

WEBINAR FOR SLOVENIA

Unravelling the 'green' actions of the Urban Agenda for the EU

3 November 2020, Zoom

Organised by:

European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN) EGTC

Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenia

European Urban
Knowledge Network



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
AND SPATIAL PLANNING**

UNRAVELLING THE 'GREEN' ACTIONS OF THE URBAN AGENDA FOR THE EU

EUKN webinar for Slovenia

Date: 3 November 2020

Time: 9:30 - 12:00 CEST

Platform: Zoom (registered participants will receive the login details in advance)

Language: English with interpretation in Slovene

Organisers: European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN) EGTC and the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of Slovenia

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REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
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AND SPATIAL PLANNING

The EUKN webinar for Slovenia is informed by the upcoming Slovene EU Council Presidency in the second half of 2021. It will specifically investigate in what way the Urban Agenda for the EU (UAEU) process can be harvested with a view to the theme of **environmental sustainability**.

To do so, the EUKN Secretariat developed an **approach for the analysis** of the 'green' actions of the UAEU that call for the involvement of Member States and the EU level. The approach is based, inter alia, on the clustering exercise performed by the 2019 Finnish Council Presidency and DG REGIO.

The first results of applying the methodology to three actions were showcased and discussed in a webinar in June 2020 (more information available [here](#)). For the webinar on 3 November, **two actions** will be selected, analysed with the same approach and discussed during the event.

The goal of the webinar is to explore how the suggested analysis approach could enhance the engagement of Member States and the EU level in the further implementation of the actions delivered by the Partnerships. It is the second of a series of EUKN activities for Slovenia in the run-up to the Presidency in 2021 - eventually leading to **concrete recommendations for ministers** on how to implement those actions dealing with regulatory obstacles faced by cities when trying to reach environmental goals.

Programme

- 09:20-09:30 'Reception' in Zoom and technical check
- 09:30-09:35 Welcome by the EUKN and programme explanation
Mart Grisel, Director EUKN EGTC
- 09:35-09:45 Welcome on behalf of the Slovene Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning and outlook on the 2021 Presidency
Aša Rogelj, Deputy Director-General, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia, Spatial Planning, Construction and Housing Directorate
- 09:45-10:05 Presentation on Digital Transition Action 8 'Data standards supporting citizen participation in urban planning'
Xinxin Duan, Land Hamburg, Action Leader
- 10:05-10:25 Presentation on Urban Mobility Action 7 'Reducing diversity of Urban Vehicle Access Regulations'
Piotr Rapacz, European Commission, DG MOVE, Action Leader
- 10:25-10:40 Break
- 10:40-11:50 **Debate: Implications for the post-2020 Urban Agenda for the EU**
During this debate, discussants and participants are invited to reflect on how the two actions could be further implemented as well as how to best capitalise on them: what can we take away from them in terms of content, but also in terms of process? And how can these findings support the design of the post-2020 Urban Agenda for the EU?
Speakers:
Polona Demšar Mitrovič, Slovene Ministry of Infrastructure
Xinxin Duan, Land Hamburg
Jernej Stritih, Stritih Sustainable Development
Stefan Kuhn, ICLEI Europe
Moderator:
Mart Grisel, Director, EUKN EGTC
- 11:50-12:00 Closure

[Register Here](#)

Key objectives of the webinar

1

Present an **analysis approach** for the 'green' actions as well as first results of this analysis, inter alia based on the action clustering done by the Finnish Council Presidency and DG REGIO in 2019;

2

Explore how the suggested approach could **enhance the engagement of Member States and the EU level** in the further implementation of the actions proposed by the Partnerships;

3

Provide input to the **Slovene Presidency in 2021** on how to follow up on those actions that deal with the regulatory obstacles faced by cities when trying to reach environmental goals.

Background

All EUKN activities planned for 2020 are going to be functional steps within a broader process to be continued in 2021, the year of the **Slovene EU Council Presidency**. They will specifically investigate in what way the Urban Agenda for the EU (UAEU) process can be harvested with a view to Slovenia's priority themes.

