



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Regional Policy*

**Urban Policy within the framework of EU Cohesion Policy  
2007-2013**

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**SUSTAINABLE URBAN  
DEVELOPMENT AND  
COHESION POLICY  
2007-2013**

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# **SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND COHESION POLICY 2007-2013**

## **1. Specific urban guidelines**



## Community Strategic Guidelines for Cohesion – Urban Dimension (1)

- Cities as motors for regional development and competitiveness
- Internal Cohesion within cities
- Polycentric development (growth poles/urban-rural links)

(CSG chapter 2.1)



## **Community Strategic Guidelines for Cohesion – Urban Dimension (2)**

- ⇒ Integrated approach to sustainable urban development
- ⇒ Commission Communication on Cohesion Policy and Cities



# Urban Actions in Cohesion Policy Approach 2007-2013

⇒ Mainstreaming

↳ NSRF

↳ Operational Programmes



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**2. Planning Tools for integrated  
Urban Development**



## **Sustainable Urban Development Planning tools**

Urban sustainable development requires:

- Careful planning based on a vision of the future of the urban area and of what this area is and might become (creating a better future for the city based on shared values);
- An effective governance, implying all the relevant stakeholders public and private and based on a shared framework
- Tackling economic, social, environmental issues coherently in a spatial based approach



## **Sustainable Urban Development Planning Tools**

Master plan of the whole urban or metropolitan area

- describe the strengths and the weaknesses of cities and of its neighbourhoods,
- define consistent objectives for development based on strategic vision
- coordinate the different neighbourhood, sectoral and technical plans with each other,
- coordinate the use of instruments by public and private stakeholders
- Be a frame for the coordination of the interventions of Structural Funds in the urban area





## **Sustainable urban development Planning tools**

The strategic master plan is implemented via:

- Sectoral operations , concerning the main urban systems, as transport, waste and water management, energy management and the services of general interest (health ,education,etc)
- Operations aiming at improving the innovation capacity ( triple helix)
- Operations aiming at selectively regenerate urban areas as qualitative milieu for economic development, social inclusion, housing and cultural activity



