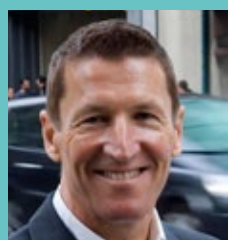


## EDITORIAL

### Inclusive Cities



Europe is one of the richest regions of the world, yet poverty affects as much as 16% of the population, almost 80 million people. And the

recession is clearly making things worse.

Poverty is not just about the lack of money, it is multi-dimensional. We are also talking about people with low-quality housing, poor health, limited education, skills and employment opportunities, and, for some, discrimination too.

City governments are in the front line dealing with poverty. Although they generate 85% of the EU's GDP, cities are also the places where social exclusion is most acute, and in many cases concentrated in impoverished neighbourhoods.

With 2010 as the European year for combating poverty and social exclusion, EUROCITIES is actively raising awareness about the urban dimension of these problems. In particular we are showcasing cities' good practice in addressing poverty comprehensively, through combined actions, for example on training and employment, housing, family support and health services.

Our campaign is part of our three-year 'Inclusive Cities for Europe' partnership with the European Commission, which strengthens the role of cities in developing European social policy. By improving the EU's understanding of how best to tackle poverty locally, we can help to develop better and more coordinated social policies, and get more support for cities in delivering them.

Tackling poverty is not only an altruistic agenda. People are our greatest resource. Skilled up and in jobs, they are a driving force towards more prosperous and sustainable cities.

Paul Bevan  
Secretary General, EUROCITIES

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Call for applications: EUROCITIES-NLAO membership



EUROCITIES is inviting applications from members to join the expanded EUROCITIES Network of Local Authority Observatories on Active Inclusion (EUROCITIES-NLAO). The enlarged EUROCITIES-NLAO will build on the successes of its pilot phase concluding this August.

[see p. 3](#)

### Commission announces €150 million for local climate actions



The European Commission has proposed to allocate €150 million of the EU recovery package to support local climate actions. The announcement came at this year's Covenant of Mayors ceremony held on 4 May in the European Parliament, Brussels. Over 450 mayors from cities, local authorities and regions took part in the event to sign up to the covenant commitments.

[see p. 6](#)

### €172 million for trans-European transport infrastructure



Under a new call for proposals, the European Commission is making €172 million of additional TEN-T funding available for European transport infrastructure projects. The new funding is aimed at getting the EU ready for future transport priorities, in particular by making transport greener and involving more private partners in infrastructure projects.

[see p. 8](#)

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# Key developments



## EU Budget Commissioner willing to collaborate with decentralised government

**E**U Budget Commissioner, Janusz Lewandowski has recently recognised the vital role of local and regional authorities and has expressed his willingness to work with these in the context of the EU budget review and beyond.

His announcement was made during a high-level informal exchange held on 17 May in Brussels, which gathered representatives from EUROCITIES, the Assembly of European Regions, the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions.

"Europe needs to concentrate on how to improve the delivering mechanism of cohesion policy, but I am sure of the fact that this must be done through a decentralised management system and multi-level governance. Local and regional authorities must feel a sense of programme and policy ownership, so as to help close the gap between distant Brussels and European citizens," said Mr Lewandowski.

Representing EUROCITIES, Mayor of Ghent, Daniel Termont, responded: "We are against the renationalisation of Cohesion



Policy. It must remain a strong EU policy covering all of our regions. In this, the local and regional levels are the European Commission's natural partners." ■

Bernardo Rodrigues, EUROCITIES policy officer - governance and international cooperation: [bernardo.rodrigues@eurocities.eu](mailto:bernardo.rodrigues@eurocities.eu)

## EUROCITIES President on the future for European cities



In an interview with the Committee of the Regions, EUROCITIES President Jozias van Aartsen, Mayor of The Hague, gives his views on why cities hold the potential to combat the current economic crisis; what the new Lisbon Treaty offers for putting territories high on the EU agenda; expectations for the urban dimension under the recently installed European Commissioner for Regional Policy, Johannes Hahn; and why it is only through genuine multi-level governance, that we can make real progress towards a truly cohesive, sustainable and competitive Europe.

Read the interview: <http://tinyurl.com/27yfm6>

## More urban, more impact: the future of cohesion policy

In contributing to current discussions on the priorities and structure of the future cohesion policy, EUROCITIES has published a new position on the need to maintain a strong cohesion policy and to reinforce it by putting cities at its heart – involving them from the design to delivery as well as monitoring.

EUROCITIES members insist on the need for cohesion to remain a policy aimed at a balanced and sustainable development of the whole Union, within and between territories. It should be based on supporting the territorial potential of each place - the opportunities and development capacity of all territories. Within this, regions lagging behind will need particular attention.

Current structures allow for urban priorities with operational programmes and for sub-delegation to cities. Neither of these are being used sufficiently. EUROCITIES believes this is limiting the potential impact of the funds. Cohesion policy should include mandatory urban priorities: principal cities in a region should be involved in setting those and in determining the appropriate scales of intervention. Cities should have the opportunity to manage urban measures directly and receive delegated funding.

Finally, EUROCITIES states that many of the challenges faced do not match administrative boundaries. We find for example that the functional urban area is the most appropriate level to take action on numerous issues like transport or waste management. Large cities, often being the most resourceful and central actor in a territory, should be given the opportunity to manage interventions beyond its borders, coordinating action with surrounding territories to ensure efficient implementation of funding. Cities are the closest level of elected government to the citizens and are best placed to coordinate an integrated approach for a functional area. We believe this will lead to more efficient spending with greater impact.

Marie Ranty, EUROCITIES policy officer - economic development, [marie.ranty@eurocities.eu](mailto:marie.ranty@eurocities.eu)

# Key developments



## Call for applications: EUROCITIES-NLAO membership

EUROCITIES-NLAO conference | Brussels | 8 July 2010



Network of Local Authority  
Observatories on Active Inclusion

**T**en new places are available for EUROCITIES member cities to take part in phase two of the European Network of Local Authority Observatories on Active Inclusion (EUROCITIES-NLAO).

The enlarged EUROCITIES-NLAO will build on the successes of its pilot phase which concludes in August 2010. With ten participants on board, the project will act as a dynamic platform for sharing information, mutual learning and analysis

around the links between local, national and European policies on Active Inclusion, as well as contributing to European social policy development

The new cities will establish themselves as a reference point at national and European level in the Active Inclusion debate, playing a key role in one of the European Commission's most significant initiatives in this area.

Be one of the ten! Get in touch with Michele Corbetta by 15 June 2010

There is also a chance to join the EUROCITIES-NLAO conference, 'Cities and Active Inclusion' taking place in Brussels on 8 July 2010. The event will feature the main findings on how cities shape their housing and employment services for promoting the inclusion of those furthest away from the labour market. ■

Michele Corbetta, LAO Network Coordinator: [michele.corbetta@eurocities.eu](mailto:michele.corbetta@eurocities.eu)

Conference agenda and registration: [www.eurocities-nlae.eu](http://www.eurocities-nlae.eu)

## EU quality of life survey for 75 cities

The European Commission has released the results of a Eurobarometer opinion poll looking at how citizens perceive the quality of life in 75 major European cities.

Although responses reveal wide disparities overall, transport, health and education services generally score well, the opposite can be said as regards the availability of jobs and housing costs, which remain as dominant concerns. Access to reasonably priced housing is also a major concern.

The survey was carried out to measure local perceptions in 75 cities in the EU, Croatia and Turkey. It included all capital cities of the countries concerned. In each city, 500 randomly selected citizens were interviewed.

Satisfaction with health services is generally high, especially in North-Western European cities. Most respondents are, however, keen to see improvements in quality and availability.

The picture is less positive where jobs are concerned. In 62 out of 75 cities, most respondents believe it is difficult to find a good job. There were only six cities where more than half of respondents agreed that it was easy to find a good job. Finding reasonably priced housing is also a major concern cited by over two-thirds of the cities covered by the survey. Finally, noise and air pollution are also perceived to be a worry in most cities.

The wealth of information provided by the survey is not only useful for city planners and decision-makers, but also for citizens who would like to know which cities are seen as good places to live.

Marie Ranty, EUROCITIES policy officer - economic development, [marie.ranty@eurocities.eu](mailto:marie.ranty@eurocities.eu)

## New faces at EUROCITIES



**Susana Forjan**

Function: Project Assistant

Working languages: EN, FR, ES

Susana replaces Rachel Barnett as EUROCITIES project assistant. Susana holds a Master Degree in European Studies. She has some experience already with local authorities on EU co-financed projects coordination, event organisation and research through internships undertaken at the European New Towns Platform and Localis.



**Maurice Bock**

Function: Digital Communications Coordinator

Working languages: EN,

FR, ES

Maurice has a graphic design background with 10 years experience in working for an IT supply company, including building websites with multiple stakeholders involved in the planning. He replaces Miguel Rodriguez-Gorman.



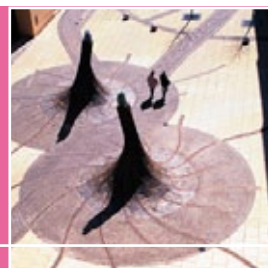
**Michele Corbetta**

Function: Local Authority Observatories (LAO) Network Coordinator

Working languages: EN, FR, IT, DE

Michele will coordinate the roll-out phase of the EUROCITIES Network of Local Authority Observatories on Active Inclusion (EUROCITIES-NLAO). He has previously worked on social policy and projects for the Brussels Offices of the Southwest UK and Greater London Enterprise.

This month we also say goodbye to NLAO's project assistant, Daniele Amadio.



## Culture ministers value contribution of culture to local development

In their conclusions adopted on 10 May regarding the contribution of culture to local and regional development, EU Ministers for culture have recognised the importance of culture as a key driver for a competitive, innovative and inclusive market economy and as a vehicle for social cohesion.

