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Welcome to newsletter #3!

In this newsletter we share more news about the ABCitiEs project and upcoming events.

The European Interreg project "Area Based Collaborative Entrepreneurship" studies the value of entrepreneurs collaborating in their urban district. We create actions and policy needed to make these collectives thrive.



Why do local governments promote ABCE? by Iris Hagemens

Aiming to provide hands-on tools for local governments to experiment with, ABCitiEs focuses on the how questions. How does ABCE function? What are the policies that support or frustrate ABCE? How can these policies be improved? The question why local governments want to support ABCE is not addressed

directly. [Read the blog of Iris](#) about the benefits and challenges of Manchester, Amsterdam, Vilnius and Varazdin.



Collaboration as the motor of change by Gareth Roberts

Local communities are almost always unaware of the impact that they can have in their places, and embedding this realization is the first step to achieving this. What the work of our partners in Athens and our other partner shows, is that achieving change is well within the capabilities of our communities - particularly if they work together.

[Read the blog of Gareth](#)



Observation of a citymaker by Jeroen Jonkers

As a social entrepreneur and one of the founding fathers of collectives *Geef om Jan Eef* and *Hotel Buiten*, Jeroen Jonkers is a firm believer in community driven projects in neighborhoods. They strengthen not only the community but also our sense of control and ownership of places and spaces. Although the history, smells, sights and names of the cases in the five European regions differ, a lot of the dynamics are similar. [Read the blog of Jeroen](#) about the other observations he made.



Shaping future policy by Karen Findley

In the late 80's I had passed through Athens during the night on my way to the islands and regretted not having the chance to see the city. Athens is a fascinating and welcoming city with an amazing history and became an increasingly popular city break destination in its own right. [Read the blog of Karen](#)



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