

Joint Hearing European Committee of the Regions – European Commission, DG RTD

Cities as Actors of Open Innovation

Annotated Agenda

Venue: European Committee of the Regions, Brussels - Room JDE 51

Wednesday 28 June 2017 - 11h00-16h30

Scope of the event:

Over the last two years cities have been recognised as key actors for achieving the targets set by major, international agreements such as the Paris Declaration on Climate Change, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Moreover, a dedicated agenda with priority actions for cities has been developed both at the European level with the Urban Agenda for the EU and at the international level with the Habitat III New Urban Agenda. A specific Sustainable Development Goal (number eleven) is also devoted to 'Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable' by 2030.

The Habitat III New Urban Agenda acknowledges Research and Innovation (R&I) as means of implementation for cities to meet the goals of the above mentioned international agreements. All the agreements above support integrated approaches but to apply this in practice requires innovative thinking, methodologies and methods at various levels.

EU R&I can help create a sustainable city ecosystem by pushing a systemic approach and bridging between technological, digital, social, cultural and nature-based innovation. Attention should be devoted to how the systems thinking makes cities actors of open innovation, by involving the use, application and transformation of scientific and technological knowledge in the solution of practical problems.

This joint hearing will focus on cities not merely as a spatial scale but as systems of systems, analysing multi-level, multi-dimensional and multi-sectorial interactions between different stakeholders involved in the co-creation, co-design and co-implementation of integrated and innovative solutions for urban and peri-urban areas.

11:00 – 11:30 Setting the Scene

Markku Markkula, President of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

Kurt Vandenberghe, Director Policy Development and Coordination, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission

Yoomi Rehnstrom, Chair, CoR SEDEC Commission

11:30 – 12:30 Session I - Smart & Sustainable Cities - R&I for Accelerating the Transition

Moderator: Markku Markkula, President of the European Committee of the Regions

Speakers:

David Ludlow, Professor, UWE Bristol

Margit Noll, Chair of the Management Board, Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe

Maria Galindo Garcia-Delgado, International Smart Business Manager DOXA Innova & Smart

Martin Brynskov, Professor, Chair, Open & Agile Smart Cities

Critical Discussant: Klaus Kubeczko, Austrian Institute of Technology

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 14:30 Session II – Enhancing Cohesion Policy with Urban Social Innovation

Moderator: Khushboo Balwani, Strategy and Project Coordinator Civic Innovation Network

Speakers:

Raffaele Cattaneo, Chair, CoR COTER Commission

Tanya Hristova, Mayor of Gabrovo, CoR Member

Olivier Baudelet, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

Marleen Stikker, Director, Waag Society

Critical Discussant: Joke Quintens, Field expert, Making City Together

14:30 - 15:30 Session III – Regenerative, Circular and Diverse Cities

Moderator: Paulo Ferrão, President of the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) Portugal and Professor, University of Lisbon

Speakers:

Anja De Cunto, EUROCITIES

Jurgen Tack, General Director, Landelijk Vlaanderen

Teemu Santonen, European Network of Living Labs and Laurea University

Sirpa Hertell, Vice Chair ENVE, CoR member

Critical Discussant: Christel Wildiers, City of Leuven – member of the Rainbow Cities Network

15:30 - 16:30 Concluding Remarks

- *Markku Markkula, President of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR)*
- *Birgit de Boissezon, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission*