European Union
The World Cities Project (2015-2018): international cooperation in sustainable urban development policy

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The EU's World Cities project: Objectives

• To establish city pairings, EU with non-EU, for cities interested in promoting more sustainable urban development (approximately $16 + 16 = 32$) in accordance with the EU Urban Agenda and the New Urban Agenda of the United Nations.

• To facilitate the exchange of information and good practices on urban development policy and practice.

• To identify pilot and concrete actions, for implementation in the short-term, in areas including urban innovation (smart-city) and green technologies (energy efficiency, low carbon development). Intervention areas will be decided by the involved cities/regions, with the support of the specialists in the technical assistance team, EU Delegations in non-EU countries, national authorities of the non-EU countries, REGIO.
World Cities: Objectives

• To promote multi-stakeholder approaches, notably, the so-called 'triple-helix cooperation' between governments, research and business
• To strengthen market opportunities and job creation while pursuing the sustainable economic development of the cities involved, thus fostering win-win cooperation.
The 12-point Urban Agenda of the EU (UAEU 2016)
World Cities – Two Phases


2015-2016

✓ EU - China
✓ EU - India
✓ EU – Canada
✓ EU – Japan

European Parliament (2016) to continue “World cities” but with new non-EU countries

2017 – 2018

✓ EU – South Africa
✓ EU – Indonesia
✓ EU – Vietnam
✓ EU – Australia
✓ EU – South Korea
The World Cities Community – EU Cities

2017-2018

2015-2016
The World Cities Community – Non-EU Cities

2015-2016

2017-2018
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 and projects visits 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.
World Cities: views from the photo gallery
World Cities II (2017-2018)

✓ Cooperation with Australia, South Africa, South Korea, Indonesia and Vietnam since March/June 2017

✓ 16 City Pairs - EU Cities cooperating with:
  ✓ Indonesia: Sevilla, Zagreb
  ✓ Vietnam: Kosice, Milan
  ✓ South Africa: Belfast, Bilbao, Málaga, Graz
  ✓ Australia: Katowice, Manchester, Hamburg, Prague
  ✓ South Korea: Eindhoven, Tampere, Schottland Cities, Barcelona

✓ Six non-EU delegations in this session: 2 from South Africa (Cape Town, eThekwini), 2 from Indonesia (Semarang, Makassssar) and 2 from Vietnam (Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City)
World Cities II: EU independent expert team

- **Stefanie Klein**, Project Director for EU cooperation with Vietnam, Indonesia and South Africa (GIZ International Services)
- **Raul Daussa**, Project Director for EU cooperation with Australia and South Korea (Ramboll)
- **Pablo Gándara**, Project Coordinator
- **Juliana Izquierdo**, Project Manager for GIZ
- **Giulia Torresi**, Senior Expert EU Cities
- **Iñigo Bilbao**, Urban Development Manager
- **David Zeller**, Communication Manager
- **Roxana Jensen**, Project Manager for Ramboll
- Ambassador **Juan Prat y Coll**, Senior Advisor
- **Prof Lars Coenen**, University of Melbourne (representing Bruce Wilson)
- **Felix Kalkowsky**, Coordinator in South Korea (CityNet)
- **Prof Bruce Wilson**, Coordinator in Australia (RMIT Melbourne)
- **Prof. Ivan Turok**, Coordinator in South Africa (HSRC Cape Town)
...and just launched: the International Urban Cooperation programme

INTERNATIONAL URBAN COOPERATION

Across the world, the rate of urbanisation is increasing at a rapid pace. As the areas in which the majority of people live and work, cities are increasingly acknowledged as
For more detailed information, please visit the project’s website: www.world-cities.eu

World Cities is a project of the European Union managed by the General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) of the Commission. The project originates in a Preparatory Action of the European Parliament to promote the exchange of experience and best practices between European Union and non-EU countries on the theme of territorial cohesion, with particular reference to urban development, urban-rural partnership and cross-border cooperation.

The project facilitates the exchange of information and good practices related to urban and rural development policy issues. Cooperation is based on the participation of cities and regions in the project and their experience as important partners for urban and rural development.
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