TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA

Transition towards urban sustainability through socially integrative cities in the EU and in China

Deliverable

D5.8 Report on working with Reference Cities – Results and proposals

WP5 Living Labs, exploitation and dissemination

Task 5.2 Reference Cities

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 ABOUT TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA

Cities are places of social innovation and engines of economic growth. This is true for European and Chinese urban development but especially relevant for China. As China is transitioning from a less urban to a more urbanized society with increasingly intensified land use and higher quality of life.

One of the greatest challenges facing Chinese urbanisation is how to best design and turn cities into intelligent, socially integrative and sustainable environments. TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA has aimed to help policy makers, urban authorities, real estate developers, public service providers and citizens in China and Europe to create socially integrative cities in an environmentally friendly and financially viable way. Moreover, it has helped urban stakeholders in Europe and China to reflect and eventually reconsider their approaches towards sustainable urbanisation.

The project has focused on four main strands of work: (a) community building and place-making in neighbourhoods; (b) bridging the planning-implementation gap in eco and smart cities; (c) land use planning and land management in new urban expansion and urban renewal areas, and (d) transition pathways to sustainable urban planning and governance.

A fifth strand of work has facilitated, coordinated, and documented interaction with urban stakeholders in European and Chinese cities, Living Labs, the URBAN-EU-CHINA project (UEC), and other urban stakeholder representatives of authorities, industry, research, and citizens. The objectives of this work have been to:

- Test, consolidate and transfer the project's research outcomes with a number of Chinese Living Labs.
- Promote and facilitate exchange of knowledge and good practices with selected cities in EU and China.
- Communicate project results to URBAN-EU-CHINA[1] project's Strategic R&I Agenda and Evidence Base.
- Communicate, disseminate, exploit and broker TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA results towards third stakeholder organisations.

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[1] EU-funded project that ended in December 2019, more information can be found on: http://www.urban-eu-china.eu/en/

2   WORKING WITH REFERENCE CITIES

2.1   INTRODUCTION: WHAT ARE THE TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA REFERENCE CITIES?

Task 5.2 promotes and facilitates exchange of knowledge and good practices with a wider circle of Reference Cities, both in Europe and China. These cities are invited to cooperate with WP 1-4 to provide content and context for this Task. EUROCITIES in Europe and CCUD in China are the main partners implementing this Task. According to the Description of Work, the Reference Cities of TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA should be invited to join from the EUROCITIES membership, other European and Chinese networks and the pairs of cities that the URBAN-EU-CHINA project works with. Then, via subtasks 5.2.2 and 5.2.3, guidance and tailored communication is to be offered to cities through the same Task.

2.2   TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA WORK WITH REFERENCE CITIES IN 2018

2.2.1   EFFORTS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REFERENCE CITIES GROUP

In the first 12 months of the project, the work within Task 5.2 focused on establishing the Reference Cities group. The approach chosen to establish the group was to reach out to potentially interested cities and ask them to sign a written commitment to become part of the Reference Cities group. The letter of commitment was circulated by EUROCITIES to its members, by CCUD in China and to cities previously involved in the URBAN-EU-CHINA project in an effort to maximise outreach.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to obtain written commitments from cities, expressing their will to be included in a set of Reference Cities for the project, neither from Europe, nor China. This meant that Milestone 3 (*Establishment of Reference Cities group*, month 6) was not achieved in the course of the first year of the project. The main reason for this deviation was the reluctance of cities to commit to a project that was offering no resources to them in terms of travel or staff costs. Moreover, as the project did not yet produce any tangible results attracting cities to commit working with the project in the first 12 months proved to be challenging.

2.2.2   PAIRS OF CITIES - BUILDING ON OLD FRIENDSHIPS

As part of the effort to establish the Reference Cities group, the project partners worked consistently with the pairs of cities that have been identified in the URBAN-EU-CHINA project and which can be found in the following table 1. These cities provided frequent updates to the project partners about the progress of their partnership and were considered as more mature to accept becoming part of the group of Reference Cities for TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA.

Many of the cities indicated in the list below expressed their interest in TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA and became acquainted with the project during the course of the year. However, as explained in paragraph 2.2.1 none of the cities expressed their willingness to sign a formal written commitment to become officially part of the Reference Cities group.

Table 1 *City pairs whose progress was reported in the URBAN-EU-CHINA project in 2018 (sorted by the name of European cities)*

European cities	Chinese cities
Almere (The Netherlands)	Shenzhen
Amsterdam (The Netherlands)	Shenzhen
Athens (Greece)	*Advanced discussion with a Chinese city*
Belfast (UK)	Shenyang
Bonn (Germany)	Chengdu
Bradford (UK)	Qingdao
Bristol (UK)	Guangzhou
Chartres (France)	Xi'an
Dresden (Germany)	Hangzhou
Espoo (Finland)	Shanghai
Essen (Germany)	Changzhou
Freising (Germany)	Weifang
Ghent (Belgium)	Wihai
Gothenburg (Sweden)	Shanghai
Groningen (The Netherlands)	Tianjin
Ingolstadt (Germany)	Foshan
Le Havre (France)	Shenyang
Leeds (UK)	Hangzhou
Manchester (UK)	Wuhan
	Tianjin
Malmo (Sweden)	Shenzhen
	Hong Kong
Milan (Italy)	Shanghai
	Beijing
	Chengdu
	Guangzhou
	Shenzhen
Muenster (Germany)	*Advanced discussion with a Chinese city*
Nice (France)	Zhanjiang
	Hangzhou
	Xiamen
	Zhuhai
	Haikou

