

International Urban and Regional Cooperation (IURC):

North America



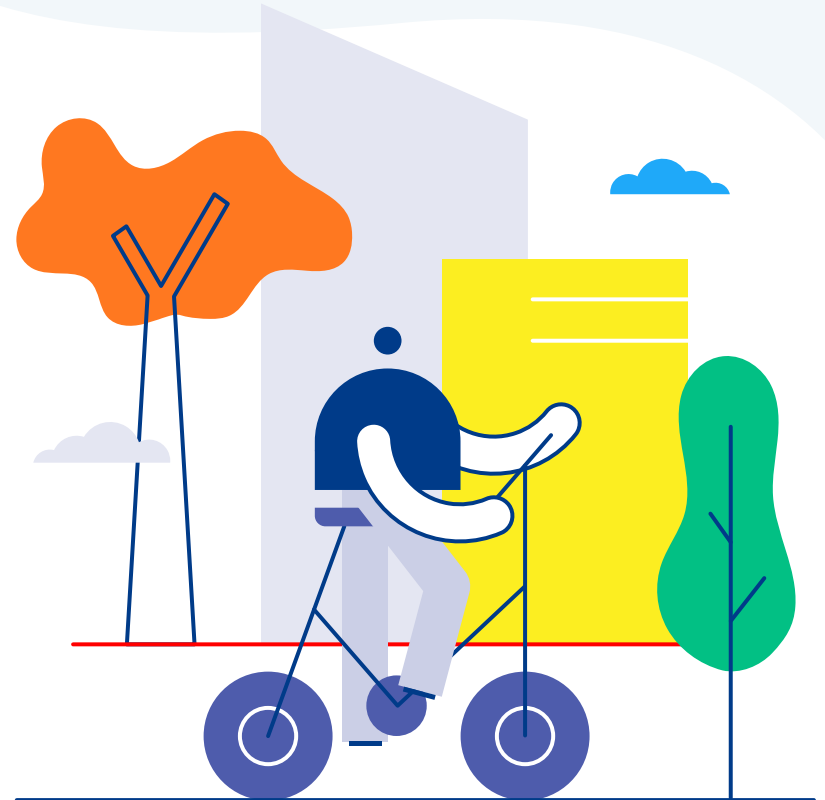
Funded by the
European Union

What is IURC?

Implemented since 2017, the **European Union's International Urban Cooperation** (IUC - first phase) contributes to the objectives of the New Urban Agenda, the Agenda 2030 (SDGs), the Urban Agenda for the EU and the political objectives of the European Cohesion Policy, through city-to-city diplomacy to overcome common challenges. IUC has become the world's largest city-to-city cooperation program **involving 165 cities from the EU and non-EU countries across America and Asia.**

The new phase of the program launched in early 2021 and now called the **International Urban and Regional Cooperation Program** (IURC), aims to capitalize on the results and lessons learned from the first phase to optimize the added value of international cooperation, transforming the new program into an **international network of reference for urban innovation and sustainable urban development.**

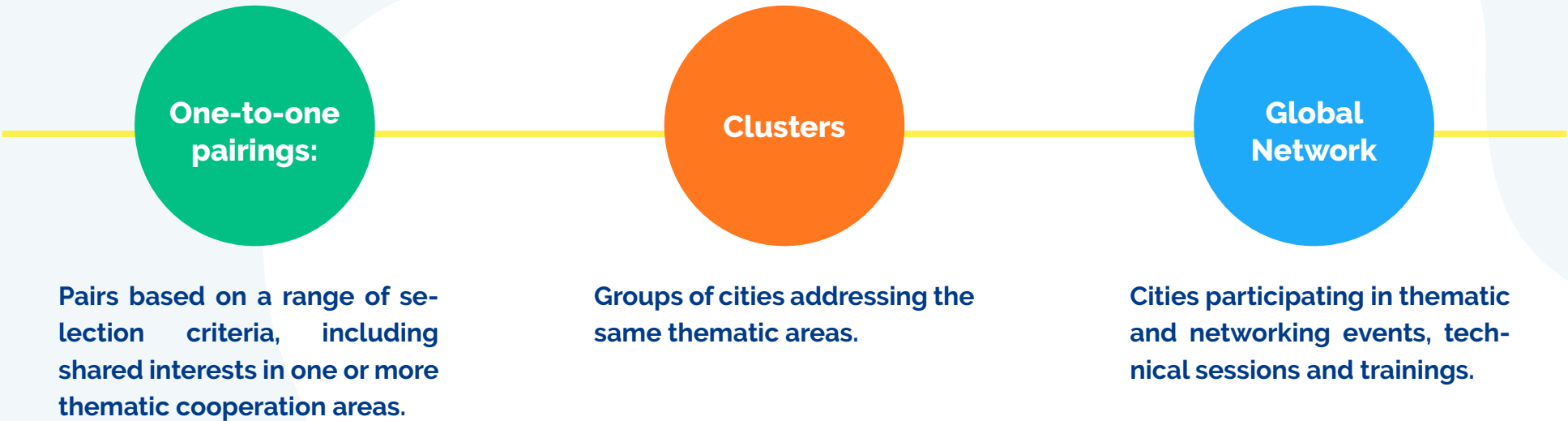
The program is financed under the EU Partnership Instrument and benefiting from the strategic support of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy of the European Commission.



