

EURO
CITIES

EUROCITIES
annual report 2013
&
work programme 2014

EUROCITIES is the political platform for major European cities towards the European institutions.

We network the local governments of over 130 of Europe's largest cities and 40 partner cities that between them govern some 130 million citizens across 35 countries.

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Secretary general's foreword



Europe's major cities are the place brands that define our continent. Not only are they the theatres of our shared history, but they convey iconic cultural value in today's global economy. From universities to airports, commercial hubs to football teams, Europe and the world are reflected as vividly through cities as they are through nations. And the vitality of EUROCITIES reflects the resource and potential that metropolitan Europe represents. Our members continue to reach outwards and engage internationally because they know they represent Europe's competitive asset.

As this annual report illustrates, 2013 has been a busy but effective year. Our focus has been on the finalisation of the EU budget, policy frameworks and spending programmes for the next seven years. Our influencing efforts have reaped positive results. Not only is the contribution of cities to Europe's strategic ambitions recognised in EU legislation and plans; but many member state governments are themselves now pressing for a clearer 'urban agenda' at the European level. Our collaborations with such global partners as the UN, OECD and Bloomberg show the breadth and strength of interest in the part that city mayors can play to improve lives right across our planet.

EUROCITIES succeeds thanks not only to the skills and commitment of our team in Brussels but, most importantly, to the engagement of the politicians and experts in our member cities. Our voice carries because it is representative and credible. It is thanks to our still strong and active membership that we can ensure that Europe's most important cities are always heard and increasingly heeded.

Paul Bevan
Secretary General

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Bevan', written over a light grey horizontal line.

The three strands of our work at EUROCITIES - influencing, networking and visibility – are closely interrelated and mutually supportive. If our primary concern is influencing EU policy in the interests of cities, it is networking that allows us to build a common agenda for that purpose. Our forums, working groups and projects offer a continuing international programme of professional development. And the working connections we make from that dialogue and learning have proved to be a great springboard for our cities to win EU funding for collaborative initiatives.

Important aspects of our long term influencing effort came to a head in 2013. As the future European Union budget took shape, so also did the policies and funding programmes to deliver the Europe 2020 strategy of 'smart, sustainable, inclusive growth'. We have won recognition in many thematic programmes of the important part played by cities in achieving that 2020 goal. Social inclusion, creative industries and entrepreneurship are examples. And the new 'smart cities' European Innovation Partnership, addressing energy, mobility and the digital agenda, represents a bold expression of the central role of cities in Europe's future competitiveness.

I am thankful to the many politicians and practitioners from member cities who have devoted time to EUROCITIES. Our visibility and influence relies on the mayors who have led our political delegations and spoken on our behalf at international conferences, as well as on the city experts who have contributed their technical know-how to EU policy making.

Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz
Mayor of Warsaw, president of EUROCITIES