To strengthen the contribution of culture to local and regional development, the ministers have invited EU Member States and the European Commission to consider a series of priorities when developing and implementing current and future local and regional development policies, including those concerning European cohesion policy. The priorities are as follows:

1. Mainstreaming culture as a strategic and crosscutting element into European and national policies for the social and economic development of cities and regions. Member States are invited to involve local and regional authorities in implementing the European Agenda for culture. The Commission is invited to support an evidence-based approach to cultural investment at local and regional level and to promote greater cooperation and exchange of good practice between cities.

2. Stimulating a favourable environment at local and regional level for the better development of cultural and creative industries, especially for SMEs. Ministers ask the Commission to attach greater importance to the cultural and creative industries in key policy initiatives, relevant strategies and European programmes, including the instruments of cohesion policy.

3. Deepening the contribution of culture to sustainable tourism, with consideration for environmental protection, cultural heritage and quality of life.

4. Raising awareness among decision-makers on local and regional policies that develop new skills and competences through culture. The Commission is invited to map skills and needs required for the cultural and creative sector and to mobilise existing instruments to support professionals in the industry.



Pictured: Sylvain Pasqua, European Commission

5. Reinforcing cross-border, transnational and interregional cultural cooperation, including the mobility of professionals. Member States are asked to foster the use of cohesion policy instruments to strengthen such cooperation ■

Council conclusions (pdf):  
<http://tinyurl.com/34pxj9s>

Julie Hervé, EURO CITIES policy officer – culture:  
[julie.herve@eurocities.eu](mailto:julie.herve@eurocities.eu)

## Cities' creative capital crucial to EU economy

We must harness the creative capital of Europe's cities to bring forward economic recovery. This is a key message from the mayors of Europe's biggest cities reacting to ambitions outlined in the EU 2020 strategy.

Today some 10% of workers living in Europe's largest cities are employed by the cultural and creative industries. For example, Liverpool's year as European Capital of Culture in 2008 generated an 8% growth in the city's creative businesses, a 34% increase in visitors and an overall economic impact of €800 million.

Yet, despite such results, local authorities still face barriers in realising the economic potential of the sector. Research undertaken for Nantes Metropole revealed that 85% of creative businesses have problems accessing the support and finance targeted at SMEs, and that the market is failing to attract private investment in the industry.

Ahead of the EURO CITIES meeting on creative industries on 1 June where representatives of the European Parliament and the Commission were present, Councillor Malcolm Wood from the city of Nottingham, contended:

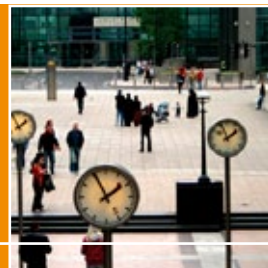
"Europe's global competitiveness is not just dependent on technology, but also on ensuring that creative industries can bring innovation and know-how into the mainstream. Local authorities need support from both national governments and the EU institutions to unleash this creative capital, to support our companies, to create jobs and not least to encourage the internationalisation of our creative market."

With the right policies in place, our cities provide ideal conditions for Europe's 'creative class'. Highly-skilled and mobile professionals who generate new ideas in arts, design and media are naturally drawn to cities, which offer the critical mass of businesses, markets, infrastructure, and cultural diversity.

The Council's conclusions of 10 May, which recognised the sector's contribution to local and regional development, are a step in the right direction. When responding to the consultation on the recently adopted Green Paper, 'Unlocking the potential of cultural and creative industries', EURO CITIES will urge the Commission to build on this momentum.



# Economic Development



## Give your opinion on EU rules on concessions

**T**he European Commission has launched a public consultation on concessions' contracts with the intention of improving the current framework.

Concession contracts are arrangements between public authorities and private operators. They have the purpose of providing infrastructure, such as airports (works concessions) or services, such as water distribution, healthcare, energy or heating (services concessions).

The EU rules aim to establish an internal market in concessions by opening up the concessions market to all operators in the EU, ensuring transparency and equal opportunities for operators. This should allow better functioning of works and services, prevent

corruption and secure efficient spending of taxpayers' money. EU Member States can impose additional obligations to secure high-quality services to the public.

The Commission's questionnaire aims to gather information on experiences in terms of concessions and views on the need for improving the current EU rules.

Deadline for contributions: **9 July 2010** ■

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Concessions questionnaire: <http://tinyurl.com/39of3jf>

Marie Ranty, EUROCITIES policy officer - economic development:  
[marie.ranty@eurocities.eu](mailto:marie.ranty@eurocities.eu)

## Improving access to finance for SMEs



The main conclusions from the SME Finance Forum held by the European Commission in May was that European banks, financial institutions and SMEs need to collaborate in a more constructive manner and regain mutual trust.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) has earmarked €30 billion for SMEs for the 2008-2011 period. Collaboration between the European Commission and the EIB will be strengthened to ensure that SMEs can benefit quickly from these financial resources.

As a follow-up, a permanent forum will be set up to which representatives of financial institutions and SMEs will be invited to participate. The meetings will be held at least quarterly under the chairmanship of European Commission Vice-President Antonio Tajani.

