

**Input Paper for
URBAN-Net Stakeholder Workshop
“Future research areas on
Urban Sustainability in Europe”**

10/11th of June, Berlin

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How to make use of this paper

This paper has been compiled as a preparation document for participants of the URBAN-Net Stakeholder Workshop, which will be held in Berlin 10/11th of June. Its purpose is to qualify attendees by provision of background information concerning the work process towards the framework for future research, the current status of the discussion as well as results obtained from earlier steps of the process.

More particularly the paper set out describing what has been achieved in earlier steps. It then offers general and specific expert recommendations to qualifying the 4 topical areas for future Urban Research (see structure of chapters 2 and 3). General advice for financing and organisation future urban research (chapter 4) will be rounded off by some valuable links and documents (chapter 5) which might be helpful to further develop the policy and research areas.

The paper's structure facilitates a selective reading for a target-oriented preparation to the workshop and its single sub-sessions.

I. Background to the Workshop

A central aim of Urban-Net is to structure and coordinate research activities on urban sustainable development. To achieve this a “Trans-national / European Research Framework in the field of Urban Sustainability” will be developed. This framework will be generated through a differentiated process that puts strong emphasis on the comprehensive involvement of relevant stakeholder. The workshop is part of a *Stakeholder Engagement Process* in which valuable feedback and recommendations have been given already. That means the results of the workshop will directly influence future research activities based on this framework which will be a concrete contribution of URBAN-Net network.

The participants of the workshop have been nominated by national URBAN-Net partners and the URBAN-Net management group. They were selected because of their strong relationship to pre-selected policy and research areas and they have following backgrounds:

- Local/regional political or administrative decision makers
- Researcher: from research institutes and universities
- Net-worker and multiplier: urban networks, professional umbrella associations and NGOs
- Research and programme manager from Urban-Net partner countries.

After clustering the field of Urban Sustainability into 15 action and research areas, which were described briefly and in which an idea of possible future research needs was given (discussion paper), the Urban-Net partners organised national consultation processes in order to define topical priorities. Many experts and stakeholders in the involved countries were asked for their preferences as well as for feedback and recommendations on the discussion paper. The sum of these national priorities has resulted in the following sequence of future research areas:

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|--|
| 1. Urban sprawl or compact city – integrated re-use of land, (14.2 points) |
| 2. Integrated urban management through multi-sector/-actor governance, (13.3 points) |
| 3. Climate change and ecological risk management, (11.7 points) |
| 4. Health, quality of life and public spaces, (10.3 points) |
| 5. Proximity, access, transport and mobility, (9.8 points) |
| 6. Social stability and deprived neighbourhoods, (9.1 points) |
| 7. Energy efficiency and infrastructure management, (8.7 points) |
| 8. Competitive urban futures and adaptation to globalisation, (7.3 points) |
| 9. Environmental management and social behaviour, (7.1 points) |
| 10. Demographic change - opportunities and consequences for cities, (7.0 points) |
| 11. Migration and diversity as a challenge and an opportunity, (6.6 points) |

12. Heritage, identity, culture, tourism and branding, (4.4 points)
13. Shrinking Cities, (4.0 points)
14. Commercial locations and centralised supply areas, (3.2 points)
15. Housing and urban design in highly differentiated cities, (3.0 points)

The first four areas will be further elaborated during the workshop with following aims and tasks:

- structure the chosen topical areas and deepen the knowledge
- reflect state-of-the-art and trends in the topical areas
- agree on future needs for best-practice development
- derive research themes as well as research questions
- formulate concrete recommendations for research cooperation.

In order to offer best conditions for the collection and exchange of expertise the workshop will be organised with four parallel sessions, one referring to each of the priority areas.

II. General Recommendations for the Research Framework

(Excerpt from comments and suggestions resulting from national Stakeholder engagement process)

1. Consider European Territorial Agenda and Leipzig Charta

By developing a framework for Urban Research in Europe the Territorial Agenda and earlier European strategies (Lisbon and Gothenburg Strategy) as well as the Leipzig Charta should be more reflected and considered. This refers to background, idea and aims of the mentioned documents and their preparation materials.

2. Put more emphasis on processes and drivers than on issues and topics

It was recommended to focus on dynamic processes and drivers of change rather than on terminology. The economic forces behind the presented problems are hidden, and if the different levels between cities and regions cannot be overcome nothing will be accomplished. Existing technology and probable applications should be transferred into consistent scenarios in order to find answers for more or less accepted trends like demographic change, European or even global competition or increasing costs for natural resources, social exclusion and reducing carbon emissions.

3. Clarify more strongly what should be maintained or strengthened

Beside possible future changes the local strengths and possibilities of acting and decision-making in European Cities should be clarified. This also includes the learning and adaptation capacities of Cities Councils to become sustainable at local level. Cities are important players that not only react but also influence actively developments and innovations. Good practices have to be reflected in terms of becoming general standards and solutions.

4. Include local and personal skills

More emphasis on skills and knowledge relating to spatial development would be welcomed. Recent studies have identified over a lot of occupations that contribute to delivering sustainable communities as well as a range of key skills such as leadership, community engagement, project management, partnership working and communication.

Very closed to these mentioned personal skills, which are undoubtedly important for decision makers, are education and employment as political aims and a social dimension which have to be integrated to urban development. Schools, Universities or professional training facilities are as well relevant for local communities to become more “sustainable” as to consider the ecological dimension of sustainability.

5. Re-structur topics and defining main categories

Concerning the given clustering of the original discussion paper many involved stakeholder made suggestions to change or re-structure these. They also considered that any division becomes problematic in terms of dependencies and coherencies, but apparently there is a need of clustering and structuring to deal with future challenges and implement better solutions. Some stakeholder missed a generating principle whereas others saw it as business as usual. One alternative to the clustering in topical research areas could be to make use of main categories like:

- Governance and democracy
- Competition and social cohesion
- Urban and environmental management
- Public health and wellbeing.

It was also suggested to introduce ‘sub-items’ within each area or to clarify the different subjects, distinguishing between first the main lines, mainstream issues arising from them and their location within the social, economic or environmental framework. In general it was stated that some research areas are redundant and need to be sharpened.

Furthermore it was recommended to define more generic, constant research areas by combining them or by using overall phenomena like “accelerated city development”.

6. Stress the relation between city and country or landscape

More emphasis should be put on the relation between the city and its surroundings in terms of analyzing processes and coherencies, but also in terms of developing strategies and solutions. For example a zero emission city is not imaginable without integrating the surrounding region because of the physical exchange of the urban metabolism.

7. Integrate missing topics or issues

Some stakeholders have identified some topics and issues which have not been mentioned sufficiently in the first discussion paper. Following issues might also be relevant for urban development and should be considered as a keyword or as a completion of the research areas.

- Public Safety
- Biodiversity
- Land Recycling
- Social, ethnic and urban fragmentation
- Economic aspects and preconditions of urban development
- Employment and education
- Growing noise problem
- Integration of human and natural sciences
- Contamination of landscape
- Realisation and maintenance of infrastructure
- Earth observation and land cover
- Changes of behaviour.

III. Recommendations within the 4 Topical Priorities

1. Urban sprawl or compact city – integrated re-use of land

1.1 Basic summary of the original discussion paper

Keywords

Urban sprawl, compact city, emissions, travel, biodiversity, green belt, land use, brownfield, built environment

Very close to transport and mobility issues are questions about the spatial extension of cities. Particular environmental concerns like land consumption and use of non-renewable resources, increasing emissions of rising transport and destruction of natural landscape are attested to urban sprawl which is characterised by growing and decentralised single function areas (housing, commercial, production, leisure). The main consequences are an increasing need to travel and a dependency on private motorised transport as well as more land consumption for residential purposes. Urban sprawl can also mean attractive living and working sites within green belts, but on the other hand, the loss of contextual huge green space threatens biodiversity. The antithesis of all-over urbanised areas is the so called “compact city” which is characterised by a higher density of land use and a mix of functions. In terms of resource-use per inhabitant the “compact city” is more efficient than urban sprawl, but with high costs for real estate and mass infrastructure and a high sensitivity to social problems it can also cause drawbacks. That means dense urban structures are more vulnerable to vandalism or criminal hot spots. High density also means less green space and more emissions – both detrimental to health so that the compact city is not automatically a sustainable solution. An integrated perspective could be to minimise new land consumption for building purpose and therefore to limit the growth of spatial extension through reusing derelict or brownfield sites within the city. This is a question of political and planning priorities and decision making. The re-use of built-on sites is as important as the improvement of the existing building stock in order to generate a higher living quality in the “compact city” (more green and public spaces, less traffic impacts, more frequently transport possibilities, better built environment).

Research need and contribution

Both concepts (urban sprawl and compact city) have environmental, economic and social advantages or disadvantages which could be compared and evaluated. The reuse of land and the improvement of existing settlements ought to be analysed and compared with respect to planning procedures, costs, methodologies, participation, and international benchmarks. Another important research issue is the question how to understand and to deal with complex policy frameworks and the lack of political support-issues of governance for managing an integrated land use.

1.2. Summarised recommendations of the involved Stakeholder

- The point was made that this area is strongly related to the areas “integrated urban management and governance” (No. 1), “health, quality of life and public spaces” (7), “climate change and ecological risk management” (12), and “energy efficiency and infrastructure management” (13).
- Some experts suggested integrating “urban sprawl”, “social behaviour” and “infrastructure management” „New urban landscapes“. Others wanted to add keywords such as “city region”, “multi-polarity”, “multi-centrality”, “semi-urban cityscape”, “mixed use”, “high density”, “environmental quality”, “quality of life”, “public spaces”, “public access”, “sustainability of urban life”.

- Another suggestion was to enlarge the given description in order to refer to the notion of a 'city of cities', i.e., placing emphasis on functional and territorial sub-centrality within metropolitan agglomerations and large cities, in addition to mentioning the issue of 'polycentrism'.
- How to find a better cooperation between the municipalities to stop urban sprawl was highlighted as a decisive question.
- One commentator stated that the form of political regulation of municipalities can help to find a better relation of function and administration control of space. It is not a question of either sprawl or compact city. Traditional functions of cities are changing and the regional basis of live (consumption, working, traffic, parks) is growing. A better knowledge about new generated and empirical visibly structures and their categories could help to find future-friendly concepts for the planning of social and ecological sustainable regions.
- It was argued that "compact city" and "urban sprawl" are not opposite in general (too global). The problematic focus of "urban sprawl" should be described clearer. One commentator made the point that this area would "reflect popular topics that are not based on scientific evidence". On the contrary, it is known that the same urban density can be obtained with different morphologies (sing-family homes or multi-family homes). Also, it is known that strong indicators such as ecological traces show no significant differences with respect to the different types (diffuse or compact): an example is the ecological trace of the different conurbation counties of San Francisco (USA). On the contrary, statistical evidence has been gathered of the thesis that cities are losing efficiency as they grow. Or, put it another way, a classic 'compact' city that grows will end up by becoming diffuse (and with a low global density) due, principally, to the growing proportion of surface area occupied by the general systems (linked fundamentally to transport). This way, one urgent topic of investigation is: what is the debate focused on: diffuse / compact cities or conurbations / small and medium cities?
- One topic not mentioned in the discussion paper is the contrary and also complementary relationship between residential and industrial areas.

2. Integrated urban management through multi-sector / -actor governance:

2.1 Basic summary of the original discussion paper

Keywords

Participation, democracy, user groups, municipal, local government, decision-making, procedures, interdisciplinarity and interconnection

"Integrated urban development policy means simultaneous and fair consideration of the concerns and interests which are relevant to urban development. Integrated urban development policy is a process in which the spatial, sectoral and temporal aspects of key areas of urban policy are co-ordinated" (Leipzig Charta, 2007, page 2). The integrated approach is undoubtedly a constitutional element of Urban Sustainability as the current and future problems and challenges are interrelated and mutually dependent. Without consideration of the existing ecological, spatial, economic and social relations and driving forces, single measures and projects would fail and create more damage than benefits in terms of future applications and solutions. This refers especially to a resources management which has to be balanced. Sectoral dependencies e.g. housing, mobility, electricity and water supply and return systems, production and consumption as well as education and training have to be mutually analysed and considered. Only an integrated approach and perspective (different disciplines and different methods) enables the local decision maker to reach the ambitious goals of a sustainable urban development which is characterised by energy efficiency, social cohesion and cultural and economic prosperity as well as by health and safe built environments. Also different spatial levels (buildings, quarter, city and region) and many different stakeholder and interest-groups (sectoral and overall decision makers, citizens, concerned residents, entrepreneurs, interested laymen, experts and scientists) should be reflected and integrated. Therefore, an inter- and trans-disciplinary urban policy and

research has been agreed which involves at least two policy areas and integrates the relevant stakeholders into a dialog process. Not to combine too many goals and policy areas is needed to handle the real urban complexity, without overwhelming local action and decision making. An integrated approach considers the common European environmental, economic and social priorities without neglecting regional and local peculiarities, values and traditions.

Research need and contribution

Research need exists in terms of measurability and effectiveness of integrated approaches as well as of comparison methods, processes and technologies. What are the critical success factors and what are the barriers of managing complexity for a sustainable future? How can a consistent local vision based on strengths and weaknesses be developed in order to coordinate different neighbourhoods, sectoral and technical plans and policies and to spatially focus the use of public funds? What is good urban governance and how could it be implemented and transferred? Integration should be an overall philosophy in urban management and is much closed with other visions like cradle-to-cradle or zero emission. Integration ought to be implemented in all research activities and projects dealing with urban development – regardless if it is a research area itself.

2.2. Summarised recommendations of the involved Stakeholder

- As it is cross-cutting with all the other thematic areas and holds a great relevance in itself this area was widely perceived as being of high importance.
- Significant related questions were mentioned, such as:
 - Who has the power to change?
 - With what instruments and at what level can sustainability be regulated?
 - How can processes that give continuous learning be built into the system?
- The suggestions were made to combine this research area with the following ones: 7 (Health, quality of live and public spaces), 8 (Transport and mobility), 10 (housing and urban design), 9 (Urban sprawl), 12 (Energy efficiency), 13 (Commercial locations). These areas were seen as particularly directed towards the development of an integrated approach on urban sustainable development.
- It was stated that there may be a need for the treatment of the methodological aspects of urban management (planning tools, qualification and evaluation, information management, participation in networks, etc.). Furthermore a need was perceived for greater reflection of the process of constructing the Urban Agenda in the European Union and on what was agreed in the Charter of Leipzig in 2007 on Sustainable European Cities (regarding the need to tackle a more transversal treatment of the urban policies package).
- Other commentators argued that this area would be an exhaustive subject to research already. The focus lies here very often on academic aspects which makes a practical usage for local actors hardly perceivable. Main task within this area would be the implementation of common knowledge. The only potential for future research was seen in focusing on “regional governance” (suburbanisation).
- The suggestions were made to add the keywords: “cooperation”, “collaboration”, “democracy”, “participation”, “participatory planning”, “equal opportunities”, “governmentality”, “networking”, “civic engagement” and “multi-level governance”.
- It was noted that it would be helpful to use an example for “policy integrated planning”. Integrated urban management could have advantages for environmental quality, if environmental aspects are integrated in the planning process.
- The comment was made that “Urban policies” would be more powerful than “actor governance”. It would point out the idea of debate, of negotiation between interests for sharing resources.

- This kind of urban governance also means to consider migration and diversity as an opportunity.

3. Climate change and risk management

3.1 Basic summary of the original discussion paper

Keywords

Climate change, mitigation, adaptation, zero-emissions, greenhouse gases, reduction targets, risk management, ecological impacts, emergency planning

Since the report of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has been published there are no serious doubts that greenhouse gases cause an increase of the earth's temperature. As a consequence, extreme weather incidents such as severe storms, floods and draught periods will increase steadily so that also the cities will be affected. Two strategies have been agreed globally to which every institution and city can contribute:

- Mitigation through reduction of greenhouse gases emissions in all sectors (mobility, building, production, consumption etc)
- Adaptation to climate change in terms of reduction and management of the expected impacts or even using the new environmental conditions from climate change.

The negative effects of climate change are more likely to decrease the faster the emissions can be reduced. But even if a stabilising of greenhouse gas concentrations can be achieved, an adaptation to the ongoing changing environmental conditions is necessary. To meet the needs, two enormous efforts are necessary at the local city level.

- A long-term vision of how to become a "zero-emission-city" so that all the sectors of society as well as interdependencies between the sectors have to be further developed and designed by new technical and organisational measures. Action plans, city competitions and obligatory reduction goals are appropriate instruments to start with this long-term orientation of zero emission which should be mandatory for current decisions.
- An overall ecological risk management and a continuously environmental monitoring are recommended to deal with the impacts of climate change or other ecological threats. Cities need to anticipate possible hazards through scenarios, emergency plans, technical protection measures which should be available and be communicated, tested and further developed. It is recommended to clarify responsibilities of authorities and to define cooperation procedures. Extreme weather incidents do not leave much time for preparation when they appear. So a regular updating is necessary in order to be prepared.

Research need and contribution

Urban research can help to structure and analyse the field of opportunities and consequences of climate change and ecological risks as well as to evaluate target achievement and effectiveness of projects and measures. A communication about good and functioning praxis is recommended.

3.2. Summarised recommendations of the involved Stakeholder

- The point was made that this area is strongly related to the area "energy efficiency" (12) and "environmental management" (15) as well as to "heritage, identity, culture" (14) as it will have substantial effects on tourism and culture.
- One person requested to add to the description keywords such as "planning systems" and "institutions", "planning principles", "urban planning", and "planning practice".

- Some experts stated that the following aspects and stakeholders should additionally be considered in the given topical area: water bodies, problems of drought, waste etc as well as housing, transport and cultivated landscape.
- Furthermore the title was perceived incorrect. The focus should be set on prevention and not too much of reaction (more mitigation instead of adaptation).
- It was pointed out that economical aspects are of prime importance in this area.
- Further research should be focused on technologies, energy efficiency projects, new traffic concepts and on the production of energy
- In general the question was raised how spatial planning policies can contribute to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.

4. Health, quality of life and Public spaces

4.1 Basic summary of the original discussion paper

Keywords

Health, wellbeing, quality of life, pedestrian-areas, public spaces, green spaces, public access, environmental quality, recreation, cost benefit

There is evidence to suggest that high quality public and green spaces can make a positive contribution to human health. This is beginning to permeate policy development and is broadly accepted in terms of the provision of green belts, parks, squares, biodiversity protection, waterfront areas, playgrounds, pedestrian and commercial areas. This knowledge is also shaping the provision of roads and car parks. Public and especially green spaces provide a lot of opportunities for health, recreation, social interaction, relaxation as well as for education and discovery. Furthermore, green space in particular provides a number of environmental functions, for instance with regard to the water cycle, urban climate cooling and habitats for animals and plants. The exact relationship between the multifunctional and overlapping advantages of public and green space would benefit from further research. Without free useable public space a city could not offer a high living standard. Therefore, the availability of public space is a prerequisite of city development, but more essential is its quality, condition, safety and the acceptance of the real existing public space within the cities. Access to public space is an important issue, because in some cases particular groups such as youth, elderly, disabled or homeless are directly or indirectly excluded by different measures. Most important in terms of urban management and urban research are financial and interrelated organisational aspects for planning, creating and maintaining public and green spaces. Public-Private-Partnership will become more relevant not only because of budget restrictions. Identity and participation, local working and qualifying sites, safety and wellness, intercultural enrichments and conflicts and last but not least "local patriotism" will be the decisive aspects which could be used and developed systematically by urban administrations and local policies.

Research need and contribution

The question to be answered within Urban-Net is what aspects of creating and ensuring high quality public spaces are perceived as appropriate research topics. Are there knowledge and technical gaps or is it only a management and implementation topic? What function does public space have for an integrated development and how can stakeholder engagement be organised and improved? Research projects could analyse and reduce the divided responsibilities and multiple administration issues concerning green space and biodiversity. Last but not least, research projects could support the conservation and management of Natura 2000 sites within urban areas.