President's foreword



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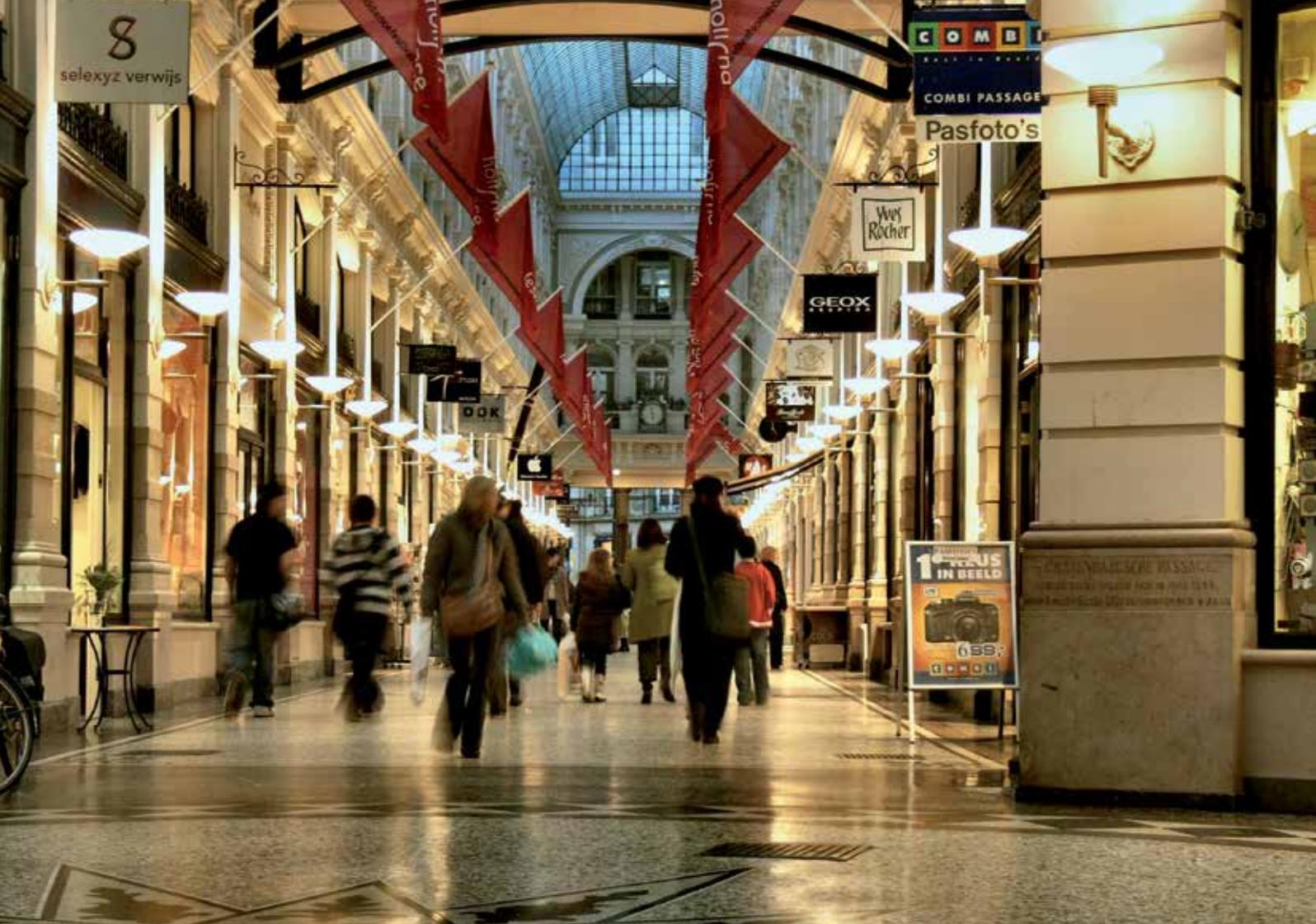
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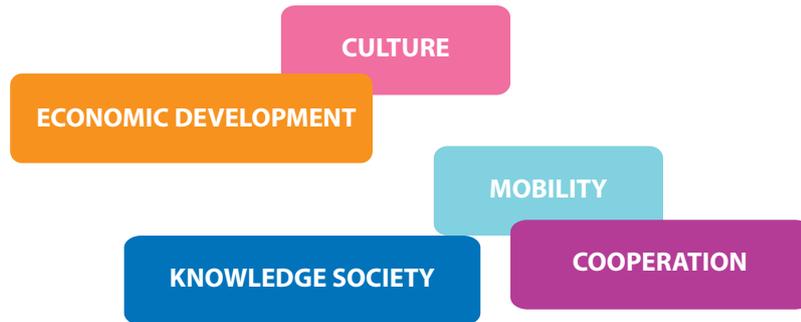
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recovery | inclusion | climate

Cities are Europe's global competitive edge and centres of innovation, producing around 85% of the EU's GDP. Under strong city leadership, we can attract the right talent and investment to drive economic growth and recovery.