The conclusions of this forum represent a first step towards a European Commission action plan on access to credit and financial resources for SMEs.

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Conclusions of the SME Finance Forum: <http://tinyurl.com/39xxjwp>

## Regions for economic change

This year's European Commission 'Regions for Economic Change' conference held on 20-21 May focused on three main themes: sustainable energy; sustainable ICT solutions and greening Europe's cities.

In his remarks, keynote speaker, EU Commissioner for Regional Policy Johannes Hahn noted the essential role of regions and cities for the sustainable economic development of the EU and highlighted that structural funds boosted job creation in the period 2000-2006. He said that regions and cities will be the ones to implement Europe 2020 objectives on the ground and that future regional policy should support them in this.

Participants discussed the contribution of regional policy to help the EU move towards a low carbon and resource efficient economy, and the need for a coordination of regional policy and sectoral policies to achieve this aim. Several speakers mentioned the importance of the Covenant of Mayors as a positive example of a good cooperation between local authorities and the European Commission. Another session focused on how regional policy should contribute to an ambitious European digital agenda, demonstrating that ICTs have the potential to increase business competitiveness, deliver effective public services and promote social inclusion.

Findings from the URBACT and INTERREG programmes were also discussed. European Commission DG Regional Policy representatives underlined that the outcomes of these programmes should be better reflected in the national and regional programmes aimed at implementing cohesion policy.

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Regions for Economic Change: <http://tinyurl.com/2uhmwrm>

Marie Ranty, EUROCITIES policy officer - economic development:  
[marie.ranty@eurocities.eu](mailto:marie.ranty@eurocities.eu)

# Environment



## Commission announces €150 million for local climate actions

The European Commission has recently proposed to allocate €150 million of the EU recovery package to support local climate actions. The announcement came at the this year's Covenant of Mayors signing ceremony held on 4 May in the European Parliament, Brussels.

While EUROCIITIES welcomes the initiative, secretary general, Paul Bevan said during an interview with the Brussels-based press:

"EUROCIITIES pressed hard in 2009 for €500 million of recovery funding for green growth projects. So this proposal is rather little, and rather late. However, despite the financial pressures they are under, Europe's cities are 'ready to go' on local climate actions. Let's make sure that this

funding can be accessed quickly and easily and does not get caught in a tangle of red tape."

This year's Covenant of Mayors ceremony attracted 1,200 attendants from cities, local authorities and regions 458 mayors who symbolically signed up to the covenant commitments, backed by approval of their local Council.

The event's keynote speeches were given by Commission President Barroso and Spanish Prime Minister Zapatero. The mayors of several EUROCIITIES member cities - Lisbon, Glasgow, Rome, Stockholm (Mayor Sten Nordin pictured here) and Geneva - also addressed participants.

In partnership with several other climate-focused networks, EUROCIITIES



works as partner in the Covenant of Mayors Office. The Covenant of Mayors is an ambitious initiative of the European Commission that commits signatory cities and local authorities to going beyond the EU 2020 energy objectives ■

Covenant of Mayors: [www.eumayors.eu](http://www.eumayors.eu)

## Financing environmental policies

Cities are taking a lead role in tackling environmental issues. When it comes to climate change or mobility for instance, the efforts in these sectors are indispensable for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing energy efficiency. However, city authorities often lack the necessary financial means to put their plans into practice.

Responding to this shortcoming, the EUROCIITIES Environment Forum has made 'Financing Environmental Policies' the topic of its meeting taking place in Burgas this week. Participants will carry out a thorough review of approaches, resources, and public-private partnerships as financing options as well as barriers that

prevent cities from developing and implementing environmental policies. City representatives will have a chance to exchange experiences based on the results of a EUROCIITIES survey recently carried out. All input gathered will feed into EUROCIITIES work on the EU budget review.

Other sessions will feature the 2010 EUROCIITIES campaign on poverty and social exclusion from an environmental perspective, the EU's Sixth Environmental Action Programme and speed-networking sessions for the EEF's working groups.

Eva Baños de Guisasaola, EUROCIITIES policy officer – environment: [eva.banos@eurocities.eu](mailto:eva.banos@eurocities.eu)

## Better instruments for EU environment policy

Representing EUROCIITIES at the recent EU Spanish Presidency workshop held on improving instruments for EU environment policy, Elisa Barahona from the city of Madrid intervened on the following areas:

- Why cities need better instruments for delivering on the EU's environmental policy
- The importance of involving stakeholders, such as EUROCIITIES, in enhancing the regulation of environmental policy
- The benefits of better regulation for cities
- The added advantages of the 6th Environmental Action Plan (EAP) in shaping European environmental policy

The workshop was attended by representatives from Spain, Belgium, as well as national environmental agencies and green groups, who discussed ways in which to make environmental policy smarter, more coherent and better linked to other policy areas.

