

Draft Programme – JPI Urban Europe
**Urban Megatrends and Future Challenges
for European Urban Areas**

27 March 2014

The Committee of the Regions
Rue Belliard/Belliardstraat 101, Brussels

Morning session

9.00 Registration and welcome

10.00 Insights into urban megatrends and future challenges for European urban areas

Chair: **Henk Snoeken**, *Vice-Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board, Director Spatial Development, Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, the Netherlands*

Opening remarks – Bas Verkerk, *Rapporteur of the Committee of the Regions on an integrated EU urban agenda*; **Peter Dröll**, *Director, European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation*; **Ingolf Schädler**, *Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board, Deputy Director-General for Innovation, Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology*

Introduction to the JPI Urban Europe – Ilona Lundström, *Vice-Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board, Director, Tekes, Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation*

The JPI Urban Europe Megatrends Study – Margit Noll, *Member of the JPI Urban Europe Management Board, AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH*

Scientific reflections on the urban megatrends and future challenges – Darren Robinson, *Member of the JPI Urban Europe Scientific Advisory Board and Professor, University of Nottingham*

Policy reflections on the urban megatrends and future challenges – Jan Olbrycht, *Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the URBAN Intergroup*

11.30 Coffee break

12.00 Cities Panel – Urban challenges and policy responses

Chair: **Henk Snoeken**, *Vice-Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board, Director Spatial Development, Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, Netherlands*

Panellists: Angels Chacón, *Deputy Mayor, Municipality of Igualada, Spain*, **Vanda Knowles**, *Policy Director, Acting Secretary-General EUROCITIES*, **Juliane Kurschner**, *Senior Urban Planner, City of Amsterdam, Netherlands*, **Henrik Poulsen**, *Adviser Mayors Office, Municipality of Odense, Denmark*

13.00 Lunch

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Afternoon session

14.00 Parallel workshops

1. European urban diversity – differences of urban development across Europe
2. Smart cities – smart citizens
3. The role of cities and urban regions in smart specialisation
4. How to mediate between urban research and urban policy

The workshops are geared towards tangible outcomes delineating good practice examples.

15.30 Coffee break

16.00 Final reflections and proposals on the way forward

Chair: **Henk Snoeken**, Vice-Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board, Director Spatial Development, Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, the Netherlands

Reporting back from the parallel workshops – Margit Noll, *Member of the JPI Urban Europe Management Board*, **Ilona Lundström**, **Inger Gustafsson**, **Yves De Weerd**, *Members of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board*

Urban research and innovation topics in Horizon 2020 - Domenico Rossetti, *Principal Administrator, European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation*

Reflections on the JPI Urban Europe's way forward – Ilona Lundström, *Vice-Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board*

Reflections on future urban challenges – Wladyslaw Piskorz, *Head of Unit for the Competence Centre for Smart and Sustainable Growth*

Concluding remarks – Dimitri Corpakis, *Head of Unit, European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation*

17.15 Drinks and networking

Parallel workshops

1. European Urban diversity – Differences of Urban Development across Europe

The challenges originating from global megatrends are highly depending on the local characteristics in social and demographic composition, economic development, political circumstances, geographical location, etc. Therewith, the development path of European urban areas is very diverse which brings implications for policy making and research at all levels. The aim of this thematic session is to reflect on these differentiated policy and research implications for urban areas across Europe. Each speaker is asked to give a five minute statement from their experience on the topic of “European Urban diversity – Differences of Urban Development across Europe”.

2. Smart Cities – Smart Citizens

Aim: *The goal of this workshop is to discuss smart cities issues in a broad and integrated urban perspective. Starting point of discussion is a human centred perspective taking citizens’ needs of tomorrow into account.*

Content: *The contributions and discussions within this session should address two challenges:*

- 1. The Smart Cities discussions mainly focus on smart technologies and implementation in cities. In order to smarten up cities the JPI Urban Europe intends to broaden the perspective on smart cities by taking a human centred approach integrating social, technological and policy innovations.*
- 2. Smart city development covers the entire innovation chain, ranging from research over innovation to the final implementation. In order to realise smart cities project bundles with respective financial contributions from different sources are needed. The session is an opportunity to elaborate on how the JPI Urban Europe can contribute within the ERA-NET Smart Cities on the development of integrated projects and funding instruments.*

3. The role of cities and urban regions in smart specialization

Cities and urban regions are platforms for and drivers of innovation. The aim of the workshop is to discuss the role of cities and urban regions in the smart specialisation process and identify elements that are central for cities in the creation of globally competitive urban innovation ecosystems. In this context, the issue of how the JPI Urban Europe can contribute to the regional and urban policy through the means of smart specialisation will be addressed. Representatives from national, regional and municipal authorities, which have developed innovative and integrated practices, will present and discuss them in view of identifying the policy implications for smart specialisation strategies.

4. How to mediate between urban research and urban policy?

This session aims to discuss how the JPI Urban Europe can contribute to enhance communication between urban research and urban policy. Particularly how to bridge the many times perceived gap between them. Since different strands of urban research and urban policy seems to have varying degrees of ease to communicate with each other, i.e. some disciplinary formats are easier to operationalise than other into policy measures. It aims to clarify lessons learnt and future opportunities to enhance the quality and translatability in Science–Policy Interfaces. How can cities and researchers more efficiently share e.g. urban environmental research findings and knowledge? How to make most use of the JPI Urban Europe take in the role as mediator? The session will be set up in the town hall meeting format. (This means that we will stay away from the classic ex cathedra set-up but will have time for participants to ‘set the stage’ with short maximum 5 minute presentations.

For more information please contact events@jpi-urbaneurope.eu or visit the website www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu