



EUROPEAN U R B A N INITIATIVE

Capacity Building & Knowledge Capitalisation Activities



EU Level
Local Level

City-to-City Exchange

A peer-learning format that enables one city to receive tailored advice from other urban authorities across Europe, focusing on shared challenges and concrete implementation support.

Fosters mutual learning and knowledge transfer between cities by facilitating short, targeted exchanges around real-life urban policy issues and solutions.



 [Exchange between Tampere \(FI\) and Cascais \(PT\)](#)

This exchange focused on developing a city-wide strategy for climate adaptation. Tampere sought support from Cascais, which shared practices on mainstreaming nature-based solutions, stakeholder engagement, and integrating adaptation plans into urban planning. The visit resulted in concrete steps for Tampere to strengthen its climate resilience and strategy implementation.



EU Level
Local Level

Peer Reviews

Structured, expert-facilitated learning sessions where a city receives constructive feedback and tailored advice from peers on a specific urban development challenge.

Supports cities to reflect on their practices, identify gaps and opportunities, and improve the design and implementation of their local policies and strategies.



 [Peer Review in Sömland, Sweden \(May 2025\)](#)

From 26–28 May 2025, delegations from Örebro (SE), Solna (SE), and Sömland (SE) came together in Sweden for a Peer Review hosted by the European Urban Initiative. The session focused on strengthening Sustainable Urban Development (SUD) strategies, using the S4-4500 self-assessment tool and peer-to-peer learning with experts from over 50 countries.



EU Level
Local Level

Capacity Building Events

Workshops, seminars, and multi-day gatherings designed to strengthen cities' capacity to design and implement integrated Sustainable Urban Development (SUD) strategies.

Facilitates experiential learning, peer exchange, and expert guidance through hands-on sessions, case studies, and innovation labs, empowering urban authorities to lead sustainable transitions.



 [Leveraging Innovation Ecosystems for Sustainable Cities - Tampere, Finland \(May 2025\)](#)

Held in Tampere (May 2024), this two-day event brought together around 100 participants from across Europe to explore the role of innovation ecosystems in advancing urban sustainability. Through keynote panels, city-led case workshops, deep dives, and study visits, cities exchanged practices on digital transitions, circular economy, funding strategies, and collaborative governance.



EU Level
National Level
Local Level

Policy Labs

Multi-day immersive events that gather urban authorities, experts, and EU stakeholders to explore complex urban topics, exchange practices, and co-develop policy knowledge on sustainable urban development.

Provides a platform for evidence-based dialogue and peer learning by showcasing local experiments and generating actionable insights that inform urban policy and practice.



 [Leveraging Culture for Positive Urban Change - Chalandri, Greece \(EUI Policy Lab\)](#)

Held in September 2024, this lab explored the role of culture and cultural heritage in sustainable urban development. Through site visits, interactive workshops, and discussions with practitioners from over 12 EU cities, participants examined how culture can drive community resilience, regeneration, and environmental sustainability.