A related conference will be held on 25-26 November 2010 under the Belgian Presidency of the EU. Belgium is expected to push for a Council of Ministers' resolution on better environment policy instruments, an assessment of the existing EAP and initial orientations towards a 7th EAP.

Eva Baños de Guisasaola, EUROCIITIES policy officer – environment: [eva.banos@eurocities.eu](mailto:eva.banos@eurocities.eu)

7th EAP conference: [www.eapdebate.org](http://www.eapdebate.org)

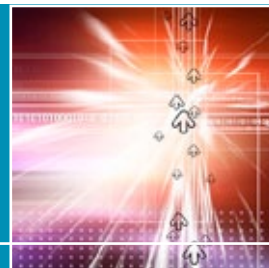
## How can big cities adapt to climate change?

Nuremberg | 17-18 June 2010

EUROCIITIES is holding a public workshop on 'Adaptation in cities to climate change' in Nuremberg on 17-18 June. The meeting will be organised by our working group on air quality/climate change and energy efficiency.

The European Commission Head of Unit dealing with adaptation will present the policy context of the EU Strategy and its impact on cities policies. Cities will then present their work in this area. Other issues will focus on smart cities and the EU action plan on energy, climate financing, effects of Low Emission Zones, road pricing, national emissions ceilings, the ambient air directive and air quality shipping.

# Knowledge Society



## Ministers support EU Digital Agenda

**E**U telecom ministers have agreed to support the EU Digital Agenda, the first of seven flagship initiatives under the EU 2020 strategy.

Presented by the European Commission in May, the plan will shape and dominate regulation and funding in the area of ICT and Information Society for the next five years. The plan aims to complete a single market for digital products and services, improve ICT standard-setting and interoperability, enhance trust and security in digital products and services, increase Europeans' access to fast and ultra fast internet, boost research and innovation in ICT, empower all Europeans with digital skills and accessible online services, and unleash the potential of ICT to benefit society, for example by improving energy efficiency and advancing in eGovernment.

Along these thematic priorities, the plan includes a number of quantifiable targets:

- **Ultra-fast broadband by 2020:** 50% of European households with subscriptions above 100Mbps
- **Promoting eCommerce:** 50% of the population buying online by 2015
- **Cross-border eCommerce:** 20% of the population buying across borders online by 2015
- **Single market for telecoms services:** roaming and national tariffs at zero difference by 2015
- **ICT R&D increase:** Doubling public investment to €11 billion

A number of points will affect cities indirectly and directly. For instance,

in eGovernment, the Commission is implementing a new framework on services interoperability. Structural funds and other EU programmes will be used to fund Broadband deployment. The Commission will also propose digital literacy as a priority for the European Social Fund regulation (2014-2020). Furthermore, the text calls on the ICT industry to collaborate with cities in developing tools to evaluate urban energy efficiency ■

EU Digital Agenda: <http://tinyurl.com/2etlaee>

Jan Franke, EUROCITIES policy officer - knowledge society: [jan.franke@eurocities.eu](mailto:jan.franke@eurocities.eu)

## ICT industry – city cooperation

Brussels | 5 October 2010

EUROCITIES and DIGITALEUROPE are jointly organising a workshop as part of the Open Days 2010. The workshop will focus on the promotion of best practice and collaboration between the ICT industry and local entities in cities

The workshop will present success stories from cities, in particular from the UK, Sweden, and Germany. It will further demonstrate the tangible and positive outcomes gained from collaboration between industry and local authorities in creating sustainable cities and communities in Europe. Workshop presenters will share regional perspectives and examples of successful projects and their challenges.

Open Days 2010: [www.opendays.europa.eu](http://www.opendays.europa.eu)

Jan Franke, EUROCITIES policy officer - knowledge society: [jan.franke@eurocities.eu](mailto:jan.franke@eurocities.eu)

## Another chance to sign EUROCITIES Green Digital Charter!

Brussels | 5 October 2010

We are calling on two new signatory cities of the EUROCITIES Green Digital Charter to lead a joint session that the European Commission - DG INFSO and DG REGIO – wants to organise with EUROCITIES.



February 2010 signatories

The session will take place during the Open Days on 5 October and is to

be shaped around the theme of smart cities and DG REGIO funding. City mayors and representatives from the Commission, EU Member States and the Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities are expected to attend.

Also during the session a signing ceremony will be held for those cities wishing to commit to the EUROCITIES Green Digital Charter. The charter is recognised at EU level as a solid commitment by cities towards achieving a cleaner and more efficient Europe and the Commission would like to build on its success.

If you're interested in leading the session and/or signing up to the charter, please get in touch!

Green Digital Charter: <http://tinyurl.com/33byzz2>

Jan Franke, EUROCITIES policy officer - knowledge society: [jan.franke@eurocities.eu](mailto:jan.franke@eurocities.eu)



## Driving forward Europe's Intelligent Transport Systems

Brussels | 22 June 2010

**W**ithin the framework of the Action Plan for the Deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), the European Commission is organising a conference on Tuesday 22 June in Brussels.

