

PARTNER SEARCH:**Title of proposed project (network):**

"Cities of change - co-operation of cities in the field of city development" - thematic network

Project subject:

"Cities of change - innovative methods of monitoring changes to improve large cities' development"

EU Programme:

"Europe for Citizens", Measure 1.2 Thematic Networking of Twinned Towns

Description of project idea:

We propose to apply for co-financing of a project that would be a first step to create a network of cities. The network will focus on subjects linked with different issues of city strategic management. Member cities will co-operate through exchange of experiences and good practices on subjects that they identify crucial and urgent.

Main project (network) objectives:

1. Establishing a sustainable network among European cities to exchange experiences and good practices in the field of modern, strategic city management.
2. Elaboration of model solutions concerning city strategic management applicable in modern local administrations in different fields of strategic city development.
3. Enhancing promotion of participative democracy and good governance among local governments.
4. Promoting knowledge transfer from science to local government to solve problem regarding cities' development.

Establishing of network will start with the proposed project. It will concern the topic of innovative methods of monitoring changes to improve large cities' development. It will focus on exchange of experiences and capacity building activities in three thematic components:

Component 1: systems of strategic monitoring

Component 2: methods of public consultations involving citizens

Component 3: analysis of quality of life indicators

Main project activities and timetable:

JUNE - SEPTEMBER 2013 - project start (once the award decision is announced)

OCTOBER 2013 - Organisation of two-day international conference in Poznań, "Cities of change - Innovative methods of analysing and monitoring changes for improvement of strategic city development" including:

- one day of plenary and group sessions concerning three above listed components,
- one day of group workshops (groups of 20-25 persons) held by invited experts in three components.

Main focus will be put on using and interpreting collected data for strategic monitoring of cities' development.

NOVEMBER 2013 - MAY 2014

Co-operation of partners on common publication on the subject (to be presented during next project event in June 2014). This activity will aim at identification of people in different member cities, who are eager to continue co-operation even when the project EU co-financing is over.

JUNE 2014 - Organisation of two-day international conference in Poznań, including:

- one day of three thematic sessions - one open session and two sessions in form of

moderated debates (that will take place in separate rooms),
- one day of open "closing" session - presentation of the project publication and a study visit.

JUNE - DECEMBER 2014 - project closing activities and (in the same time) identification of common problems linked with city strategic management that members of the network would like to focus on in the future.

Project expected outcomes:

- project publication collecting knowledge and conclusions gathered during project events. It will present the topic from two angles: theoretical (academic) and practical. It is crucial to analyse key issues on the basis of both the theoretical knowledge and interesting experiences of local stakeholders from different EU countries,
- conference publication (conference programme) that will introduce the topic to participants of first project event. It will include short profiles of speakers and workshop trainers, summaries of their lectures/presentations, list of contacts enabling further individual exchange of knowledge and experiences,
- project website enabling presentation and exchange of experiences and good practices and continuation of co-operation in the future.

The main project outcome will be creation of the network that would continue its activities even when the EU funded project is finalised.

Partnership:

Lead Partner (will submit application on behalf of the partnership)
City of Poznań, Poland (Poznań City Hall)

Partners:

The applicants and partners must be established in one of the countries participating to the "Europe for citizens" Programme. We would like to propose participation in the network to European cities of above 150 000 inhabitants with experience in at least one of three thematic components:

Component 1: systems of strategic monitoring

Component 2: methods of public consultations involving citizens

Component 3: analysis of quality of life indicators

Type of organisation:

- Towns/municipalities or their twinning committees or networks;
- Other levels of local/regional authorities;
- Federations/associations of local authorities.
- Non-profit organisations representing local authorities

Expected partners' involvement:

At the project preparation stage:

- no official Declaration of interest is required (but would be welcome !),
- the partners are required to provide several information necessary for application.

Once the project is awarded, the partners are required:

- to participate in project events (conferences, workshops and debates): 3- 8 persons per partner,
- to participate in preparation of project publication - min. 2 articles to be provided by each partner (articles concerning practical solutions used by the organisation in 3 components),
- to involve in the project representatives from its organisation who deal with issues covered by the project (strategic monitoring, citizens' participation etc.),
- to identify in its organisation at least one "operative" person to work on regular basis (e-mail, phones etc) with the project co-ordinator in Poznań on the project issues.

What are the financial conditions of participation?**What does the EU co - financing covers?**

- Partners are not required to bring any financial contribution to the project. However it is crucial to stress that co-financing of the EU is limited and it covers mainly costs of organisation of project events (travel, accommodation and subsistence).
- Each partner will send from 3 to 8 persons to each event. The number of people whose travel, accommodation and subsistence cost could be covered by the EU grant will depend on the number of project partners.
- All additional expenses (travel, accommodation and subsistence to events for more people, costs of personnel involved, overheads etc.) will be covered by partners individually.
- It is assumed that participants travel with mostly economic means of transport.

Foreseen project duration:

19 months

Starting date of the project 06/2013 until 12/2014

Deadline for expression of interest:

17/01/2013