



# JPI URBAN EUROPE CONFERENCE

MAY 29 – 30 IN BRUSSELS

ENGAGING FOR IMPACT:  
THE NEXT STEP IN URBAN TRANSITION

MAY 29 JPI URBAN EUROPE CONFERENCE: POLICY DAY

MAY 30 JPI URBAN EUROPE CONFERENCE: CITIES DAY

# JPI URBAN EUROPE CONFERENCE

ENGAGING FOR IMPACT: THE NEXT STEP IN URBAN TRANSITION

May 29 – 30 in Brussels

**Welcome to join urban practitioners and policymakers, researchers, European institutions and organisations and Urban Europe's partners to discuss how to achieve urban transitions by enhancing the impacts of urban research and innovation investments, scaling up solutions and broadening stakeholder engagement.**

Take part in a discussion where the latest research results from JPI Urban Europe projects and the long-term strategy of JPI Urban Europe are reflected against international urban policies and strategies. Learn more about how public authorities can act as transformation agents, catalysing change by cooperating with researchers, business and social innovators.

## **Policy Day**

The first day of the conference is the Policy Day focusing on urban transition and why it is so difficult to speed up? Using the Global Sustainable Development Goals and the EU Urban Agenda as a starting point, we will discuss urban challenges and the role of research and innovation in transitioning European cities. Mayors from European cities will reflect on their current challenges and results from JPI Urban Europe funded projects will be presented. The long-term strategy of JPI Urban Europe will be reflected against international urban policies and strategies.

## **Cities Day**

The second day of the conference focuses on cities with two sessions: the stakeholder seminar Public administration as transformation agents and the brokerage event Making Cities Work. The seminar will showcase learning examples from European cities and invite participants to influence implementation of the JPI Urban Europe strategic research and innovation agenda. The brokerage event Making Cities Work discusses major European city challenges and how to solve them. This also offers the opportunity to influence the upcoming call Joint Innovation Action Making Cities Work supporting research-based innovation solutions in cities that will open later this year.



**Registration**  
**[Click here to register](#)**

## **The Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe**

The Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe is a member state-led initiative that coordinates the urban-related research programmes of the participating countries in order to exploit synergies between the national research programmes and European ones.

JPI Urban Europe represents a forward-looking research initiative with an integrated approach to sustainable urban development across its research interfaces of economy and innovation, mobility, society and ecology. The aim is to create attractive, sustainable and economically viable urban areas, in which European citizens, communities and their surroundings can thrive.

## JPI URBAN EUROPE CONFERENCE: POLICY DAY

ENGAGING FOR IMPACT  
– THE NEXT STEP IN URBAN TRANSITION

BRUSSELS MAY 29, 2017

The JPI Urban Europe Policy Day relates the JPI Urban Europe Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) implementation activities and the long-term strategy to European and global policy debates and documents and describe JPI Urban Europe's ambitions to contribute to these.

Inspired by cities' challenges and latest research results from JPI Urban Europe funded projects, the conference wants to identify requirements and opportunities to enhance impact of urban RDI investments while anticipating the different regional dynamics and global requirements. The conference will debate how to strengthen the European capacities and competencies on urban sustainability and create regional/local impact throughout Europe and beyond.

The event is co-hosted by the European Committee of the Regions, the European Commission and JPI Urban Europe. The conference targets a broad stakeholder group of policy makers, research and innovation community, urban practitioners, experts from cities and regions, EU member states, urban networks and European Institutions.

**11:00 – 17:00**

Registration opens 09:30

**European Committee  
of the Regions**Bâtiment Jacques Delors  
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## PROGRAMME

**09:30 – 11:00****Registration and coffee****11:00 – 12:45****Morning plenary session**

Urban transition pathways and UN Sustainable Development Goals

**Welcome addresses by representatives from the hosts****Setting the scene**

Introducing the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and the EU Urban Agenda and what it means in terms of urban transitions on a local level and the role of research and innovation in exploring pathways and providing knowledge and evidence to policy makers on all levels.

**Mayors' panel**

Cities' perspectives on urban challenges and urban transition pathways, including local examples of explorative pursuits to tackle challenges. How to break down and apply the Global Sustainable Development Goals in cities?

**Research put into practice**

Projects funded in the JPI Urban Europe present results and reflects the concerns raised by the mayors.

**12:45 – 14:00****Lunch in the Atrium of the European Committee of the Regions***Programme continues on next page*

**14:00 – 15:30**

**Break-out sessions Research put into practice part 2**

Projects funded in JPI Urban Europe present results and open up discussions among stakeholders, building on the input from the mayors' panel and projects presentations, framed by four of the crosscutting issues defined in the Urban Agenda for the EU 'Pact of Amsterdam'.

- Effective urban governance
- Sound strategic urban planning
- Innovative approaches
- Impact on societal change

**15:30 – 16:00**

**Coffee break**

**16:00 – 17:00**

**Afternoon plenary session**

Shaping a European research and innovation eco-system – focus on JPI Urban Europe on a program level and important steps to implement the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda that was launched in September 2015.