ITS are an important tool for tackling congestion in cities, promoting integration and intermodality, improving and encouraging the use of public transport and increasing safety. They have considerable potential for improving transport functionality and quality of life in cities, as well as accessibility within and between cities for goods and passengers.

The upcoming event will review the implementation of the ITS Action Plan, as well as the deployment of ITS in Europe in the context of the forthcoming ITS Directive.

The recent setting up of a specific European ITS Collaboration Platform between the European Commission and regional/local

governments to promote ITS initiatives in urban mobility shows that urban ITS is and will continue to be a priority at EU level ■



Register for the ITS conference: <http://tinyurl.com/2wy8br7>

Vanessa Holve, EUROCITIES policy officer - mobility:  
[vanessa.holve@eurocities.eu](mailto:vanessa.holve@eurocities.eu)

## Are EU citizens satisfied with public transport?

Results from the European Commission's recent Eurobarometer opinion poll (see p.2) shed some light on attitudes towards public transport.

Despite wide disparities, urban transport services scored quite well. In about half of the 75 cities surveyed, the bulk of citizens were either very or rather satisfied with their public transport system. Cities such as Strasbourg, Stockholm, Newcastle, Hamburg, Helsinki and Vienna scored the highest. Most of the respondents were seen to use public transport at least once a week.

A considerable number of European capitals, including Paris, London and Prague also have citizens who are 'frequent public transport users'. This is particularly evident for commuters and school goers. Other large cities such as Copenhagen, Groningen and Amsterdam could be described as 'cycling cities', as commuters mainly opt for soft transport modes.

Finally, the results showed that in half of the surveyed cities, cars or motorbikes are still the dominant modes of transport for citizens.



Perception survey: <http://tinyurl.com/2w9njvk>

Vanessa Holve, EUROCITIES policy officer - mobility:  
[vanessa.holve@eurocities.eu](mailto:vanessa.holve@eurocities.eu)

## €172 million available for trans-European transport infrastructure

Under a new call for proposals, the European Commission is making €172 million of additional TEN-T funding available for European transport infrastructure projects.

The new funding is aimed at getting the EU ready for future transport priorities, in particular by making transport greener and involving more private partners in infrastructure projects.

For cities, the most relevant funding opportunities under this call are:

- Promoting the development of an integrated and environmentally friendly transport system (up to €30 million)
- Accelerating/facilitating the implementation of TEN-T projects (studies for all modes, works for mature projects, notably in the rail and inland waterways sectors)
- Studies to support public-private partnerships (PPPs) (up to €7 million)

Deadline for applications: **31 August 2010**

The European Commission is also inviting contributions to a consultation on its proposed planning and financial instruments for the future the TEN-T policy. The new proposal comprises a two-layer structure: a comprehensive network which should link European regions through investment in co-modal infrastructures and a core network linking central nodes within the European network.

Cities, as strategic European transport nodes, are encouraged to take part in the consultation.

Deadline for contributions: **15 September 2010**

Funding & consultation information: <http://tinyurl.com/3y9fghr>

Vanessa Holve, EUROCITIES policy officer - mobility: [vanessa.holve@eurocities.eu](mailto:vanessa.holve@eurocities.eu)



# Social Affairs



## Partnerships and services integration are key to tackling long-term unemployment

**T**o tackle long-term unemployment effectively, cities need to take an integrated approach that considers the variety of influences that are seen to contribute to the problem. This was the main conclusion of the 'Cities against poverty and exclusion' conference held in the Polish city of Katowice in May.

Over 80 participants from across Europe took part in the event, which was the first in four organised as part of the 2010 EUROCITIES Inclusive Cities campaign. Discussions focused on the situation of people with multiple problems that prevent them from securing jobs. Participating cities agreed that partnerships should be established with all stakeholders that have a role in dealing with the challenges of long-term unemployment.

In her opening statement, Krystyna Siejna, Deputy Mayor of Katowice, spoke of the 2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion

as an opportunity for cities to examine problems, share solutions and decide future actions. Susan Bird from the European Commission's department of employment and social affairs looked at the role of local authorities and how global challenges could be addressed at local level. Malgorzata Moryn-Trzesimiech, from Katowice's social policy department highlighted issues concerning motivation and social skills improvement as the biggest challenges in integrating long-term unemployed people into work. Without achievements in these areas, all other interventions may be unsuccessful.

The host city used the occasion to share its experience on the issue. A visit was organised to neighbourhoods in Katowice where 'Local Activation Programmes' are operating. The programmes are encouraging healthier local economies, better living standards and self-help among inhabitants - all seen as factors that can help get people into jobs.

During the workshops, representatives of Edinburgh, Helsinki, Gothenburg and Barcelona presented their experiences in working with people with multiple problems and in improving access to employment and education.

The conference conclusions will feed into recommendations that EUROCITIES is to present to the Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council (EPSCO) in December.

### > Upcoming Inclusive Cities conferences:

- Budapest, 14-15 June: area-based approaches
- Newcastle on 30 September – 1 October: improving the situation of children in poverty ■

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## Migration needed despite growing unemployment, says Commission

A first annual report on immigration and asylum published by the European Commission argues that immigration policies will be needed to fill labour shortages set to emerge in 2013-14 as a result of the EU's ageing population.

