European Union
The World Cities Project:
international cooperation in sustainable urban development policy

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Cohesion policy

I. Sustainable urban development: a global priority

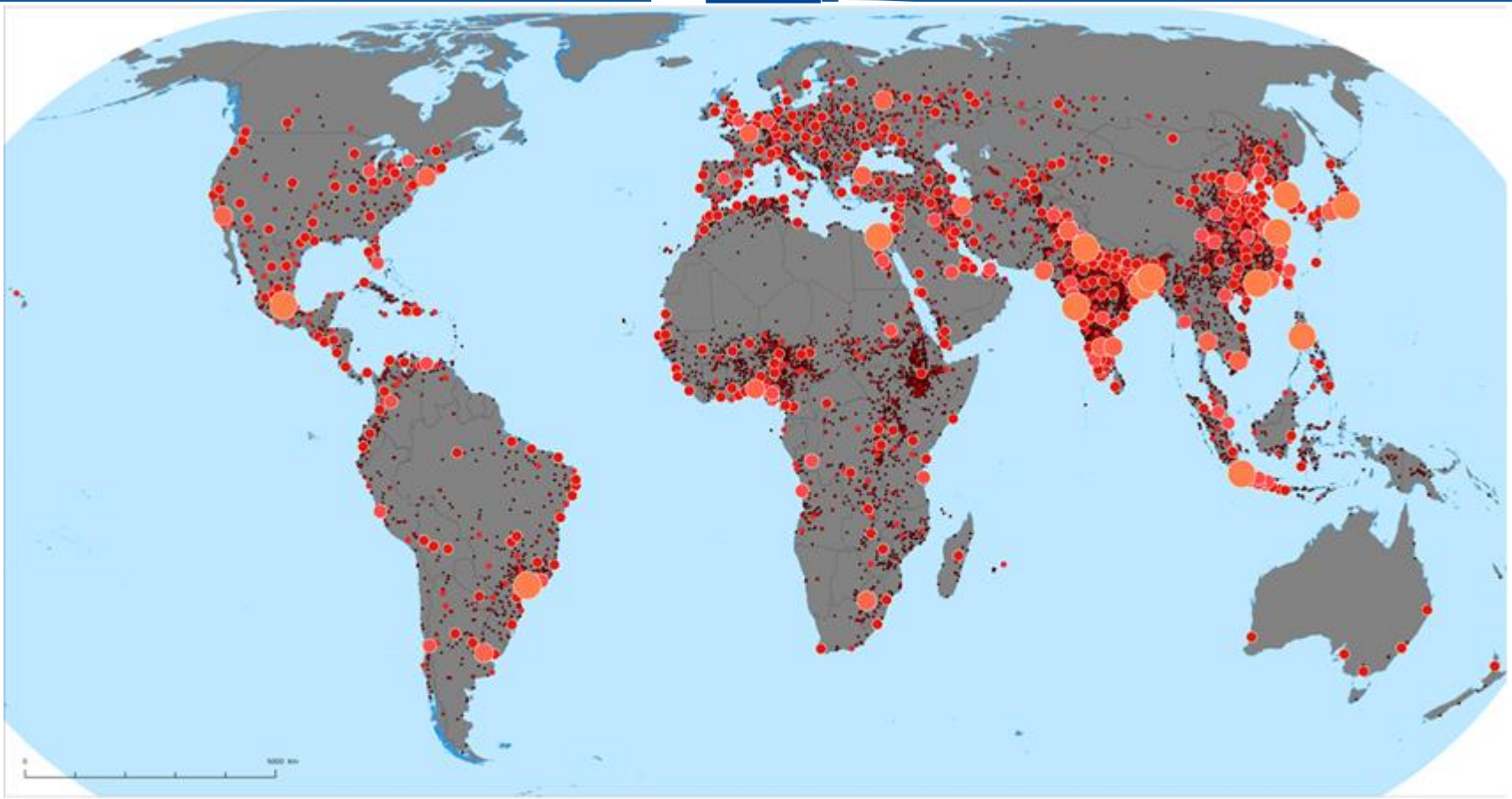
Urbanisation: the challenges

Risks:

- ✓ *Urban population expected to double from 2.6 billion (2010) to 5.2 billion in 2050*
- ✓ *Environmental and social problems, multiple deprivation, public safety issues, etc.*

Opportunities:

- ✓ *Cities = engines of growth, social and cultural development*
- ✓ *Our future = future of our cities*



Urban Centres in the world by population size, 2015

Source : JRC (GHS - POP Global Settlement Model)

Inhabitants

- 100000 - 250000
- 250000 - 500000
- 500000 - 1000000
- 1000000 - 5000000
- 5000000 - 10000000
- 10000000 - 20000000
- > 20000000

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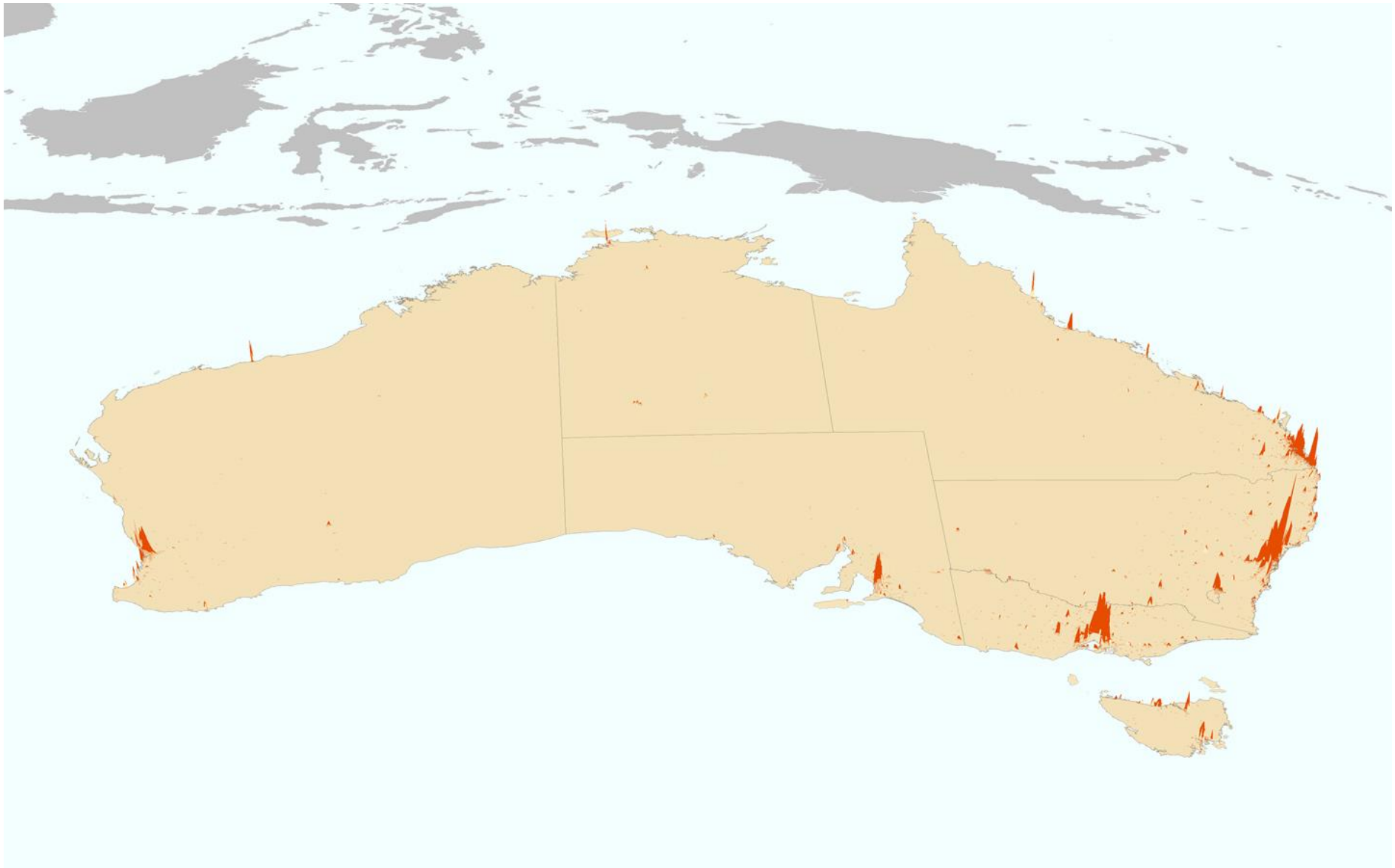

