

The Productive City Dimension

How are urban initiatives and actions supporting Green, Just and Productive Cities in the EU?

UAEU Webinar: 20 September 2021

On the series of webinars

With the current form of the Urban Agenda for the EU (UAEU) coming to an end, it's essential that we capitalise on its achievements, explore linkages and synergies with other relevant initiatives and feed into its renewal process. In this context, a series of three webinars will be organised in line with the Green, Just and Productive city dimensions, as established under the New Leipzig Charter (NLC). Entitled 'How are urban initiatives and actions supporting Green, Just and Productive Cities in the EU?', the webinars will showcase examples and initiatives from cities on how to develop resilience and further the implementation of these dimensions at the local level, and providing a space for discussing achievements, remaining issues and future opportunities to help cities face their challenges in a strategic way and thus contribute to sustainable urban development.

The webinars will take place on the following dates, between 14:00 - 16:00 CEST:

The Productive City	The Green City	The Just City
20 September 2021	27 September 2021	4 October 2021

They will be based around the series of articles on the 14 Partnerships of the Urban Agenda for the EU which link actions and activities with other relevant EU projects and initiatives supported by Cohesion Policy (including Urban Innovative Actions, URBACT and Article 7 cities benefitting from the European Regional Development fund (ERDF).

The webinars are open to anyone who is interested, and we especially welcome the participation of UAEU Partners, representatives from URBACT, UIA and Article 7 Cities, and interested cities and managing authorities who would like to benefit from these presentations and discussions.

The Productive City

The Productive City Webinar is **2-hour session** taking place on **20 September 2021**. The webinar will bring together experience from cities with a focus on how to further the implementation of this NLC pillar. In particular, experiences from Action Leaders of the Urban Agenda for the EU, as well as cities from Urban Innovative Actions (UIA), from URBACT networks and others benefitting from Article 7 cities implementing ERDF will be showcased. Speakers in this section of the webinar will tackle the discussion from the angle of **digitalisation in cities**, especially in relation to **tourism**, **job markets** and **public services**.

The focus of the webinar will then turn to the future, featuring presentations from relevant DGs at the European Commission on on-going or upcoming initiatives related to urban development and according to the thematic angle of the Productive City.

The webinars will feature key insights and conclusions, Q&A with participants, and a guided discussion on future opportunities involving all speakers in the webinar.

Objectives

The main objectives of this webinar are to:

- Create relevant linkages between UAEU Actions, URBACT, UIA and Article 7 cities around the Productive City dimension of the New Leipzig Charter;
- Extract key messages from experiences and identify new challenges or specific problematics that would deserve further attention;
- Collect contextual information and prospects on involvement for current and upcoming opportunities at the EU level (EUI, future UAEU, other EU policies/initiatives);
- Present an opportunity to benefit from current knowledge and reflections, and to
 provide ideas for reflecting on future activities to be organised under the EUI and other
 initiatives supporting the UAEU.

Programme

20 September 2021: The Productive City

Time	Session		
14:00 - 14:05	Welcome and introduction		
	Jan Maarten de Vet, Urban Agenda for the EU Technical Secretariat		
	– session moderator		
	Thomas De Béthune, Team Leader for Sustainable Urban		
	Development, DG REGIO, European Commission		
14:05 - 14:35	PART 1: Dynamics and solutions around UAEU Actions and other EU		
	initiatives		
	Filippo Corsi, Head of IT Development Service, City of Florence,		
	Italy		
	UAEU city/Urbact/UIA/Article 7 city representatives (TBC)		
14:35 - 14:50	Concluding remarks		
	Productive City expert		
	Q&A with participants		
14:50 - 15:20	PART 2: Future EU opportunities towards productive cities		
	Dana Eleftheriadou, Head of Cities and Proximity, DG GROW and		
	Natalia Gkiaouri, Policy analyst for urban development, DG GROW,		
	European Commission		
	Representative of DG CONNECT, European Commission		

	Thomas De Béthune, Team Leader for Sustainable Urban	
	Development, DG REGIO, European Commission	
15:20 - 15:50	Guided discussion (with all speakers) and Gerry Muscat, Head of Division	
	on Urban Development, European Investment Bank	
15:50 - 16:00	Conclusion and main takeaways	