The study shows that labour migration to the EU declined in 2009 and that entry conditions for immigrants became more severe in some countries. Unemployment rates of non-EU citizens living in the Union climbed from 13.6% to 18.9% between the third quarters of 2008 and 2009, compared to a rise from 6.4% to 8.4% for nationals.

On irregular migration, the report acknowledges that some member states are trying to find solutions for migrants who don't have a legal status and who can't be deported. The Commission will carry out a study on this and explore the need for further harmonising national policies.

The annual report is a follow-up action to the European Pact on Immigration and Asylum signed in 2008. In the pact, EU member states have agreed to exchange more information on migration and integration, including irregular migration, border control, asylum and policies linking migration and development. The report is based on the contributions of the national members of the European Migration Network and will serve as a basis for the European Council's debate in June 2010.



Annual report: <http://tinyurl.com/38wcuap>

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# Participation & Cooperation



## Kharkov wins 2010 Europe Prize

**E**UROCITIES member, Kharkov has been awarded the 2010 Europe Prize by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE). The assembly's European prizes reward local and regional authorities that promote a sense of European unity through town twinnings, European events and exchanges.

Kharkov is the first Ukrainian town to receive this award. The prize represents another addition to the city's collection of accolades that already includes the European Diploma (2003), the Flag of Honour (2004) and the Plaque of Honour (2008).

Acting Mayor of Kharkov, Gennadiy Kernes, highlighted the link with Kharkov's work in EUROCITIES:

"It is significant that the highest of the four awards by the Council of Europe was

given to our city in the same year that we joined EUROCITIES. I am convinced that our engagement with European cities through the EUROCITIES Working Group on European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement, has contributed to our achievement."

Other EUROCITIES members also received prizes on the same occasion: Dresden received the Plaque of Honour, which is the second highest distinction after the Europe Prize. Terrassa was awarded the Flag of Honour and both Tbilisi and Gijon received the European Diploma ■



PACE: <http://assembly.coe.int>

Bernardo Rodrigues, policy officer - governance and international cooperation:  
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## Views sought: making cross-border cooperation more efficient

For those of you involved, or thinking of getting involved in the European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC), there is an opportunity to contribute to the Committee of the Region's consultation on EU rules for cross-border cooperation.

Since 2006, the EU has made the EGTC available to local and regional authorities as a purpose-built tool for cross-border cooperation. It allows regional and local authorities from different EU member states to set up cooperation groupings with a legal personality, which can then apply for EU or national funding. The tool was introduced as a response to the challenges in managing INTERREG programmes, where different national laws and procedures had impeded. To

date, Europe's regional and local authorities have set up 13 EGTCs and 20 others are currently being prepared.

The consultation is targeted at EU member states, EGTCs already set up or under preparation, local and regional authorities and other stakeholders. It focuses mainly on good practices, lessons learned and the legal questions that the review should address. For example, compatibility with national legislation has been raised as an obstacle to setting up a EGCT.

Results will feed into the review of the EGTC regulation, which is scheduled for 2011.

Consultation on the EGTC: <http://tinyurl.com/2awaa9f>

Bernardo Rodrigues, policy officer - governance and international cooperation:  
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## City rankings debated at successful annual get-together

Our Cooperation Platform held in Newcastle-Gateshead last month featured a lively debate on the impact of city rankings in local level policymaking.

Around 80 EUROCITIES contact officers joined for the network's annual get-together whose main aim is to enrich the working dynamics between member cities and the EUROCITIES Brussels Office.

The main debate showed that while cities tend not to make rankings a central part of their policies, they are responsive to their impact. Rankings are a useful tool to understand how a city is perceived from the outside and they can even help pinpoint cities' strengths and weaknesses. The general consensus was that each city should determine its 'unique selling point' and then use it as a driving force for building a positive image both locally and internationally.

The event was considered a success overall. In particular, participants thought it was an excellent opportunity for networking and exchanging information with EUROCITIES staff and city officers. Both the more experienced officers and newcomers agreed that the event provided a good overview of the network's range of activities and it was suggested that future events allocate more time for discussions on cross-cutting policy themes.

All feedback will be taken into account to ensure that future Cooperation Platforms continue to respond to the network's developing needs.

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# Projects



## Wrapping up the DIVE project

**A**fter a very successful 18-month period the Diversity and Equality in European Cities (DIVE) project has completed its activities on promoting policies on diversity management and equal opportunities in the migrant integration field.

Having organised four intensive peer review city visits and two 'Integrating Cities' conferences, all partners involved can be proud of the final results from this project. The project findings are outlined in the final report entitled, 'Cities accommodating diversity', which has been sent to all EUROCIITIES members.

The EUROCIITIES Charter on Integrating Cities, signed by 17 Mayors at the IV Integrating Cities conference in London last February, also represents another important outcome of this project.