creative industries mobility of artists resources for culture
ENP & enlargement EU budget taskforce governance public
services city attractiveness cohesion policy entrepreneurship &
SMEs innovation integrated urban development international
economic relations metropolitan areas cyber security
open data smart cities TransEuropean transport networks

Cities of tomorrow



The future is smart: cities are turning to new ICT solutions to manage everyday challenges, from service and energy provision to urban transport. Meeting in Ghent for our annual conference, we discussed ways to embrace citizens' smart potential as part of this process. Through our participation in the European Commission's High Level Group we have worked to ensure the European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities reflects the needs on the ground and is citizen-focused.

Our partnership in the Bloomberg Philanthropies' Mayors Challenge is providing important financial backing to turn cities' smart ideas into reality.



"It is people that make cities. Buildings, infrastructure and technology are not enough. It is the dense concentration of people that generates innovation, dynamism, and the creative spark that makes a city successful. We need to put people at the heart of our digital future."

Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz
mayor of Warsaw and president of EUROCITIES

A budget for recovery

We have long stressed the critical role cities will play in achieving the Europe 2020 vision of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Our work on the EU budget has helped secure a strong role for cities in many of the major new funding programmes. More resources have been allocated to research and innovation, and the new youth guarantee will help tackle unemployment among young people, a problem concentrated in cities.

The next round of structural and investment funds gives cities greater visibility and influence to make their mark. There is an emphasis on integrated actions that combine, for example, business development with urban regeneration and labour market measures, and a focus on strengthening metropolitan area collaboration. Member state governments that work in close partnership with local authorities to invest in their cities will reap the greatest rewards.



"Whatever is important to Europe is concentrated in cities. European goals can only be achieved with cities: for example energy efficiency, innovation and tackling poverty."

Johannes Hahn

European commissioner for regional policy



Supporting service delivery



Providing quality services to citizens is one of the greatest challenges for cities. We've been pressing for maximum flexibility so city authorities can choose the right services for their populations. The new public procurement directives will give cities more room for manoeuvre when it comes to selecting contracts, letting them take into account not just financial but social and environmental considerations. A new standard procurement document will mean less paperwork and make it easier for SMEs to bid.

Meanwhile, water provision has been excluded from the scope of the concessions directive, respecting the need to adapt delivery to the local context. Giving cities the flexibility to make sensible procurement choices helps them contribute to a smarter, more sustainable and inclusive Europe.

Connected cities

Better connections create new opportunities for cities and citizens. As the EU prepares to roll out nine major transport corridors under its TransEuropean Transport Networks (TEN-T) strategy, we've helped secure a central role for cities in the governance of transport infrastructure projects.

With public services depending increasingly on high speed networks, we're also helping cities to improve digital connectivity, through faster broadband links and better telecommunications infrastructure.



Creative power

The cultural and creative sectors are of intrinsic value to city development. They employ 10% of Europe's workforce and culture and heritage are our cities' greatest assets. The value of culture is set out explicitly in the new Creative Europe programme, whose rapporteur, Silvia Costa MEP, was keen to stress the link between culture and local development to our culture forum when it met in Florence in March.

In our report on the mobility of artists and cultural professionals we looked at ways in which cities are enriching their cultural offerings.



"The creative and cultural industries contribute to the transformation of local economies by encouraging the emergence of new types of economic activity, creating new and sustainable jobs and making European regions and cities more attractive. This helps promote both social and territorial cohesion."

