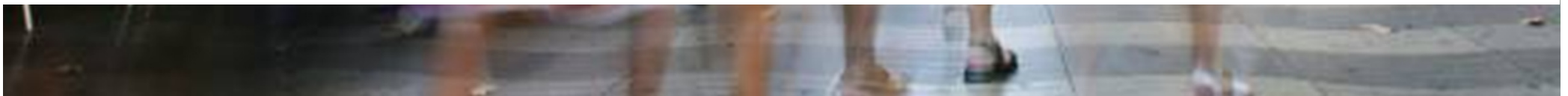




URBACT II

The Urban Development Network Programme 2007-2013

Alexander FERSTL, European Commission, DG Regional Policy - Directorate for Policy Development
Brussels, 9 June 2011





What is „URBACT“?

Network programme to improve the effectiveness of sustainable integrated urban development policies in Europe

How do we want to achieve this?

- Interregional exchange of experience on urban themes
- Dissemination of best practice and knowledge transfer
- Supporting (national) urban development policies, especially in less-experienced MS and regions
- (European platform on urban matters)



What is the implementation framework?

- European Regional Development Fund
 - Three cohesion policy objectives
 - Shared management
 - One designated Managing Authority (France)
- One specifically „urban“ network programme within the European Territorial Cooperation objective:
 - *„Reinforcement of the effectiveness of regional policy by promoting ... (b) exchanges of experience concerning the identification, transfer and dissemination of best practice including on sustainable urban development“ - Reg. (EC) No 1080/2006, article. 6 (3b)*



Programme	URBACT (2002-2006)	URBACT II (2007-2013)
Community Funding	URBAN II Community Initiative 2000-2006	European Territorial Cooperation 2007-2013
Themes covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social cohesion and urban regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cohesion and urban development• Themes related to Lisbon/Gothemburg strategy
Participation	URBAN & UPP cities	No limits
Member States	EU 15 (- LUX, plus new MS)	EU 27 + NO and CH
ERDF Budget	18 Mio. € ERDF	53 Mio. € ERDF



What is the thematic focus of programme?

Priority Axis 1 **Cities, Engines of Growth and Jobs**

1. Promoting Entrepreneurship
2. Improving Innovation and Knowledge Economy
3. Employment and Human Capital

Budget share: 44% (29,05 Mio. total)

Priority Axis 2 **Attractive and Cohesive Cities**

1. Integrated Development of Deprived Areas and Areas at Risk
2. Social Integration
3. Environmental Issues
4. Governance and Urban Planning

Budget share: 50% (33,30 Mio. total)

Priority Axis 3: **Technical Assistance**

Budget share: 6% (5,86 Mio. total)

MAP OF THE PROJECTS

LIST OF THE PROJECTS

44 projects grouped in several areas of expertise

The projects are the core of the URBACT Programme. They enable cities to work together, and to develop effective and sustainable solutions to key urban challenges. They are grouped in 9 areas of expertise.

INNOVATION & CREATIVITY



ACTIVE INCLUSION



CULTURAL HERITAGE & CITY DEVELOPMENT



LOW CARBON URBAN ENVIRONMENTS



DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS



HUMAN CAPITAL & ENTREPRENEURSHIP



QUALITY SUSTAINABLE LIVING



METROPOLITAN GOVERNANCE



PORT CITIES



- ▶ **Bring Up** BRownfield INteGrated Urban Policies
- ▶ **Building Healthy Communities (BHC)** Building healthy communities
- ▶ **HOPUS** Housing praxis for urban sustainability
- ▶ **Suite** The housing project social and urban inclusion throughout housing
- ▶ **Together** Developing coresponsibility for social inclusion and well-being of all

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How do the exchanges work?

- **46 thematic networks** planned (max. budget of € 710.000), established around the themes listed in the Operational Programme
- Three calls for proposals: 2007/8, 2010, 2012
- 8 to 12 partners per network - Duration of 36 months
- Importance of good geographical coverage
- Local Support Groups (one in each participating city)
- Local Action Plans
- Thematic Experts to support thematic development

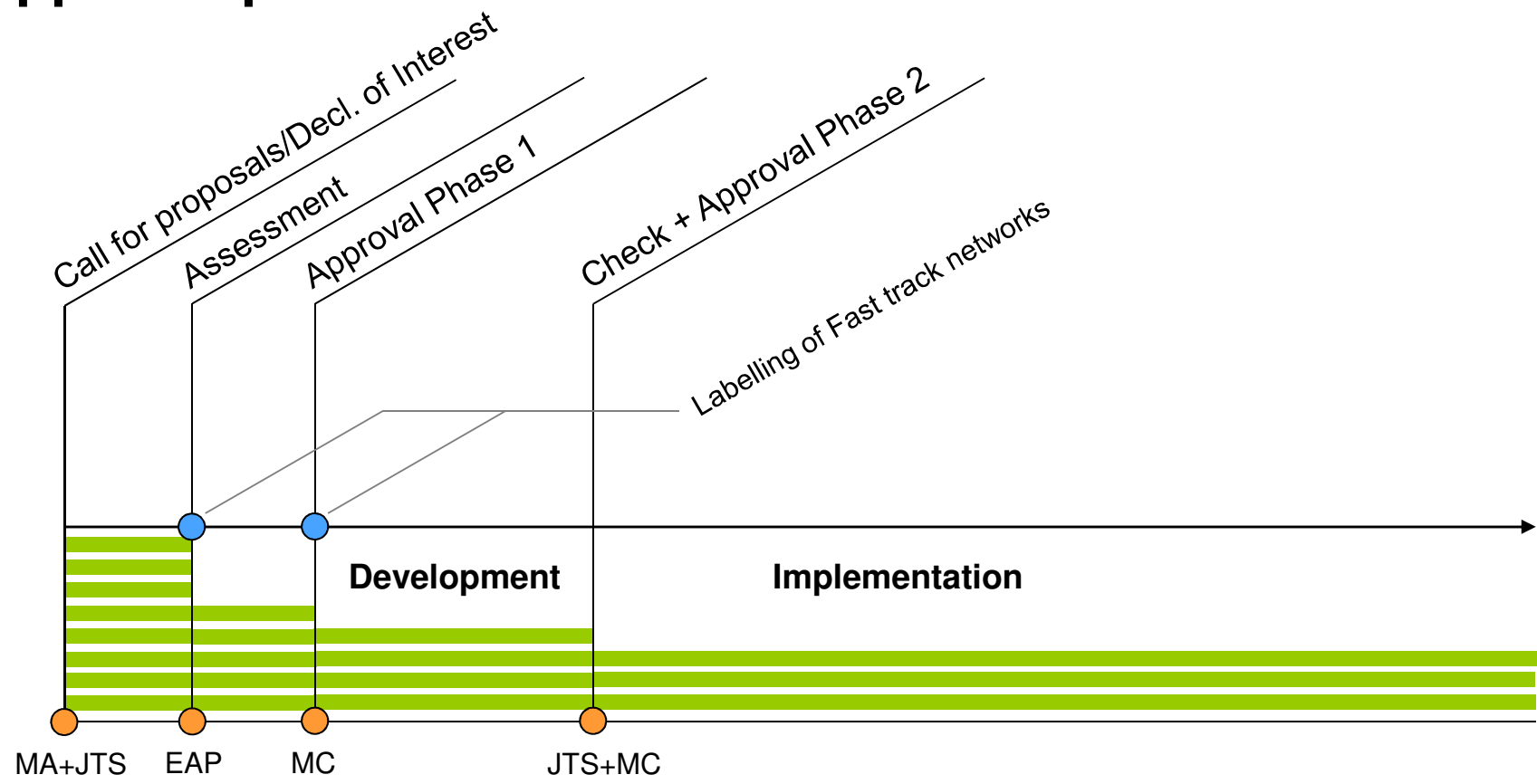


How to finance Local Action Plans?

- Local Action Plans usually contain a bundle of individual projects (compatible with EU priorities)
- Financing through regional Operational Programmes (ERDF, ESF) should be foreseen, but no automatism
- Better access to EU financing
 - Involvement of regional Managing Authorities in Local Support Groups and in networking activities (tandems of cities and regional MAs)
 - Commission support and expertise



