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1 DUT vision and focus areas

The **Driving urban transitions to a sustainable future (DUT)** vision:

The DUT partnership steps up the game to tackle urban challenges. We enable local authorities and municipalities, business and citizens to make global strategies into local action. We develop the skills and tools to make urban change happen and boost the urgently needed urban transformations.

It stands without question that the challenges in urban areas are also crucial to solve the overarching grand societal and planetary challenges in the contemporary world. These challenges revolve around the transformation to cities, towns, and urban areas that are inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. While there is a common agreement on the challenges for sustainable urban development globally, we need to act locally and consider the particular European urban context to identify and develop appropriate processes and solutions. Summarizing all the global and European strategies and ongoing discussions, it can be concluded that a more comprehensively integrated, interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral approach is needed that:

- (1) creates evidence for urban transitions, through inter- and transdisciplinary research and innovation, involving all stakeholder groups and considering technological, social, economic, cultural, planning and governance aspects;
- (2) addresses interrelationships between various goals, strategies and interests' urban dilemmas as they define key policy areas critical for achieving SDGs and urban strategies;
- (3) offers an environment for urban experimentation, capitalising knowledge and science-policy cooperation beyond joint calls to more effectively achieve city authorities' strategies and strengthen exploitation and scaling-up of R&I results.

The JPI Urban Europe *Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) 2.0* identified a set of key dilemmas in the overall complexity and wicked issues entailed in sustainable urbanisation that are crucial to consider for transformations. At the same time these dilemmas are expressed and play out differently in the various contexts and sectoral strategies. In order to operationalise them and develop concrete approaches and support cities along their specific strategies, the partnership focuses on three prioritised sectors and their interrelationships along the Green Deal for sustainable urbanisation:

- **100 Positive Energy Districts and Neighbourhoods** – transforming the urban energy system
- **Downsizing District Doughnuts** – An integrated approach for urban greening and circularity transitions
- **The 15 Minutes City** – rethinking the urban mobility system and space

A more detailed outline of the three innovation pillars is given in the Annex 1.

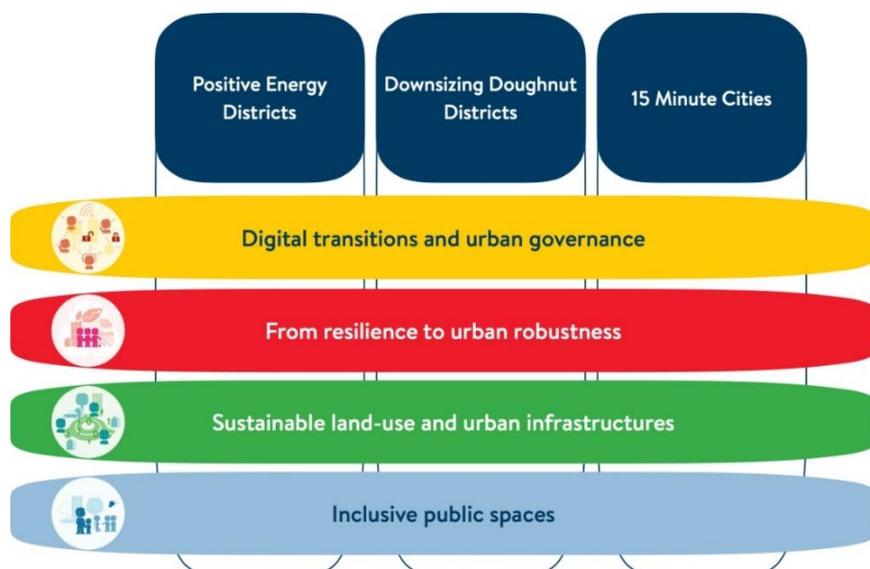


Figure 1: Sectoral priorities and identified key issues for urban transitions.