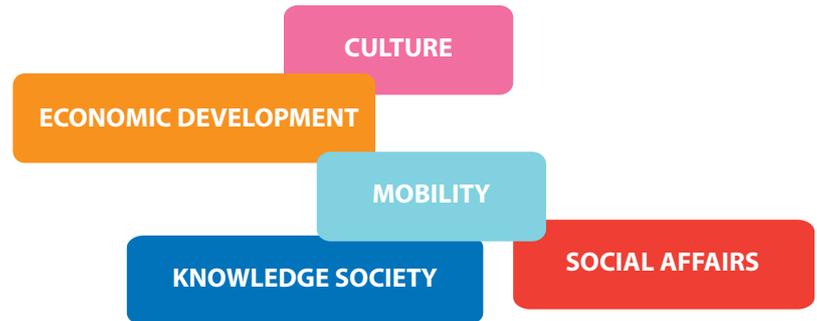
Silvia Costa
member of the European Parliament





recovery | **inclusion** | climate

Europe's people are our greatest asset – our human capital. Investing in higher skills, quality jobs and social inclusion provides clear economic payback, as well as directly improving the quality of life of our citizens, 75% of whom live in cities.



cultural access & entitlement | inclusion barrier-free city for all | employment
ESF culture & young people | health inequalities | homelessness & housing
education | migration & integration | Roma inclusion | smart social inclusion



EUROCITIES social affairs work is in part commissioned under the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity (2007-2013). This programme is managed by the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission. It was established to financially support the implementation of the objectives of the European Union in the employment and social affairs area, as set out in the Social Agenda, and thereby contribute to the achievement of the EUROPE 2020 goals in these fields.

No one left behind



City leaders are concerned with helping all their citizens participate actively in urban life. Not only are the ways in which cities manage and deliver services changing, but so are citizens' expectations. Making sure no one is left behind is a priority for city authorities.

Our Cities for Active Inclusion partnership has been reviewing the different ways in which cities are reaching out to vulnerable citizens. For example, equipping people with entrepreneurial and digital skills can support their more active participation in society. Presenting its findings this year, the partnership maintained that an inclusive Europe could only be delivered by frontline action in cities.



"In these times of austerity, cities must demonstrate that people can rely on us. Our local strategies need to connect with and respond to the needs of people. So we have to keep in close contact with our residents."

Henk Kool
deputy mayor of The Hague and chair of the EUROCITIES Social Affairs Forum

Investing in social change

Cities are at the frontline of some of Europe's most pressing challenges. From unemployment to poverty and exclusion, it is in cities where these are concentrated, and in cities where we can find the solutions. Calling for strong involvement from cities in the new Social Investment Package, we stressed at an EU ministerial meeting in Vilnius that an inclusive Europe cannot be achieved without the full support of Europe's cities.



“[The] Social Investment Package, which advocates better performing active inclusion strategies and a more efficient and more effective use of social budgets, requires the strong support and active involvement of city authorities.”

László Andor
European commissioner for employment, social affairs and inclusion



Better integration

Dealing with the pressures of migration is a daily reality for all our cities. Learning from each other's experiences helps cities build more solid integration policies that encourage participation, nurture cohesion and promote understanding.

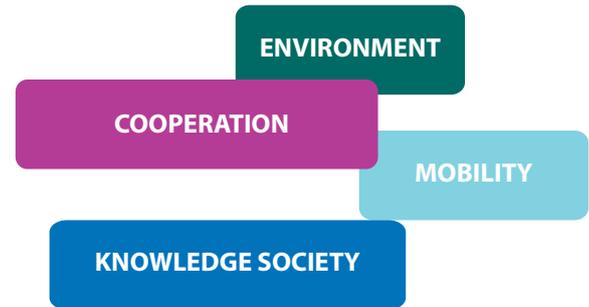
A series of mentoring visits organised under our ImpleMentoring project has helped cities do that, with the more experienced offering guidance and support to those who are trying to find the right approach. The project supports our Integrating Cities Charter, now signed by 33 cities, and this is resonating further afield, with Canadian city Toronto also adapting a version of the charter to its local context.





recovery | inclusion | **climate**

Climate change sits high on the global agenda. Cities are important players, not only because they produce some 80% of greenhouse gas emissions but because they are best placed to change the behaviour of citizens and businesses. With the right support we can drive forward green growth.



air quality, climate change & energy efficiency clean cities green areas & biodiversity greening the local economy noise waste water developing a new mobility culture road safety transport & energy efficiency

Local effort, global impact



Speaking alongside the COP19 climate negotiations in Warsaw, UN secretary general Ban Ki-Moon declared 'mayors can be the solution'. Indeed, as nations continue to negotiate a global climate deal for 2015, it is our cities that are taking action.

