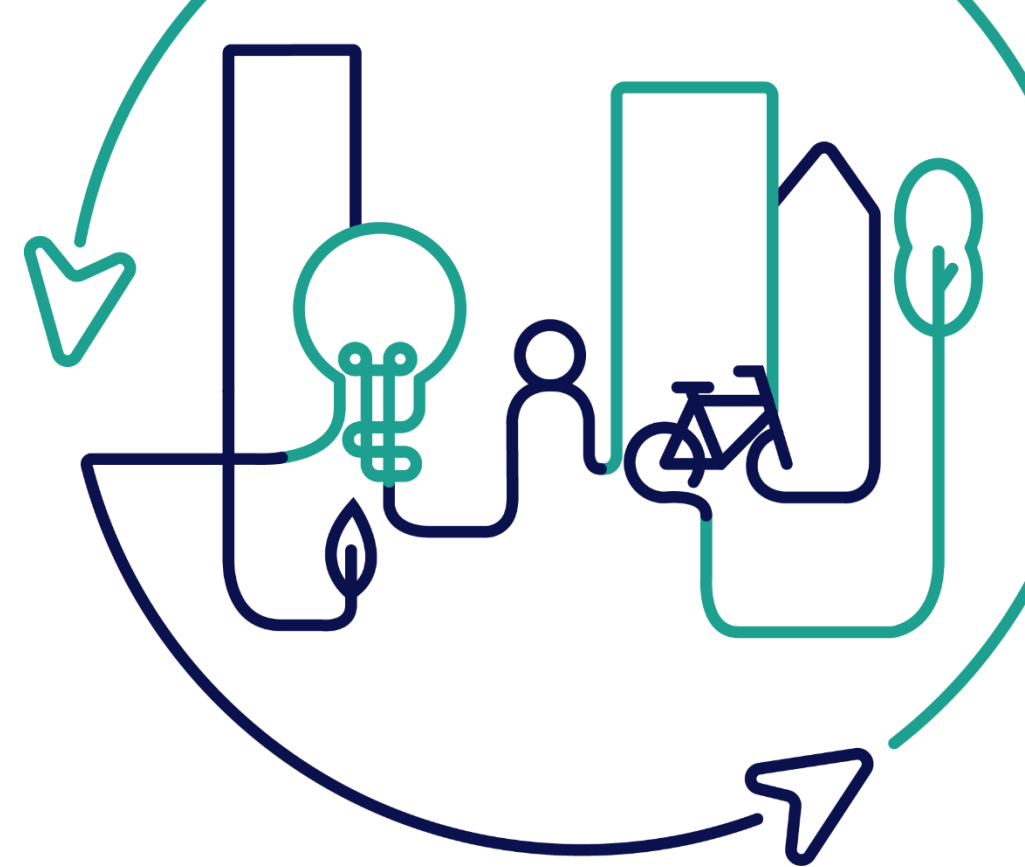


EUROPEAN U R B A N INITIATIVE

Capacity Building for FUAs through exchanges



Co-funded by
the European Union



Summary

- 1 What is the European Urban Initiative?**
- 2 City-to-City Exchanges**
- 3 Peer reviews**
- 4 Capacity building events**

Raluca TOMA, Head of Capacity Building
raluca@urban-initiative.eu



**European
Urban
Initiative**

WHAT IS THE EUI?

Coherent support for cities

3 SERVICE PILLARS FOR EU CITIES + 1



FUNDING FOR
INNOVATIVE PILOT
PROJECTS

SUPPORT & STRENGTHEN
CITIES' CAPACITIES

URBAN KNOWLEDGE AT
ONE REFERENCE POINT:
[PORTICO](#)

- identify and test innovative, transferable and scalable solutions to sustainable urban development problems of particular relevance at EU level
- building cities' capacity for sustainable urban development
- communicating, disseminating knowledge from implemented projects and further building on the lessons learnt and their experience



EUI capacity building offer

1 target


- Urban authorities interested in **Sustainable Urban Development** within Cohesion Policy

2 objectives

- **Build your skills and capacity** to design and implement policies, strategies and practices in an integrated & participative way
- **Improve the design and overall implementation** of sustainable urban development strategies, policies and practices

3 activities





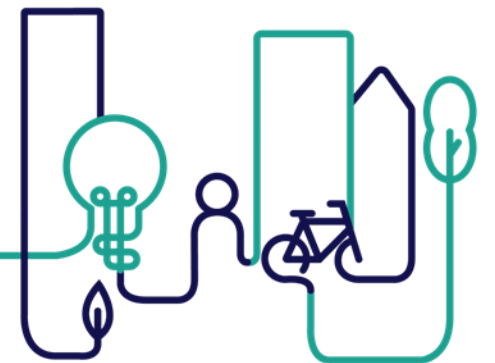
**City-to-city
Exchanges**

**Main features
and how to apply**

What is a City-to-City exchange?

