



# URBACT CITY FESTIVAL

2021  
Programme  
15 – 17 June

- Plenary stage slots
- Parallel sessions
- URBACT stand
- Exposition space slots
- Speed networking
- Wellbeing tent



CET TIME

9:00

9:30

10:00

DOORS OPEN AT 10:00

10:30

11:00

11:30

12:00

12:30

13:00

13:30

14:00

14:30

15:00

15:30

16:00

16:30

17:00

17:30

18:00

18:30

11:30  
What's URBACT about?

14:00  
Welcome! Opening plenary

14:30  
First round of parallel sessions

The Leipzig Charter

16:00  
Mayor's Question Time  
An URBACT political roundtable

Speed networking URBACT Toolbox demo

17:30  
Let's celebrate cities!



9:45  
How can cities live in the Doughnut?  
A keynote speech by Kate Raworth

10:30  
Second round of parallel sessions

11:15  
Speed networking Publication launch

11:45  
Third round of parallel sessions

14:00  
Fourth round of parallel sessions

15:30  
Fifth round of parallel sessions

Speed networking Localising SDGs in cities

17:00  
City FuckUp Conversation  
with URBAN FUTURE

Dance class!

18:00



Early bird yoga

10:00  
Building Back Better and the Post Covid City  
Default to business as usual or  
Radical Course Correction?

11:00  
Sixth round of parallel sessions

Speed networking URBACT IV Q&A

12:30  
Closing plenary

DOORS CLOSE AT 15:00

11.30

## What's URBACT about?

You have heard about URBACT but you are not quite sure what this is about? Grab a cup of coffee and join members of the URBACT Secretariat who will explain how and when your city can benefit from our activities.

12.30

## Expo space

Explore the many stands from URBACT partners and Transfer Networks. Also, don't miss out the live sessions held in national languages in the National URBACT Points stand or the relaxing and fun exercises in the Wellbeing tent.

14.00

## WELCOME! Official opening plenary of the 2021 URBACT City Festival

14.30

### Food storytelling battle!

#### From social innovation to policy innovation?

This session would like to investigate how food issues constitute a good lever to kick-start a systemic transition of a city and its territory around. How this consensual and appealing topic of food in the city is fostering the transformation of city governance? From Slovenia to Portugal, come hear from different cities that are working hard to put food at the heart of sustainable urban development.

### Leave no one behind!

#### Dealing with priority neighbourhoods

Deprived neighbourhoods are at the roots of the URBACT programme. Over the years many innovative approaches have been developed to tackle the main challenges of these areas: fighting stigmatisation, engaging the residents, dynamising the relationship between the municipality and the residents using mediators... This session will showcase cities that applied tested tools in substantially different ways, paving the way for broader use of the good practices for the sake of public interest.

### Volunteering in cities

#### Offloading responsibilities or building resilience?

More than any other health crisis, Covid-19 has proved that civil society organisations are key protagonists of our cities. They bring together individuals in neighbourhoods to engage for the common good; fill in the gaps of the welfare state; and help vulnerable groups fight for their rights. Sharing resources and responsibilities between municipalities and civil society actors has helped cities not only generate enhanced participation in urban development issues, but also co-produce urban space and co-create urban services. This interactive session will look into how municipalities can work closer with them to build stronger resilience in their communities in the face of future challenges.

### Vitality of small cities

#### Post-pandemic resilience

Small EU cities have different starting points than the bigger players when reacting to emergencies. The resources they can access, their capacities to manage the unexpected, the support they receive from higher government levels or the closer dialogue with citizens... it seems like small and medium-sized cities have to fill larger gaps. Join the conversation about how successful small cities were when coping with challenges and needs which emerged from the pandemic, and how they see the future from their new position.

15.30

### URBACT played a key role in the renewal of the Leipzig Charter.

Come to the URBACT stand to see how!

### Join us to

### Learn European expressions in the Wellbeing tent



### Volunteering Cities

A powerful model for EU cities



### Tree of inspiration

How to weave a collaborative city?



### Re-growTown

The new network for the small towns of Europe



### Come ON BOARD!

How 6 EU cities are knitting Educational Innovation Networks together with their city agents



### The power of civic ecosystems

How community spaces and their networks make our cities more cooperative, fair and resilient?



### BioCanteens

How cities can go organic without spending anymore?

16.00

## MAYOR'S QUESTION TIME

City decision makers are key to the success of local led initiatives. This panel will explore the important role of politicians in European Territorial Cooperation programmes like URBACT. It will include presentations from senior political figures from some of the most active and successful URBACT cities. Panelists will share their views on how a programme like URBACT can improve local democracy and open doors to new experiences.

17.00

Live demo of the URBACT Toolbox in the URBACT stand

What does U.R.B.A.C.T stand for? Acrostic poems in the Wellbeing tent

Speed networking Get ready to be paired up with another participant to have a chat

17.30

LET'S CELEBRATE CITIES! An evening event full of surprises and entertainment



9.00

### The CoR's Young Elected Politician Programme



The European Committee of the Regions' Young Elected Politician Programme is a network of politicians who are no older than 40 and hold a mandate at regional or local level in the EU. Come in to learn more on the programme and its opportunities.

### Breakfast food for thought: Collaboration



Collaboration will be critical to the process of driving transformation in cities around the world. We look at new ways of collaboration, what worked, what didn't and how they help shape cities. Birgit Rusten, Director of FutureBuilt, EU's largest experiment to increase the number of highly sustainable buildings in the Oslo metropolitan region (Norway) will share with us insights about collaborating with actors from the entire real estate value chain.

9.45

## HOW CAN CITIES LIVE IN THE DOUGHNUT?

A keynote speech by **Kate Raworth**, author of the best-selling book "Doughnut Economics: seven ways to think like a 21st century economist", creator of the Doughnut of social and planetary boundaries, co-founder of Doughnut Economics Action Lab and Senior Associate at Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute.



10.30

### Reactivating vacant spaces in cities Using GIS tools

This session will show you how Geographical Information Systems (GIS) can be used for the reactivation of vacant spaces in cities. Chemnitz's Housing Agency (Germany) and other cities will present 'before and after GIS' stories and invite participants to test live some of the existing tools. Join us if you want to bring inspiring ideas back to your cities!

### The road to COP26 Climate change at the heart of URBACT cities, from the smallest to the largest

COP26 is on its way. Governments from all over the world will gather in Glasgow next November to reaffirm their commitment to fight climate change. URBACT cities have not waited for a new COP to be active, they have developed their own strategies, activities, partnerships to move towards greater integration and transversally addressing climate change. These cities can be smaller, larger, or a metropolitan area. Our session will therefore address the extent to which the way size makes (or not) a difference in the fight against climate change.

### Tech in the City Force for good or evil?

Digital Transition is a key priority across EU cities and the Covid-19 pandemic has further highlighted the vital role it can play in urban development. However, many still find it hard to see tech as a force for good and instead view it as something that will threaten the beating hearts of our communities. This highly participative and interactive session aims to explore the following key questions: what do our combined experiences tell us about whether tech can support city futures? Are there tangible examples of how tech has acted as a force for good or evil in cities? What can we learn from these examples and experiences? How do municipalities integrate tech and digital solutions and partnerships into their projects and services? What can city practitioners and policy makers do to ensure that tech acts as a force for good?

### Working together! Creating buzz and engaging people with bees

Despite a widespread recognition of the importance of 'bottom-up approaches' and 'participatory decision-making' in urban policies, these principles can be difficult to put into practice. A mix of urban myths, power play, and mistrust can create an invisible gap between citizens and city administrations, sometimes making the first steps in the URBACT method look "hard" and "a bit scary". But many URBACT cities are showing the way! The BeePathNet Transfer Network is a great example: after only two years, its URBACT Local Groups were not only formed in five culturally, environmentally and operationally diverse EU cities, but also thrive in them – actively involving and empowering over 300 stakeholders. How did we do it? We invite you to join us and find out!

11.15

**Launch of the publication  
'Sharing urban good practices -  
why not in my city?'**

**Turn on your mic for the  
Voice warm up!  
A breathing and acting exercise**

**Speed networking  
Get ready to be paired up with  
another participant to have a chat**



### C-Change

What on Earth do the Arts and Culture have to do with Climate Change?



### Fireside Tech

Talking about a revolution



### ALT/BAU

Get your solution for your vacant building problem

11.45

## Culture, Play and Education

### Invisible building blocks of social cohesion in cities

This session will address education innovation, play-based and cultural policies which are strategic assets of sustainable urban development in URBACT cities. It argues for keeping these topics on top of the European political agenda as they are essential for well-being and creating opportunities for people living in cities.

## Governing commons

### Is it even possible?

Creative communities have been long a vital element for city regeneration: groups of people taking into their own hands places, initiatives and services designed to their local needs. City administrations that seek sustainable ways to develop their territories are also the ones looking out for these communities. Innovative local authorities are constantly trying to understand how to further collaborate with their citizens. How is it possible to ensure long lasting, valuable partnership between informal communities and formal institutions?

## The forgotten places

### How to rebuild a sense of belonging?

Local authorities usually do not engage in areas or issues which are not in their direct ownership. When it comes to housing, many 'average' areas of the city can go under the radar of public authorities and serious dysfunctions in the housing market can remain unaddressed in areas where local authorities do not have ownership of the stock. The session will highlight the benefits of public interventions in areas that seem 'invisible' or 'uninteresting' from the usual local government point of view.

12.30

## Time to Share local recipes in the Wellbeing tent



## Civic eState

### New models of urban co-governance based on the commons



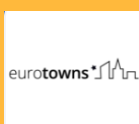
## Come in!

### How to revitalise dissonant cultural heritage together with the community?



## ALT/BAU

### Get your solution for your vacant building problem



## How medium-sized cities can revitalise their centres

Many medium-sized cities are facing similar problems related to the revitalization of the Inner City. Within the Eurotowns network we are working on common solutions for similar problems which have become, also due to the COVID -19 pandemic, even more urgent. We want to share best practices and to strengthen the policies of regeneration in order to have a relaunch on the Inner Cities.

13.00

## Cities Engaging in the Right to Housing

The chronic housing crisis, the importance of housing to secure lives under Covid-19, the growing number of people experiencing homelessness... Come find out more about the results from the URBACT-UIA joint action on how to make cities more inclusive with affordable and fair housing.

13.30

## Strategic Procurement

Public procurement is a strategic lever that cities can use to address the economic, social and environmental challenges they face. Get a glimpse of URBACT's latest online training designed anyone with an interest in procurement and changing the way it is undertaken in cities.

14.00

## Unlocking the potential of public procurement to drive gender equality

Is it possible to combat gender-based inequalities through procurement processes? How do we make gender equality integral rather than an add on to public procurement? In this session, two cities will roll out gender equality clauses as part of their social responsibility charters and governance processes, and EIGE will update us on their gender responsive procurement research. Last but not least, we will challenge participants to consider what actions they can take to use procurement as a way to drive local economic empowerment of women.

## Understand, adapt, re-use and VISUALISE

### Tell your story!

Play is a serious matter and it can make the difference for a better urban future. When used correctly, the positive social impact of promoting Play as a means to improve social inclusion, health and sustainability in a city can be quite astonishing. This innovative tool encourages city stakeholders to engage in a new way in the co-creation of enjoyable places in their local environment. The firm commitment to this novel narrative and the use of engaging visualisation contributed to a successful local implementation for cities involved in the Playful Paradigm Transfer Network.

## Everyone's an innovator

### How to stimulate innovative behaviours in the public sector

This session will explore ways to stimulate innovation within city authorities. The city of Cluj-Napoca (Romania) will share their transformative journey with the InnovaTO-r Transfer Network, passing on practical tips to support systems innovation. We will also hear from Birmingham (UK) presenting their innovative project USE-IT. With the aim of unlocking social and economic innovation together, USE-IT is rewiring the working relationship between local authority staff and neighbourhood communities.

## Let's play the LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MANUAL GAME

Are you ready to play? This highly interactive session will give participants the chance to play a virtual board game. How to encourage local engagement and community building in priority neighbourhoods? Pre-register for this session and have fun exploring how participation can be used to its full potential!

PRE-REGISTER FOR THIS SESSION:  
<https://bit.ly/3bT9o4e>

15.00



**Spend Analysis**  
Procurement culture changed, social and environmental considerations included, SMEs engaged



**Everyone's an innovator**  
Two years of experiments in innovating the city

**Speed networking**  
Get ready to be paired up with another participant to have a chat

**Localising Sustainable Development Goals in cities**  
Come to the URBACT stand to see how!

Get your body moving and take a **active break** in the Wellbeing tent

15.30

**Positive narratives for integration**  
Migration, exposure to discrimination and Covid-19

While Covid-19 has clearly exposed the discriminations and inequalities that migrants face in the EU, it has also shown that migrants play an essential role. The pandemic highlighted how migrants and refugees are part of the global workforce of frontline workers, particularly in low-waged precarious occupations and in healthcare. Certain politicians and press have pushed a negative narrative through scapegoating minority groups and migrants for their supposed flouting of social distancing and lockdown measures. There is a moral case for rethinking inequalities considering what we have learnt about who is truly essential for society's functioning.