4.2. Summarised recommendations of the involved Stakeholder

- The point was made that due to current urban development dynamics and demographic changes and due to an accelerated tendency to concentrate the population in cities there would be great need for topics dealing with: Health, quality of life and public areas. The same would apply for the areas “proximity, accessibility, transport and mobility” (area 8), “environmental management and social conduct” (area 15) and “heritage, identity, culture, tourism and brand image” (area 14).
- One comment stressed that research results on public space can be fed in practice rather quickly, so local usage would be high.
- One statement favours the content and description of the paragraph, but finds it offers an un-appropriate headline. The suggestion was to rephrase it with: "Quality Public Urban Spaces for all".
- In some comments it was suggested to link the area with “social stability” (No 5) and “energy efficiency” (No 12). It was also proposed to address “landscape”, “financing of open space”, “air quality”, “traffic congestion”, “noise”, “education”, “consumption and art”, “happiness” and other aspects which give a positive quality of life.
- It was argued that “social capital” gained momentum in research a few years ago and although the concept has been misused and misinterpreted it may still be relevant in research areas such as “social stability”, “identity” but also “governance”.
- One expert perceived “public space” in this area as unclear, because undersupply of public spaces would be seldom nowadays. He suggests that this topic should rather go to “housing and urban design” (No. 10) in combination with “change of housing forms”, “mobility and life-styles” which result in a change of demands on housing and public space.
- The separation of “Health, wellbeing and quality of life” from “green and open space” was also demanded by another expert. For the latter he sees benefits beyond health (e.g. for biodiversity, community spirit and business development).

IV. Recommendations for Organising and Financing Urban Research

Effective urban research being prepared among others by Urban-Net needs to clarify and combine topics, aims and kind of research, methods and instruments as well as principle of cooperation / participation and dissemination.

Beside the above explained research areas which will play an important role within the research framework following principles and issues should be considered:

Overall principles and philosophy of common future research activities

1) Integrated approach

The interdependent and mutual related character of Urban and regional development requires an integrated approach which also should be the main principle of Urban Research. However, it is very important to distinguish between a principle being valid for all research activities (calls, projects, political recommendations etc.) and the same named research area in which specific questions should be clarified or specific projects should be generated. Following this understanding of integrated approach means that research projects should at least consider the physical and spatial components as well as demographic and social-economic developments. Also the handling of contradictions between e. g. environmental and financial objectives is part of an integrated approach which accepts and uses diversity, fuzziness and conflicting goals.

2) Link between specific problems and the main strategies of the European Union

Further Urban Research should be deduced or should at least consider current policy papers (e. g. Territorial Agenda) or spatial relevant financial programmes (e. g. European Regional Development Fund, ERDF) in order to combine the so called Urban Dimension with research needs.

3) Cities as players

Cities are not only important players for economic developments. They should also be considered as equal partners, not as an objective of urban research. The decision making dimension must be an inseparable part of research programmes and projects. This also contains research about specific morphologies or regional metabolism as long as they have a well-defined quantitative basis.

4) The size of cities matters as well as the regional level becomes more important

Analysing urban challenges requires different approaches for different sizes of cities. Future urban research needs to define what kind or parts of cities are addressed because not all "formula are equally valid in all places". Otherwise the relationship between Cities and Regions becomes more important as Cities grow together to regional urbanised areas or the interdependencies between cities and the landscape requires a regional approach. The complexity of governance increase and the mutual dependencies between different sectors become more difficult to deal with.

Target groups of future research

5) Most of the involved stakeholders argued that there is huge need for exchanging experiences of researcher and practising experts including non-governmental organisations.

6) A consensus about inter- and trans-interdisciplinary research was formulated within the national stakeholder processes. More important is the demand that beside scientific diversity and involvement of stakeholder urban research should have a practical as well as local approach

and perspective. In this way urban research could prepare or accompany local decisions when researchers develop a consultancy or advisory understanding without being dependent on local interests and policies. That means that the involvement of local authorities could become a mandatory criterion to apply for public research.

Otherwise the point was made that research with a supra-national focus practitioners do not necessarily have to be involved.

Kind and methods of Research

7) Most of the asked stakeholder put strong emphasis on applied research in terms of best practice examples, processes, learning points and skills development issues. Concrete Models for organisation, structure and finance urban items should be generated. A clear practical and usable content was as well required as visible, executable results. It was also mentioned that urban research needs a long term perspective even if short terms decisions should be prepared. Urban Research does not mean day-to-day decision making or problem solution, but of course has to be connected to local political processes as well as to the abilities and limits of urban management itself. Long-term orientated methods are e. g. back casting or scenario development in terms of common visions like the zero emission city.

8) For some countries (e. g. Romania) a need for data collection and diagnosis methods has been identified. Furthermore the development of indicators is recommended so that crisis areas or areas of high potential would become comparable.

