

**UERA**  
**Urban Europe Research Alliance**

Strategy and roadmap



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## UERA Strategy and Roadmap

### Preamble

Since the launch of the Urban Europe Research Alliance in 2013, several results, discussions and actions have been obtained or led:

- **Identification and engagement of potential members**

Currently, 37 research organisations from 13 countries are participating to the creation of UERA: Austria (2), Belgium (2), Cyprus (1), Denmark (1), Finland (3), France (7), Germany (4), Italy (2), Netherlands (2), Norway (5), Spain (3), Sweden (4) and United Kingdom (1). See the appendix.

- **Development of a formal governance structure for UERA**

At this stage of UERA construction, the UERA synopsis describing its *raison d'être*, its value proposition and a high level work plan has been adopted. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and the Terms of Reference (ToR) are under finalization.

A light governance structure is foreseen around the following formal bodies:

- The General Assembly (*with a Chairperson*) which is the decision body gathering the representatives of UERA members (one member, one vote);
- The Steering Board (*with the UERA coordinator*) which is the executive body reporting to the Assembly
- The Secretariat which is organising the technical meetings and the General Assembly meetings and which is in charge of the internal and external communication.

- **Development of partnerships, scientific activities and joint actions**

UERA contribution to the JPI UE Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) has been initiated.

The articulation and participation of UERA with other initiatives and programmes is being developed (H2020, EIP Smart cities ...) and different actions have been already carried out: matchmaking day about the EraNet Smart Cities and Communities call, joint meeting with EERA on Smart cities.

For the identification of a shared scientific vision, the clarification of concepts and terminology based on the creation of a glossary has been conducted, a two-day scientific workshop has been organised in 2014 to enhance the acquaintanceship of UERA members from the presentation and the mapping of member profiles (urban research areas, key projects, research infrastructures). Different discussions were held and have to be continued on the development of joint scientific

activities and joint actions. Among these potential actions, a Cost Action on The Urban Innovation Zones (UIZ) is in preparation.

### **UERA Mission, objectives and activities**

In the Article 3 of the MoU, UERA objectives and activities are defined as follow:

*UERA aims to strengthen, expand and optimize coordination activities and research planning in Europe in order to avoid fragmentation and optimize resources in the field of urban research and innovation capabilities. In view of this, Parties agree to cooperate in:*

- *Elaborating a shared vision on urban research based on a systemic approach, and inter and trans-disciplinarity;*
- *Promoting common projects by pooling and integrating activities and resources;*
- *Sharing world-class national facilities and infrastructures (i.e. data bases, observatories, living labs) in Europe;*
- *Organising workshop and conferences;*
- *Helping to set up or strengthen long-term research cooperation, through a coordinated exchange programme;*
- *Promoting programmes for trainings and for researcher exchange within the network parties;*
- *Gathering, sharing and disseminating results.*

*In the long term UERA aims to share JPI aims and to contribute to the JPI Urban Europe Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) and to its implementation.*

*Therefore UERA members agree to make common effort to improve the collaboration with companies, cities, citizens and other urban stakeholders; that is a precondition because the UERA expectations of an integrate and comprehensive approach in the complex and interwoven factors influencing urban (social, economic and environmental) sustainability become feasible.*

### **Need for a new profession or skill set**

*The paradox of co-creation:* Ideally we want to work with cities, citizens and industry on developing research questions all the way to implementation and meta-analysis, not just deliver a report. But these actors of course may have limited capacity and competency to get engaged in research, and certainly have other main priorities. As researchers we are not always good at seeing challenges from their perspective; even worse, quite often we claim cities are facing a range of challenges and suggest how to solve them, without in fact having discussed the issue with other actors. We also use different language and need time to get to know each other, built trust and mutual understanding, and set long-term targets together.

UERA dives straight into the complexity of urban research and practice; not compartmentalized into 20 different fragments (energy, environment, health etc.). UERA should aim for a dismantling of unnecessary boundaries between research fields (inter-disciplinarity) and professions (trans-disciplinarity), and consolidate a network of researchers capable to focus and to deal with global urban challenges (i.e. act as glue for urban research).

## **UERA strategy and roadmap**

From this preliminary set of works, reflections, and statements of UERA mission, objectives and activities, a UERA strategy and a roadmap has to be written for the next years. The strategy can be developed around the five following axes:

1. Implementation and strengthening of UERA membership and governance.
  - 1.1 Implementation of the formal bodies.
  - 1.2 Membership development.
2. Implementation of the JPI Urban Europe SRIA (Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda).
  - 2.1. Academy
    - 2.1.1. UERA symposiums.
    - 2.1.2. Development of teaching programmes.
    - 2.1.3. Publications (books, journals, ...)
  - 2.2. Campfire
    - 2.2.1. Development of framework conditions and new instruments.
    - 2.2.2. Creation of Thematic working groups (TWG).
    - 2.2.3. Development of the partnership with other initiatives.
    - 2.2.4. Contribution to RDI policies, programmes and calls.
  - 2.3. Market place
    - 2.3.1. Sharing and development of research infrastructures.
    - 2.3.2. Multidisciplinary projects.
    - 2.3.3. Experts and staff exchanges.
3. Communication and dissemination.
4. Roadmap
  - 4.1. Roadmap for the next two years
  - 4.2. Cooperation with the JPI UE Management Board

## **ANNEX**

UERA Potential Members

# 1- Implementation and strengthening of UERA membership and governance

## 1.1 Implementation of the formal bodies

The General Assembly (GA) is the decision body, which reviews and endorses the general program of the UERA as proposed by the Steering Board.

- Nomination of the representative of each UERA member:
  - Official letter from each UERA member
- Election of the General Assembly Chairperson by the GA
  - List of candidates proposed by UERA members
  - Election of the Chairperson by the general Assembly with a two-round system :  
If no candidate has an *absolute majority* of votes - i.e. more than half - in the first *round*, then the *two* candidates with the most votes proceed to a second *round*.

The Steering Board (SB) is the UERA executive body who reports to the Assembly:

- Nomination of the SB members(6 maximum) by the GA (only one person per UERA member)
- Election of the UERA coordinator by the GA (two-round system)
- A new organisation of the steering board has to be set up according to this new UERA Strategy.

The Secretariat is in charge of organising technical meetings and GA meetings and of providing for the internal and external communication (e.g. website, newsletter, reports, etc.):

- Provided by one UERA organisation
- Nominated by the General Assembly

## 1.2 Membership development

The membership process is as follow:

1. Application of an organisation: the organisation sends a membership application form along with an organisation profile to the UERA coordinator.
2. Membership approval by the GA.
3. Signature of the MoU

The membership development will be continued along two axes:

- Consolidation of the participation of potential members belonging to the JPI Urban Europe Member States in connection with the NCP (National Contact Points)
- Identification of new potential members in other European countries, in particular from Eastern countries, in relationship with their Ministry of Research or relevant authority.

To facilitate the process, we shall:

- Encourage and support each new country to host a national information and recruitment workshop.
- Produce a “UERA tool kit” containing all the necessary information for the membership of the potential members: UERA presentation, MoU and ToR, application form, member profile form, etc.

Development of inter-knowledge between UERA members

The inter-knowledge between UERA members is of paramount importance for strengthening the relationship between them and in order to build joint projects and actions in which they share their expertise. The development of this inter-knowledge has to be continued through different ways: workshops, website, LinkedIn group, ResearchGate, research exchange programs etc.



## 2- Implementation of the JPI Urban Europe SRIA

SRIA outline Extract:

*“Besides these funding programmes substantial national resources are allocated directly to research institutions. Universities and research organisations can decide on their strategic research priorities and activities. Building upon and aligning these resources and competences with topics of common strategic importance will strengthen the overall capacity of the European Research Area. 2013 saw the launch of the Urban Europe Research Alliance; allowing member organisations to contribute to the SRIA development and jointly defining procedures and targets. It is expected that the UERA - once fully in force – will support community building, foster transnational exchange of knowledge and people and amplify the implementation of the SRIA.”*