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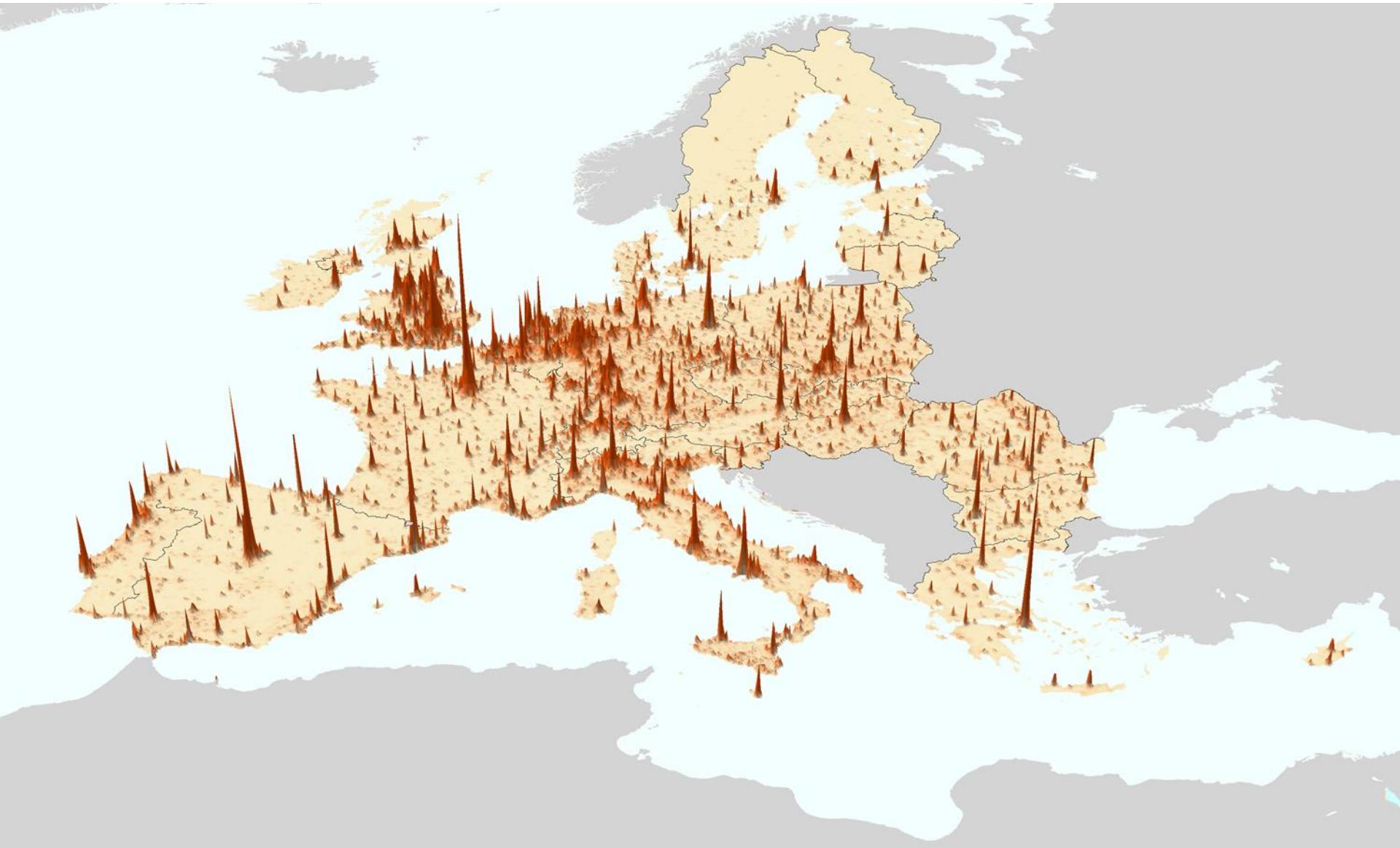


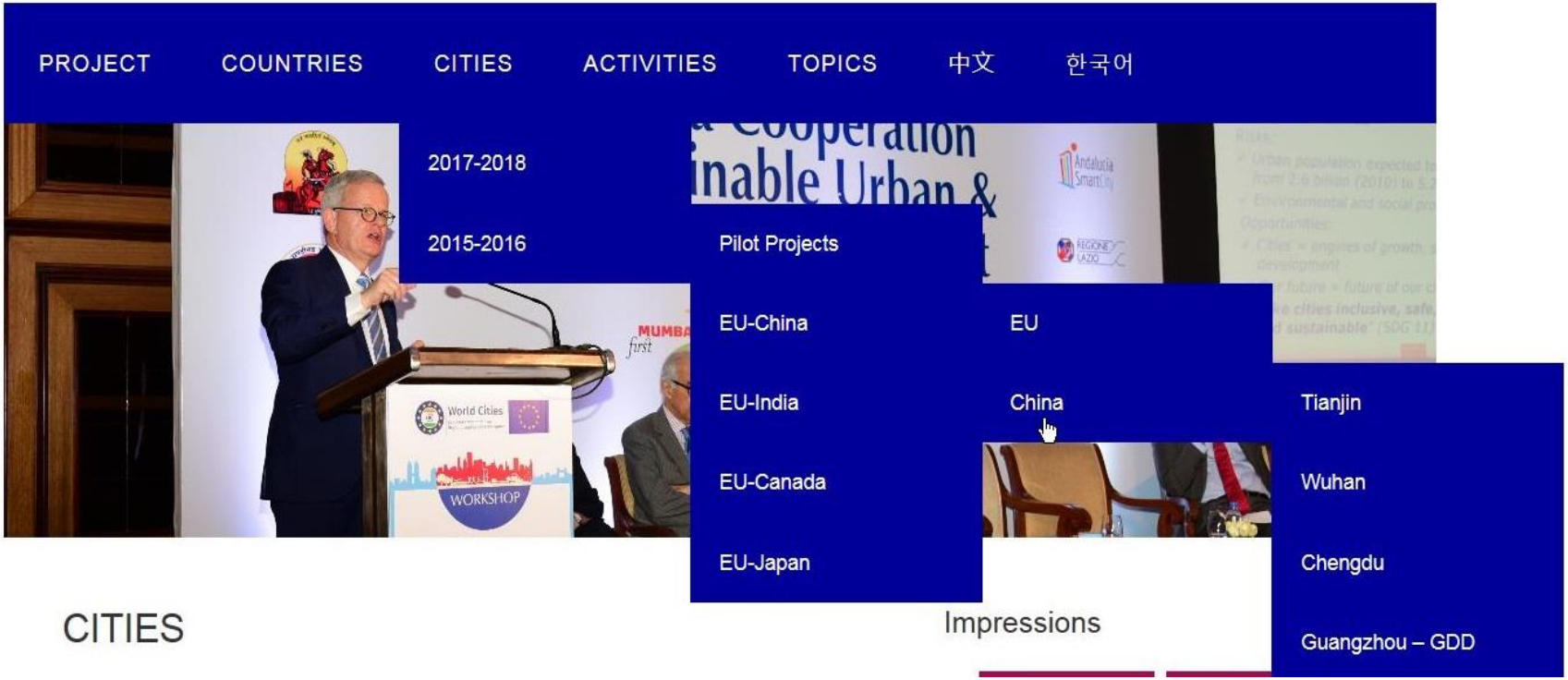
The importance of cities for sustainable and inclusive economic growth: "*State of European Cities Report" (European Commission & UN Habitat)*

- ✓ Cities are more than a source of cohesion problems, although these remain important
- ✓ Cities generate growth and jobs but some risk falling into the middle-income trap
- ✓ Cities are centres of innovation and education
- ✓ Housing in cities can be unaffordable and cramped
- ✓ Cities offer accessibility but mobility not always sustainable
- ✓ Cities are more resource efficient than towns and rural areas
- ✓ Many cities still struggle to reduce air pollution below EU thresholds
- ✓ City governments acquiring more autonomy

II. Antecedents to the current project: World Cities I, 2015-2016 and URBELAC I-III (ongoing)

World Cities

EU – Third Countries Cooperation on Urban and Regional Development



For more detailed information,
Visit the project's website: www.world-cities.eu
and DG REGIO's Website:
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/cooperation/international/

Example from EU-India World Cities I project

Chandigarh – Copenhagen (DK)

- Sewage treatment
- Non-motorized urban transport

Mumbai – Stuttgart (DE)

- Development of brownfield areas
- Regional information systems
- Developing Mumbai's environmental database
- Bilateral climate partnership Stuttgart – Mumbai covering mitigation, adaptation; energy efficiency, energy access

Example: EU-India World Cities I project

Navi Mumbai – Lazio (IT)

- Review of the Regional Development Plan
- Smart-city development notably street lighting,
- Transport (buses on demand), smart ICT platforms at district level
- Waste Management

Pune – Andalucía (ES)

- Smart mobility: e-cars fleet
- Technology Park development
- Developing an ICT platform for smart city services

World Cities: EU-India urban policy cooperation

URBELAC (2011-2017)

- Network of European, Latin American and Caribbean Cities for integrated and sustainable urban development
- Managed by DG REGIO & Inter-American Development Bank
- Platform to promote exchanges between cities facing similar challenges by sharing knowledge, experience, good practices and lessons learned and to conceptualise integrated development processes
- So far, three rounds of URBELAC, 31 cities involved
- Activities: working groups, field visits, action plans, business promotion, support platform

III. The EU's approach to World Cities: EU urban development policy

Sustainable urban development (SUD): a new policy priority in EU investment for 2014-2020

FOUR BASIC PRINCIPLES

I. An integrated approach, with long-term planning:

- Urban areas develop and implement integrated, sustainable urban development strategies cutting through traditional sectoral, territorial and governance boundaries

II. A focus on key priorities:

- Low-carbon strategies for urban areas
- Improving the urban environment, including the regeneration of brownfield sites and the reduction of air pollution
- Promoting sustainable urban mobility
- Promoting social inclusion through the physical and economic regeneration of deprived urban areas
- Urban innovation actions (experimental projects)

Sustainable urban development (SUD): a new policy priority in EU investment for 2014-2020

III. Decentralization: the empowerment of city authorities

- Urban areas act as Implementing Body: they select the projects (drawing up and applying selection criteria) taking responsibility in the implementation of the broader regional programme.

IV. Dedicated resources

- At least 5% of the national ERDF allocation must be allocated to SUD, implemented using any of the following 3 methods:

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A new menu for SUD: 12-point Urban Agenda of the EU (UAEU 2016)

INCLUSION OF MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

AIR QUALITY

HOUSING

URBAN POVERTY

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

CLIMATE ADAPTATION

ENERGY TRANSITION

URBAN MOBILITY

DIGITAL TRANSITION

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

JOBS & SKILLS IN LOCAL ECONOMY

SUTAINABLE USE OF LAND AND NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

Incorporating the New Urban Agenda (NUA)at global level (UN Habitat 3, 2016)

- Inspired, as UAEU, in UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in September 2015, and in particular Goal 11, to "Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable".
- SDG 11 was the basis for the Third Habitat conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III). 170 countries unanimously adopted the New Urban Agenda on 20 October 2016 in Quito, Ecuador.
- Note: Urban Agenda for the EU (UAEU) and the global New Urban Agenda (NUA) are overlapping. The twelve priority themes of the Urban Agenda for the EU are also addressed in the New Urban Agenda.

New policy developments in 2016: New Urban Agenda at global level (UN Habitat 3)

- NUA devotes more attention to urban governance: widely-drawn partnerships involving sectors, knowledge partners and civil society; subsidiarity and proportionality; multilevel governance and decentralisation, integration of sectoral policies, inclusiveness and equity, etc.
- But note that these principles are explicit in the rules governing the EU system of regional and urban programme implementation, in any event.

