



Urban Action Group

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#EGW2022

ATHENS 7-9 DECEMBER 2022





Agenda

- Introduction
- “Revival” of the EuroGEO Urban Action Group
- Presentations by Action Group Members ?
- Issues for discussion
- Discussion till 10:30
- Coffee break: 10:45 - 11:15; Lunch: 13:00 - 14:30
1st floor (+1 level) & Foyer of Ballroom (-1 level) or Roof garden (8th floor)



Introduction: Urban sustainability in Europe

- Post-pandemic drivers of environmental transitions

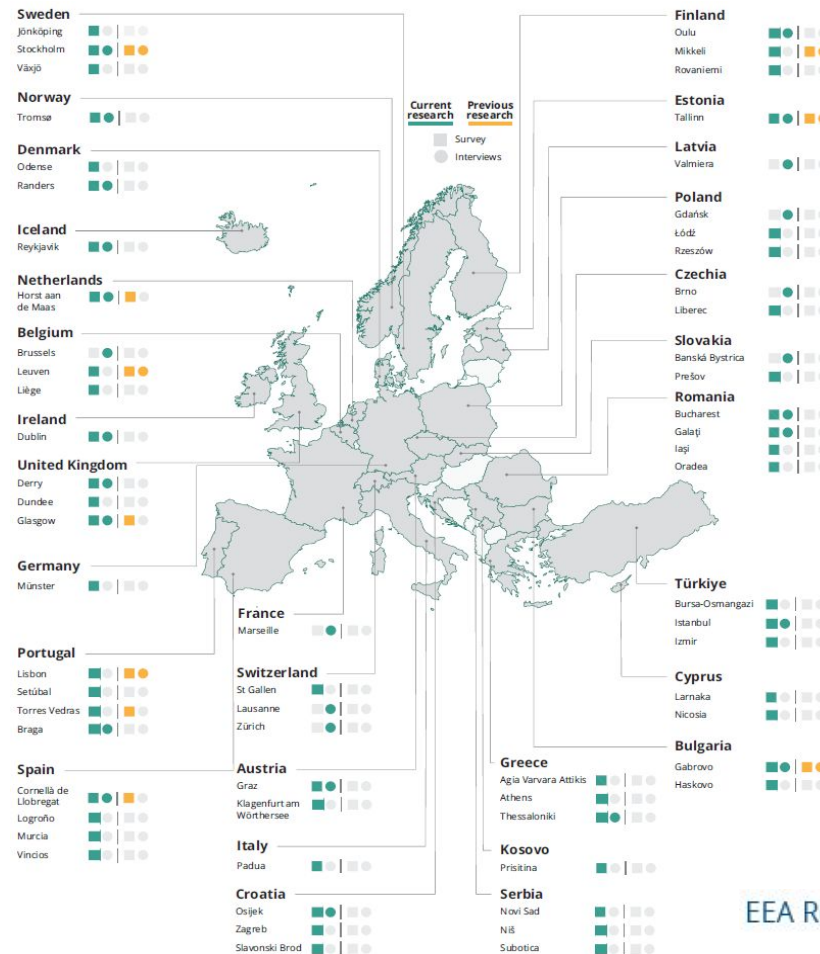
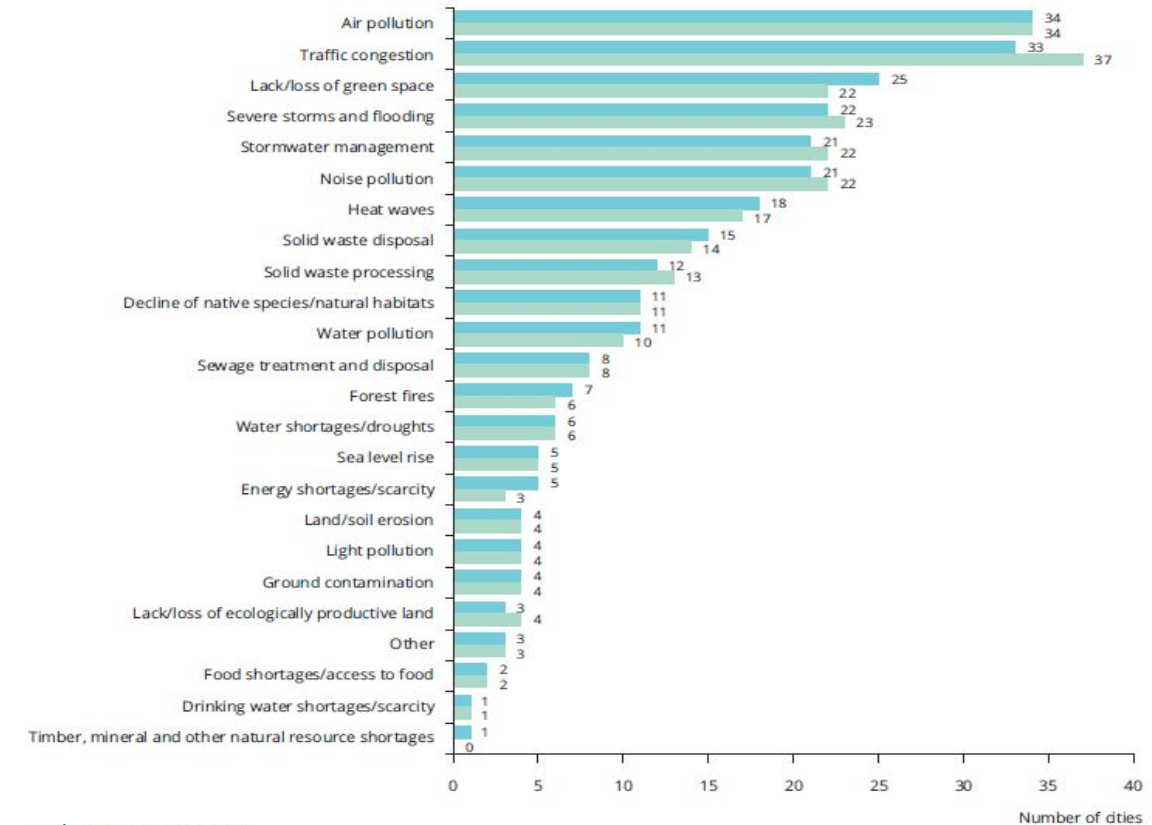


