

● Florence  
27-29 March

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## EUROCITIES Economic Development Forum meeting

'Local innovation ecosystems: creating a sustainable future for the EU'

### Concept:

The pace of change in cities in recent years is not expected to slow down. The disruption brought by innovation to urban economic systems has been enormous. Instead of reacting to this trend, cities are reclaiming their role as co-creator and co-designer of societal innovation. This requires an active role of the cities' leaders in rethinking the way innovation takes place. For this to happen, cities must allow the development of an ecosystem that enables the governance of the multitude forces of change, towards a common vision of Sustainable Development.

Only with a functioning ecosystem can citizen's idea translate into projects and experimentations that can benefit everyone: the community's support and feedback can only strengthen these ideas, leading to scalable and successful innovation. City planners must enable the development of strategic partnerships, facilitating the involvement and cooperation with both public and private actors. To reach long-term socio-economic and environmental goals and achieve the SDGs, cities must lead the way.

### Objectives:

The EDF in Florence will be a chance to come together and discuss how new business models, new methods of participation and co-creation of innovations, stronger and more agile institutions, innovation ecosystem local champions, and better cities involvement for better regulations, can all contribute to the development of a stronger European Innovation ecosystem.

### Themes:

Innovation ecosystems, SMEs, Co-creation, Social entrepreneurs, participatory governance, SDGs, cross-border cooperation, cities in EU innovation policies, Industry 4.0, GovTech.

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## Overview meeting:

Day 1 27/03	Morning	<p>Steering Committee</p> <p>Institutional welcome speeches</p> <p>Key-note speech</p> <p>Panel Debate /Q&amp;A session</p>	C/O Chamber of Commerce of Florence - Piazza Mentana
	Afternoon	<p>Presentation of Innovation City Lab methodology</p> <p>Project lunch and Political lunch</p> <p>Innovation City Lab</p> <p>Discussion and Presentation of key results</p>	C/O Chamber of Commerce of Florence - Piazza Mentana
	Evening	<p>Guided visit to Museo Bardini Firenze</p> <p>Cocktail and Dinner at Museo Bardini Firenze</p>	Museo Bardini
Day 2 28/03	Morning	<p>Welcome coffee and registrations</p> <p>Official Welcome by the chair and the Hosting partner</p> <p>Workshop on Urban Innovative Actions</p> <p>Joint WG meeting</p>	C/O Chamber of Commerce of Florence - Piazza Mentana
	Afternoon	<p>Light lunch</p> <p>Separate WG meetings</p> <p>Study visit organised by groups ( STUDENT HOTEL: co-working and co-living space)</p>	C/O Chamber of Commerce of Florence - Piazza Mentana
	Evening	<i>Informal dinner</i>	Florence Student Hotel
Day 3 29/03	Morning	<p>Study visit at Murate Idea Park</p> <p>EDF Business Meeting</p> <p>Steering Committee and Farewell</p>	Murate Idea Park

**DAY 1: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> of March**  
**Plenary Session open to Local stakeholders**  
**Venue: Chamber of Commerce of Florence**  
Piazza Mentana 1

WIFI: workinflorence

10.30-11.00

*Welcome coffee and registration*

10.30-11.00

**Steering Committee for SC members**  
(dedicated room 12/20)

11.00-11.30

**Institutional welcome speeches**

Dario Nardella, EUROCITIES vice-president  
and Mayor of Florence

Andrea Arnone, Pro-Rector, University of  
Florence

Leonardo Bassilichi, President, Chamber of  
Commerce of Florence

11.30-12.00

**Key-note speech *Innovation policies and  
their central role in sustainable local  
development***

Prof. Esteve Almirall, Center for  
Innovation in Cities, ESADE

12.00-13.15

*Panel Debate 1/ Why should we develop local innovation ecosystems and how?*  
*Q&A*

Cecilia Del RE, Florence Deputy-Mayor for Economic Development and Tourism

André Sobczak, EDF Chair, Nantes Metropole Vice-President on CSR and EU Affairs

Santtu von Bruun, representing EDF Vice-Chair, Helsinki Deputy-Mayor on Innovation

Fabrizio Colimberti, Policy Officer, DG RTD, European Commission

Javier Gomez, Scientific Officer on Urban Development at EC Joint Research Centre

*moderated by Simone D'Antonio, URBACT Expert and Journalist*

13.15-13.30

**Presentation of Innovation City Lab methodology / Family picture**

13.30-14.30

**Project lunch, presentations by Florence, ICapital, EUROCITIES**

**Political lunch on Corporate Social Responsibility/ Sustainable Public Procurement**

14.30-16.30

**Innovation City Lab: workshop aimed at members' consultation and the preparation  
of a draft statement on sustainable innovation ecosystems (SIE)**

*Participants will work in five different rooms, each focusing on a specific stakeholder's  
group and working towards policy recommendations, specifically related to SIE.*

1.Role of EU Tools - How should EU tools support the future development of SIE in Cities?  
*Moderated by Aleksandra Olejnik, EUROCITIES*

2.Cooperation with Universities - How can the cooperation between public authorities,  
universities, R&D institutions foster the capabilities crucial to build SIE?  
*Moderated by Alessandro Monti, Foundation for Research and Innovation*

3.Cooperation with Entrepreneurship and Start-ups - What kind of financial, educational  
and participation tool can stakeholders use to facilitate the development of  
entrepreneurship and innovative thinking?  
*Moderated by Katja Wessling, Nana Bianca*

4. Cooperation with Citizenship - How can stakeholders design a model which facilitates the co-creation and co-design of open innovation in line with the needs of the citizens?  
*Moderated by Prof. Christian Iaione, LabGov, Luiss University*

5. Cooperation with technological sector - How can the technological sector (Civic-tech, Industry 4.0, Software developers) can contribute to a local innovation ecosystem that builds on the cities' cultural, human and economic assets.

*Moderated by Luca Tricarico, Nesta Italia*

**16.30-17.00**

**Coffee break**

**17.00- 17.30**

**Discussion on the key results of the Innovation City Lab**

*Moderated by Silvia Ganzerla, EUROCITIES*

**19.00 - 20.00**

**Guided visit to Museo Bardini Firenze**

Museo Bardini  
Firenze

**20.00 -**

**Cocktail and Dinner**

DAY 2: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> of March  
Venue: Chamber of Commerce of Florence  
Piazza Mentana 1

WiFi: workinflorence

09.00- 09.15	<i>Welcome coffee and registration</i>	Auditorium
09.15- 09.30	<b>Official Welcome by EDF Chair and Florence</b>	Auditorium
09.30- 10.30	<b>Workshop on the Capitalisation of Urban Innovative Actions</b>  9:30-9:45 - Presentation of the UIA and Co-City Turin project by Gianni Ferrero  9:45-10:00 - Presentation of the UIA policy update 'New forms of partnerships for the development of policies enabling urban innovation' by UIA expert Christian Iaione  10.00-10:30 - Q&A session moderated by Aleksandra Olejnik (EUROCITIES)	
10.30- 17.15	<b>WG meetings</b>  10.30- 12.30 Joint meeting on ' <i>Collaborative storytelling as enabler for innovation &amp; sustainability</i> ' hosted by WG City Branding and International Economic Relations  12.30- 13.30 Light Lunch  13.30- 17.15 Joint Meeting WG Innovation and WG Entrepreneurship and SMEs on ' <i>The role of Innovation Agendas for Local Innovation Ecosystem' growth and Innovative and Participatory forms of financing as enablers for bottom-up SMEs</i> '  13.30- 17.15 Separate meeting WG City Branding and International Economic Relations on ' <i>City Branding Critical Friend Review/ Governance and Tourism Sustainability</i> '	Auditorium/Sala Corsi
18.30-19.30	<b>Study visit at the Student Hotel</b>  <i>New forms of cooperation as a way to strengthen Innovation Ecosystem: Co-Working and Co-living in the Student Hotel</i>	Student Hotel
19.30	<b>Informal dinner C/O FLORENCE STUDENT HOTEL</b>	

## DAY 3: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of March

Venue: Murate Idea Park  
Piazza Madonna della Neve 8

WiFi: FirenzeWiFi

09.00- 09.30	Welcome coffee and registration	Murate Idea Park
9.30-10.30	<b>Study visit organised by groups (max 50 pp)</b>  <i>Going Beyond the classic start-up incubators: building up common spaces for open innovation in Le Murate Idea Park</i>	Murate Idea Park
10.30-12.30	<b>EDF Business Meeting</b>  Presentation on INTERREG results/best-practices by Florence  WG reports and policy update by WG Chairs and EUROCITIES  UA Partnership Jobs and Skills next steps by Coordinator and City of Berlin  Discussion and Approval of Forum Strategy  Update on the state of the play on the Future of EUROCITIES  Presentation by next host of EDF Munich	Sala Wanda Pasquini
12.30-13.30	<b>Steering Committee meeting and farewell</b> (for SC members)	Sala Wanda Pasquini