To do so, the EUKN Secretariat is developing an **approach for the analysis** of the 'green' actions of the UAEU that call for the involvement of Member States and the EU level. The approach is based, inter alia, on the action clustering performed by the 2019 Finnish Council Presidency and DG REGIO. The first results of applying this analysis approach to three selected actions have been showcased and discussed in a webinar on 9 June 2020.

The ultimate goal of this **two-year cooperation** is to provide input to a set of recommendations to ministers, informing the planned Informal Ministerial Meeting under Slovene Presidency. Those recommendations should entail clear directions on how to follow up on those UAEU actions that deal with **regulatory obstacles** faced by cities when trying to reach **environmental goals**.

The clustering of actions

A comprehensive clustering of the actions developed by the UAEU Partnerships serves as a starting point, based on the clusters identified by the 2019 Finnish Presidency under the three main strands of the UAEU (Better Regulation, Better Funding, and Better Knowledge).

The following page presents the **overview of the Better Regulation strand** and its three clusters as well as an example of how this framework has been used by the Finnish Council Presidency to identify ten 'green city' related actions that call for the involvement of Member States.

Out of these ten 'green city' related actions, the EUKN Secretariat and the Slovenian Ministry for the Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) selected three actions from clusters 1.1 and 1.2 to analyse in depth for the webinar held in June and two from the cluster 1.1. for the webinar on 3 November 2020.

These are **'green city' related actions within the Better Regulation strand and its related clusters** (better implementation, changes of existing legislation, new legislation to tackle gaps) **that call for the involvement of both Member States and the EU**.

Strand 1. Better Regulation

Cluster 1.1: Better implementation

Air Quality	Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees
Action 1: Identification of gaps in regulation and implementation on air pollutant emission sources	Action 1: Recommendations on the protection of unaccompanied minors (Better EU policies and implementation of regulation & knowledge)
Circular Economy	Action 6: Establishment of a European Migrants Advisory Board (Better regulation & Better knowledge)
Action 3: Analyse of the regulatory obstacles and drivers for boosting an urban circular bioeconomy	Action 8: Improving desegregation
Climate Adaptation	Sustainable Use Of Land And Nature-Based Solutions
Action 1: Analysis of national multilevel urban development and planning regulations with focus on climate adaptation	Action 6: Better regulation to boost NBS at European, national and local levels ✓
Digital Transition	Action 7: Better financing on nature-based solutions (better regulation & funding)
Action 8: Specify and monitoring of standardised Planned Land Use data for formal and informal urban planning participation processes ✓	Urban Mobility
Energy Transition	Action 4: Scaling up innovative clean buses
Action 2: Maximising use of waste heat in cities	Action 7: Reducing diversity of Urban Vehicle Access Regulations (UVAR) ✓
Action 3: Guidance on energy masterplanning for cities	Urban Poverty
Housing	Action 5: Progress towards a directive on investing in children based on the Recommendation 'Investing in Children: breaking the cycle of disadvantage'
Action 1: Guidance on EU regulation and public support for housing	Action 7: Cohesion policy post 2020: Local pact for the regeneration of urban deprived areas and neighbourhoods (UDAN)
Action 2: Capacity building for the application of state aid rules in the affordable housing sector at a city level	Action 8: Ending homelessness by 2030 through the reform of social inclusion strategies at national level

Cluster 1.2: Changes of existing legislation

Air Quality	Jobs And Skills
Action 1: Identification of gaps in regulation and implementation on air pollutant emission sources	Action 4: RIS3 2.0 (Better regulation, better funding, better knowledge)
Circular Economy	Action 9: Cluster of state aid and de-minimis
Action 1: Help make waste legislation support the circular economy in cities ✓	Sustainable Use Of Land And Nature-Based Solutions
Action 2: Help make water legislation support the circular economy in cities ✓	Action 1: Including land take and soil properties in impact assessment procedures
Energy Transition	Urban Mobility
Action 5: Closer co-operation with EU bodies to promote energy transition funding	Action 9: Setting up a European framework for fostering urban mobility innovation
Housing	Urban Poverty
Action 3: Revision of the SGEI decision with regard to the narrow target group of social housing	Action 4: Adoption of a European Child Guarantee
Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees	Action 6: Cohesion Policy post 2020: Setting up a new Urban Territorial Objective
Action 2: Establishment of Financial Blending Facilities for cities and SMEs	Action 10: Adoption of an integrated Roma framework from a multi-level governance approach
Action 3: Further reinforce the role of Microfinance, for instance through blending	Action 11: Strengthening the desegregation principle in EU urban areas
Action 4: Improving access for cities to EU Integration funding (Better regulation & Better funding)	Action 12: Ease cities' access to EU funding in parallel to introducing local ex-ante conditionalities regarding - among other aspects - Roma inclusion

Cluster 1.3: New legislation to tackle gaps

Digital Transition	Jobs and Skills
Action 6: Build a data taxonomy at a European level	Action 7: Funding deprived areas
Action 7: Access and reuse of private sector data of general interest by the public authorities	
Action 14: Development of 5G regulation to enable local micro-operators in cities	

Legend:

- 'Green city' related actions that call for the involvement of the Member States (Finnish Council Presidency clustering)
- ✓ 'Green city' related actions selected for the webinar on 9 June 2020 by the EUKN Secretariat and the MESP
- ✓ 'Green city' related actions selected for the webinar on 3 November 2020 by the EUKN Secretariat and the MESP

Action analysis approach



Step 1
Desk Research

Analyse the actions through available material (Action Plans, Monitoring Table, delivered outputs)

in order to:

Produce an **overview of the actions**;
Identify the current **implementation status** and the **delivered outputs**.

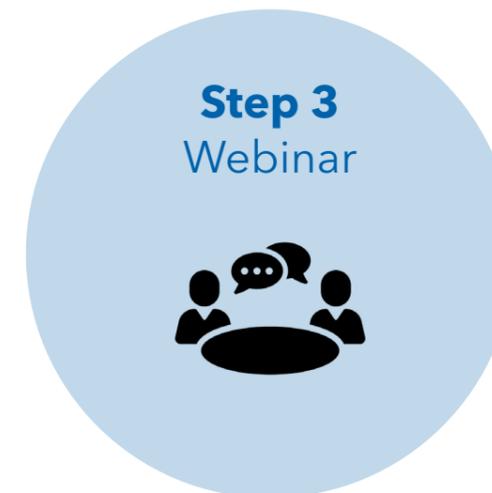


Step 2
Interviews

Engage Action Leaders in interviews to discuss the actions' contents, status, and outlook

in order to:

Check the available desk research material against **recent developments regarding action implementation**, possibly resulting in new ways of presenting the actions;
Explore the role of the **EU and Member State levels** in the further implementation of the selected actions.



Step 3
Webinar

Showcase and bring further the outcomes in a joint discussion

in order to:

Make the selected actions **better understood** for the participants of the webinar;
Engage in a **discussion** on the proposed analysis approach as well as on its application to the two actions presented during the webinar - thus identifying **concrete ways to support their delivery**.

Action overviews



The action overviews are the results of desk research as described above. There are two types of overview for each action:

Overview - background

These overviews use the Partnerships' Action Plans (AP) as the main source. Based on the original AP text passages, the EUKN Secretariat has synthesised the most relevant elements. It is important to note that **these overviews reflect a 'baseline' situation in 2018** and not necessarily the actual development around a given Action. These developments are going to be subject to the webinar's discussion.

Overview - update

These overviews use the September 2020 Monitoring Table of Actions (MTA) as the main source to **summarise the current status of the actions** as well as their category, involved partners, and outputs. The Action Leaders have fact-checked and updated the information where needed.

Digital Transition, Action 8

'Specify and monitoring of standardized Planned Land Use data for formal and informal urban planning participation processes'



Overview - background

Sources: Digital Transition Action Plan, June 2018; Original Working Packages, 2018 (unpublished, provided by the Action Leaders)

Bottlenecks

Current legislation does not guarantee free access by public authorities to data generated in the cities if not agreed in advance in specific contractual rules. Public authorities, citizens and local businesses must have access to data collected in public spaces where this would improve the functioning of cities.