And we too are committed to getting the city voice heard through our involvement in the Local Government Climate Roadmap, which feeds into the UN's annual negotiations. And with carbon emissions concentrated in urban areas, it is local efforts that have the greatest impact.

The commitment and enthusiasm of city leaders is evident, with many from around the world signing the Nantes declaration on climate change in September. Our Twitter campaign #cities4climate showcased some of the great achievements already being made at city level.

Cleaner air, quieter cities

The state of the urban environment directly impacts on citizens' quality of life and the way in which they perceive their cities. We are helping cities deploy low carbon transport infrastructure and encourage citizens to choose soft modes of transport. We support this process through our involvement in several European projects, including European Mobility Week, which this year saw citizens from 1,880 cities take to the streets.



"Cities have a great role to play when it comes to improving options for transport. By raising awareness and offering greener alternatives, cities can become more attractive places for people to live."

Janez Potočnik

European commissioner for the environment



Local energy leadership

Since cities account for the majority of Europe's energy consumption, it is here that we can make the greatest difference. Many city authorities are already intensifying their efforts to drive down energy consumption, from raising awareness to retrofitting public and private buildings. Evidence of these actions is demonstrated and shared through our CASCADE project.

Meanwhile, we have been working in the Covenant of Mayors to increase the number of signatories; over 5,000 cities and towns are now committed to improving energy efficiency. It is our cities that can turn climate policy into concrete actions.



"The biggest share of energy savings and CO₂ reductions on the way to 2050 will be made in our cities. Climate change mitigation has been a priority in EUROCITIES' work for a number of years now. Through EUROCITIES, we have been able to share experiences and collaborate on environmental action, strengthening our ability to tackle global warming."

Sir Albert Bore
leader of Birmingham City Council



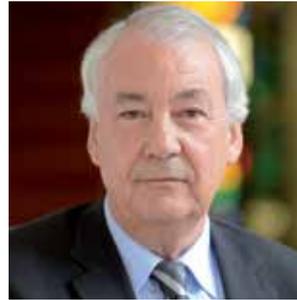


EUROCITIES executive committee

on 1 December 2013



Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz
mayor of Warsaw
(president)



Patrick Rimbart
mayor of Nantes
(vice president)



Albert Bore
leader of Birmingham
City Council
(secretary)



Daniël Termont
mayor of Ghent
(treasurer)



Xavier Trias
mayor of Barcelona



István Tarlós
mayor of Budapest



Frank Jensen
lord mayor of Copenhagen



Jozias van Aartsen
mayor of The Hague



Burkhard Jung
mayor of Leipzig



Piero Fassino
mayor of Turin



Sten Nordin
mayor of Stockholm



Michael Häupl
mayor of Vienna

EUROCITIES members & partners on 1 December 2013

In 2013, EUROCITIES welcomed one new member, Essen; two associated partners, St Nazaire and Stavanger; and one new associated business partner, ERDF.

AL	Tirana
AM	Yerevan
AT	Vienna*
BA	Banja Luka, Sarajevo
BE	Antwerp, Brussels Capital Region, Brussels City, Charleroi, Ghent*; Kortrijk ,
BG	Bourgas, Sofia, Varna
CH	Geneva, Zurich
CY	Nicosia; Turkish Cypriot Community of Nicosia
CZ	Brno, Pilsen, Prague; Ostrava
DE	Berlin, Bonn, Chemnitz, Cologne, Dortmund, Dresden, Dusseldorf, Essen, Frankfurt am Main, Hamburg, Karlsruhe, Leipzig*, Mannheim, Munich, Munster, Nuremberg; Bremen, Hagen ; ATOS
DK	Aarhus, Copenhagen*; IBM
EE	Tallinn
ES	Barcelona*, Bilbao, Gijon, Madrid, Malaga, Murcia, Seville, Terrassa Metropolitan Area, Zaragoza ; Fuenlabrada , San Sebastian-Donostia, Santiago de Compostela

FI Espoo, Helsinki, Oulu, Tampere, Turku, Vantaa
FR Angers Loire Metropole, Bordeaux, Grenoble Alpes Metropole,
Lille Communaute Urbaine, Lyon, Marseille, Nancy,
Nantes Metropole*, Nice Cote d'Azur, Paris, Rennes Metropole,
Saint Etienne Metropole, Strasbourg, Toulouse; **Amiens Metropole**,
Brest Metropole Oceane, **Reims Metropole**, **St Nazaire**, **Tours**;
ERDF, **VEOLIA**

FYROM Skopje
GE Tbilisi
GR Athens; **Amaroussion**, **Heraklion**
HR Zagreb; **Rijeka**
HU Budapest*
IE Dublin
IT Bologna, Florence, Genoa, Milan, Palermo,
Rome, Turin, Venice; **Cesena**, **Pisa**, **Salerno**
LT Vilnius
LU **Luxembourg**
LV Riga
NL Amsterdam, BrabantStad Metropolitan Area,
Eindhoven, Rotterdam, The Hague*, Utrecht; **Almere**,
Netwerkstad Twente, **Parkstad Limburg**

NO Bergen, Oslo; **Stavanger**
PL Bialystok, Bydgoszcz, Gdansk, Katowice, Lodz,
Lublin, Poznan, Rzeszow, Warsaw*, Wroclaw
PT Lisbon, Porto; **Matosinhos**
RO Timisoara
RS Nis, Novi Sad
RU **Barrier free city foundation**
SE Gothenburg, Malmo, Stockholm*; **Karlstad**, **Linkoping**,
Ronneby, **Umea**; **Kapsch**
SI Ljubljana
SK Bratislava; **Kosice**
TR Bursa, Gaziantep, Istanbul, Izmir, Konya, Sanliurfa; **Bakirkoy**,
Beyoglu, **Nilufer**, **Osmangazi**, **Pendik**, **Serdivan**; **Sampas**
UA Kharkov, Kiev, Lviv, Odessa
UK Belfast, Birmingham*, Brighton & Hove, Bristol, Edinburgh,
Glasgow, Liverpool, London, Manchester,
Newcastle Gateshead, Sheffield, Sunderland; **Derry**,
London European Partnership for Transport,
Preston, **Wolverhampton**; **Microsoft**

EUROCITIES forum chairs

on 1 December 2013



Culture
Matteo Lepore
deputy mayor
Bologna



Knowledge society
Daniël Termont
mayor
Ghent



Economic development
Nick Small
councillor
Liverpool



Mobility
Christian Specht
first deputy mayor
Mannheim



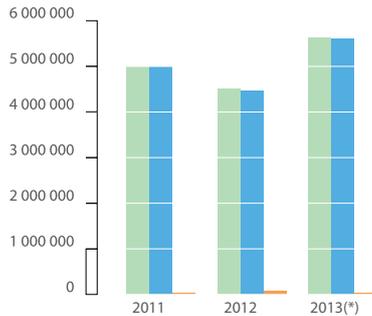
Environment
James McKay
councillor
Birmingham