Figure 2.1 Environmental challenges faced by cities and their regions

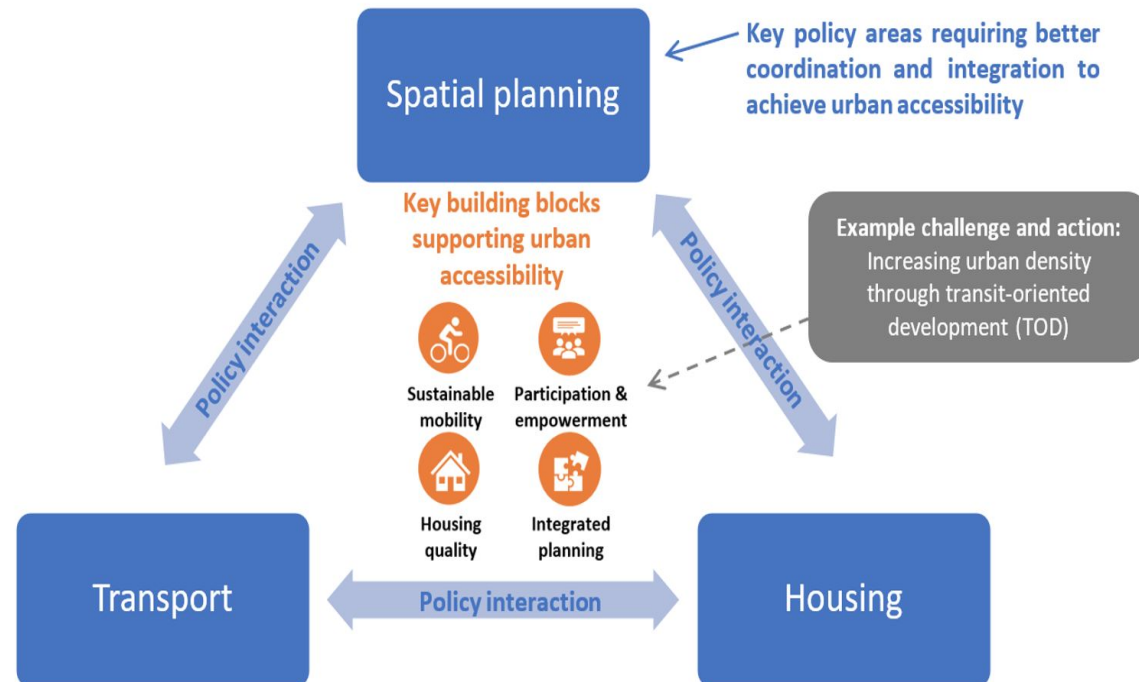


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Introduction: Climate Change Mitigation

○ Integrating Policy Areas



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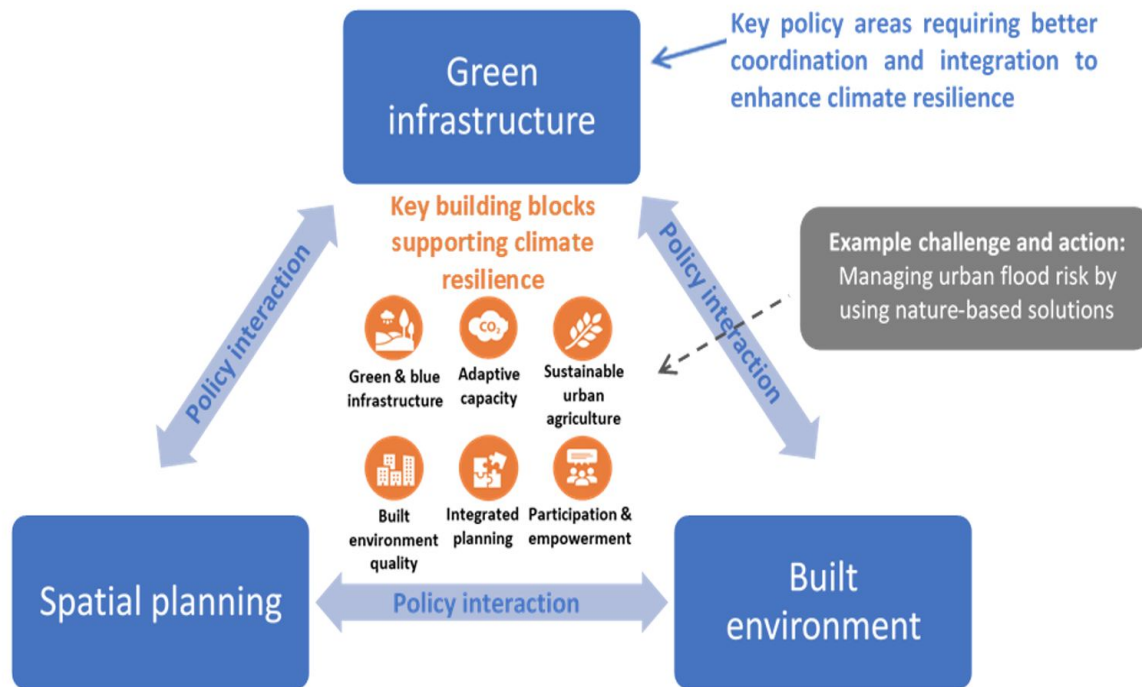
○ Planning Strategy Responses

