



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

EURE PROJECT

JOSÉ PALMA ANDRÉS

Pool of Experts Coordinator

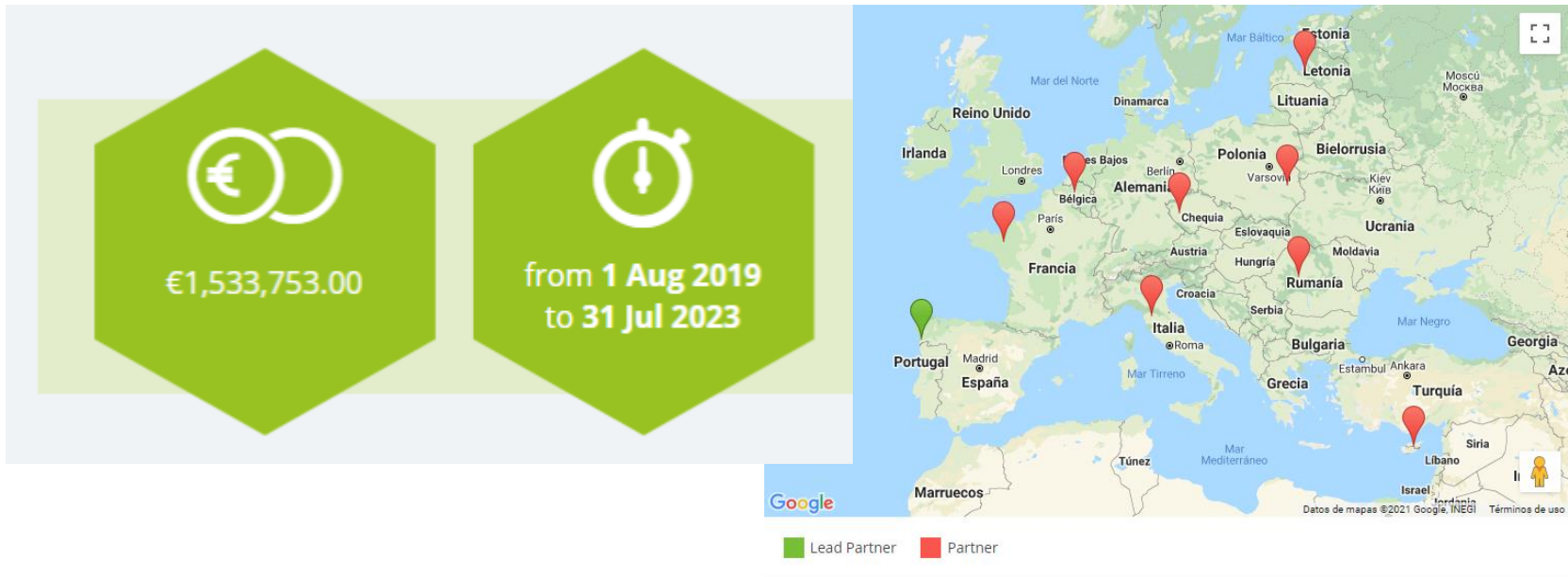
LUGO Thematic Seminar



24 November 2021

PROJECT AIM

EURE proposes the exchange of experiences as a way to **improve the environmental performance management of EU urban spaces** including the urban areas with a low population density.



How do we work?

