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The CLUDs project and the new context of Urban Dimension within Europe 2020 strategy



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Percentage of Population Residing in Urban Areas by Major Area, Region and Country, 2010–2050

Major area, region, country or area	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	Increase in the share 2010–2050
World	51,6	53,9	56,0	58,0	59,9	61,7	63,5	65,3	67,2	15,6
Africa	39,2	41,1	43,2	45,3	47,7	50,1	52,6	55,1	57,7	18,5
Asia	44,4	47,6	50,5	53,1	55,5	57,8	60,0	62,2	64,4	20,0
Eastern Asia	54,4	60,1	64,8	68,7	71,7	73,9	75,8	77,6	79,3	24,9
South-Central Asia	32,5	34,2	36,2	38,5	41,0	43,7	46,7	49,6	52,5	20,0
Europe	72,7	73,8	74,9	76,1	77,4	78,6	79,9	81,0	82,2	9,5
Eastern Europe	68,9	69,7	70,6	71,7	72,9	74,2	75,6	77,0	78,2	9,4
Northern Europe	79,0	79,7	80,5	81,4	82,3	83,2	84,1	84,9	85,7	6,7
Southern Europe	67,7	68,9	70,3	71,9	73,5	75,0	76,5	77,9	79,2	11,5
Italy	68,2	69,1	70,3	71,7	73,2	74,6	76,0	77,4	78,7	10,4
Western Europe	79,5	80,9	82,2	83,3	84,2	85,2	86,1	86,9	87,7	8,3
Latin America and the Caribbean	78,8	80,2	81,5	82,5	83,4	84,3	85,1	85,9	86,6	7,8
Central America	72,1	73,5	74,9	76,1	77,3	78,5	79,5	80,6	81,6	9,6
South America	82,8	84,1	85,2	86,2	86,9	87,6	88,3	88,9	89,5	6,6
Northern America	82,0	83,1	84,1	85,0	85,8	86,5	87,3	88,0	88,6	6,6
<i>United States of America</i>	<i>82,1</i>	<i>83,3</i>	<i>84,4</i>	<i>85,2</i>	<i>86,0</i>	<i>86,8</i>	<i>87,5</i>	<i>88,2</i>	<i>88,9</i>	<i>6,7</i>
Oceania	70,7	70,8	70,9	71,1	71,4	71,7	72,0	72,5	73,0	2,4

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division

The questions that European cities pose at the EU Regional Policy, concern:

- ✓ the trend to suburbanisation;
- ✓ the concentration of deprivation and unemployment in urban neighborhoods;
- ✓ increasing congestion.

To these questions the European Regional Policy has given answers both from a theoretical point of view (defining principles and strategic axes of intervention) than empirical (funding specific programs and projects).

From a theoretical point of view: we have to consider:

- ✓ the LEIPZIG CHARTER on Sustainable European Cities (02 May 2007);
- ✓ the MARSEILLE STATEMENT (25 November 2008) to respond to environmental challenges
- ✓ the TOLEDO DECLARATION on urban development (22 June 2010)

The LEIPZIG CHARTER on Sustainable European Cities recommended:

1 Making greater use of integrated urban development policy approaches



Creating and ensuring high-quality public spaces

Modernizing infrastructure networks and improving energy efficiency

Proactive innovation and educational policies

Pursuing strategies for upgrading the physical environment

2 Paying special attention to deprived neighborhoods within the context of the city as a whole



Strengthening the local economy and local labour market policy

Proactive education and training policies for children and young people

Promotion of efficient and affordable urban transport

MARSEILLE STATEMENT underlines the necessity to integrate urban needs in public policies.

The necessity was formulated against the background of environmental challenges, the impacts of climate change and the emerging global situation of energy production and supply.

MARSEILLE STATEMENT, also sustains that the urban policies must be based on a collective and open process.

The TOLEDO DECLARATION on urban development implements the Europe 2020 strategy to achieve a smarter, more sustainable and socially inclusive urban development.

The development of the **Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities**, based on a collective and open process, was recommended as a main instrument in this context.

The key word is still integration which must be declined:

- from the environmental viewpoint...
- from the social viewpoint...
- from the economic viewpoint...
- from the urban planning, architectural and cultural viewpoints...
- from the viewpoint of governance...

The document stresses the importance of the coordination and coherence of **urban and territorial policies** (urban/rural)

The European Rural/Urban Policy (RURBAN)

The growing interdependence between urban and rural areas is nowadays a general knowledge. Urban problems are sometimes located in rural areas and vice versa, but also solutions for urban problems can be found in rural regions, and vice versa, too. *The idea sounds like a win-win situation.*

The partnerships between rural and urban areas is, in Europe, mainly *sectoral*.

All over Europe, it is easy to find examples for such *mono-projects* as waste water management involving several municipalities, regional public transport associations or joint spatial planning.

Integrated partnerships with a multitude of different projects embedded in a shared strategy are very infrequent.