From the JPI Urban Europe Management Board point of view, the following UERA contributions mentioned below in the table are expected:

JPI UE action lines	Possible UERA contribution
Strategic dialogue and relationships	Participation as stakeholders in strategic dialogues, preparation of position papers on thematic priorities to highlight state of the art in research fields and new challenges; (specifically with EERA JP Smart City).
Communication, valorisation, and dissemination	Contribution to events, conferences, seminars; co-organise symposia for broad exchange; supporting valorisation activities.
Joint calls	Input for development of call topics and for improvement of framework conditions.
New instruments	Reflection of instruments, specification of needs for new / adapted instruments; piloting approaches.
Programme management	Contribute to building a JPI UE platform; connecting to other stakeholders; match-making.
Alignment actions	UERA strategy and roadmap, investigating the alignment of research infrastructures; develop the approach to co-creation and overcoming silo fragmentation and boundaries, etc.

The UERA strategy based on the implementation of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) is articulated around three pillars:

- 1. Academy**
  - 1.1 UERA symposiums.
  - 1.2 Development of teaching programmes.
  - 1.3 Publications (books, journals, ...).
  
- 2. Campfire**
  - 2.1 Development of framework conditions and new instruments.
  - 2.2 Creation of Thematic working groups (TWG).
  - 2.3 Development of the partnership with other initiatives.
  - 2.4 Contribution to RDI policies, programmes and calls.
  
- 3. Market place**
  - 3.1 Sharing and development of research infrastructures.
  - 3.2 Multidisciplinary projects.
  - 3.3 Experts and staff exchanges.

## 2.1 Academy

### 2.1.1 UERA Symposiums

In the one hand, the SRIA has been prepared following a large consultation process. UERA members have contributed to SRIA, but the large research community of UERA members (Researchers, professors, PhD students ...) has not been involved in this process.

On the other hand, UERA aims to be a think tank, a match-making clearinghouse regarding European urban research, giving input to strategic funding and policy decisions, and to be a European urban innovation ecosystem catalyzing results and activities (not just knowledge providers).

For these reasons it is very important to develop with the research community the integration and the deepening of SRIA contents for multiple objectives:

- Understanding and appropriation of SRIA contents by the urban research community
- Discussion on its thematic priorities
- Development of the acquaintanceship between UERA researchers
- Identification of new challenges, trends and tendencies
- Proposal of new issues and new research topics
- Emergence of research and innovation projects and cooperation between UERA members.
- Develop analysis and synthesis activities

### Symposiums

In a first step, a symposium will be organised to discuss about a few key questions of the SRIA to which UERA partners can commit during the next 2 years, and the UERA joint capacity and competency to advance these topics.

Researchers, invited experts and professionals will be requested to deepen these preselected key questions, to explore what are the real challenges for these questions?, which are the innovation needed to come beyond the state of the art?, what are the potential beneficiaries?, what could be

our contribution (content, method, infrastructures ...)?, what type of deliverables would meet this, on which time?, what could be the way for funding the related actions?

This Symposium could be continued by the creation of a recurrent conference on Urban Futures. As the SRIA is *designed as a living and progressive concept with the ambition to regularly reflect it against latest scientific developments, pressing urban issues and national priorities*, the symposiums will be also the place to identify new trends, to explore future directions and to propose new issues (position papers) and new thematic priorities, *etc.*

### **2.1.2 Development of teaching programmes**

Training dedicated to students, researchers or professionals, is one of the most effective ways to disseminate and to promote UERA members' research skills and production, as well as the results of UERA projects and research actions.

UERA can fulfill this objective in different manners:

- Launching of new training courses and workshops/exercises according to the needs of all the various actors, like
  - Summer schools dedicated either to young researchers (PhD, postdoc, ...) on urban theories and advanced topics, or to professionals on methodologies, urban innovations, experimentations and implementations;
  - Alignment of scholarships and MSc programmes;
  - Creation of European Masters (Marie Curie).
- Joint PhD programs: development of the joint supervision of PhD students between different RTOs or universities.

### **2.1.3 Publications**

The objective is to communicate our results and to widen our audience in the scientific and professional community.