The partnership's objectives will be addressed through a comprehensive programme management approach that invests in challenge-driven research and innovation activities along an agreed Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA). It will, in tandem implement a portfolio of accompanying measures to create and manage a wider innovation eco-system involving all relevant stakeholder groups and strengthen impact creation.¹

2 Partner composition and target group

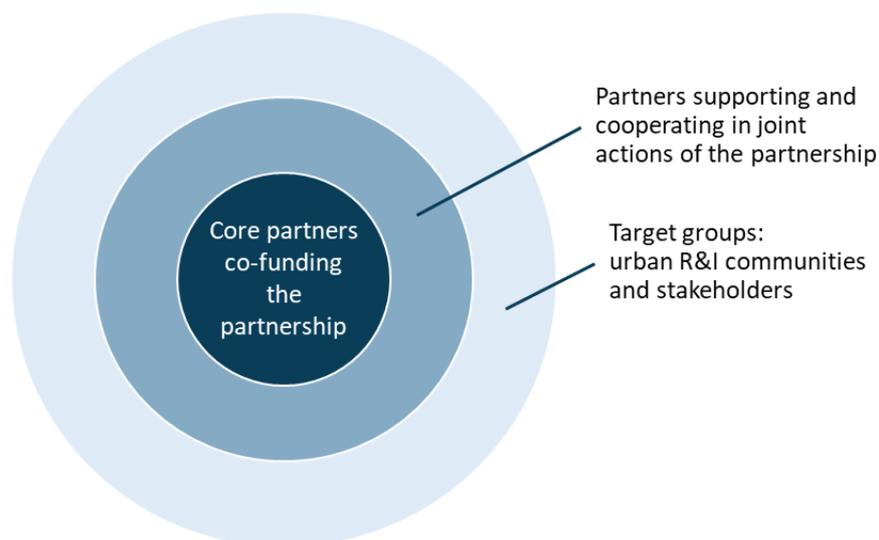


Figure 2: Partner network and target groups

2.1 Core group: Co-funding partners

As a co-funded partnership the core group is composed of public bodies responsible for research and innovation programmes, including

¹ This approach corresponds strongly with the concept for missions as proposed by Marianna Mazzucato. JPI Urban Europe has already established several elements of such a programme management. The DUT partnership will offer the framework for widening the portfolio of activities and instruments.

- Programme owners and funders, different kinds of funding agencies to cover well the entire innovation cycle;
- Partners that manage thematic or open programmes relevant for urban development.

Annex 2 lists the countries and partners that have stated their interest in the partnership and that are currently involved in the DUT preparations.

2.2 Partners supporting and contributing to joint actions: networks representing urban stakeholders and R&I communities

To achieve the objectives and impacts of the DUT partnership a close cooperation with stakeholder networks is envisaged. While the core group is composed of funders, the contribution of partners and organisations representing the various stakeholder groups is seen as key to ensure that the R&I priorities meet the practitioners' needs and create highest impact. The following networks have been identified:

- City authorities' networks, such as Eurocities, CIVITAS, Polis, ERRIN, ICLEI, CEMR or the Covenant of Mayors;
- research networks, such as EERA Joint Programme Smart Cities and the Urban Europe Research Alliance UERA, ESPON, relevant COST actions;
- networks and associations of urban planners, business and industry, e.g. ISOCARP, ECTP;
- partnerships of the UAEU or future UAEU implementation structures;
- the City Science Initiative CSI which aims to better connect research and city administration and achieve a better utilisation of research for sustainable urban development
- the Community of Practice on Cities, initiative of the European Commission led by JRC and DG REGIO, open stakeholders such as cities and networks of cities, international and intergovernmental organisations and research bodies;
- civil society organisations.

2.3 Target groups: urban R&I communities and stakeholders

As the DUT partnership applies a quadruple helix approach, the target groups comprise all urban actors, including

- City administrations and urban municipalities;
- Business: infrastructure and service providers, industry, entrepreneurs, social innovators, intermediaries;
- Research organisations: universities, public and private research organisations, across disciplines;
- Civil societal actors: local initiatives, NGOs, social innovators, grassroots, inhabitants.

The target groups will be invited to contribute to the agenda setting through consultations and interactive stakeholder dialogues (AGORA). In addition, they can apply for R&I projects as well as join or benefit from additional activities, such as the AGORA Stakeholder Platform, trainings or dissemination measures.

3 Planned Implementation

In the SRIA 2.0 an urban transition arena is proposed as the overarching concept for implementing the agenda and reaching the ambition. Following such an approach, not only new knowledge or innovations will be created but a programme management put in place that monitors, synthesises, communicates and makes available such results, evidence, guidelines, tools or case studies for wider use and strategic reflections. The partnership aims to build upon and advance the transition arena initiated in JPI Urban Europe.