How does it work?

IURC North America partners European cities with Canadian and US cities tackling similar sustainable urban development and innovation challenges. The project facilitates knowledge exchange through a combination of online tools and face-to-face support such as study visits, thematic and

networking events, and capacity-building activities. IURC cities become part of a wide community of over 300 local and sub-national governments and stakeholders from academia, business, and civil society who benefit from international cooperation through:



One-to-one pairings:

Pairs based on a range of selection criteria, including shared interests in one or more thematic cooperation areas.

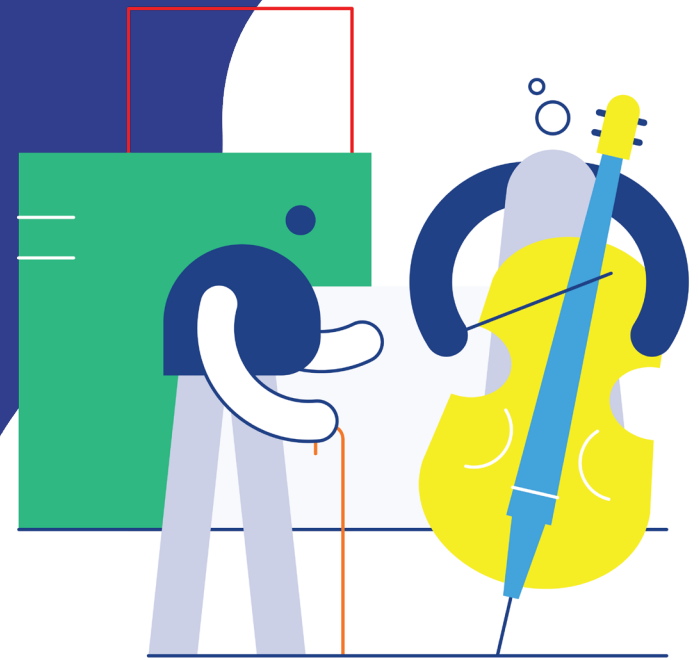
Clusters

Groups of cities addressing the same thematic areas.

Global Network

Cities participating in thematic and networking events, technical sessions and trainings.

IURC cities commit to cooperate with international peers, allocate resources and time to develop a successful cooperation which will last beyond the lifetime of this program.





18 Cities, 7 Countries

Areas of Cooperation

NA City/Metro Area	EU City / Metro Area	Thematic Area	Topics
Aurora, USA	Bergamo & Rimini, Italy	<div>■ Nature Based Solutions</div> <div>■ Mobility & Transport</div> <div>■ Tourism & Culture</div> <div>■ Digital Transition & Smart City</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Development and management of green areas and waterfronts — Cycling, intramodality, electric vehicles and metropolitan connections — Tourism & Culture — Reducing/eliminating the digital divide and attracting entrepreneurs
Boston & Northern Virginia Regional Commission, USA	Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB), Spain	<div>■ Renovation Wave</div> <div>■ Mobility & Transport</div> <div>■ Urban Agenda</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Energy efficiency in buildings — Streets for people, superblocs, metropolitan connections — Planning - SUD strategies, public space, urban models
Pittsburgh, USA	Dortmund, Germany	<div>■ Digital Transition & Smart City</div> <div>■ Food Policy</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Settlement of technology companies and start - ups for the development and production of relevant components for hydrogen technologies — Food democracy or innovative tools to develop regional supply chains and efficient food logistics
Metropolitan Kansas City, USA	Metropolis GZM, Poland	<div>■ Renovation Wave</div> <div>■ Mobility & Transport</div> <div>■ Education, Jobs & Skills</div> <div>■ Digital Transition & Smart City</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Energy efficiency in buildings — Streets for people, metropolitan connections — Clusters, innovation centers — Crosscutting
San Diego, USA	Madrid, Spain	<div>■ Mobility & Transport</div> <div>■ Nature Based Solutions</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Electric vehicles and alternative fuels, intermodality, micro - mobility, traffic engineering, low emission zones, and accessibility — Linear parks, water harvesting, heat islands, alternative infrastructure & construction materials, and placemaking

Areas of Cooperation

NA City/Metro Area	EU City / Metro Area	Thematic Area	Topics
Ottawa, Canada	Zaragoza, Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mobility & Transport ■ Tourism & Culture ■ Ecological Transition & Green Deal ■ Waste Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Sustainable Urban Transport & Mobility: Strategies for sustainable land use / transportation planning — Digitization of the tourist destination — Exchanging challenges and experiences mostly related to climate change & energy transition — Waste Management and Circular Economy
St. John's, Canada	Braga, Portugal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mobility & Transport ■ Tourism & Culture ■ Education, Jobs & Skills ■ Renovation Wave 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Hydrogen/Electric mobility — Incorporating circular economy practices in the tourism sector — Clusters, innovation centers — Energy efficiency in buildings
Windsor, Canada	Mannheim, Germany	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mobility & Transport ■ Renovation Wave ■ Nature Based Solutions ■ Sustainable Agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Micromobility — Energy efficiency in buildings — Greening, water management — Food systems - urban gardens

What cities are saying...

