



# Urban Innovative Actions

Webinar: Introduction to the UIA and the Initiative's expectations

2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals

2 February 2017





## | UIA webinars

- First of a series of four webinars:
  - **9 February** – Creating a UIA partnership
  - **16 February** – Building your intervention logic and drafting your budget
  - **23 February** – Planning your project management and communication strategy
- Aim: to help applicants put together an application form for the UIA second Call for Proposals
- Complements the information provided in the four applicant seminars that have already taken place

# | UIA second Call for Proposals

- **Deadline:** 14 April 2017 at 2 pm CET
- **Budget:** EUR 50 Million
- **3 topics:**
  - Circular economy
  - Integration of migrants & refugees
  - Urban mobility

# | Content

1. Definition of Innovation
2. Trends from the UIA first Call for Proposals
3. Generating innovation within urban authorities
4. Benchmarking
5. Innovation in other criteria

# | Definition of Innovation

The UIA definition:

*‘New products, services and processes never been tested before in Europe and able to add value in the specific policy field (Innovation at EU level versus innovation at local level)’*

## | Key elements

To take into account when assessing if the solution proposed is innovative:

- Projects that would not have been funded under a mainstream programme (those of a certain risk)
- Not merely part of the normal local activities
- Solutions that go beyond the present state-of-the-art and business-as-usual

# | Types of Innovation

There are **two** main types:

- **REVOLUTIONARY**

‘Completely new solutions never tested before in the policy field concerned in the EU’

- **EVOLUTIONARY**

‘Recombining existing resources and capabilities to create new functions and new meanings’

- Building and combining traditional elements to create new meanings
- Changing the scale
- Testing traditional approaches with different target groups

# | Trends first UIA Call for Proposals

Key figures:

- **4 topics tackled:** integration of migrants & refugees, jobs & skills in the local economy, energy transition and urban poverty
- **378 project proposals** submitted
- **Majority** of proposals submitted under topics of jobs & skills and energy transition
- **EUR 3.7 million** the average ERDF contribution requested
- **18 projects** approved for funding



# | Trends from the first UIA projects

In the approved projects from **Call 1** we saw:

- The solutions proposed included - products, services and processes
- **Complex set of actions** – centrality of innovative elements. The reasons are:
  - UIA offers up to **EUR 5 Million** ERDF contribution
  - They tackle complex issues that need **complex answers**
  - Innovative elements were the **central** components of the solutions proposed

## | Trends from the first UIA projects (cont.)

- Evolutionary innovation more predominant than revolutionary innovation –depending on the topic!

## | Trends from the first UIA projects (cont)

Specific innovative trends per topic:



- **Energy transition:** focus on local governance and energy delivery as well as financial schemes



- **Migrants and refugees:** empowerment, one stop shop approach and testing « traditional » services on new target groups, working on community acceptance

## | Trends from the first UIA projects (cont)

Specific innovative trends per topic:



- **Jobs and skills:** anticipating economic transitions (3rd industrial revolution, industry 4.0), focus on skills enhancement and social enterprises



- **Urban poverty:** testing revolutionary approaches (urban common goods and basic minimum income), one stop shop (adding new functionality for the city)

## | Generating innovation within urban authorities

What we have seen from the projects of Call 1:

- Leadership and political backing
- Cooperation between departments, etc (breaking down the admin silos)
- Taking the ideas out of the drawers (looking at existing ideas that have not yet been developed)
- Working with partners and stakeholders
- Gaining inspiration (transnational networking)

## | Demonstrating innovation: Benchmarking

- Why does the UIA ask you to benchmark your idea?
- What are the results of the benchmarking?
- How?



# Benchmarking

Getting inspiration from case studies and cross-checking what has been done before:



# | Innovation in other criteria

## **PARTNERSHIP**

- Types of partners involved that bring with them new ideas
- Going beyond the traditional partnerships to involve unusual suspects
- Setting and responsibilities of delivery partners in co-implementation



## | Innovation in other criteria (cont.)

### MEASURABILITY

- Really take up the challenge of entering the urban lab
- Budget allocated to monitoring and evaluation
- Monitoring and evaluation as learning loop for policy improvements
- Innovative methodologies proposed
- Strong involvement of scientific Delivery partners in co-design

# | Upcoming dates

- **Webinars**

- **9 February** – Creating a UIA partnership
- **16 February** – Building your intervention logic and drafting your budget
- **23 February** – Planning your project management and communication strategy

- **2nd call for Proposals**

- **Deadline - 14 April 2017** at 14:00 CET
- **Additional seminar organised by UDN**
- **9 February**, Warsaw, Poland





# Contact

[info@uia-initiative.eu](mailto:info@uia-initiative.eu)

Project officers:

[s.forjan@uia-initiative.eu](mailto:s.forjan@uia-initiative.eu)

[e.gatineau@uia-initiative.eu](mailto:e.gatineau@uia-initiative.eu)