**Presenting the JPI Urban Europe long-term vision**

**Panel discussion:**

**Why is it so difficult to speed up the pace of urban transition?**

Representatives from JPI Urban Europe main stakeholders and long-term partners discuss the main challenges and important measures to speed up the pace of urban innovation and transitioning.

**Final reflections**

Representatives from the European Commission, the European Parliament and JPI Urban Europe

## EVENING NETWORKING EVENT

**17:30 – 21:00**

Following the conference there will be an evening networking event at the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Poland to the European Union.

The event is co-hosted by JPI Urban Europe and the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Poland to the European Union.



**17:30 – 21:00**



**Permanent Representation  
of the Republic of Poland  
to the European Union**  
Rue Stevin 139, Brussels

## JPI URBAN EUROPE CONFERENCE: CITIES DAY

# STAKEHOLDER SEMINAR: ENHANCING IMPACT AND ACCELERATING TRANSITIONS

BRUSSELS MAY 30, 2017

The stakeholder seminar focus on urban transformation in practice and how public administration and civil servants can act as transformation agents and catalyse change in different areas by way of finding new ways of cooperating with researchers, business and social innovators, anticipating the opportunities and challenge of digitalisation and circular economy. Also in focus is the catalyzing power amongst business, social innovators and other actors and the challenges all actors face when they strive to navigate an urban innovation ecosystem with a multiplicity of actors with a plethora of business models and logics.

### Topics for discussion

How to go from testbeds and innovation projects to systemic change? How to integrate knowledge gained in projects into the normal business and everyday activities? How can cities build and utilize intelligence, also making it available to researchers? How to cooperate with social innovators and social entrepreneurs within a framework of the circular economy? How to manage changing roles for traditional actors and new players in the mobility sector?

The seminar highlights the need for innovation in the public sector. It showcases learning examples from cities in Europe. The outcomes of the seminar will influence future calls and activities related to the implementation of the JPI Urban Europe Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA).



**09:30 – 12:30**

Registration opens 09:00



**La Tricoterie**

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Brussels

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## PROGRAMME

**09:00**

**Registration and coffee**

**09:30**

**Welcome and introduction**

Welcome by the moderator

Introduction to JPI Urban Europe

Introduction to the topic of the day

Short pitches introducing the themes of the five parallel sessions

**10:00**

**Parallel sessions**

- Public administration as transformation agents
- Social innovation and social entrepreneurship in the circular economy
- Change agents for a transition to sustainable urban accessibility and mobility
- Cities as urban data laboratories
- Approaches and skills to enhance the impact of testbeds and urban living labs

**12:00**

**Conclusions**

**12:30 – 13:30**

**Lunch**

**18:00**

**Informal after conference get-together at Maison du Peuple**  
Parvis Saint Gilles 39, 1060 Sint-Gillis

## Parallel sessions

### 10:00 – 12:00

#### Public administration as transformation agents

More and more, cities and urban areas are expected to drive change by measures implemented towards urban sustainable transformations. These measures are often realised on the side of cities' normal operations. Innovation support systems are often geared to support distinct and definite projects. However, in order to realise systemic transitions, it is perceived to be necessary for cities and urban areas to scale up from scattered testbeds, demonstration and innovation projects, to integrate knowledge gained in projects, to realise outcomes and translate into the normal operations and improved business as usual. Many times, this poses a challenge on public innovation governance and capacities to work with change.

By dialogue on workable approaches, good practices developed, and 'dream scenarios', the stakeholder session Public administration as transformation agents will support policy with pertinent materials on challenges from a city governance point of view.

#### Social Innovation and social entrepreneurship in the circular economy

Circular economy has been praised as a core ingredient in the transition to sustainable and liveable urban futures. However, to increase resource efficiency, avoid air pollution and reduce waste, new models or alliances and partnerships are required. In this context, social innovation and social entrepreneurship can play a very important role to facilitate change and transitions.

The session focuses on the role of social innovators in transforming cities and necessary framework conditions for successful and continuous cooperation between public sector and social innovators and entrepreneurs. The session builds on conclusions from the SEiSMiC project dialogues that aimed at strengthening the dialogue between civil society, innovators, research, and policy in urban issues and challenges.

Furthermore, the role of social innovators and social entrepreneurs in urban research and innovation ecosystems will be discussed from various perspectives. The session is organized together with the Social Innovation Acceleration in Cities network and discussions will feed into the activities of the JPI Urban Europe Agora – the Stakeholder Involvement Platform.