Objectives

The objectives of **Part I**, related to the implementation of the **EU INSPIRE Directive**, are:

1. To analyse the Planned Land Use (PLU) data and other standardising endeavours in the EU countries to see if the INSPIRE PLU data model is suited for providing standardised spatial planning data in the European context;
2. To analyse if the PLU data model meets all the requirements as a component of the needed infrastructure for building up a participatory platform in the urban planning process;
3. Try to define the preconditions and a set of necessary standardised data for the establishment of an online participatory platform.

Based on the results of Part I, the objectives of **Part II**, related to **participatory urban planning**, are:

1. To develop a transferable model for the establishment of participatory urban planning platforms based on the experience from the DIPAS project in Hamburg and other potential examples;
2. To define a guideline for providing standardised spatial planning data in the participatory urban planning process.

Outputs

Part I - The identification of specific obstacles and particular requirements using the PLU data model with focus on the municipal level. Results will be reported to the INSPIRE Committee. At the end of the action it will be evident if the INSPIRE PLU data model is useful as a standardised data model and as a data exchange standard for plan preparation, public participation procedures and legal binding land use plans in European cities - or what action has to be taken to achieve this goal.

Part II - A model for successfully implementing participatory urban planning with regard to standardisation of data, capacity building and financing. The side effects are transforming urban planning processes and a changing role of urban authorities by enabling innovation and multilevel collaboration.

Implementation

Part I:

- Analyse the use of PLU data model in EU cities;
- Define monitoring techniques for PLU data for analysing comparable land use indicators;
- Analyse existing national and EU regulations, and data models for providing digital legal spatial land use plans on city level;
- Analyse what level of information (meta data / data model) in digital spatial land use plans is needed to establish e-government services;
- Analyse national regulations to ensure digital planning data are legally binding;
- Analyse weak points in PLU data model;
- Analyse actual level of accessibility of PLU and participative data and develop strategies for improvements;

Part II:

- Identification of used standards for participatory (user-generated) and 3D data in European cities;
- Analyse what level of information (metadata / data model) in participatory and 3D data is needed to improve citizen inclusion;
- Define of standards for participatory and 3D data regarding the use in participatory projects;
- Involve stakeholders/partners: cities, businesses and academia;
- A possible testbed: the ongoing eGovernment-project DIPAS (Digital Participation System) in the city of Hamburg as a prototype for a participatory urban planning platform.

Digital Transition, Action 8

'Data standards supporting citizen participation in urban planning'



Overview - update

Source: Monitoring Table of Actions, September 2020

Summary

This Action is focused on citizen participation in the urban planning process with the aim to support citizen-centric planning with a standardized Participatory Data Specification (PDS), which - once adopted as a standard - would bring lots of benefits for all the parties in a participation process.

Action category*

Data and indicators

Implementation status

Advanced

Communication and outreach

Action Plan on Futurium, Draft Action promoted on Twitter

Outputs under preparation

Information model for developing and e-participation platform; the implementation of the PDS standard in Hamburg as example.

Delivered outputs

Report 'Digitalisation of Urban Planning'; Comparison results from different participatory projects.

Partners involved

Hamburg (Lead), Helsingborg (Lead), Romania.

According to the Action Leader's interview, the implementation was carried out exclusively by Hamburg and Helsingborg.



Outputs to consult online

The outputs are not yet available online, but will be published on the [Futurium](#) website as soon as they are finalised.

* The action categories used by the Monitoring Table of Actions are: Data and indicators, Guidance documents and handbooks, Modification to existing EU legislation, New governance body/structure, Policy preparation/Impact assessment, Policy recommendations, Toolkit, Strategy/Plan/Roadmap.

Urban Mobility, Action 7

'Reducing diversity of Urban Vehicle Access Regulations (UVAR)'



Overview - background

Source: Urban Mobility Action Plan, November 2018

What is the specific problem?