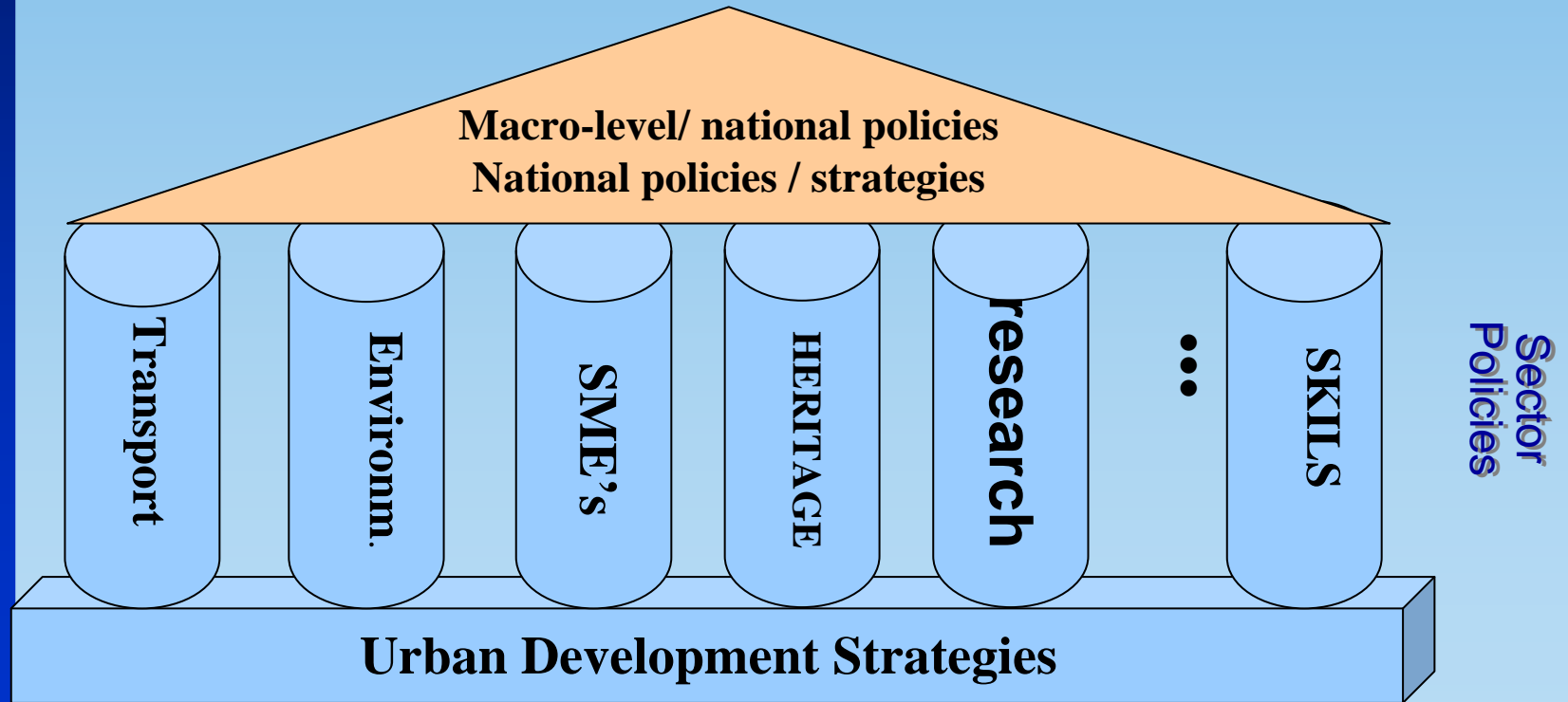
## **Sustainable Urban Development Planning tools**

The master plan and the plans of the operations should be:

- **Integrated:** across sectors, complementary and coordinated
- **Partnership:** public sector, businesses, civil society
- **Bottom-up:** close to citizens, connecting to broader policies
- **Outward looking:** interaction, learning



# Sustainable Urban Development Complementarity





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# **SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND COHESION POLICY 2007-2013**

## **3. The Regulations of Structural Funds**



## An enlarged scope for eligibility under ERDF

*Supporting integrated local and urban development through:*

- *financing the urban infrastructures: urban transport systems, water and waste management, cultural heritage, IT and research infrastructures ,*
- *Development of endogenous potential by measures which support local development.*
- *Housing (Art. 7.2)*
- *Area-based actions aiming at sustained urban development (Article 8)*
- *Urban development funds (art 44 Gen Reg)*



## ***Enlarged ERDF eligibility: Sustainable urban development***

- *The ERDF may support the development of participative, integrated and sustainable strategies to tackle the high concentration of economic, environmental and social problems affecting urban areas.*
- *These strategies shall promote sustainable urban development through activities such as: strengthening economic growth, the rehabilitation of the physical environment, brownfield redevelopment, the reservation and development of natural and cultural heritage, the promotion of entrepreneurship, local employment and community development, and the provision of services to the population .*



## ***Enlarged ERDF eligibility: Financial Engineering***

*The Structural Funds may support financial engineering instruments providing risk capital funds, guarantee funds and loan funds*

- *for enterprises, primarily small and medium-sized ones,*
- *for urban development funds, that is, funds investing in PPP and other projects included in an integrated plan for sustainable urban development.*



# Financial Engineering

- JESSICA: Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas
- JEREMIE: Joint European Resources for Micro to Medium Enterprises
- JASPERS: Joint Assistance in Supporting Projects in European Regions





## ***Enlarged ERDF eligibility: Housing***

- *Expenditure for housing shall be eligible for the new MS, when programmed within the framework of an integrated urban development operation or priority axis for areas experiencing or threatened by physical deterioration and social exclusion.*
- *It will be submitted to a ceiling of 3% per program and of 2% of the total ERDF allocation*
- *It will be limited to multi-family housing or buildings owned by public authorities or non profit operators for use as housing designated for low income households or people with special needs*



## ***Enlarged ERDF eligibility:*** **Housing**

The areas selected for housing operations shall comply with criteria, defined in the implementing regulation.