**Getting results!**  
Myths and misconceptions about Monitoring and Evaluating

How are transfer and improvement measured? When we talk about Monitoring and Evaluation of a policy or a practice, we often dread the difficult tasks and immediately think of technical and complex techniques and processes. Is it really so? The URBACT Transfer Networks show that some of the myths about evaluation are not always true and share some hands-on examples that may make you reconsider the topic.

**Fighting climate change with Carbon Literacy**

Carbon Literacy can be defined as "an awareness of the carbon dioxide costs and impacts of everyday activities, and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual, community and organisational basis". Come hear from the HOME Association on how changing mindset, attitudes and culture alongside technology, can have a significant impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.


16.30



**Rumourless Cities**  
Positive Narratives on Integration



**Blue Economy Forum & Toolkit**  
An interactive session for coastal/port cities, urban experts, and entrepreneurs



**Com.Unity.Lab**  
TOOLKIT

**Dance class!**  
Get your dancing shoes and join the URBACT team in the Wellbeing tent

17.00



**Urban Future: City FuckUp Conversation**

A key ingredient to enabling innovation is creating the right environment to allow for innovation to happen. Urban Future's signature session **City FuckUp Conversation** features major fuckups from cities around the world, presented by the people right in the middle of it, sharing what had been learned and how it changed the city's innovation culture.

Guest star: **Andrea Reimer**, Former City Councilor, Vancouver (Canada)

9.00

### Breakfast food for thought: Collaboration



The City of Helsingborg (Sweden) and IKEA entered into a widely recognized collaboration to create a more sustainable city of the future. We will deep-dive into their collaboration, sharing insights into how they set it up, how they make it work and how to make a city-business collaboration successful.

9.30

### Early bird yoga session in the Wellbeing tent

### The RFSC: a tool for the localisation of the SDGs in cities



Discover the RFSC, a web tool that assists and guides cities of all shapes and sizes in the implementation of sustainable urban development policies. The RFSC offers a specific framework to guide cities in the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals in their daily urban policies (from public transportation to housing and waste management), and a set of indicators to support the monitoring process at local level.

10.00

## BUILDING BACK BETTER IN THE POST COVID CITY

This session will explore how the impacts of Covid are playing out and will continue to develop in cities across the EU and across all city policies, services and URBACT networks. We will unpick the rhetoric of Building Back Better and challenge participants to embrace the more radical actions needed if the opportunity created by the pandemic is to lead to fundamental change in relation to inequality and the climate emergency. Come, listen, and participate. Invited speakers will comment on: What are the threats and opportunities for post Covid recovery at city level? How can an integrated and participatory approach support an equitable recovery? How do we ensure recovery programmes combine soft and hard investments and lead to economic re-structuring that places sustainability and equality at the centre?

11.00

### Who's got the money? Scaling and mainstreaming projects with Regional Policy Funds

Sustainability is a key issue for projects funded through URBACT. This session will focus on the issues of replication, scaling and mainstreaming particularly through the Cohesion Policy and Regional Policy funds. It will explore the challenges, but also effective examples, shared by the European Commission, Managing Authorities and URBACT cities.

### URBACT IV and the new Cohesion Policy What's coming next?

A new period of funding 2021-2027 means a new URBACT programme. The urban policy framework that surrounds URBACT has evolved, with the creation of the European Urban Initiative. How does URBACT fit in the picture? What will the new programme look like? How will it ensure continued support for cities to design and implement sustainable urban development strategies? This session will include presentations from URBACT, the European Commission and the Portuguese Presidency, currently chairing the URBACT IV programming committee.

### Tech Place Reloaded Join the community!

TechPlace is a space for anyone interested in tech and digital for social good in cities. It brings together a community of like-minded people, from the public, private and non-profit sectors, and connects them with examples of digital city successes and good practices. This session will hold a discussion on the role of the medium-sized city within a tech entrepreneurship ecosystem. We will hear about the experiences of two cities: Barnsley (United Kingdom) and Mataro (Spain) and discover who is the main driver of a digital economic development? Municipality or entrepreneurs? And how can TechPlace facilitate this development?

12.00

Get your body moving  
and take a  
**active break**  
in the Wellbeing tent

**URBACT IV  
Q&A**  
in the URBACT stand

 **The Playful  
Paradigm**  
for inclusive  
development and healthy  
communities

**Speed networking**  
Get ready to be paired up  
with another participant  
to have a chat

12.30

## CLOSING PLENARY Final session of the 2021 URBACT City Festival