That dissemination can be achieved by different ways:

- Participation to conferences, seminars, thematic round tables, etc.;
- Organisation of special issues/sessions in journals and conferences;
- Writing papers for journals and conferences based on joint projects or highlighting advances and new lines of research;
- Writing of position papers for contribution to agenda and calls;
- Edition of books for large projects or broad vision and arguments;
- etc.

## 2.2 Campfire

### 2.2.1 Development of framework conditions and new instruments

The general challenge is the construction of a platform, or an ecosystem, for scientific knowledge and exchange and for the development of relevant joint actions in order to address EU policy processes and stakeholders' demand in the urban field.

That needs the strengthening of the research community by exploring the whole value chain of relationships between project planning, networking and meta-level services, from basic research to implementation. UERA has to facilitate the networking for urban research in Europe, the exchange of experience on framing conditions of urban policy.

To achieve these objectives, the discussion and work on the framework conditions and the establishment of new instrument has to be continued.

### 2.2.2 Creation of Thematic working groups (TWG)

From the 44 research questions of the SRIA, UERA will selected a few key questions to which UERA partners can commit in the next years according to UERA joint capacity and competency to advance these topics (see 2.1.1 UERA Symposiums). Based on these key questions selected, we will form thematic working groups (TWG) who will jointly work on advancing these topics and create activities, milestones and deliverables around them.

Thematic Working Groups would be set up to

- Develop a shared vision from a range of topical and meta-level perspectives around the respective key question;
- Sharing results, experiences and practical cases for research and innovation;
- Developing foresight exercises along with all the actors involved;
- Identification of new challenges, trends and tendencies:
- Define research topics of interest and priorities for influencing EC policies and programmes;
- Incubate projects and increase successful participation in EU and international projects;
- Provide a platform for networking and scientific exchanges;
- Publish results.

The work of these TWGs could be organised thanks to thematic workshops and to plenary seminars for the coordination with the whole research community. These TWGs will change through time according to the selected key questions from SRIA or beyond.

### Analysis and synthesis activities

The work within each TWG will focus on activities relevant for the *specific* theme, like identification of new challenges, trends and tendencies, formulation of research topics etc. Relevant for each TWG as well as UERA as a whole group is also to develop analysis and synthesis activities. Through synthesis work - by combining multiple sources or ideas into a whole, in order to understand shared qualities between each individual part - communication and co-operation between the different TWGs are achieved. Seminars and workshops with focus on synthesis will be arranged.

## 2.2.3 Development of the partnership with other initiatives

### Objective of the partnership

With the stakeholders (European, national, regional and local authorities and associated networks like EUROCITIES; technical support organisations (TSOs); professional organisations, companies, urban planners, consultants, etc.):

- Initiating and exploring new research fields, new ways of collaboration and new business models, and ways of value creation in an urban setting;
- Moreover the establishment of cooperation with practitioners and business partners shall offer new opportunities to develop research and innovation projects, experimentation, validation, demonstration and to facilitate the path from RDI to implementation;
- Activation of private funding.

With other Initiatives (other JPIs, other European and international alliances and networks like EERA, KICs, CIVITAS Initiative, etc.):

- For the enlargement of our scientific partners in other fields contributing to the urban research domain;
- Engaging international cooperation actions with leading research organisations.

### Strategy for partnership development

For each category of potential partners (stakeholders, initiatives), we need to

- Achieve a mapping of the relevant organisations;
- Prioritize the potential partners according to our possible common interests.

According to the nature of the partnership, cooperation and joint actions can be considered in different ways:

- Development of a common vision on how urban knowledge generation can strengthen other initiatives, as follow:
  - Identification of synergies between respective research agendas.
  - Deepen ideas about what UERA can offer;
  - Analysis of added value of urban knowledge generation in initiatives;
- Active lobbying to position urban research within other initiatives;
- Development of joint activities (projects, conferences, publications, training ...).