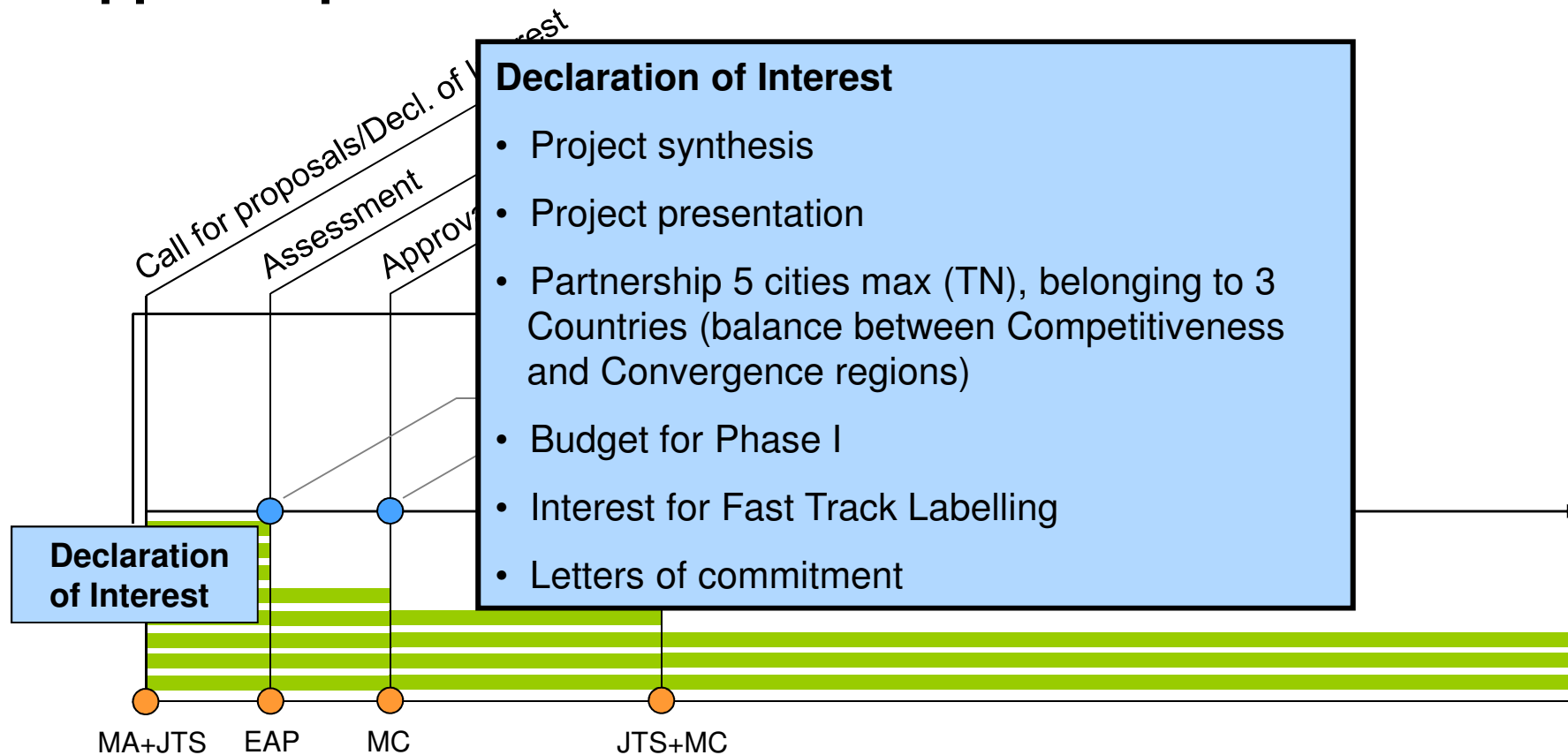
Approval procedure



JTS: Joint Technical Secretariat – MA: Managing Authority – EAP: External Assessment Panel – MC: Monitoring Committee



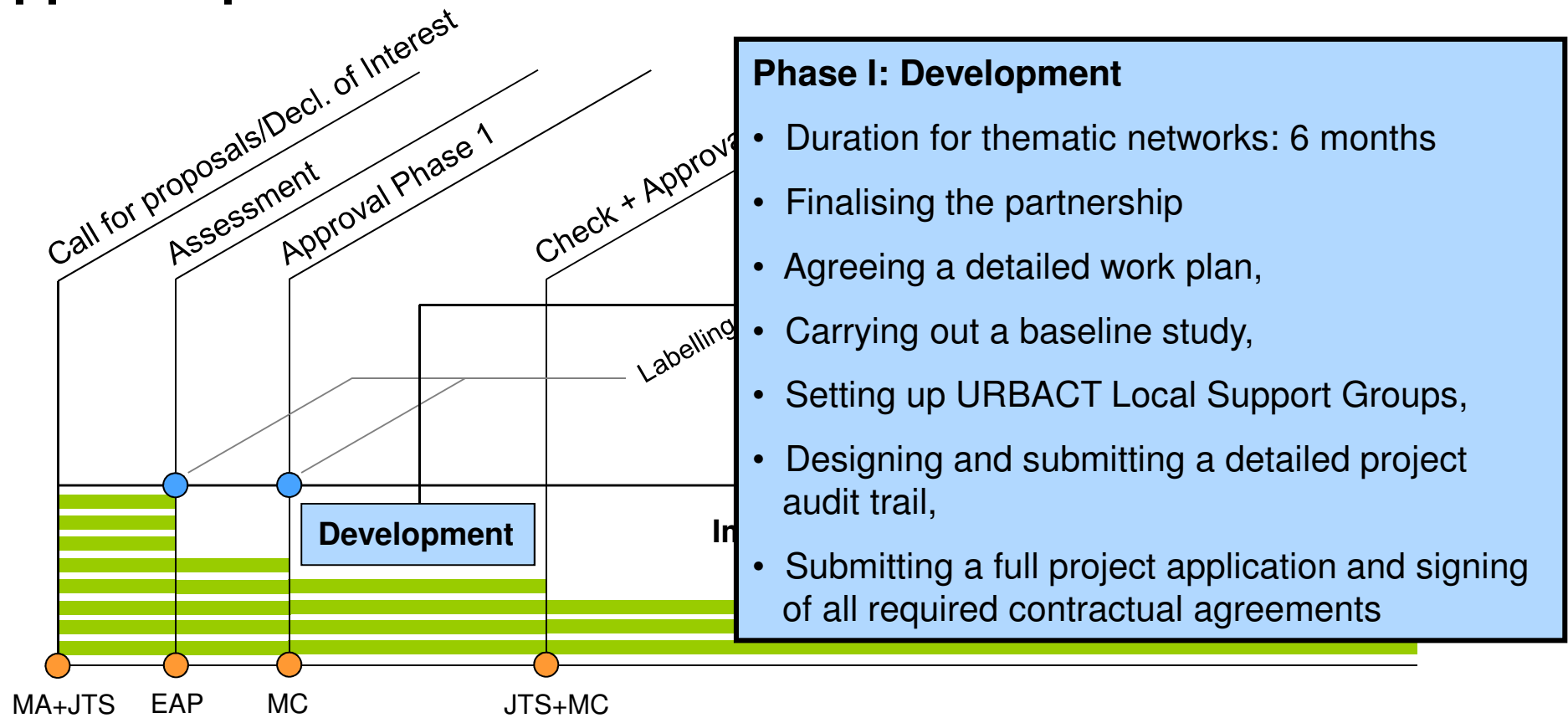
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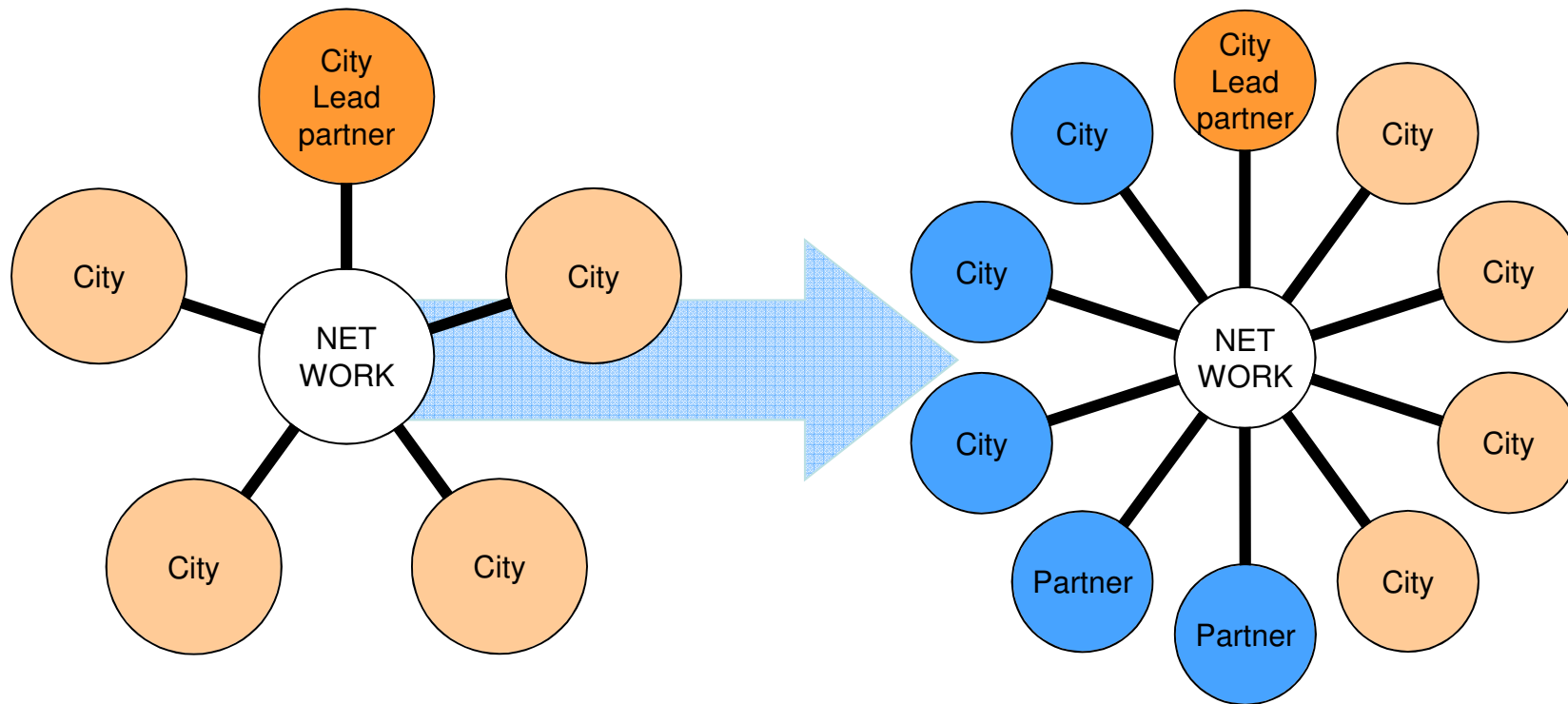


Approval procedure





Composition of thematic networks

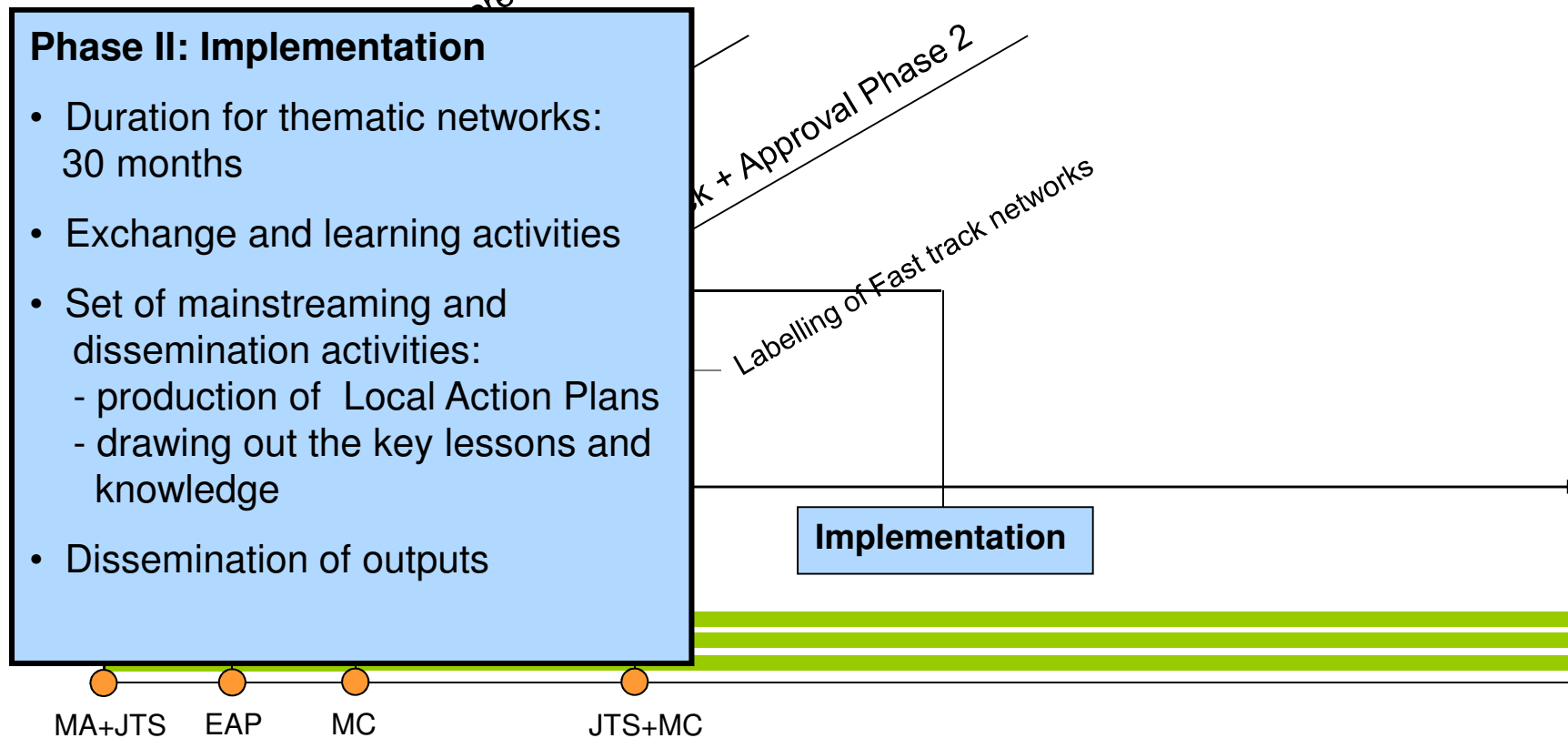


Application minimum:
5 partners from 3 MS

Completed network:
8-12 partners from at least 3 MS;
max. 3 non-city members



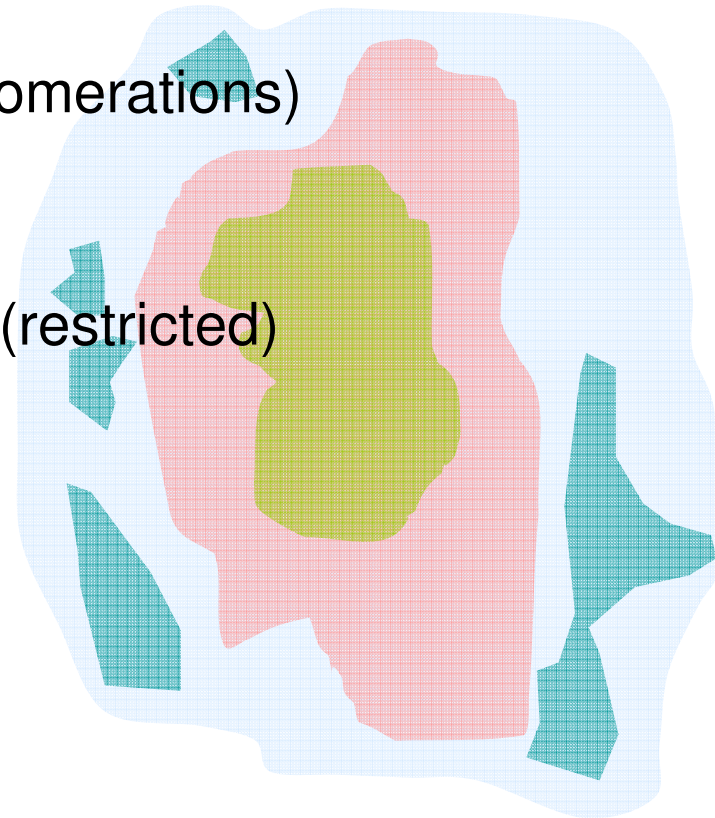
Approval procedure





Beneficiaries

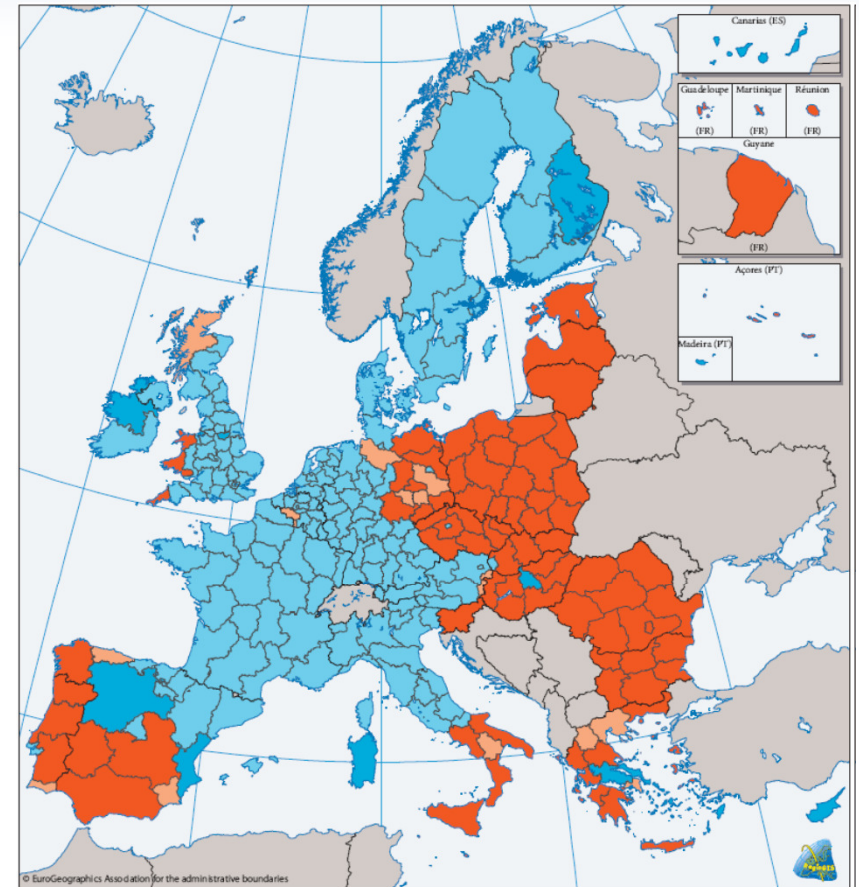
- Cities (municipalities, organised agglomerations)
 - + Regional and national authorities
 - + Universities and research centers
 - + Private partners and associations (restricted)
- No size limit for cities
- EU-27 plus Norway and Switzerland





Co-financing

- Priorities 1+2
 - 70% ERDF for cities in Competitiveness and Employment regions
 - 80% ERDF for cities in Convergence regions
- Priority 3
 - Co-financing ERDF - national ex-ante contributions



**Structural Funds 2007- 2013:
Convergence and Regional Competitiveness Objectives**

- Convergence Regions
- Phasing-out Regions
- Phasing-in Regions
- Competitiveness and Employment Regions

Position as of October 2006.
Regional boundaries in Bulgaria and Romania are indicative only

0 1,000 Km



URBACT as a tool for policy development?

- Local/City level
 - Integrated approach in urban development and planning
 - Broader picture, external inspiration
 - Benchmarking (state of the art)
- Regional/National level
 - Nucleus for national and regional urban policies
 - Thematic inspiration for regional and national ERDF operational programmes (delivery of „content“)



URBACT as a tool for policy development?

- EU level
 - Good practice on a wide range of urban topics
 - Active involvement of Commission Services in selected networks – „Regions for Economic Change“ initiative
 - Dissemination of projects through conferences (annual Regions for Economic Change conference – 23-24 June 2011)
 - Communication platform (Summer University 2011, Annual conferences)
 - Linking policy development and implementation of operational programmes



Some lessons for the future...

- Thematic exchanges very positive – Europe 2020
- „URBACT method“ of using a local development approach valuable (Local Support Groups)
- Links to implementation are crucial – no „talk clubs“
- Active involvement of the Commission (EU agenda setting) and Member States (Monitoring Committee)
- Greater attention to support mechanisms and national structures
- Need for simplification of financial procedures and management



Connecting cities
Building successes



ABOUT URBACT

INTEGRATED URBAN
DEVELOPMENT

OUR PROJECTS

GET INVOLVED

NEWS & EVENTS

DOCUMENTS & RESOURCES

OK

URBACT is a European exchange and learning programme promoting sustainable urban development

29 countries

300 cities

5000 active participants



PROJECTS

Select a project in the list

NEWS & EVENTS

CECODHAS Conference - The Key Role of Structural Funds for a Sustainable Energy ... :

▶ Read More

What went on during HerO Final Conference? :

▶ Read More



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<http://www.urbact.eu>