Following on from the Action Plan on urban mobility of 2009, the European Commission published a Study on Urban Vehicle Access Restrictions (UVARs) which found that the situation in Member States varied considerably when it comes to the legal basis and practices. The Commission's Urban Mobility Package of 2013 recognised the important role that Member States play in providing the right framework conditions for local action.

The European Commission has received many inquiries concerning the diversity of urban access regulation schemes in the EU and their lack of harmonisation; **fragmentation of approaches** leads to inefficiencies. This suggests there may be a need to examine the various schemes to see if any actions could be taken at the relevant level to address such concerns. Finally, the effectiveness of existing schemes is not systematically assessed and communicated.

What action is needed?

1. Increase transparency of the schemes and make relevant **information available** to the public easier, more effectively and increasingly digitally, by using the existing tool (www.urbanaccessregulations.eu) as a starting point.
2. Address fragmentation and patchwork of the schemes while respecting the subsidiarity principle by providing **recommendations and best practices** that can support local administrators in designing and implementing urban vehicle access restrictions.

Outputs and deliverables

1. Updated UVAR **information** on a website;
2. UVAR **guidance document** prepared by the Commission with cities, Member States and stakeholders.

Recommendations for follow-up activities

- **Member States** to make accurate real-time traffic information available (in line with the Directive on Intelligent Transport Systems) and implement swiftly the Single Data Gateway Regulation in relation to UVARs;
- **Collect the evidence** on existing schemes and assess their effectiveness and impact when it comes to attaining the stated goals such as reduction of congestion and air pollution;
- **Revise the guidelines** on Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning (SUMP) to better include UVARs so they can be properly designed, placed and promoted (to be taken into account in action 2: Reinforce the uptake of sustainable urban mobility planning).

Urban Mobility, Action 7

'Reducing diversity of Urban Vehicle Access Regulations (UVAR)'



Overview - update

Source: Monitoring Table of Actions, September 2020

Summary

1. Increase transparency of the schemes and make relevant information available to the public easier, more effectively and increasingly digitally, by using the existing tool (www.urbanaccessregulations.eu) as a starting point.
2. Address fragmentation and patchwork of the schemes while respecting the subsidiarity principle by providing recommendations and best practices that can support local administrators in designing and implementing urban vehicle access restrictions.

Action category*

Toolkit

Implementation status

Finalised

Communication and outreach

- Eurocities Mobility Forum on 25 April in Prague: PUM Workshop
- 2018 Stakeholder UVAR workshop 22 Feb 2019
- MS Expert Group on Urban Mobility 5th April: Exchange and Presentation of draft guidelines for UVAR

Delivered outputs

- Brochure 'Reducing diversity of UVARs' with updated UVAR information on a website and UVAR guidance documents

Partners involved

- European Commission (Lead); Eurocities, POLIS, Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

Follow-up actions

beyond the project phase of the PS

- Updated UVAR information: Member States have to make accurate real-time traffic information available (as from 2020, in line with the Directive on Intelligent Transport Systems), and implement swiftly the Single Data Gateway Regulation in relation to UVARs.
- Address fragmentation and patchwork of the schemes while respecting the subsidiarity principle: the Commission is analysing a way forward based on input gathered so far from Member States and stakeholders and taking into account the priorities of the new Commission. Further actions will be considered also following the result of the evaluation of the 2013 Urban Mobility Package.



Outputs to consult online

Brochure: 'Reducing diversity of UVARs'

Updated website:

www.urbanaccessregulations.eu

* The action categories used by the Monitoring Table of Actions are: Data and indicators, Guidance documents and handbooks, Modification to existing EU legislation, New governance body/structure, Policy preparation/Impact assessment, Policy recommendations, Toolkit, Strategy/Plan/Roadmap.

Three questions to the Action Leaders



The Action Leaders were asked to provide answers to three specific questions to discuss the actions' contents, status, and outlook. These questions are:

1. What is missing or outdated in these overviews?

2. How do you foresee the further implementation of the Action?

3. Are there any other issues that should be discussed?

The answers are presented on the following pages in order to prepare the ground for the webinar discussions.