## 2.2.4 Contribution to RDI policies, programmes and calls

The objective is to contribute to the design of EU R&D (roadmap, draft announcements, etc.) and to other programmes (Horizon 2020, EIP Smart cities, URBACT, international initiatives like with China, etc.) by

- Influencing policy processes :
  - by providing input to scientific agendas and calls,
  - for more funding on stakeholder involvement and trans-disciplinarity in RDI instruments and how to create this type of projects
- Increasing the participation of UERA topics, methods and members in European and international funded research and innovation with an urban component;
- Supporting alignment of regional and national funding.

### **Participation to UE joint calls**

In the framework of UE joint calls, the role of UERA will be twofold:

- Contribution to the definition of the calls and their priorities (production of position papers and participation to FAWG meetings invite only);
- Assistance in matchmaking partners will be organised (brokerage events for instance) for participating in new common project proposals.

## 2.3 Market place

### 2.3.1 Sharing and development of research infrastructures

SRIA outline Extract:

*“Urban Observatories* in strategic located cities will support the acquisition and management of detailed longitudinal datasets to: deepen our insights in to the functioning of cities; support the calibration and validation of *urban decision support* tools. *Urban Living Labs* and will be strategically used for testing and validating research results, involving relevant urban stakeholders; to prepare for full scale implementation of new solutions. “

During the Leiden meeting (2014), a first classification of UERA members’ research infrastructures has been achieved. Four classes have been identified: data bases, tools and software plat-forms, observatories and living labs, associated labs and facilities. These infrastructures are tools for the identification of new issues or concepts from the observation of urban dynamics and phenomena, for the validation of assumptions and the proof of concepts, for the experimentation of new ideas and solutions, etc.

At the European level, these infrastructures are relevant for the benchmarking of diagnosis, results, tools, and solutions, and for the comparative analysis of different case studies, etc.

Such research infrastructures already exist in the research community, especially among UERA members. But the requirements of SRIA implementation lead up to perform the state of play in this domain to ensure the adequacy between the needs and the existing infrastructures. So it is necessary to establish a typology of urban research infrastructures, to identify the new requirements, needs and lacks, and according to this report to define the specifications of the most useful and practical ones and the priorities for their use.

From this state of play, UERA will encourage and support the sharing of existing infrastructures and the creation of common ones when needed.

### 2.3.2 Multidisciplinary projects

To deal with sustainable urban systems and to face real needs, we have to overcome the fragmentation of discipline areas (multi-disciplinarity) and to dismantle the boundaries between the research fields and professions (trans-disciplinarity). Therefore UERA will promote the development of multidisciplinary projects based on an integrated and comprehensive approach between the complex and interwoven factors influencing urban sustainability (social, economic and environmental).

The creation of links with professional organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), consultants, national and local stakeholders will be necessary to develop partnership in projects which shall achieve innovative ideas and solutions and promote their capitalization and implementation. Therefore, UERA partners will make common effort to improve the collaboration with companies, cities, citizens and other urban stakeholders (see 2.2.3).

### **2.3.3 Experts and staffs exchanges**

The conditions enabling successful interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity aim at creating a more comprehensive understanding between the different actors of the urban field (researchers, professionals) and at developing the inter-knowledge and acquaintanceship around multiple dimensions: cognitive-intellectual, cultural-emotional, and socio-interactive.

The exchange of experts and staffs (researchers, professionals, staffs of funding agencies or cities ...) participates to these conditions of success. Different instruments have to be identified and carried out like

- Promotion and facilitation of researchers' mobility and the scientific exchange between European research institutions, organisations, and Universities,
- Invitation of researchers and professionals to workshops dedicated to specific topics like analysis of new issues, foresight exercises, case studies, sharing of experiences, etc.



### 3- Communication and dissemination

Improving communication and facilitating the exchange of information among UERA members and UERA partners, about UERA members' and UERA partners' profiles and activities and about common initiatives, programmes and actions, is of paramount importance.

