



22 March 2023

- **European Urban Initiative:**
- **Presentation of Capacity Building Offer**
  
- Magda BAIDAN,  
Capacity Building Unit
- European Urban Initiative – Permanent Secretariat

# EUROPEAN U R B A N INITIATIVE

# EUI CAPACITY BUILDING

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## Overall target group

EU cities of all sizes involved or interested in **Sustainable Urban Development** within Cohesion Policy

## Two objectives

- **Improve the capacities of cities** to design and implement SUD strategies, policies and practices in an integrated and participative way
- **Improve the quality of the design and overall implementation** of SUD strategies, policies and practices

# THREE NEW ACTIVITIES

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# CITY-TO-CITY EXCHANGES

## What is a city-to-city exchange?

- brings together an urban authority facing a specific implementation challenge related to SUD (**‘the applicant’**)
- and another urban authority from a different EU Member State with expertise to help tackle this challenge (**‘the peer’**)
- short, quickly implemented visit
- designed by the applicant according to their needs
- aims to **improve capacity of the applicant** to tackle the identified SUD challenge through peer learning



# CITY-TO-CITY EXCHANGES

## Flexible, bottom-up activity

- **Peers:** 1-2 cities from other EU Member States with expertise needed to address challenge
- **Number of events:** 1-3 events per application
- **Format:** In-person visits between applicant city and peers
  1. **Incoming visit** - peer(s) travels to applicant city
  2. **Outgoing visit** - applicant travels to peer cityIf justified, possibility for **online exchange** following in-person visit
- **Duration:** 2-5 days per event
- **Timing:** Start as soon as possible, all exchanges completed within 5 months of approval

# CITY-TO-CITY EXCHANGES

## Who may apply?

- Urban authorities within EU Member States
- Interest or involvement in **integrated, place-based approaches to SUD**
- **Relevant stakeholders** may participate alongside urban authority, if justified

## Who may participate as a peer?

As above, plus:

- Must have **expertise and experience needed** to address the applicant's challenge
- Must come **from other EU Member State** to the applicant

# CITY-TO-CITY EXCHANGES

## What support is available?

**Funding** to support applicants and peers

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

**Expertise:** EUI can [appoint a moderator](#) to facilitate exchange and learning process

**Peer identification:** EUI can [facilitate contact](#) with urban authorities involved in UIA / EUI – Innovative Actions and the Urban Agenda for the EU. A [peer search platform](#) will be developed on Portico in the long-term

# PEER REVIEWS

## What is a peer review?

- 3-5 cities under review benchmark their SUD strategies and get peer recommendations
- 2-day event with structured preparation
- Aims to improve capacity of cities under review in designing/implementing SUD strategy





