





Impact on societal change:  
Research put into practice

Room JDE 2253

**#engageforimpact**  
**#urbanimpact**

# Programme

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## Welcome and introduction

- Chair Isabel Vogler, JPI Urban Europe Governing Board/Federal Ministry of Education and Research - BMBF
- Co-chair Peter Wolkowinski, Urbact: Introduction of the cross-cutting theme:

## Project presentations

- Yvonne Franz, Austrian Academy of Sciences, ICEC
- Christian Scholl, Maastricht University, URB@Exp

## Additional input and reflections

- Sigrun Kabisch, Vice-chair of JPI Urban Europe Scientific Advisory Board
- Basudeb Chaudhuri, European Commission, DG Research & Innovation

## Discussion

## Conclusion and summary

# Aim and expected outcomes

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## Aim

- Contribute to the EU Urban Agenda by help defining priorities for the four cross-cutting issues
- Present and discuss results from JPI Urban Europe funded projects
- Provide input in relation to the soon to be up-dated Urban Europe Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda on topics and priorities

## Outcome

To present to the auditorium

- Three key messages with priorities in relation to the implementation of the EU Urban Agenda – within the particular cross-cutting issue
- Three key messages on priorities in the updated SRIA

## Impact on societal change

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### ***Cross-cutting issues of the Urban Agenda for the EU:***

*“The ministers agree*

*12. that the complexity of urban challenges requires integrating different policy aspects to avoid contradictory consequences and make interventions in Urban Areas more effective. In line with the competences and responsibilities of the different participants and taking into account that the EU does not have competences on some of these issues, the Partnerships shall consider the relevance of the following cross-cutting issues for the selected priority themes:*

- ***12.6 Impact on societal change, including behavioural change, promoting, among other things, equal access to information, gender equality and women empowerment.”***

## Questions for discussion – For all sessions

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- What are the main challenges related to this cross cutting theme?
- How do the challenges play out in cities?
- How to benefit from and build on past and current R&I projects?
- What role can research and innovation play in urban transitions in relation to these challenges?
- What can JPI Urban Europe do to support transitions within this thematic area?
- Priorities in the next JPI Strategic Research and Innovation agenda?

## Questions for discussion – Impact on societal change

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- What are the main **urban challenges where societal change is needed** (behavioral change, equal access to information, gender equality, women empowerment...)? What is the **role of research** in this context?
- What are the **main drivers for societal change**? How do approaches in support of societal change should respond to e.g. the city size and the demographic composition (social class, ethnic groups, gender)? How can **research contribute to providing real added-value** here?
- Do research projects address societal change for all **population groups** including minorities? How do e.g. migrants respond to societal change? How do the projects take gender-related issues into account?
- Which kind of research **outcomes** would be needed for driving societal change? What are the expectations towards science and research?
- How can **impact** be created? How do projects measure their impact on societal change? What is outside the research's responsibility? When do other fields of action come into play (e.g. policy-making)?
- What are **barriers and restrictions** for research to driving societal change? What would be needed in order to overcome them? How can JPI UE support the projects?
- Which **specific topics** could be further addressed by **JPI UE** and through which instruments?
- How can the topic be taken up as cross-cutting issue be taken up in the **EU Urban agenda**?

## Impact on societal change - Key messages (I)

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1. Harvest existing knowledge, engage with active stakeholders, and build upon what is already there.
2. Allowing for long term and continuous dialogue and exchange incl. building long term and continuous relationships which needs time and resources.
3. The “emotional” factor is highly relevant for encouraging citizen participation and engagement, and for driving societal change.

## Impact on societal change - Key messages (II)

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1. Behavioural sciences need to be considered when driving and assessing societal change incl. dealing with theories and practices of measuring change.
2. Urban development changes very quickly and JPI UE needs to be flexible in setting up the thematic priorities order to respond to the real current urban needs.
3. We have to deal with uncertainties and find ways to communicate them to urban stakeholders.
4. Selection of a more comprehensive geographical coverage of cities incl. Eastern and Southern Europe plus different types of cities.
5. Action research, societal learning instead of paper creation.