The creation of a **UERA website** would be very useful for various reasons:

- Visibility :
  - inter-visibility between UERA members (finding each other and be visible for others)
  - inter-visibility between UERA members and UERA partners
  - visibility to potential partners (research community)
- Capitalization:
  - Collection and sharing of documents on UERA activities and production (meeting minutes, project reports, proceedings of workshops and conferences, ...)
- Coordination:
  - UERA meetings (governance): General Assembly and Steering Board meetings
  - Organisational Meeting(UERA activities and actions)
  - TWG meetings
- News
  - Gathering relevant information about EU R&D programs and future calls in the field (for presentation and discussion at UERA meetings and matchmaking days).
  - Urban events
- Interaction:
  - Online platform or "E-bay workshop": I want to gain knowledge on ... I want to sell experience on ...

Other specific actions can also be considered:

- Participation to information days organised by the Initiatives;
- Anchoring and expansion of UERA national "shadow groups" for dissemination of information on EU research plans through meetings and online contact;
- Active participation in relevant European fora and platforms.

## 4- Roadmap

### 4.1 Roadmap for the next two years

For the next two years, UERA activities will be mainly focus (but not limited to) on the following tasks:

- Formal creation of UERA;
- Organisation of a Symposium and creation of Thematic Working Groups (TWG);
- Development of the cooperation with EERA (European Energy Research Alliance);
- Identification of joint solution for infrastructures alignment;
- Contribution to RDI policies, programmes and calls;
- Development of UERA communication (website).

#### **Formal creation of UERA**

The first act will be **the formal creation of UERA** Alliance: signature of the Memorandum of Understanding by UERA members and implementation of the formal bodies (general assembly, steering board and secretariat).

#### **Symposium and Thematic Working Groups (TWG)**

The second founding act will be the organisation of a **Symposium** (mid 2016) based on a selection of a few key questions of the SRIA to which UERA partners can commit during the next 2 years, and on the UERA joint capacity and competency to advance these topics.

Thematic Working Groups (TWG) would be organised around these selected key questions to identify

- what are the real challenge for these questions?
- which are the innovation needed to come beyond the state of the art?
- what are the potential beneficiaries?
- what could be our contribution (content, method, infrastructures ...)?
- what type of deliverables would meet this, on which time?
- what could be the way for funding the related actions?

#### **Cooperation with EERA (European Energy Research Alliance)**

In the frame work of the development of the partnership with other initiatives, the cooperation with EERA will be set up around the definition of a strategy and the process of interaction between both alliances, and joint activities will be carried out. The organisation of a joint summer school around "*Smart cities*" would be a good starting point.

#### **Joint solution for infrastructures alignment**

According to the SRIA priorities, an analysis of available urban research infrastructures in Europe will be performed to identify the potential for integration as well as the need for new research infrastructure. The objective aims at developing a typology of urban research infrastructures, at

identifying the new requirements and needs. According to this report the specifications of the most important and practical ones and the priorities for their use will be developed.

### Contribution to RDI policies, programmes and calls

UERA will contribute to RDI policies, programmes and calls, especially to UE SRIA and joint calls, by editing positions papers and by organising matchmaking days.

### Communication

To improve the internal communication of UERA partners and the dissemination of UERA activities and results, a specific UERA gate will be created inside the Urban Europe website.

## 4.2 Cooperation with the JPI UE Management Board

The UERA contribution to the implementation of SRIA requires a strong and coordinated cooperation between the Alliance and the Management Board of the JPI Urban Europe. The following table describes the mutual contributions for each UE Action lines.