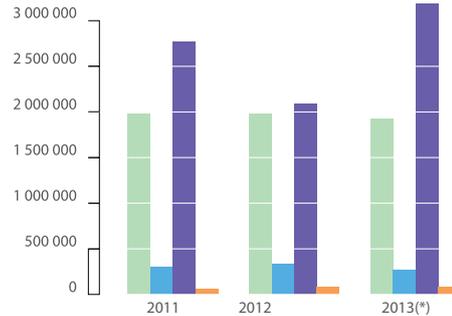
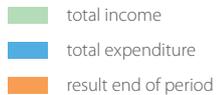
Social affairs
Henk Kool
deputy mayor
The Hague

fast financial facts

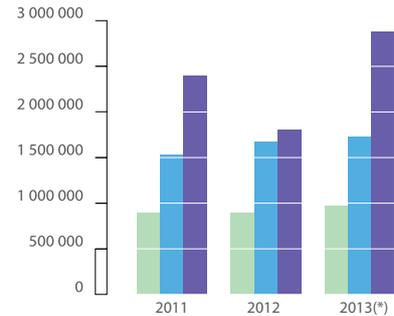
2011 - 2013, in euros



income & expenditure



income



expenditure



(*) projected results

WORK PROGRAMME 2014

Our key themes for 2014 are jobs, climate and citizens. These align with the Europe 2020 vision of 'smart, sustainable and inclusive growth', reflecting some of the biggest challenges faced by Europe's cities, namely unemployment, climate resilience and social cohesion.

Early 2014 will see a new EU urban agenda take shape, and we are working with our cities, member states and the Commission to ensure a new approach to policy that really fulfils the potential of Europe's cities.

This is also a year of institutional change, with elections to the European Parliament in May and the appointment of a new European Commission in the autumn.

We will continue to strive for strategic EU policy to be informed by local experience and expertise. We will network our member cities to exchange good practice and ideas. We will also help cities make the most of opportunities provided by the new funding programmes in the EU budget 2014-2020.

JOBS

Under this strand, our priorities for 2014 are:

- youth employment & education
- creative, green & digital economies
- competitiveness & innovation
- creativity, entrepreneurship & SMEs

With economic recovery underway across most of Europe, the key risk now is of jobless growth. Unemployment levels, particularly for young people, have reached unprecedented levels. Our agendas for economic inclusion, for the creative, green and digital economies and for education and training, all address this challenge. We will help cities make use of new resources for innovation and entrepreneurship and stress the role of the creative industries and SMEs in providing jobs and driving our economies. Balancing this with the need to protect the environment will remain an important focus of our work.

CLIMATE

Under this strand, our priorities for 2014 are:

- smart cities
- climate & resource efficiency
- sustainable urban mobility
- air quality

We will make the most of the European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities to help cities embrace new technologies to improve energy efficiency, while strengthening our Green Digital Charter as a driver for ICT-based energy efficiency. We will continue to support measures that provide our citizens with cleaner air, by promoting sustainable urban transport and shaping an ambitious EU air policy that works for cities. Our involvement in a number of European projects provides an important framework for city actions in this field.

CITIZENS

Under this strand, our priorities for 2014 are:

- cities connecting to new MEPs and commissioners
- social innovation and smart citizens
- urban poverty & social inclusion
- migrant integration & Roma inclusion

A key dimension to our work for 2014 will be relationship-building between cities and the new MEPs and commissioners to ensure an understanding of the urban agenda and support for our influencing work. We will continue to emphasise citizen-focused and citizen-driven innovation, both through our work on social innovation and smart cities. Citizens also remain at the core of our substantial agenda around inclusion and social investment. Helping lift citizens out of poverty and ensuring everyone has equal access to opportunities in our cities continue to be priorities.

save the date

EUROCITIES 2014 Munich

5-8 November 2014

How can we make our cities energy intelligent? At EURO CITIES 2014 Munich we will explore ways to manage the demand for energy in growing cities without compromising economic and social concerns. Our citizens will be an important part of this journey, with greater sustainable energy supply, cleaner air, stable energy prices and improved transport promising a better quality of life. We believe that by sharing ideas now on mobility management, local renewable energy production and new technologies, our cities can make a crucial contribution to reducing CO₂ emissions in the future.





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