planning a sustainable city through smart & inclusive mobility	32	0	20/03/2019	10/05/2019	7nönü Hayri	Mobility
#4 Choosing locally-appropriate solutions for wastewater management	23	0	03/04/2019	02/05/2019	7nönü Hayri	Waste
#3 Integrating nature-based flood management into urban planning	34	0	20/03/2019	02/05/2019	7nönü Hayri	Water
#2 International financial sources and institutions	75	3	04/03/2019	02/05/2019	7nönü Hayri	Climate Finance

Target group(s):  
global

# of forum topics:  
5

Enter

City A - City B private room

# of forum topics:



IUC  
administrators  
team  
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MY IUC  
COMMUNITY

KNOWLEDGE  
SHARING PLATFORM

DISCUSSION  
FORUMS

RESOURCES



English ▾



## Resource library-IUC

In the “[Resources](#)” section, members can also access to a wide range of resources that can be of value for all cities involved in the IUC programme such as interesting case studies, Policy Reports, Guidelines etc...

[OK](#) [Advanced Search](#) ▾

Filter by:

Resource type

Language


Geographic coverage

[Climate Finance \(9\)](#), [Mobility \(9\)](#), [Climate Adaptation \(7\)](#), [Energy \(7\)](#), [Water \(7\)](#), [Climate Mitigation \(6\)](#), [Smart City \(6\)](#), [Social Inclusion \(6\)](#), [Green Public Procurement \(5\)](#), [Nature-based Solutions \(5\)](#), [Circular economy \(4\)](#), [Resilient Infrastructure \(3\)](#), [Waste \(3\)](#), [Air Quality \(1\)](#), [Health \(1\)](#), [IUC Coordination unit \(1\)](#) [Reset](#)

[Add a resource](#)

Resource title	# of downloads	# of likes	Publication date	Resource type	Tag(s)
IUC Webinar 4. Choosing locally-appropriate solutions for wastewater management - RECORDING	0	0	10/04/2019	Webinar	Waste, Water
IUC Webinar 4. Choosing locally-appropriate solutions for wastewater management - PPTs	1	0	10/04/2019	Presentation	Climate Mitigation, Nature-based Solutions, Water
IUC Webinar 3. Integrating Nature-Based Flood Management Into Urban Planning - PPTs	0	0	04/04/2019	Presentation	Nature-based Solutions, Water
IUC Webinar 3. Integrating Nature-Based Flood Management Into Urban Planning - RECORDING	0	0	04/04/2019	Webinar	Nature-based Solutions, Water
Urban Transitions Alliance	0	0	01/04/2019	Other	Energy, Resilient Infrastructure, Social Inclusion
IUC Webinar: 2. International financial sources and institutions relevant to city action - RECORDING	0	0	28/03/2019	Webinar	Climate Finance
Overview of International financial sources and institutions	1	0	14/03/2019	Tool	Climate Finance





**IUC administrators team**  
EDIT PROFILE

MY IUC COMMUNITY

KNOWLEDGE SHARING PLATFORM

DISCUSSION FORUMS

RESOURCES

English

Profile Icon

Notifications








## Resource library-IUC


IUC Search, add and rate resources!

This Resource Library gathers the best available resources that can be of value to all cities involved in the IUC programme . If you wish to contribute to the present collection? Then upload your own material (e.g. studies, tools, books, event proceedings, etc.) and share your experiences.

Filter by:

[Climate Finance \(9\)](#)
[Mobility \(9\)](#)
[Climate Adaptation \(7\)](#)
[Energy \(7\)](#)
[Water \(7\)](#)
[Climate Mitigation \(6\)](#)
[Smart City \(6\)](#)
[Social Inclusion \(6\)](#)
[Green Public Procurement \(5\)](#)
[Nature-based Solutions \(5\)](#)
[Circular economy \(4\)](#)
[Resilient Infrastructure \(3\)](#)
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[Air Quality \(1\)](#)
[Health \(1\)](#)
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 IUC Webinar 3. Integrating Nature-Based Flood Management Into Urban Planning - RECORDING	0	0	04/04/2019	Webinar	Nature-based Solutions, Water
 Urban Transitions Alliance	0	0	01/04/2019	Other	Energy, Resilient Infrastructure, Social Inclusion
 IUC Webinar: 2. International financial sources and institutions relevant to city action - RECORDING	0	0	28/03/2019	Webinar	Climate Finance
 Overview of International financial sources and institutions	1	0	14/03/2019	Tool	Climate Finance



to add a resource, go to the resources tab, and simply *click* “Add a resource”.

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Maximum of 100 characters

Publication date \*

Resource type \*

Geographic coverage \*

Language \*

Add Tag(s) \* max.3

Select one or more of the predefined tags

\* Mandatory fields

Thumbnail

Further info

http://

A close-up photograph of two hands cupped together, holding a mound of dark, rich soil. A small green seedling with several leaves is growing out of the center of the soil. The background is blurred, showing more hands and a blue and white striped shirt, suggesting a group of people participating in a planting activity.

## NEXT STEPS AND OPPORTUNITIES



Photo by Kat Jayne from Pexels

## IUC JAPAN - REGIONAL DIALOGUE

### Cities Driving the Transition to a more Sustainable Future

May 2020

*This interactive event will provide an opportunity for IUC cities and stakeholders to share ideas and exchange knowledge on how cities can drive the transition to a more sustainable future, in line with the objectives of the SDGs, the New Urban Agenda and the Paris Agreement. Cities all over the world are facing the challenge of a systemic change in using and managing resources. This session will discuss how cities can accelerate a sustainable energy transition and boost a circular economy, at the local level. The session will also present and discuss good practices on how to integrate the transition to a more sustainable energy system and to a circular economy across sectors.*

# CONCEPT

## 1,5 DAYS EVENT

- 1 day dedicated to city-to-city cooperation
- 0,5 days dedicated to Covenant of Mayors in Japan

## FOCUS CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Going full circle: key drivers of circular economy
- Closing the loop: implementing the circular economy in cities and beyond

## GLOBAL COVENANT OF MAYORS

- Initiatives and support
- Common framework
- International experiences

## PARTICIPANTS

- Japanese cities engaged in IUC
- Selected cities worldwide to boost cluster discussion and exchange

## FOCUS ENERGY TRANSITION

- Making the transition happen: key drivers of the energy transition
- Delivering the energy transition across sectors

## COVENANT OF MAYORS IN JAPAN

- National needs
- Discussion on directions
- Support needed and identification of gaps



# CALL TO CITIES -INSPIRE YOUR PEERS!



- Stimulating clusters approach; candidate as single city or as pair

- Regional events, and international events identified

- Focus on innovation, replicability, implementation of SDGs and NUA



## COMING SOON

- 4th CITIES FORUM 2020 (30-31 January 2020, Porto)
- Regional Dialogue India
- 10<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum - Cities of opportunities - Connecting Culture and Innovation (8-13 February 2020, Abu Dhabi)
- Webinar on cultural heritage and urban regeneration; air quality; innovative financing instruments (early 2020)

QUESTIONS?

FEEDBACK?

We look forward to exchanging with you!

**THANK YOU!**

**Giorgia Rambelli**

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