9) A need for technological research has also been identified, but without adopting the approach of 'inventing the wheel'. Technological aspects and questions have to be concrete and implemental as possible in case that they will be organised and financed under the idea of urban sustainability.

10) By defining research programmes and preparing calls two stages are equal important: firstly, identification and analyses of necessary actions including a presentation of the anticipated result and secondly after projects have been done the analysis of theirs impact. Particularly the evaluation and accordingly changes of conditions and topics should be key elements of future urban research. In other words: Programmes must be designed based on criteria of permanence and not temporary criteria, but adapted to the ever-changing realities of the topics and of society as a whole.

Dissemination

11) Results and experiences have to be submitted to discussion and debate both internally and externally by means of seminars, workshops, conferences, talks, congresses, etc. It should be a mandatory criterion by applying for public money. To communicate results by publication and submission to the specialist community (researchers, technicians, experts and civil servants) should be considered as the final test of the quality of research projects.

12) One important aim of dissemination is the idea of replication and further development of good practises. Therefore the summary of projects as well as programmes has to contain how to transfer the knowledge and experience to other circumstances or cities.

13) The benefits of research projects and programmes for sustainable urban planning have to be quantified and evaluated by independent experts or consultants.

14) It is necessary to determine management standards, a common methodology that will facilitate the implementation of the programmes, their assessment and monitoring, study and 'exploitation'.

V. Further Information and Links

For further information the participants are asked to look at following links no making claim to be complete. They represent just some examples.

0) General (Urban Sustainability)

- http://ec.europa.eu/environment/urban/thematic_strategy.htm
(European Thematic Strategy on Urban Environment plus Impact Assessment)
- http://ec.europa.eu/research/environment/themes/article_1354_en.htm
(Urban sustainability and cultural heritage, including governance and urban management)
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principles_of_Intelligent_Urbanism
(Definition and Structure of Principles of Intelligent Urbanism)
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecocities>
(short overview about Eco- or sustainable Cities)

1) Urban sprawl or compact city – integrated re-use of land

- <http://portal.jarbury.net/thesis.pdf>
(From Urban Sprawl to Compact City – An exemplary analysis of urban growth management including categories and drivers)
- <http://zeta.math.utsa.edu/~yxk833/compactcity.html>
(Compact City Replaces Sprawl including indicators and zoning codes)
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urban_sprawl
(well structured definition and explanations about Urban sprawl)
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smart_Growth as well as <http://smartgrowthplanning.org/> or <http://www.smartgrowth.org/>
(main lines of developing a compact city)

2) Integrated urban management through multi-sector/-actor governance

- <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/scenarios>
(Urban and Environment scenarios, examples and methodology, also land-use scenario)
- <http://www.prime-noe.org/Local/prime/dir/Annual%20Conference/2007%20Annual%20Conference/Position%20Papers/Position%20Paper%20-%20Era%20Spaces%20project.pdf>
Position paper of ERA Spaces and ERISP project, Understanding multi-level and multi-actor governance of Region
- http://bmvb.de/Anlage/original_1005295/Territorial-Agenda-of-the-European-Union-Agreed-on-25-May-2007-accessible.pdf
(Territorial Agenda of the European Union, towards a more competitive and sustainable Europe of diverse regions)
- http://bmvb.de/Anlage/original_998680/Leipzig-Charter-on-Sustainable-European-Cities-agreed-on-24-May-2007.pdf
(Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities, english version)

3) Climate change and ecological risk management

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_change
(definition and overview)

- <http://www.ipcc.ch/>
The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including reports on Report "Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability" and "Mitigation of Climate Change"
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/climate/>
(Short summary of and links to different aspects of Climate Change)
- <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/nrd/era.htm>
(Ecological risk management, examples, processes, US Environmental Protection Agency)

4) Health, quality of life and public spaces

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_health and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_space
(Definitions and overview)
- <http://www.qualityoflifechallenge.com/index.htm>
(different policy areas which have to be considered in a holistic way, policy papers representing the British state of the art)
- <http://www.mercer.com/referencecontent.jhtml?idContent=1173105>
(2007 World-wide quality of living survey, city ranking, commercial tools and materials)