Only the following interventions shall be eligible

- (a) renovation of the common parts of multi-family residential buildings, :
- (b) delivery of modern social housing of good quality through renovation and change of use of existing buildings owned by public authorities or non-profit operators.



## Cohesion Fund

- *The Cohesion Fund can provide assistance to actions in the field of environment falling within the priorities assigned to the Community environmental protection policy (urban waste and water management in particular) ;*
- *the Fund may also intervene in areas related to sustainable development which clearly present environmental benefits, namely energy efficiency and renewable energy and, ...clean urban transport and public transport*



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## **4. Urban interventions on the Operational Programmes**



## Urban interventions in the Operational Programmes

- Should indicate the approach proposed to sustainable urban development;
- Might contain a priority axis for urban development;
- Should indicate the cities and urban areas concerned or the selection criteria for their choice;
- Should indicate how the urban authorities are involved in planning and implementation
- Might indicate the procedure for sub-delegating to urban authorities, possibly by means of a global grant.



## Urban interventions on the OP

- **A master plan for sustainable development should be established for the main cities of the region, to be identified in the OP.** It may coordinate operations concerning districts or neighbourhoods and thematic operations insisting on the whole urban area.
- **The operations planned can be included in an urban priority axis. or in a thematic axis or split between the two.**
- **Operational plan should be established for each operation .**



## Urban interventions on the OP: the urban priority axis

- The “urban” priority axis may contain:
  - **Integrated development areas of** deprived urban areas or of potential urban poles of development ...
  - **Selected thematic interventions** related to specific urban issue as :
    - Promoting clean and sustainable transport in urban areas
    - Promoting innovation in the local economy
    - Stimulating energy efficiency and efficient energy management
    - Waste and water management
- Integrated development plans should be established for the urban areas or the themes concerned



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# SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND COHESION POLICY 2007-2013

## 5. Conclusions: looking forward





## Planning

We wish urban-related objectives of the cohesion policy to be pursued putting in place the appropriate planning and management tools.

Medium- to long-term development **plans for sustainable urban development** should be prepared, in order to ensure the coherence of investments and their environmental quality.

These plans might concern both the whole urban or metropolitan areas and specific urban operations (concerning districts or themes).

They should ensure a coherent and integrated approach.



## Urban operations

- For areas of severe deprivation, focusing on social inclusion, we wish to develop the approach of the URBAN programmes which have included in an integrated programme the social and economic dimension, the natural and physical environment.
- We wish to see integrated operations promoting the role of cities as main actors of the “Growth and Jobs” Agenda and ensuring at the same time an attractive urban environment
- We wish to pursue a sustainable development strategy of urban and metropolitan areas, concerning the main urban systems: urban transport, energy management, waste management...



## Partnership and Governance

We expect an appropriate multilevel governance of the urban intervention, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

Partnership agreement can be concluded between urban and regional authorities based on agreed planning tools

Sub delegation to urban authorities is encouraged.

Citizens participation should be promoted



## **Capacity building and skills development**

- Capacity building and technical assistance measures should be used in order to increase the management capacities of urban and local authorities
- Skills development plans should be prepared



## **Exchange of experiences and networking**

- **An improved exchange of experience and know-how between cities can increase the quality of urban operations;**
- **In the next planning period, the URBACT programme will contribute to the 'Regions for economic change' initiatives, promoting networks of cities on strategic themes;**
- **Such networks should aim at identifying and preparing projects or operations to be financed in the mainstream programmes.**
- **Technical assistance can be mobilised to help cities and regions to implement the identified projects or operations.**



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**Thank you for your  
attention**