- Brings together a city facing a specific problem related to sustainable urban development ('the applicant')
- And another 1-2 cities from a different EU Member State with expertise to help tackle this challenge ('the peer')
- **Simple application form**, quickly implemented visit(s) (between 2 and 5 days each)
- **Depends entirely on your needs** and the challenge you wish to put forward!

- **Ongoing Call – Apply when you need.**



More: <https://www.urban-initiative.eu/capacity-building/pilot-call-c2c-exchanges>

City-to-City Exchanges: what type of support do we provide?

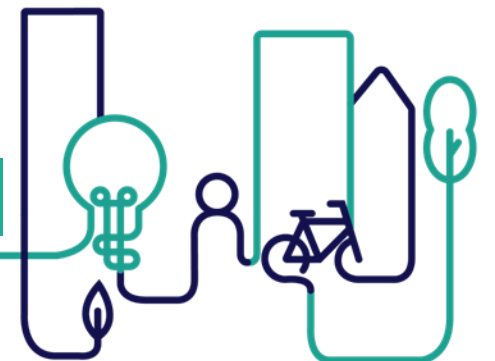
Funding to support applicants and peers:

<u>Type of cost</u>	<u>Applicant City</u>	<u>Peer City</u>
Travel, accommodation & subsistence	Up to 4 people	Up to 2 people
Daily rate covering staff time	No	Up to 2 people

Expertise: we can appoint a **moderator to facilitate exchange and learning process**

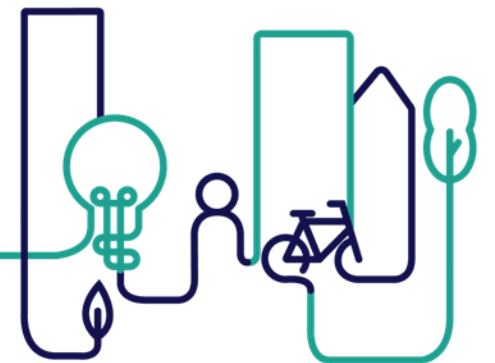
Peer identification: we can facilitate contact with urban authorities around Europe

100% funding on lump sum basis, no co-financing required



Functional Urban Areas are eligible and most relevant to apply for City-to-City Exchanges

- At least **51% of inhabitants** lives in areas defined by Eurostat as cities, towns or suburbs
 - If this is an issue, the core city/one of the cities of the FUA may apply on behalf of the FUA
- Legal obligation (who can benefit of ERDF): an urban authority, association or grouping of urban authorities **with legal status of organised agglomeration**
 - If this is an issue, the core city/one of the cities of the FUA may apply on behalf of the FUA; relevant stakeholders can still be involved and benefit of this activity.
- The application and contract need to be signed by official signatory



Some examples of City-to-City exchanges

Brno (CZ)

Digital Transition for
Function Urban Areas

Tallinn (EE)

Piatra Neamț (RO)

Urban mobility
implementation and
infrastructure development

Szeged (HU)

Lille (FR)

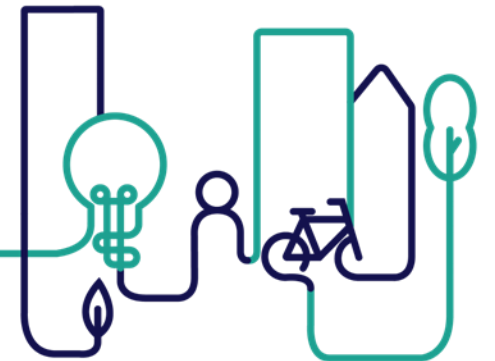
Urban transformation, river
reconquest and park creation

Turin (IT)

Oulu (FI)

Applying migrant co-design
to local integration
strategies

Fuenlabrada (ES)

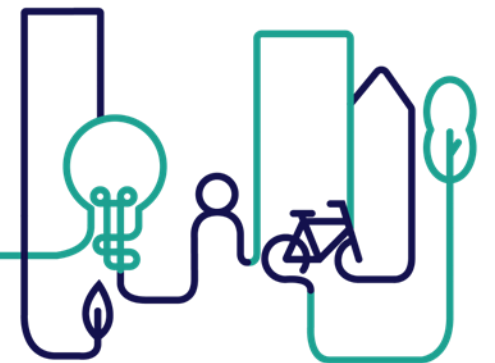


City-to-City Exchanges in 2024

- **Call open on a continuous basis – you can apply when you most need it!**
- Evaluations conducted on a rolling basis (result announced 4 weeks after application).
- **Bilateral consultations** always available at [this link](#)
- **Peer introduction request form** always available at [this link](#)



Save the date: 11 March, 14:00 online event with matchmaking possibilities



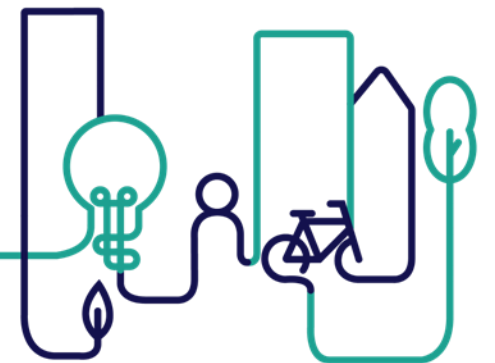


Peer Reviews

Main features
and how to apply

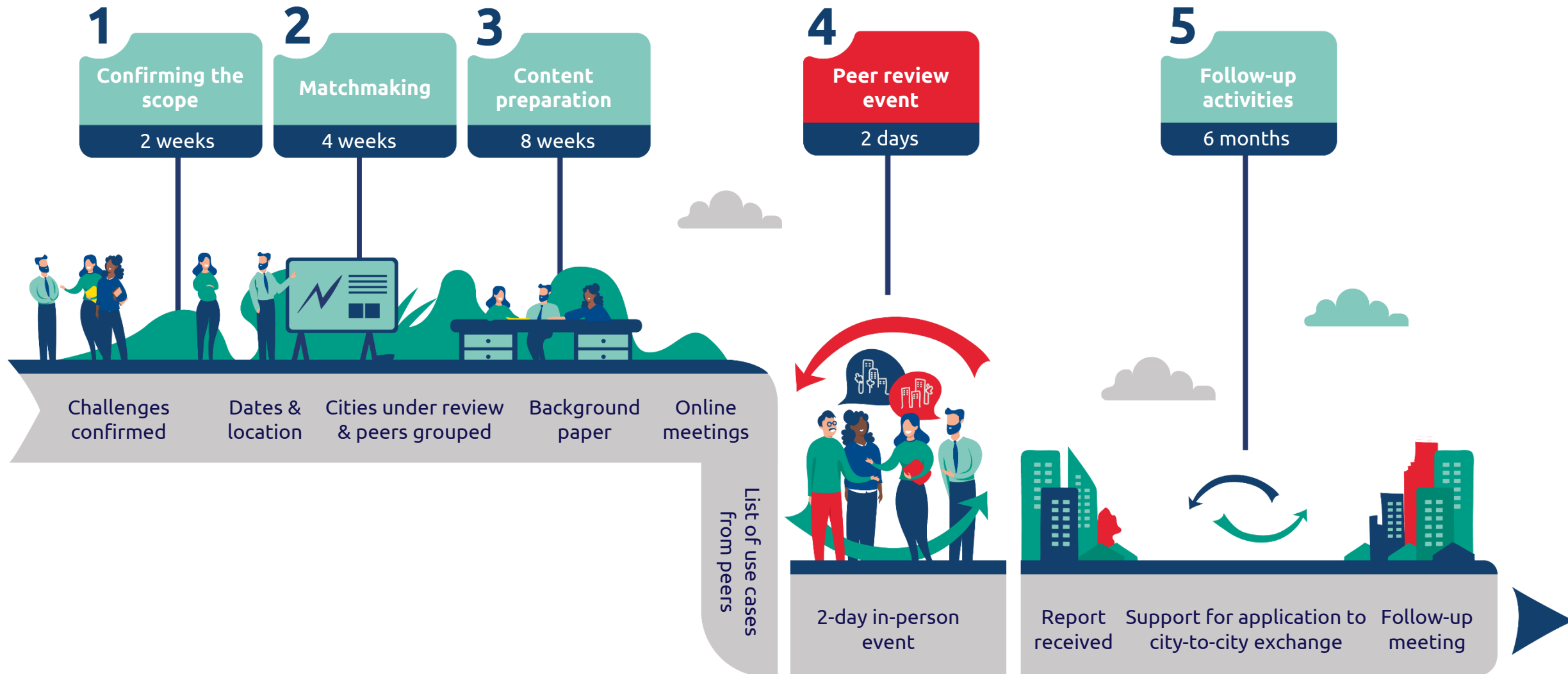
What is a Peer Review?