- 15 Minute City Solutions: new mix of economic activities, services and amenities, rethinking the need for office space in urban centres, impact on land use and transport networks.
- 30 Minute City Region + Transit-oriented Development: important co-benefits beyond mitigating urban sprawl and shaping more accessible polycentric cities



Introduction: Climate Change Adaptation

○ Integrating Policy Areas



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○ Planning Strategy Responses

- Nature-Based Solutions: Integrating spatial planning and built environment policies to support green/blue infrastructure strategies addressing multiple aspects of climate resilience.
- Urban Flood Risk/Subsidence: multiple co-benefits, reducing urban run-off and increasing urban water storage e.g. tree planting, creation of reed-beds and ponds for water storage

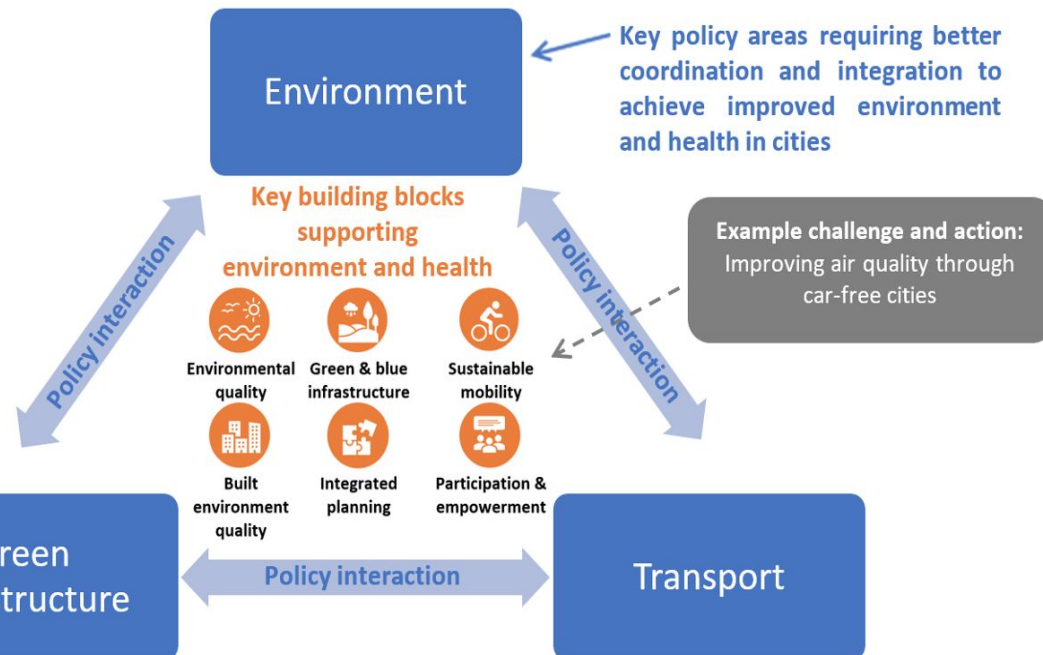


Introduction: Healthy Cities

○ Integrating Policy Areas

○ Planning Strategy Responses

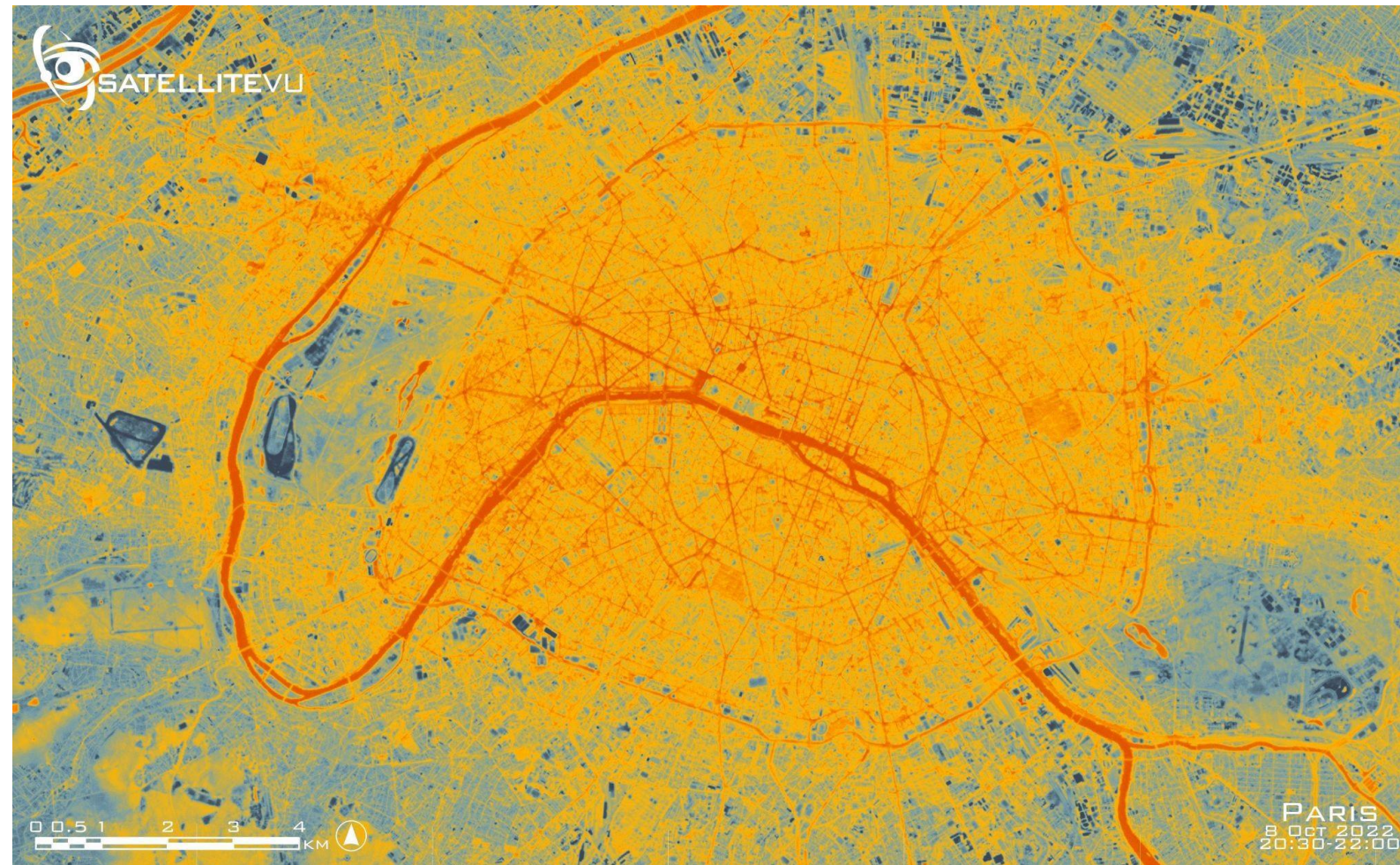
- Reducing Car Use and Promoting Active Travel: improved frequency/availability of public transport, and incentives for cyclists, reducing speeds, restricting access to reduce air and noise pollution.
- Promoting Teleworking: reducing commuting to work overall.



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Introduction: EO for urban form and function