"This program has been phenomenal. The opportunity to... share the successes and challenges and hear those resonate with our partners from Europe has been very encouraging and enlightening. I've been excited to hear what is going on in Europe and hopefully replicate some of the opportunities they have implemented in the past few years as we try to reach our own climate goals."

MIKE KELLY, METROPOLITAN KANSAS CITY



"In terms of learning through the IUC program, the cooperation with the City of Baltimore reaffirmed the crucial role of public institutions as key players to promote urban development based on principles of equity, inclusion, community welfare, and local production: that was true before the Covid-19 pandemic and it's even more true now"

FABRIZIO BARBIERO, CITY OF TURIN



What cities are saying...

"It has been terrific to be able to present what we are doing in our hometown and hear from others about similar programs, plans, and projects... to share ideas about ways to finance, ways to build consensus... It's always great to hear new ideas, put them in our toolbelt, and take them back to our city."

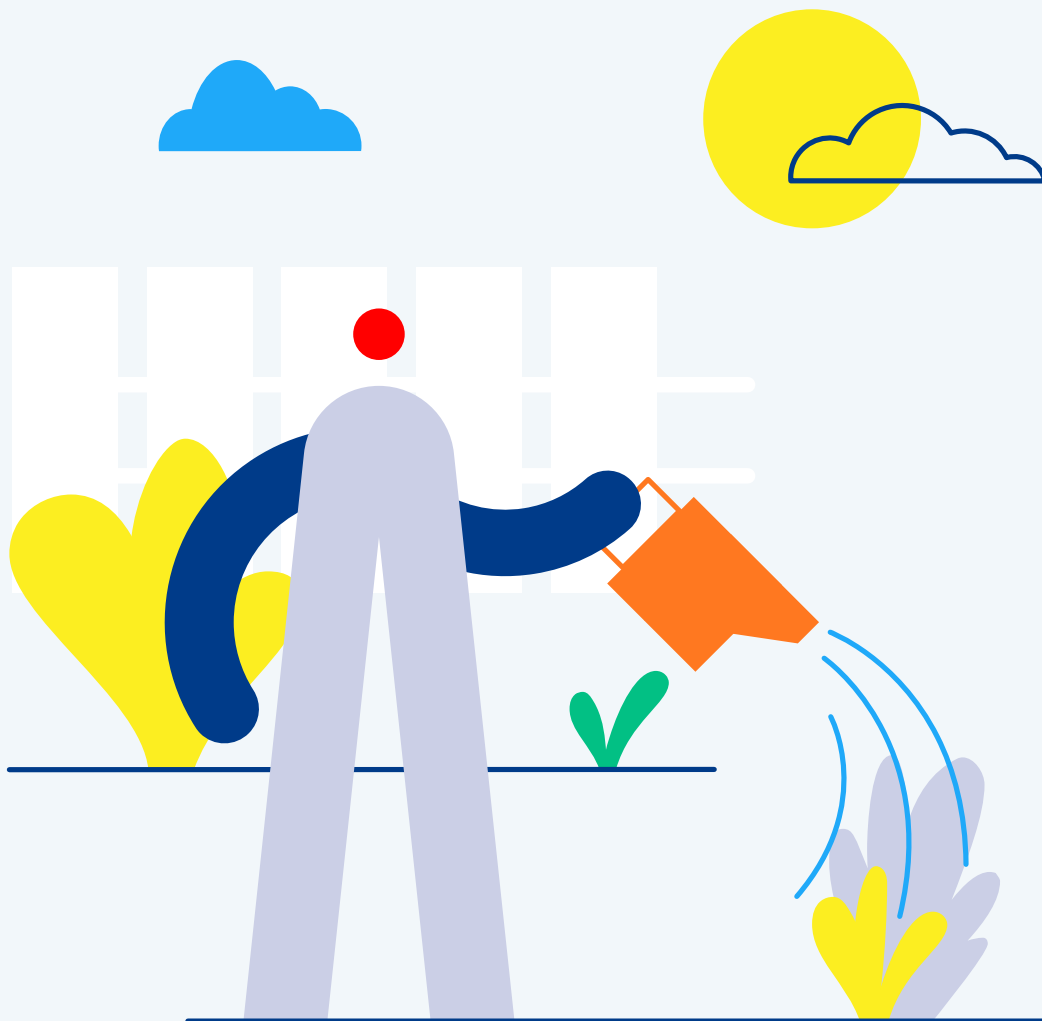
ALYSSA MUTO, CITY OF SAN DIEGO



"We were given a platform to share our economic development approaches across a number of subjects from affordable housing to supporting innovation. We really connected on questions of using municipal procurement to support broader social goals."

ELIZABETH MITCHELL, CITY OF MANCHESTER





Learn more about IURC NA

iurc.eu/na

For more information

info-na@iurc.eu



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