#### Change agents for a transition to sustainable urban accessibility and mobility

Future urban accessibility can take significant different shapes and forms compared to today's situation. Public authorities in urbanized areas can better anticipate shifting needs and develop fitting infrastructure by way of supporting visions and services for more efficient, sustainable and environmentally friendly mobility scenarios. This session focusses on important elements in such scenarios: the interplay between digital and physical connectivity; 'active' transport modes (walking, bicycling); electric driven modes (e-bikes, electric passenger cars, electric freight vans/trucks); shared economy, passenger car based services (Uber, Lyft); intermodal service concepts (Mobility as a Service); automation in public transport (pods, buses, light rail vehicles).

The aim of the session is to share ideas, exchange knowledge on different practices and experiences and to inspire actors on different levels to undertake small scale coordinated activities in the spirit of transnational knowledge exchange and resource efficiency. Starting from projects the drivers or barriers for implementing these results in the urban Europe area will be discussed.

## Cities as urban data laboratories

Urban areas are rich sources of data which could be used to improve the urban areas itself. Having an 'urban data hub' in a city where different data streams (for example electricity usage, waste removal, public transport usage, availability of parks, wealth distribution) can be combined and allow for inter- and transdisciplinary research which directly feed back into the city.

In these urban data hubs, the focus will not just lie on 'observing' the city, but on experimentation and intervention together with the urban stakeholders (such as citizens, businesses, NGO's, municipalities). There are however also objections to such large-scale data collections: ethical barriers for collecting data from private citizens, safety of data from hackers, institutional frames which do not allow for collaborations between data sources, legal barriers which do not allow for data collection, etc.

This session tackles questions surrounding this topic. It draws from examples of cities and research performed on using data in cities. It also aims to look at the questions of how cities can build and utilize intelligence, making it available to researchers, while also looking at and accounting for how accessibility to data influences and interacts with citizens' perceptions.

## Approaches and skills to enhance the impact of testbeds and urban living labs

Strategies and tools to unlock the full potential of testbeds and urban living labs are highly dependent on local characteristics.

Therefore, the diffusion of these kinds of activities on citywide, nationwide and international scales requires dedicated measures. Skills, business models and framework conditions play an essential role for scaling findings and results of testbeds up and across systems and circumstances. The aim is to enhance the impact of research and innovation projects, social innovation, co-creative research approaches and living labs which contribute to transitions towards sustainable and liveable urban futures.

Especially, the determining factors and frameworks to enhance the impact of co-creative methods used in research and innovation such as living labs will be discussed. Concrete good practice cases that frame the discussion and highlight the importance of knowledge brokerage, business models, framework conditions and of being sensitive to local urban innovation ecosystems will be presented. The discussion builds on the guidelines and frameworks currently drafted in the The European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities and Communities initiative 'from planning to implementation, scaling up and replication' developed with substantial JPI Urban Europe contribution.

## The Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)

The Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) describes the long-term strategy and programme for JPI Urban Europe. It includes priorities, actions, instruments, resources and an implementation timeline. The research and innovation agenda defines urban research priorities for transnational co-operation.

It aims to lay the groundwork for a new paradigm in research, technological development and innovation that embraces the complexity of the grand challenge of urbanization and bridges the innovation space from strategic research to implementation. The SRIA comprises five thematic priorities, which contribute to the development of essential urban transition pathways.

[Download the SRIA \(PDF\)](#)

## Agora – JPI Urban Europe Stakeholder Involvement Platform

Urban development is a complex matter and so is urban research and innovation. The Agora – JPI Urban Europe Stakeholder Involvement Platform aims at creating the space to meet and exchange for urban actors with a diversity of background (researchers, practitioners, public administrators, entrepreneurs, social innovators, etc), discussing current themes and priorities and identifying the most pressing urban challenges of today and the future.

The platform will serve as a marketplace, a marketplace of ideas, concepts, strategies, and research/innovation results. The Agora will start its activities in 2017.



# BROKERAGE EVENT: MAKING CITIES WORK

BRUSSELS MAY 30, 2017

City representatives, business actors, researchers and NGO's are invited to discuss major European city challenges and how to solve them. Doing that, participants will influence the call for innovation projects, *Joint Innovation Action Making Cities Work*, that JPI Urban Europe will launch in November 2017, supporting research-based innovative solutions in cities.

## Main aims

- 1) Get input from the participants on the innovation oriented challenges cities face and what their top three priorities throughout Europe are.
- 2) The participants meet, get to know each other and exchange ideas on what kind of projects, with what kind of partners can these challenges be solved.

## Target group

Participants from the participating and interested countries: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Moldova, Norway, Romania, Sweden and United Kingdom

## PROGRAMME

12:30	Lunch
13:30	Introduction
13:45	This is JPI Urban Europe
14:00	What are the top 3 European city challenges? 12 pitches
14:30	Coffee break
14:45	Workshop: Who can solve the challenges and how?
15:45	Round table discussion: Who has the best idea on how to solve the 3 top priorities?
16:30	Refreshments and informal brokerage mingling



**Lunch 12.30-13.30**

**Brokerage event  
13:30 – 17:00**

Registration opens 13:00



**La Tricoterie**

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**Click here to register for the event**

Only by invitation