The policy of the European Union in Quito

The European Commission, on behalf of the EU, made 3 voluntary commitments:

- Delivering the New Urban Agenda through the Urban Agenda for the EU;
- Developing a global, harmonised definition of cities (people-based definition of cities with OECD and WB);
- **Fostering the International Urban Cooperation Programme in Asia and Americas and the World Cities projects.**

The new Sustainable Urban Development programmes in practice for 2014-2020

Early results are encouraging:

- Half of EU MS spend much more than 5% (up to 20% in the case of Bulgaria)
- Between 500-700 cities in the EU expected to have SUD strategies
- A huge new fund of urban development policy experience in widely diverse situations!! Much evaluation work to be done in the coming years

Other instruments for Urban Development are also being implemented

Innovative actions for sustainable urban development (from 2015)

- €0.37 bln. for 7 years to promote innovative and experimental projects. For urban area with at least 50.000 inhabitants involved.
- Calls for interest on annual basis. First call covered themes of jobs and skills; energy transition ; inclusion of migrants and refugees ; urban poverty. 378 proposals received, 18 selected

Urban development network

- Networking between between European Commission and the cities implementing integrated urban development and innovative actions.
- Managed by the European Commission

URBACT continues (now URBACT III)

- Programme within European Territorial Cooperation programme: all cities can apply.

World Cities II: practical orientations

World Cities II implementation: main phases

- Selection of EU and non-EU cities for implementing pairing schemes during 2017–2018 [√]
- First meeting: plenary session [√] followed by one-week working meetings in the non-EU country (five delegates from each participating EU city). Objective: obtain agreement in principle to cooperate on a limited number of urban development themes of shared interest. The working meetings will break out to include field to sites and projects in the paired city.

World Cities II implementation: main phases

- Period of bilateral cooperation among the cities on the agreed themes followed by second working meetings in the European Union. The project covers four delegates from each non-EU city. The working meetings will be followed by field visits in which non-EU cities visit their European counterparts. Timing: October/November 2017.
- Project finale: Closing meetings to be held in the non-EU cities. Objective: stocktaking plus plans for further cooperation outside the World Cities project (possibilities include MoUs, Letters of Intent, joint pilot projects, exchange of personnel, etc). Timing: First-quarter 2018.

…and a warm welcome from the European Commission, to World Cities II, to the Australian and EU cities

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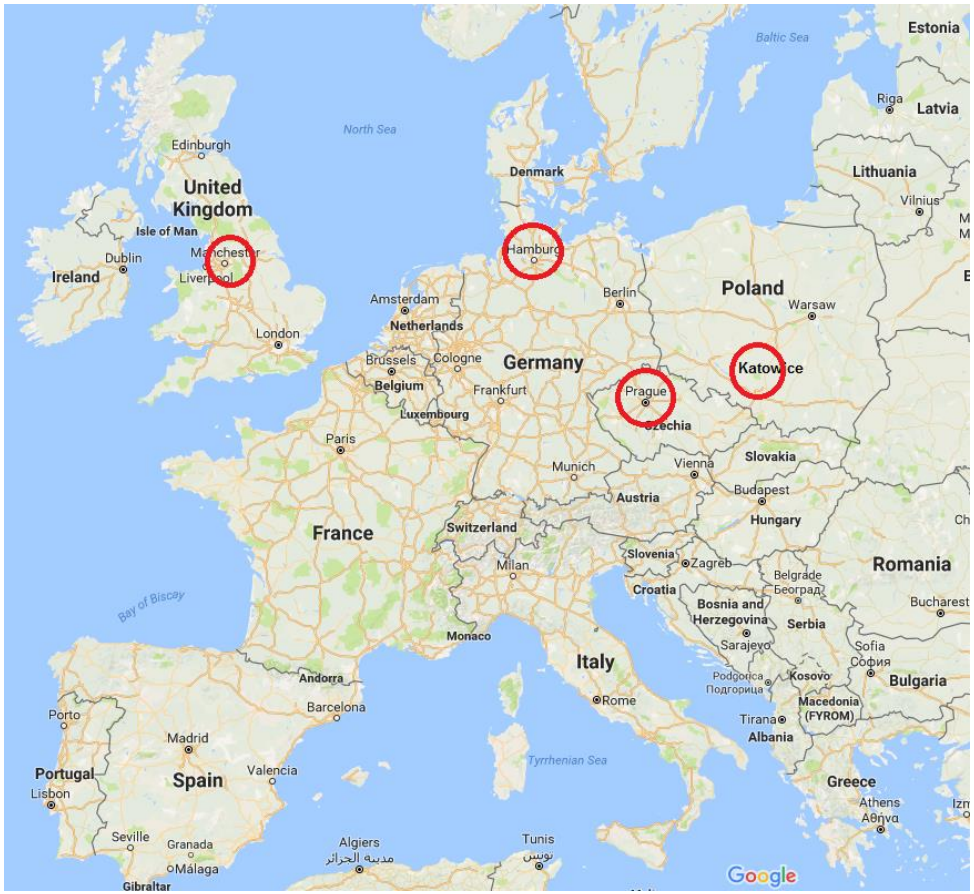
Participating cities from the European Union