Technical work + Political messages

Internal work



**EURE STATE OF PLAY REGIONAL REPORT
SPAIN/PORTUGAL**

Exchange and joint work



**FOR A BETTER AND SUSTAINABLE
QUALITY OF LIFE IN EUROPEAN CITIES**

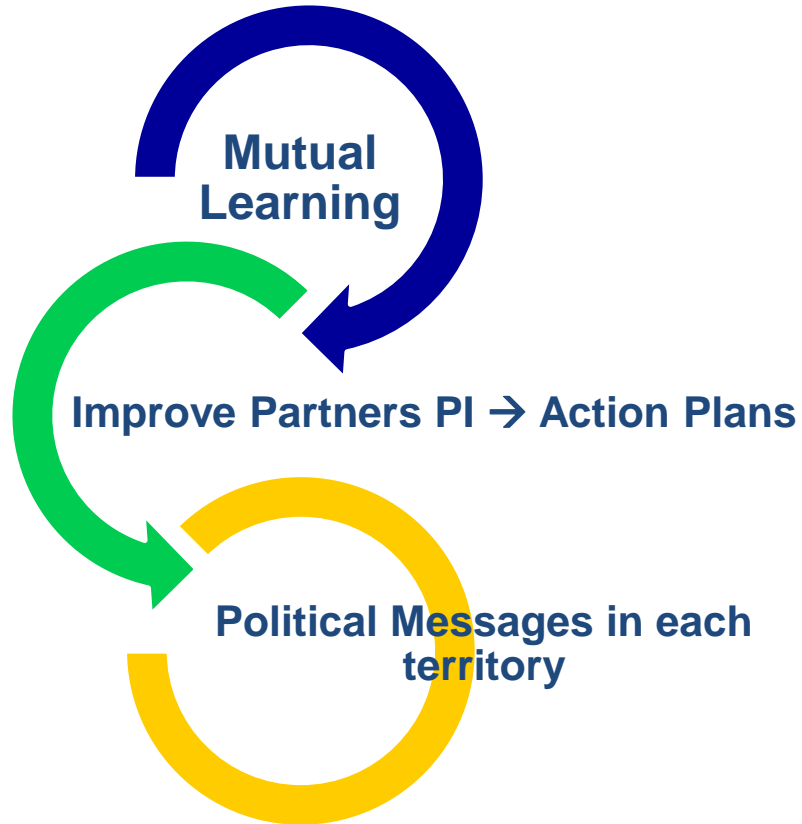
Catalogue of policies, actions, good practices and recommendations

An EURE joint Report on how the funds allocated by article 7
of the ERDF Regulation for the development of urban
policies are being used and how they can be improved

Political messages in each territory and at EU level

- *To **support** a vast minority of small, medium, and peripheral cities*
- *For a polycentrism at the center of Urban Policy and Cohesion Policy*
- *From an urban life to a more humane life*

What do we expect?



*To support a vast minority of **small, medium, and peripheral cities***

*From an urban life to a **more humane life***

AND WHAT WE EXPECT MORE ?

Influence the implementation of

EU URBAN POLICY 2021-27

1. **BY A BETTER FINACING OF EU URBAN POLICY**
2. **BY A CORRECT IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATIONS**
3. **BY CORRECTLY IMPLEMENT THE NEW URBAN INITIATIVE**
4. **BY MAKING REASONABLE RECOMMENDATIONS**

	2021-27			2014-20
	MFF	NEXT GENERATION EU	TOTAL	MFF
Current prices 1000 M Euros	1.279,4	750 (390 grants and 360 loans)	2.029,4	1.087,2
Cohesion Policy			372,58	460,86

EU REGULATIONS

Policy objectives

1. a Europe closer to citizens by fostering the sustainable and integrated development of urban, rural and coastal areas and local initiatives.

Integrated territorial development

2. The Member State shall support integrated territorial development through territorial and local development strategies in any of the following forms, including **integrated territorial investments (ITIs)**.

ERDF resources at the national level allocated (at least) to sustainable urban development

Millions of Euros (current prices)

% ERDF resources	2021-27	2014-20
5 %	-	10.009
8 %	18.120	-

NB : For 2021-27 EU Commission proposed 6% of ERDF for Urban Sustainable development. The Inter-Institucional agreement corrected it and established **8%**

NEW URBAN INITIATIVE 2021-27

- The 2 strands included in the Art 10 ERDF Regulation are:
 - (a) support of innovative actions; and
 - (b) support of capacity and knowledge building, territorial impact assessments, policy development and communication.
- The Initiative shall cover all urban areas including small and medium-sized cities. Special attention will be given to them in the context of promoting urban-rural linkages and supporting the use of Functional Urban Areas (FUAs).
- It is envisaged that cities above 50.000 inhabitants can be main city applying and implementing the project, while cities below this threshold can apply as part of the grouping of urban authorities (where the total population is at least 50.000 inh.
- **564** Million Euros, managed by the EU Commission.