HECKOR tower, Heraklion (Greece) © RSLab



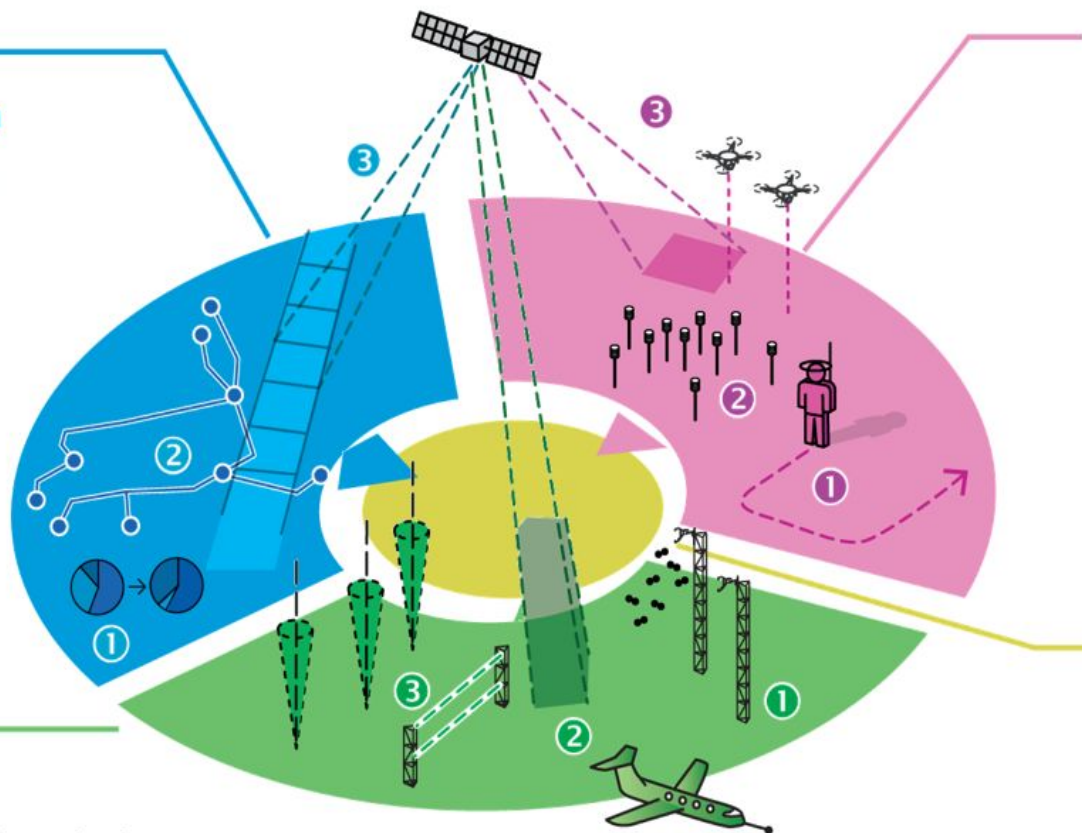
Introduction: EO for urban form and function

Observing Urban Form and Function

- ❶ Dynamics of socio-economic and demographic conditions
- ❷ Mobility patterns
- ❸ Multispectral, hyperspectral and laser-based EO to observe form and function

Observing Urban Emissions

- ❶ Flux towers to measure E/W/C/AQ emissions
- ❷ Concentration and isotope measurements on ground, in atmosphere and from satellites
- ❸ Wind LIDARS / ALC, Scintillometry



Observing Urban Exposure

- ❶ Wearable sensors
- ❷ Indoor-outdoor massive sensor networks
- ❸ 3D- and satellite thermal remote sensing





“Revival” of the EuroGEO Urban Action Group

- Members
 - Objectives and Priorities
 - Policies and directions
 - Where we are now?
 - Collaboration with other EuroGEO Action Groups
 - Presentations by Action Group Members (max 10 min)
- Members:
 - *Pre-COVID:*
ROSA, JRC, NOA, FORTH
 - *2023 -*
JRC, NOA, FORTH
.....
.....

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“Revival” of the EuroGEO Urban Action Group

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 - Collaboration with other EuroGEO Action Groups
 - Presentations by Action Group Members (max 10 min)
- Objectives and Priorities:
 - *Focusing on urban environment and supporting the implementation of EO to European cities*
 - *Exploitation of EO in dealing with the multidimensional problem of urban sustainability, towards increasing urban resilience*
 - *Translate needs in the urban domain into requirements for EO and translate advancements in EO into novel solutions for European cities*
 - *Stimulate the initiation of projects, case studies or pilots to enhance collaboration across EuroGEO and to address identified gaps*