Digital Transition, Action 8

'Data standards supporting citizen participation in urban planning'



Xinxin Duan

Land of Hamburg, Action Leader

1. What is missing or outdated in these overviews?

(Outlook, deliverables, partners and stakeholders involved, status)

There is a certain mismatch between the Action's real implementation process and how it has been described in the Action Plan. In the beginning, we were very ambitious and defined two parts of the Action. Our daily work is about digitalisation and standardisation in urban planning, in and for Hamburg. Therefore, Part II on digital citizen participation was easier to approach and thus became our main focus. Part I on the analysis of the INSPIRE Directive was more difficult to implement due to a lack of time and expertise in our Partnership.

The shift in focus encouraged us to rename the Action: from 'Specify and monitoring of standardized Planned Land Use data for formal and informal urban planning participation processes' to 'Data standards supporting citizen participation in urban planning'.

Moreover, I am not sure if the Action is well-categorised under 'Better Regulation'. One could argue, though, that the Action was (originally) about achieving better EU regulation (INSPIRE Directive) or that it could help using citizen participation data for lower-level regulatory purposes.

2. How do you foresee the further implementation of the Action?

(Planning and actors involved, notably the Member States and the EU)

We are about to finalise the output documents, which will be published on the Futurium website. We did not foresee a broader distribution of the outputs, but it would be interesting to share the results with other countries. We also see the value of partnering up with different cities to further continue exploring this topic and exchange experiences. For this, we would need support in identifying interested cities in Europe.

On the other hand, we still see the relevance of implementing part I of the Action on the INSPIRE Directive. This would require the support of an expert who could carry out an analysis of the Directive's implementation in different countries. Plus, it would be helpful if we could establish contact with the stakeholders involved in the INSPIRE Directive at EU level as well as with Member States' representatives working on this, for an exchange of experience.

3. Are there any other issues that should be discussed?

In Hamburg, we funded the Action ourselves and worked on it on top of our daily job, which sometimes resulted in shortages of time we could devote to the Action.

The support of external experts is crucial when approaching an analysis of EU regulation. The experts should be identified and involved from the initial stage of the implementation process. In our case, we could not contract an external expert in time, also because there are only a handful of people knowledgeable of data standardisation and - ideally - also urban planning.

Additionally, we realise that the knowledge produced by our Partnership is sometimes really technical and thus not easily accessible for a broader audience.

An important partner to mention is the DIPAS project implemented in Hamburg, which we used as a 'test bed' and which supported us. DIPAS stands for 'Digital Participation System' and offers tools for digital (on-site or on-line) participation.

Urban Mobility, Action 7

'Reducing diversity of Urban Vehicle Access Regulations (UVAR)'



Piotr Rapacz

European Commission, DG MOVE, Action Leader

1. What is missing or outdated in these overviews?

(Outlook, deliverables, partners and stakeholders involved, status)

I do not have much to add. The Action was basically about populating the UVAR website and publishing the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMP) UVAR guidance, which was done. Any further EU-level action on reducing diversity of Urban Vehicle Access Regulations is work in progress.

2. How do you foresee the further implementation of the Action?

(Planning and actors involved, notably the Member States and the EU)

UVAR is one of the four main pillars of the Urban Mobility Package. Looking at this package, it is evident there is a big range of UVAR schemes. This is not a problem in itself. But there is a lack of an EU-level mechanism for vehicle registration for better exchange of data on vehicles and their owners. In the case of a lack of bilateral agreements between countries, cross-border offenders cannot be prosecuted. This is a possible area to explore further at the EU level.

As for the UVAR website, we invite Member States and cities to proactively inform us about any required changes or updates. This communication is already happening, but we want to encourage it further as a follow-up action in the future.

3. Are there any other issues that should be discussed?

Now, with the pandemic and related lockdown measures, it became clear that there is not enough public space devoted to walking and cycling. Some of the measures taken by cities right now can be categorised as UVAR.

It should be noted that some of the funding available under the Commission's Recovery and Resilience Facility can be spent on UVAR measures, e.g. for reducing urban traffic and/or for further pedestrianisation in cities.

For any questions please send an email to:

livia.delconte@eukn.eu

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