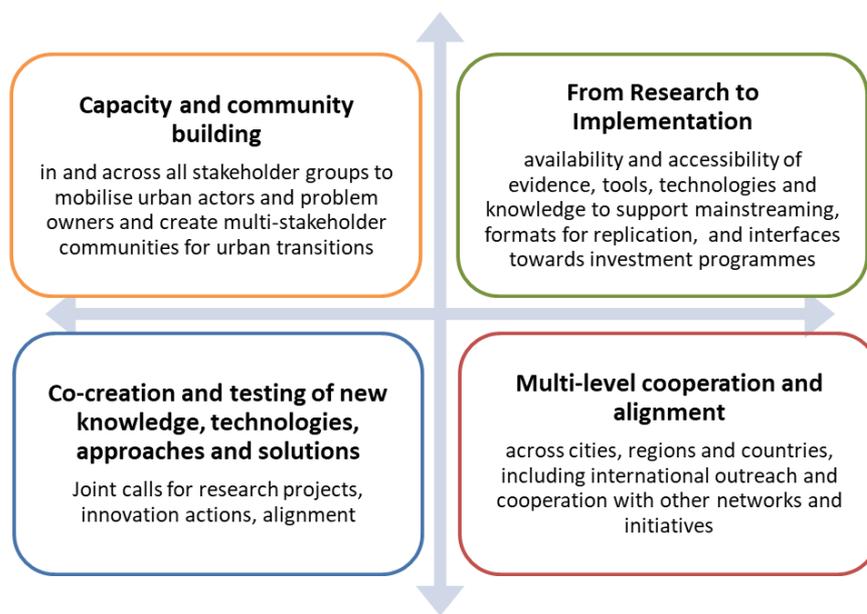


Figure 3: Proposed portfolio of implementation measures of the DUT partnership.

3.1 Resources

For realising the partnership the following kinds of commitment are required and discussed with the core partners:

- **Financial commitments and in-kind contributions to the governance structure:**
This includes the participation at Governing Board (national delegates only) and Funding Agencies Working Group meetings as well as other events such as conferences, match making or projects meetings, payment of the membership fee, and, if possible, secondment of personal for Management Board or working group meetings.
- **Financial commitments and in-kind contributions to the joint calls and other dedicated implementation actions:** This includes the provision of national or regional budgets for joint calls as well as the coverage of personal costs for the call coordination and management. In addition, contributions from funding agencies in terms of personal costs to develop new and/or improve existing instruments are expected.

The required national contributions to the call budgets over the whole duration is expected between EUR 500,000 and EUR 5,000,000 per country and call, depending on the size of the country, the size of the related R&I community, the relevance of the call topics for the community, etc. This range is estimated to cover the three pillars in parallel and allow in total calls of about EUR 20–30 million budget.

- **Efforts for national coordination** to ensure alignment across national, regional and local strategies, mobilisation of relevant stakeholders, promotion of joint actions, strengthening impact creation and implementation of results on national / local level, and organisation of national/regional/local events.

4 Participation of Regions

The DUT partnership is interested to involve regions as key actors to drive sustainable urban development. Regions can secure and safeguard the voice of small and medium-sized cities, they take an important role for scaling results and have their own view as problem owners. Local Urban Living Labs define potential entry points for regional engagement. Besides this, regions invest in urban-related developments through structural funds and could thus contribute to joint calls and possibly provide in-kind contributions to joint actions.

Opportunities for regions to engage in DUT:

- **Participation through regional R&I funds:** in case regions run their own R&I programmes with DUT-related priorities, they could join the partnership under the same conditions as national agencies. Despite a general commitment to engage in the partnership, decisions on participating in a specific call are made on a case-by-case basis.
- **Participation through the ERDF programme:** This requires including the relevant key words in programming of ERDF (Operational Programmes) which are under negotiation currently. Such commitments could be used maybe to co-fund calls, but also support projects beyond R&I activities, follow-up on projects, establish longer-term 'testbeds', areas for co-creation and experimentation (Urban Living Labs), etc. This is open for further discussion.
- **Support to specific additional activities:** This could include support for disseminating results, good practice, success stories in your regions to foster replication, support to mobilise and reach out to smaller and mid-sized cities, support to training activities, etc.

Funding for DUT can be provided from national and/or regional level. However, cooperation schemes must be clarified. The possible involvement of regional and national programmes raises questions regarding the coordination of money and funding and shared responsibilities for the implementation of joint calls and other actions.

5 Contact

5.1 Lead entity (main contact)

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