“Revival” of the EuroGEO Urban Action Group

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- Where we are now?
- Collaboration with other EuroGEO Action Groups
- Presentations by Action Group Members (max 10 min)
- Polices:
 - *New Urban Agenda*
 - *Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy*
 - *European Green Deal*
 - *New Leipzig Charter*
 - *8th Environment Action Programme*
 - *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs)*
 - *Paris Agreement and Glasgow Climate Pact*
 - *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*



“Revival” of the EuroGEO Urban Action Group

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- Objectives and Priorities
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- Where we are now?
- Collaboration with other EuroGEO Action Groups
- Presentations by Action Group Members (max 10 min)
- Where we are now?
 - *The Urban Action Group is timely*
 - *The urban domain has become central*
 - *Post-COVID opportunities for cities*
 - *Emphasis on observations in cities (i.e. crowdsourcing, ICOS-cities, etc.)*
 - *New RTD opportunities in Horizon Europe*
 - *New RTD opportunity in EUSPA*
 - *National decarbonisation policies*



“Revival” of the EuroGEO Urban Action Group

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- Where we are now?
- Collaboration with other EuroGEO Action Groups
- Presentations by Action Group
 - Collaboration with other EuroGEO Action Groups:
 - *Due to the multidimensional nature of urban sustainability and to meet the challenge of improving urban resilience, synergies with the other Action Groups (specifically at the local scale) is needed*
 - LCLU
 - Disasters
 - Biodiversity

Members (max 10 min)

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Issues for discussion

- Presentations by Action Group Members
- Active Urban Projects
- Link with GEO 4th Engagement Priority
- Stakeholders engagement
- Link with European and International Initiatives
- Roadmap



Active Urban Projects

- Horizon2020 and Horizon Europe Grants (including ERC)
- EUSPA Projects
- ESA Projects
- Urban Innovation Actions (UIA) & URBACT
- LIFE Actions
- INTERREG Actions
- Other International Collaborations



Link with GEO 4th Engagement Priority

- The GEO 4th Engagement Priority:

Resilient Cities and Human Settlements

- Link the EuroGEO Urban Action Group with GEO RCHS Working Group
- Share good practices and benchmark experiences - joint pilot studies
- Upscale the European innovation in urban domain to the GEO level
- EuroGEO contribution to RCHS WG Subgroups



Stakeholders Engagement

- Engage stakeholders to understand their needs and to identify the highest-value opportunities for application of EO in European cities
- Improving the uptake by European stakeholders of EO and demonstrate how EO can continue to assist policies implementation (e.g. NUA)
- Provide greater visibility to ongoing EuroGEO activities related to the urban domain
- Facilitate increased synergies between stakeholders along EO value chain:
 - *EU DGs and Agencies with policy responsibilities related to cities*
 - *Local and Regional Authorities*
 - *Cities Networks (ICLEI, C40, R-Cities, ...)*
 - *Council of European Municipalities/Regions, Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy*



Link with European and International Initiatives

- Develop synergies within ERA:
 - *Active H2020 and Horizon Europe projects*
 - *Future Horizon Europe projects in Clusters 4 and 6*
 - *EU Missions (Cities, Adaptation)*
- Link with ICOS (and other European Infrastructures)
 - *ICOS-Cities*
- Link with Nature Based Solutions Initiative
- Explore other European funded (e.g. UIA, EIB) activities
- Link with UN-Habitat (United Nations Settlements Programme)
- Link with IPCC: AR7 - Special Report on Cities and Climate Change



Roadmap

- Commitment
- Plan forward for tangible actions
- Joint Activities & project-based collaboration
- Expected additional support from EC
- Action Group meetings
- Milestones, reporting
- Short-term planning



JURSE 2023
Heraklion – Crete

17 - 19 May 2023

New methodologies and technical resources
for urban investigation through remote sensing

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Coffee break / Lunch

10:45 – 11:15/13:00 – 14:30

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OR

Roof garden (8th floor)

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