Rural-urban partnerships are sometimes regarded as a concept with *lacking content*, because it is difficult to prove the *effectiveness* of rural-urban partnerships with hard facts

From the *empirical point of view* during the 2007–2013 period, European cities have benefited in many ways from cohesion policy tools:

- *Urban development issues* have been integrated in all regional and national programmes supported by Structural and Cohesion Funds;
- *Exchange of best practice and networking* between urban planners and other local experts is facilitated by the URBACT II programme;
- *JESSICA* (Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Area), an initiative of the European Commission in cooperation with the European Investment Bank and the Council of Europe Development Bank, has promoted financial engineering for sustainable investment, economic growth and employment in Europe's urban area;
- The *Urban Audit* provides statistical data and information on living conditions in 357 European cities thorough over 350 indicators of urban life (demography, housing, health, crime, the labour market, economic activity, civic involvement, cultural infrastructure an many others)

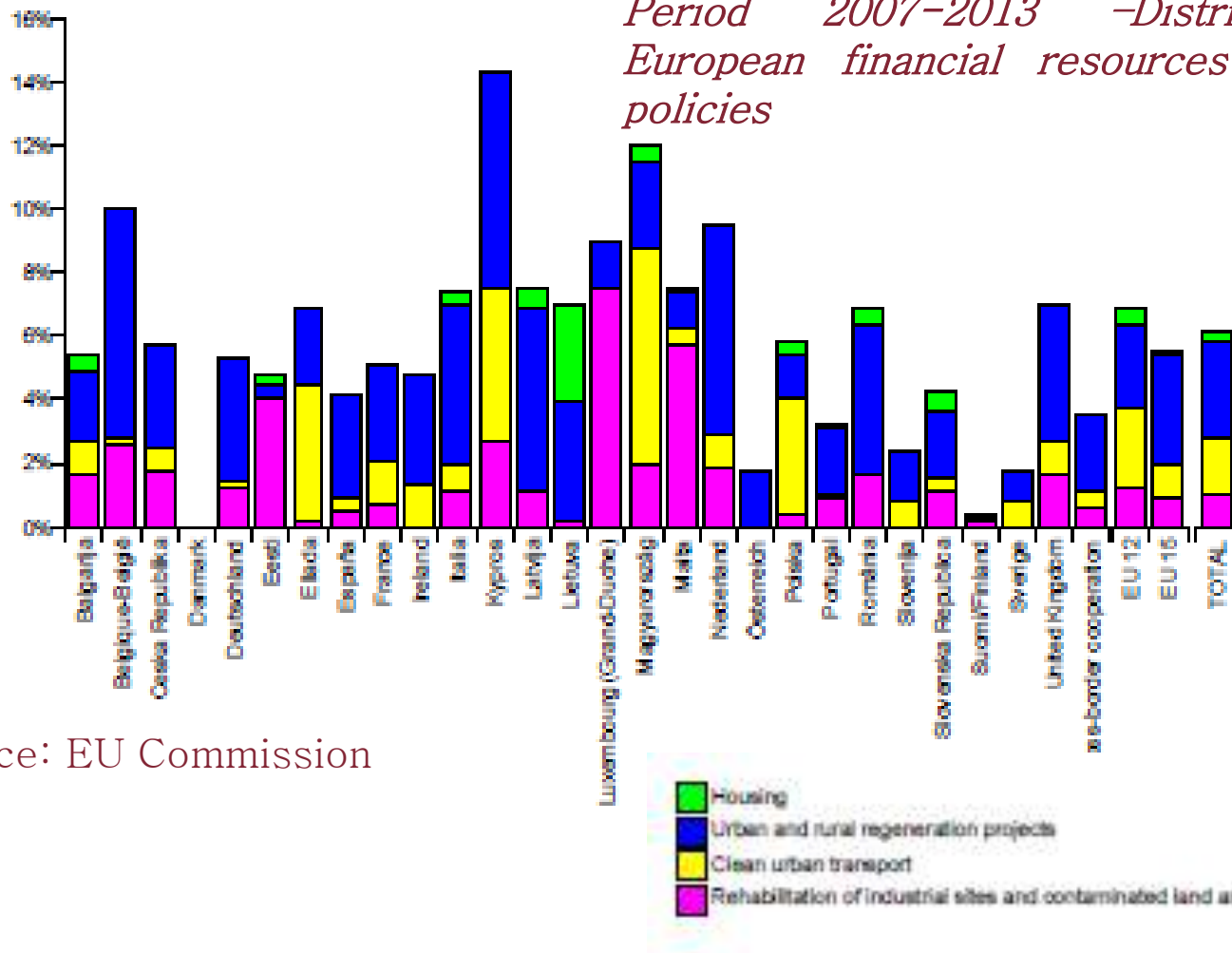
EU funds earmarked for urban development between 2007 and 2013

	total (billion €)	total (billion US\$)	% Comp.
Housing infrastructure	0,95	1,24	4,60
<i>Integrated projects for urban and rural regeneration</i>	<i>10,14</i>	<i>13,18</i>	<i>49,05</i>
Promotion of clean urban transport	6,13	7,96	29,65
Rehabilitation of industrial sites and contaminated land	3,45	4,49	16,70
Total Urban Policies	20,67	26,87	100,00
Total EU cohesion policy budget	338,78	440,41	
Urban development /Total EU cohesion budget	6,1		

Source: EU Commission

Urban and Rural in European Countries

Period 2007-2013 –Distribution of European financial resources for urban policies



Source: EU Commission

Conclusions

On the basis of what has been said so far, although very briefly, it is clear that the CLUDs project has developed into full harmony with the principles of the new European urban policies.

The strategic element of the new European policies is that of *integration*. And "integration" is also a key word of CLUDs project, where it was declined as integration between:

- ✓ the different aspects that characterize the life of a city (economic, social, spatial and so on);
- ✓ public and private actors (PPP);
- ✓ material and immaterial elements;
- ✓ urban and rural
- ✓ the knowledge and methodologies of different disciplines.

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