EUROCIITIES members will all receive a copy of the charter in the coming weeks. Those cities that haven't already signed up are encouraged to do so.

EUROCIITIES Working Group on Migration and Integration will follow up on the commitments made in the charter during 2010 and 2011. We'll also monitor how other cities are taking on board recommendations from the final report, adapting them to their local contexts and improving policies on migrant integration.

The DIVE project was co-financed by the European Commission and benefited from the participation of Amsterdam, Berlin, Leeds, Rome and London as well as Ethical Partnership and the Migration Policy Group ■



Integrating Cities: [www.integratingcities.eu](http://www.integratingcities.eu)

Theresa Moloney, EUROCIITIES project officer - migration & integration:  
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## Mobility Management: cities will make the difference!

"In mobility management, we need to go from reaction to promotion", according to Lisa Rucker, Deputy Mayor and City-Councillor for transport and environment of Graz in Austria.

The deputy mayor's comments were made at the opening of the 14th ECOMM, European Conference on Mobility Management, which gathered over 300 transport experts from across Europe.

On engaging interest in the field outside the mobility management community, representatives from five networks and organisations agreed that mobility management needs interdisciplinary exchanges, in particular to convince people to change their travel habits.



Photograph: Foto Fischer

Speaking on behalf of EUROCIITIES, Kia Andreasson, Vice-Mayor of Gothenburg, noted the crucial role of city networks, such as EUROCIITIES in building a broader interest for mobility management. "City networks can strengthen cooperation and build long-term visions but can also garner political support, for example through the EUROCIITIES Declaration on Climate Change and its transport measures to reduce CO2 emissions", she said.

EUROCIITIES also promotes the adoption of a cooperative approach in the development of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMP) at city level which takes into consideration the functional urban area-regional relationship.

European Commission representative, Marcel Rommerts, supported these remarks, stating that it is cities that will make the difference in coming years.

ECOMM 2010: [www.ecomm2010.eu](http://www.ecomm2010.eu)

Melanie Leroy, EUROCIITIES project officer - mobility management: [melanie.leroy@eurocities.eu](mailto:melanie.leroy@eurocities.eu)

# Events



Date / Place	Name of Event	More information
14-15 June 2010 Budapest, Hungary	<b>EUROCITIES in-depth review seminar – Area-based approaches to social inclusion</b> Organised as part of the 2010 campaign for combating poverty and social exclusion	<a href="http://www.inclusivecities.eu">www.inclusivecities.eu</a>
28 June – 1 July 2010 Singapore	<b>World Cities Summit 2010</b> Liveable and sustainable cities for the future	<a href="http://www.worldcities.com.sg">www.worldcities.com.sg</a>
7 July 2010 Brussels, Belgium	<b>Innovation and cities</b> Organised by the EU Belgian Presidency and EUROCITIES	Contact: <a href="mailto:bernardo.rodriques@eurocities.eu">bernardo.rodriques@eurocities.eu</a>
4-7 July 2010 Istanbul, Turkey	<b>Urban Dynamics and Housing Change</b> Theme: Crossing into the second decade of the third millennium	<a href="http://www.enhr2010.com">www.enhr2010.com</a>
8 July 2010 Brussels, Belgium	<b>EUROCITIES-NLAO conference</b> Presentation and discussion of cities' role in active inclusion	<a href="http://www.eurocities-nlao.eu">www.eurocities-nlao.eu</a>
22-25 July 2010 Florence, Italy	<b>Everyday life in the segmented city</b> Organised by Romualdo Del Bianco Foundation	<a href="http://www.fondazione-delbianco.org">www.fondazione-delbianco.org</a>
29-30 September 2010 Copenhagen, Denmark	<b>World Climate Solutions - Green Growth in Cities</b> Organised by the city of Copenhagen with the think tank and media house Mandag Morgen	<a href="http://www.kk.dk/greengrowth">www.kk.dk/greengrowth</a>
30 September – 1 October 2010 Newcastle, United Kingdom	<b>Cities Against Poverty and Exclusion: Child poverty</b> Organised as part of the 2010 campaign for combating poverty and social exclusion	<a href="http://www.inclusivecities.eu">www.inclusivecities.eu</a>
3-4 October 2010 The Hague, The Netherlands	<b>2010 Cities of Migration International Conference</b> An Opportunity Agenda For Cities	<a href="http://conference.citiesofmigration.ca">http://conference.citiesofmigration.ca</a>
4-7 October 2010 Brussels and Europe-wide	<b>OPEN DAYS 2010 – European Week of Regions and Cities</b> Objective 2020: Competitiveness, cooperation and cohesion for all regions	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/od2010/index.cfm">http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/od2010/index.cfm</a>
18-21 October 2010 Copenhagen, Denmark	<b>Managing the Urban Rural Interface</b> Strategies and Tools for Urban Development and Sustainable Peri-urban Land Use Relationships	<a href="http://www.plurel.net/Default.aspx?id=87">www.plurel.net/Default.aspx?id=87</a>

EUROCITIES Flash is published by EUROCITIES Brussels Office.

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