

# Cities Investing in Sustainable Strategies

## 1. Introduction

The survey is aimed to gain an insight of how cities are dealing with their sustainable strategies in the context of economic development. Every European city has a different approach, depending on its resources and governance. Therefore, sharing knowledge for common practices is always helpful in defining targets and constructing possible partnerships. The results of this survey will serve for writing a report of common patterns across European cities, which will be useful not only to those professionals, who are involved directly in projects for sustainable development, but to all local government officials reaching for high quality environmental protection and green growth. The main results will also be presented and discussed at the EDF Business meeting in Preston (11 June 2010) as a follow up to the EDF meeting held in Madrid (09-12 February 2010).

The survey will take 10-15 min of your time. Please, make sure to fill some information for all of the boxes. It is essential for analysing and comparing the results.

We would be grateful if you could complete it by 9 April.

The survey was designed by Marie Ranty and Gergana Toshkina, Economic Development Forum of EUROCITIES. For any questions, please write to:

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Thank you very much for your contribution.

## 2. Details of your city

\* 1. Name of the city

2. Population size

☐ 250,000-500,000

☐ 500,000-750,000

☐ 750,000-1,000,000

☐ more than 1,000,000

3. Level of urban sprawl- physical expansion of the urban area (as defined by the European Environmental Agency)

☐ 1 to 5 % (low)

☐ 5 to 10 % (medium)

☐ more than 10 % (high)

# Cities Investing in Sustainable Strategies

## 3. Sustainable Approach

1. Which three of these issues are the main priority areas for your city in terms of sustainability?

- ☐ energy efficiency
- ☐ public transport
- ☐ water management
- ☐ waste management
- ☐ air quality
- ☐ green infrastructure
- ☐ other

For other, please specify:

2. Why is it important for your city to focus on exactly that particular areas? Please discuss briefly:

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3. How best would you describe eco-innovation in your city?

- ☐ using a lot of new technologies in different areas of the city planning
- ☐ using known technologies in an innovative way
- ☐ investing in scientific research of sustainable solutions
- ☐ other

For other, please specify:

4. Could you give an example of a project/initiative/strategy connected with eco-innovation? Briefly describe the project.

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## Cities Investing in Sustainable Strategies

5. How do you encourage SMEs to be 'greener' / more sustainable?

- ☐ by creating eco labels
- ☐ by involving them in specific projects
- ☐ by favouring the creation of SMEs with environmentally friendly solutions (e.g. offering them financial support)
- ☐ through green procurement
- ☐ by informing them on "green" EU legislation and regulations
- ☐ the city does not have a specific strategy for SMEs
- ☐ other

For other, please specify:

6. In your city, how do you relate sustainability with economic growth?

- ☐ by identifying economic risks from environmental deprivation and trying to counter them
- ☐ by investing in green infrastructure
- ☐ by investing in building efficiency
- ☐ by investing in construction of technological parks ( for production of biogas, for example)
- ☐ other

For other, please specify:

7. Having in mind the experience of your city, do you think that economic growth and sustainable development can go hand in hand?

8. What kind of stakeholders do you involve when designing and delivering your sustainable strategy?

- ☐ big private companies (e.g. energy; construction; transport)
- ☐ SMEs
- ☐ European organisations
- ☐ citizens
- ☐ green NGOs
- ☐ other

For other, please specify:

## Cities Investing in Sustainable Strategies

9. What are the main challenges you face when designing and delivering your sustainable strategy?

☐ insufficient financing

☐ difficulty in convincing the population of its benefits

☐ the fact that its results are not always visible in short-term perspective

☐ the city lacks professional competence in the field

☐ other

For other, please specify:

10. How do you involve your citizens in sustainable projects?

☐ advertising (website, brochures, billboards, TV, radio)

☐ asking for opinion and feedback (e.g. questionnaires)

☐ direct participation

☐ other

For other, please specify:

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## 4. Financing sustainable strategies

1. How important is the theme of sustainability in your budget outline?

- ☐ not very important- we have other issues to concentrate on
- ☐ important- a big percentage is dedicated to it
- ☐ extremely important- it is integrated in most of our planning

Explain briefly:

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2. Please indicate roughly the percentage you dedicate to it in your city budget.

- ☐ less than 15 %
- ☐ 15 %- 25 %
- ☐ 25 %-50 %
- ☐ more than 50 %

3. Your overall sustainable strategy is mainly financed through:

- ☐ EU funding
- ☐ local government funds
- ☐ national funds
- ☐ regional funds
- ☐ other

For other, please specify

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4. If you use EU funding, namely which EU financial mechanisms?

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5. Would you be able to finance the city's sustainable projects without the mentioned EU funding?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

5. Share Opinion

1. If you had all the necessary means, what improvements would you make to your current sustainable strategy?

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2. Here you can leave any further comments you might have:

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## 6. Thank you

Thank you very much for sharing your experiences!

Marie Ranty and Gergana Toshkina