- An opportunity to improve your Sustainable Urban Development strategy via peer recommendations
- Main beneficiaries: **Art. 11 cities**
- This is a **process that last between 6 and 10 months** culminating with a 2-day event
- Each City under Review benefits from the **direct support and advice of 4-6 cities**
- The **peer review event** brings together around 50 participants (3-4 City under Reviews, each with their peers)



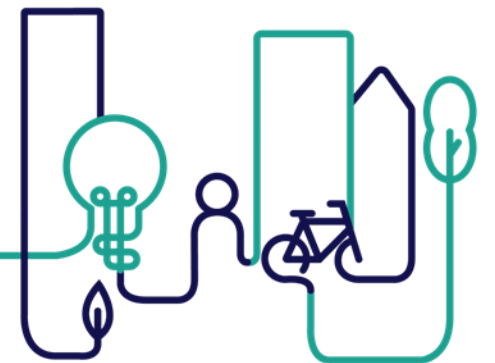
Peer Review process

Implementation steps



Peer Review: what type of support to expect

- We provide:
 - **financial support** in the form of travel, staff and per diems for participating to the 2-day event;
 - we allocate **experts** for the overall preparation and moderation of the exchanges
 - we organise the 2-day event and all related online exchanges.



How does a Peer Review look like?



Breakout Sessions
Thessaloniki, Greece

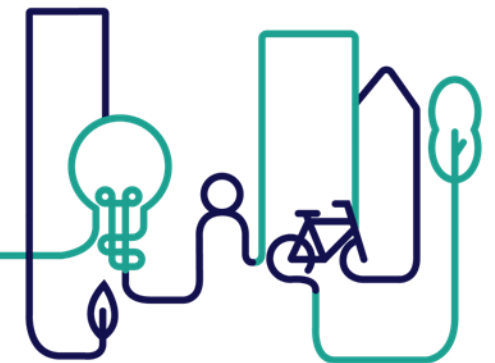


Group Discussions
Thessaloniki, Greece



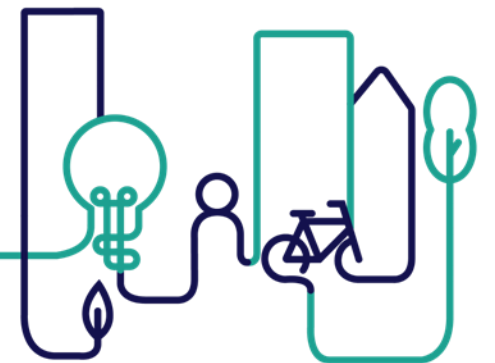
Site Visits
Coimbra, Portugal

Just took place: Kalisz, Poland, 31 January - 1 February 2024



Peer Reviews in 2024

- First Call for Applications opens in **March 2024**, joint for Cities Under Review and Peers
- Second call for applications opens in **October 2024** (TBC), for peer reviews taking place in 2025
- **Webinars to raise awareness will be organised throughout the year. Support to applicants always available.**





Types of events
and upcoming opportunities

Capacity Building Events

Bring together **urban authorities, managing authorities** and **key stakeholders** to exchange information with each other and with European Commission on policy issues related to Sustainable Urban Development

Objectives:

- provide a 'space' for exchange
- facilitate the creation of a growing community of cities
- provide easier access to knowledge and capacity building

Geographical scope: EU-level, Cluster of Member States, Country-specific



Our Events in 2023

7-9 June 2023
Cluster event, Timisoara,
**"Delivering high quality
community-led local
development in urban
areas"**



24-25 October 2023
Country-specific event,
Zadar,
**"Delivering high-
quality ITIs in
Croatia"**



21 November 2023
Country-specific event,
Budapest,
**"Cooperation across
Functional Urban Areas
in Hungarian cities"**



4-5 July 2023
EU-wide event, Ljubljana,
**"Supporting integrated
approaches to
Sustainable Urban
Development"**



8-9 November 2023
EU-wide event, Tourcoing,
**"Reshaping policy,
unleashing talents,
shifting minds for the
Green Transition"**





**Thank you for
your attention!**