- ✓ Hamburg (DE)
- ✓ Katowice (PL)
- ✓ Manchester (UK)
- ✓ Prague (CZ)

Selection based on quality (competitive mechanism)

Participating cities from Australia & Pairings

- ✓ Adelaide > Manchester
- ✓ Canberra > Prague
- ✓ Hobart > Katowice
- ✓ Melbourne > Hamburg

Selection a competitive mechanism

World Cities Community – EU Cities

2017-2018

2015-2016

World Cities Community: the Non-EU Cities involved

2017-2018

European Commission

World Cities II: EU Contract Implementation Team

In Europe

- Pablo Gándara, Project Manager
- Raul Daussa, Project Director for Ramboll
- David Zeller, Communications & Partnership Manager

In Australia

- Bruce Wilson, Coordinator and Director of EU Centre at RMIT
- Amanda Crichton, EU Centre at RMIT
- Tina Maugeri, EU Centre at RMIT
- Matt Coote, EU Centre at RMIT

Where can I obtain more information?

www.ec.europa.eu/inforegio

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperate/international/index_en.cfm

www.world-cities.eu

European Commission

world-cities.eu/countries/2017-2018/australia/

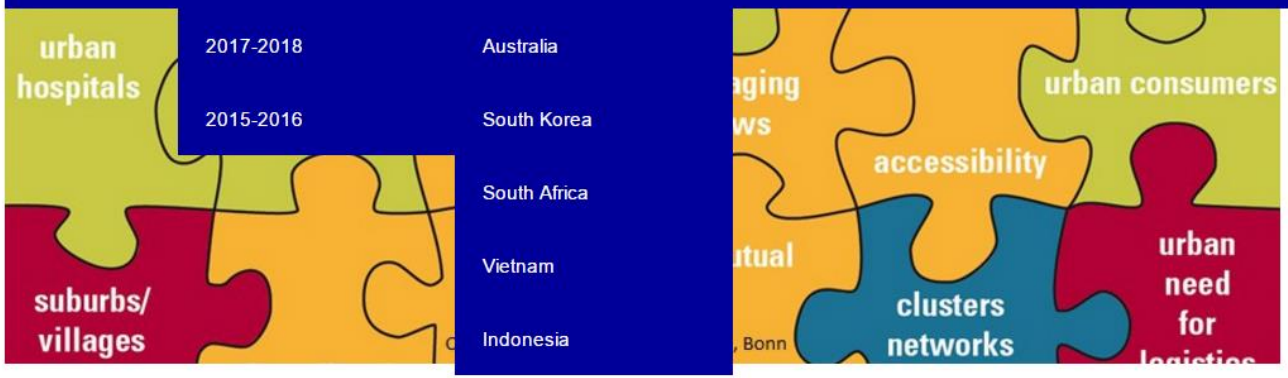
World Cities

EU – Third Countries Cooperation on Urban and Regional Development

PROJECT COUNTRIES CITIES ACTIVITIES TOPICS 中文 한국어 Tiếng Việt

2017-2018
2015-2016

Australia
South Korea
South Africa
Vietnam
Indonesia



Australia

Australia has a **federal system of government** comprising six states and two special territories. It is one of the **most urbanized countries** in the world and average incomes are high[1]. Three-quarters of Australians live in 18 major cities with populations over 100,000 (ABS, 2011). In **2014 89% of the population lived in an urban setting**, in settlements with more than a 1000 people[1]. **The majority of**

Impressions

Regional Policy

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