EURE RECOMMENDATIONS 1

URBAN RESOURCES EFFICIENCY

- All Cities and Groups of Cities should be encouraged to have long term Strategies and Action Plans to implement measures to: Assure water supply in future; Reduce flood risk and underground water pollution
- Circular Economy should be mainstreamed into European Urban Policy for small, medium and peripheral cities
- Cities should reinforce their energy efficiency measures.
- Promote sustainable intermodal urban mobility
- Cities should implement the European Commission Directives on Air and Noise Pollution
- Promote adaptation to climate change, risk prevention and resilience to disasters through prevention interventions
- Cities should be strongly advised, encouraged and supported to prepare and Implement Social Inclusion Action Plans for their territories
- Strengthen biodiversity, green and blue infrastructure in the urban environment and reduce pollution through interventions aimed at creating green infrastructures in the urban area

EURE RECOMMENDATIONS 2

GOVERNANCE 1

- Cities should play a nuclear role in post-COVID socio-economic reconstruction.
- Promote an effective participation of small, medium and peripheral cities in the EU urban policy to strengthen Policentrism, as well as an adequate definition of these cities, depending on the territory in which they are located;
- Empower public and social participation of the local administration in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of urban strategies and, in general, urban policy;
- Integrated sustainable urban development should be progressively oriented to functional urban areas and polycentric urban systems;
- Give greater relevance to strategic planning in the preparation of the programme instruments for the implementation of urban policy and public investment in general;
- Promote the territorial and thematic grouping of cities and entities for the joint development of sustainable urban development policies through integrated territorial strategies;
- Empower the capacity building for decentralized authorities and simplification of ERDF management and ensure that ERDF resources allocated to urban policies are increased
- Cities and groups of Cities should in future reinforce Governance by development concepts such as Smart Cities and governance participation involving the civil society in the decision making process

EURE RECOMMENDATIONS 3

GOVERNANCE 2

- Urban functional areas for sustainable urban development can and should overflow administrative demarcations, configuring around different urban functions, polycentric territorial systems and greater territorial interrelationships
- To include in the future, for the purpose of organizing urban planning and management in national polycentric regions, the FUAs with about 20,000 or more inhabitants (central and peripheral municipalities integrated in an area of influence of the main city of the central Municipality). These FUAs should therefore be able to access European funds for European urban policy in the form of ITI's
- Eligibility criteria for national and ERDF funding 2021-27. The FUA leader municipality must have at least around 10.000 inhabitants, and in total the FUA territory must have at least 20.000 inhabitants.
- Recommendations on Statistics production: there is not accurate nor uniform information about local administrative level to be used as input to design the Urban Policy. In this sense, it seems advisable to reflect about the adequacy of create a new level NUTS IV, especially to have appropriate statistics for the Urban Policy.
- European Commission shall recommends that ITI's should be used in the next EU 2021-27 programming period as a main instrument for SUD. And that ITI's should be encouraged not only for urban areas, but as well for Functional Urban Areas. In this case ITI's should be encouraged as well for Cross Border Functional Urban Areas.

EURE RECOMMENDATIONS 4

FINANCING

- New urban policy should encourage and support financially the reduction of urban sprawl
- To increase National and EU financial support to Cities, should be an occasion to boost Cities and Municipalities financial support in particular through ITI – Integrated Territorial Investments. Therefore, the allocation of EU structural Funds should be increased in the Operational programs to at least 10%, in current prices using the facility of the actual legal allocation is of at least (8%) of ERDF for 2021-27.
- Promote a greater commitment to Member states in political and financial decentralization to the local administration;

THANK YOU!

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