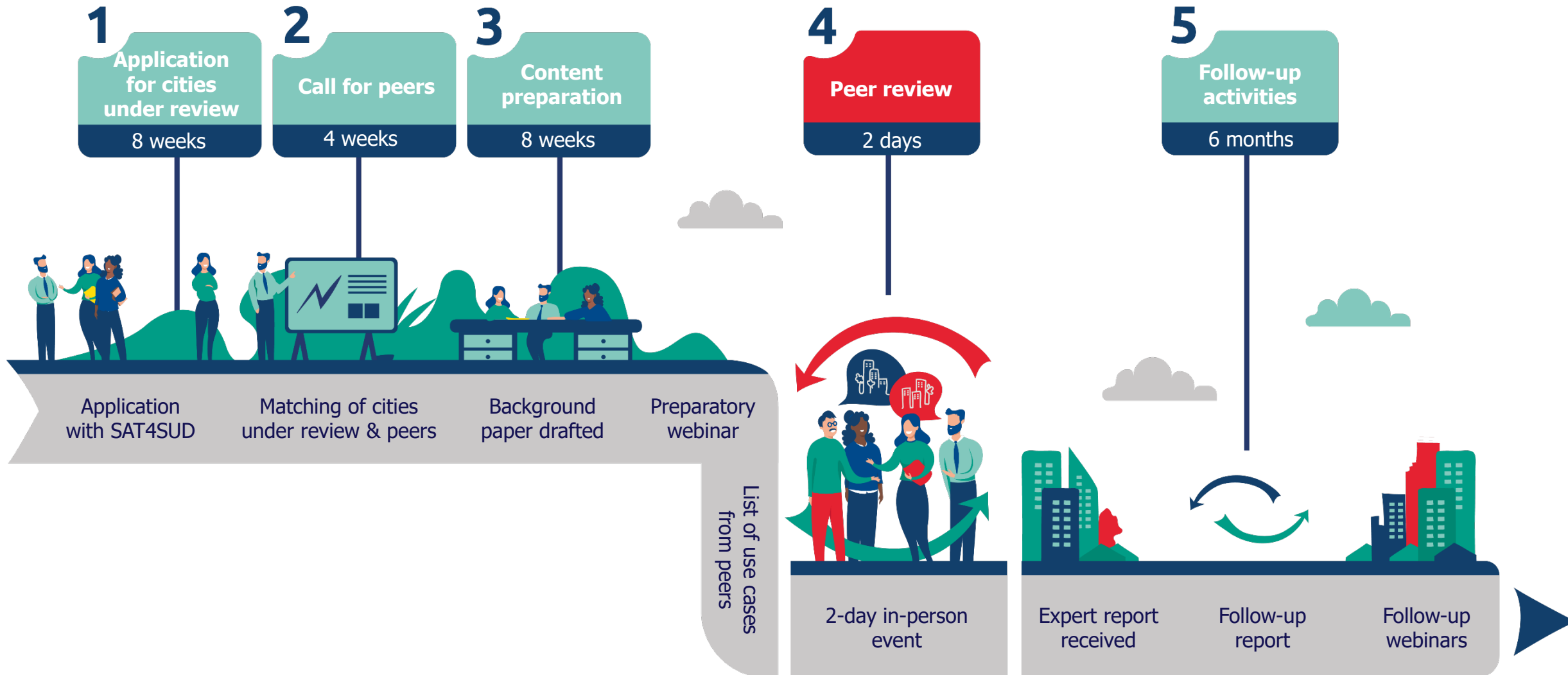
# PEER REVIEWS

- **A fixed methodology** and implementation process of **4 to 6 months**
- **3 guiding questions** defined by cities under review, building on:
  - **Six building blocks** of Handbook for SUD Strategies
  - Weaknesses identified by **SAT4SUD** results
  - Validated through **stakeholder** consultation
- **3 sessions** each addressing one question:
  - Reframe the question
  - Share relevant experiences
  - Provide insights & recommendations
  - Documented in expert report, completed by city under review

# PEER REVIEWS

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## Implementation milestones



# PEER REVIEWS

## Who may apply?

- **Urban authorities** within EU Member States (cities under review may involve stakeholders)
- Designing/updating SUD strategy in line with **article 11 of ERDF Regulation**

## Who may participate as a peer?

As above, plus:

- Must have **expertise and experience needed** to address the identified challenges
- Must come from other **EU Member State** to city under review
- Must be ready to personally participate in event (**apply as individual**)

# PEER REVIEWS

## What support is available?

**Funding** to support Cities under Review and Peers

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

**Expertise:** EUI will **appoint two experts** per City under Review to guide the process, facilitate exchange & learning and draft the expert report

**Peer identification:** EUI experts **identify relevant peers** to support each City under Review

# EVENTS

## Capacity building events:

Bring together urban authorities and managing authorities to exchange information with each other and with the European Commission on horizontal and thematic policy issues related to SUD

Top-down and bottom-up approach to initiation

## 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

# EVENTS

## Target groups

Open to local, regional and national practitioners and policymakers interested or directly involved in Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy

<b>Article 11 Cities</b>	Managing authorities of Cohesion Policy programmes	UIA/EUI Innovative Actions projects
URBACT networks	Urban Agenda for the Partnerships	Other cities and stakeholders interested in SUD

## Methodology and formats

In-person and online seminars, workshops, conferences, webinars, matchmaking activities, site visits or training sessions mixing peer learning and expert-driven modules

# UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

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**City-to-city exchanges:** Call for applications

**3 April** to 17 November (7.5 months)

**Peer reviews:** Call for Cities under Review

**3 April** to 29 May (8 weeks)

**Peer reviews:** Call for Peers for Peer Review in Thessaloniki, end-June

**3 April** to 30 April (4 weeks)

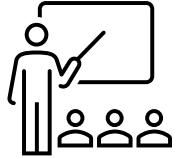
**Events:**

**End-May:** Delivering high-quality urban CLLD, *Timisoara, Romania*

**End-June:** Supporting an integrated approach to urban innovation, *location TBC*

# SUPPORT FOR APPLICANTS

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## Applicant Webinar – 5 April, 10:00 CEST

Supporting applicants for city-to-city exchanges and peer reviews



## Peer identification for city-to-city exchange applicants

Form to request contact with urban authority involved in UIA/EUI-IA or UAEU



## Email

[capacitybuilding@urban-initiative.eu](mailto:capacitybuilding@urban-initiative.eu)



## Website

[www.urban-initiative.eu/capacity-building](http://www.urban-initiative.eu/capacity-building)