JPI UE action lines	Interaction with the JPI UE Management Board (MB) for each UERA activities
<b>Strategic dialogue and relationships</b>	<p><b>For UERA membership development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MB: invitation of new research organisations to UERA especially from new member States joining the JPI Urban Europe</li> </ul> <p><b>For the development of UERA partnership with other initiatives.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of the partnership with EERA JP Smart City</li> <li>• Participation of UERA to MB strategic dialogues with other initiatives</li> <li>• Participation of UERA to joint events</li> </ul> <p><b>From the UERA Thematic working groups (TWG)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of state of the art reports on thematic priorities</li> <li>• Production of position papers on new challenges</li> </ul>
<b>Communication, valorisation, and dissemination</b>	<p><b>Organisation of symposiums</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-organisation of symposia for broad exchange.</li> <li>• MB: support for the organisation of UERA symposiums (research of funding, invitation of stakeholders, preparation and dissemination of documents like programmes, reports, etc.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Publications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MB: dissemination and communication on UERA publications (books, journals, ...)</li> </ul> <p><b>Communication</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of UERA web pages on the JPI UE website</li> <li>• UERA contribution to events, conferences, seminars</li> <li>• UERA: supporting valorisation activities</li> </ul>
<b>Joint calls</b>	<p><b>Contribution to RDI policies, programmes and calls</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UERA contributions to UE joint calls (new trends and topics, priorities) and for improvement of framework conditions</li> </ul>
<b>New instruments</b>	<p><b>Development of framework conditions and new instruments.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specification of needs and new requirements for new/adapted instruments</li> <li>• Piloting approaches</li> <li>• Implementation and carrying out of new instruments</li> </ul>
<b>Programme management</b>	<p><b>Creation of Thematic working groups (TWG)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MB: Connecting UERA to other stakeholders</li> <li>• UERA contribution and participation to JPI UE platform</li> </ul> <p><b>Contribution to RDI policies, programmes and calls</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UERA organisation of matchmaking events with all the relevant city actors/stakeholders</li> <li>• UERA contribution to the JPI efforts for the evolution of European and International policies in the urban field.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment actions</b>	<p><b>Develop and experiment joint solutions for research in terms of Human Capacity Building and Infrastructures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructures: State of play and specification of new requirements, Sharing and development of research infrastructures.</li> <li>• Development of experts and staff exchanges (researchers, professionals, agencies) enabling successful inter and trans-disciplinarity</li> <li>• Teaching programmes: MB: support for the identification of professional experts for contribution to teaching programmes, support for the organisation of summer schools for young researchers or professionals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Multidisciplinary projects:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancement of the collaboration with companies, cities, dwellers and other urban stakeholders.</li> </ul>

**ANNEX**  
**UERA Potential Members**

COUNTRIES	ORGANISATIONS
<b>AUSTRIA</b>	
	AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH
	JOANNEUM RESEARCH Forschungsgesellschaft mbH POLICIES – Centre for Economic and Innovation Research
<b>BELGIUM</b>	
	VITO
	Katholieke Leuven : ASRO -Department of Architecture, Urban Design and Planning
<b>CYPRUS</b>	
	Cyprus University of Technology (Department of Environmental Science and Technology)
<b>DENMARK</b>	
	Aalborg University (The Danish Building Research Institute)
<b>FINLAND</b>	
	Tampere University of Technology (School of Architecture)
	University of Helsinki
	Aalto University
<b>FRANCE</b>	
	CNRS- National Center for Scientific Research
	IFSTTAR
	IGN – National Institut of Geographical Information
	Météo France – National Center for Meteorological Research
	PRES Université Paris-Est
	PRES Université de Lyon
	PRES L'UNAM (Nantes, Le Mans, Angers)
<b>GERMANY</b>	
	ILS – Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development
	Technical University of Dortmund (Faculty of Spatial Planning)
	Deutsches Institut für Urbanistik gGmbH (German Institute of Urban Affairs)
	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ, Department of Urban and Environmental Sociology, Leipzig

<b>ITALY</b>	
	CNR - The National <i>Research</i> Council
	ENEA Italian National agency for new technologies, Energy and sustainable economic development
<b>NETHERLANDS</b>	
	PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency
	TNO - Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Built Environment
<b>NORWAY</b>	
	Oslo Centre for Interdisciplinary Environmental and Social Research (CIENS)
	Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)
	Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
	The Oslo School of Architecture and Design
	The Oslo and Akershus University College
<b>SPAIN</b>	
	TECNALIA Research and Innovation Energy & Environment and Sustainable Construction Divisions
	ZLC CNC LOGISTICA
	RMIT Europe (Barcelona)
<b>SWEDEN</b>	
	Chalmers University of Technology (MISTRA Urban Futures)
	Luleå University of Technology
	SLU - Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
	KTH - Royal Institute of Technology
<b>United Kingdom</b>	
	University of Bristol