Sonderborg (Denmark)	Haiyan
Stockholm (Sweden)	*Working with many Chinese cities ad-hoc*
Terrassa (Spain)	*Interested to find a matching city*
Turing (Italy)	Luoyang
Interested to find a matching city	Binhai, Tianjin
Interested to find a matching city	Deyang

2.2.3   EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

To further engage cities and to build a community around the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA project, EU-ROCITIES and CCUD kept the cities they work with regularly updated about the progress of the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA project via targeted emails and articles in their corporate newsletters. In addition, all partners have promoted the project to cities that work within the frame of WP1-4 in an effort to attract cities to join the group of Reference Cities.

TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA was presented by EUROCITIES during its autumn meeting of the Economic Development Forum meeting that took place in Grenoble, France between 17 and 19 October 2018. The project was presented in front of approximately 50 city practitioners that work for the sustainable economic development of European cities, including working with cities abroad.

Moreover, TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA co-organised the "European cities working with China" workshop that took place in Edinburgh, UK on 29 November 2018 in the frame of the EUROCITIES annual conference. Representatives from almost 25 European cities attended the event and the discussion that followed. The agenda included presentations from four European cities and an introduction about the EUROCITIES EU-funded projects (URBAN-EU-CHINA and TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA).

Thanks to these activities, although "*guidance, support peer-to-peer learning and iteration of results activities*" could not yet start in 2018, important steps were made in order to establish a core group of cities interested in working with TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA.

Figure 1 *Agenda of the "European cities working with China" event - 2018*

2.2.4   DISSEMINATION MATERIAL

Finally, in the frame of Task 5.2, a targeted leaflet that aims to attract cities to join the group of Reference Cities was finalised and distributed at events.

The leaflet is bilingual and addresses both European and Chinese cities, inviting them to join forces and take advantage of the project's outcomes.

Figure 2 *English side of the Urban Living Labs targeting European and Chinese cities*
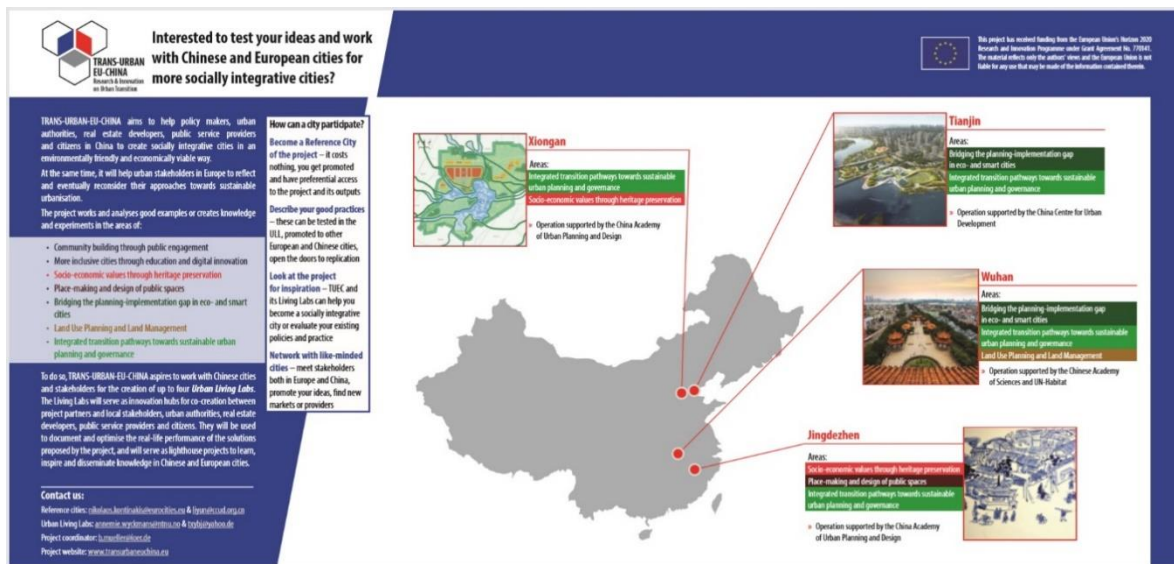
2.2.5   ASSESSMENT OF THE WORK AND WAY FORWARD

During the first year of the project, it became clear that obtaining written commitments from cities to become part of the group of Reference Cities did not constitute a feasible option. Unfortunately, attracting cities in committing to become involved in the project activities without being able to cover travel or staff cost was a too ambitious approach. After this assessment, the project partners decided to address European cities by asking them to sign a letter of support, with a revised wording and a non-binding agreement. Moreover, with the first concrete outputs being produced by the project in WP1-4, new possibilities to attract cities emerged for the second year of the project.

2.3   TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA WORK WITH REFERENCE CITIES IN 2019

2.3.1   FIRSTCOMERS IN THE REFERENCE CITIES GROUP

After having established the new approach based on the revised wording in the letter of support, efforts to establish the Reference Cities group gained a new momentum. After a series of targeted mailing and bilateral exchanges, three European cities (Leeds, Verona and Macerata) signed their respective letters of support and became Reference Cities.

Figure 3 *Letter of support from Leeds*

Figure 4 Letter of support from Verona   *Figure 5 Letter of support from Macerata*
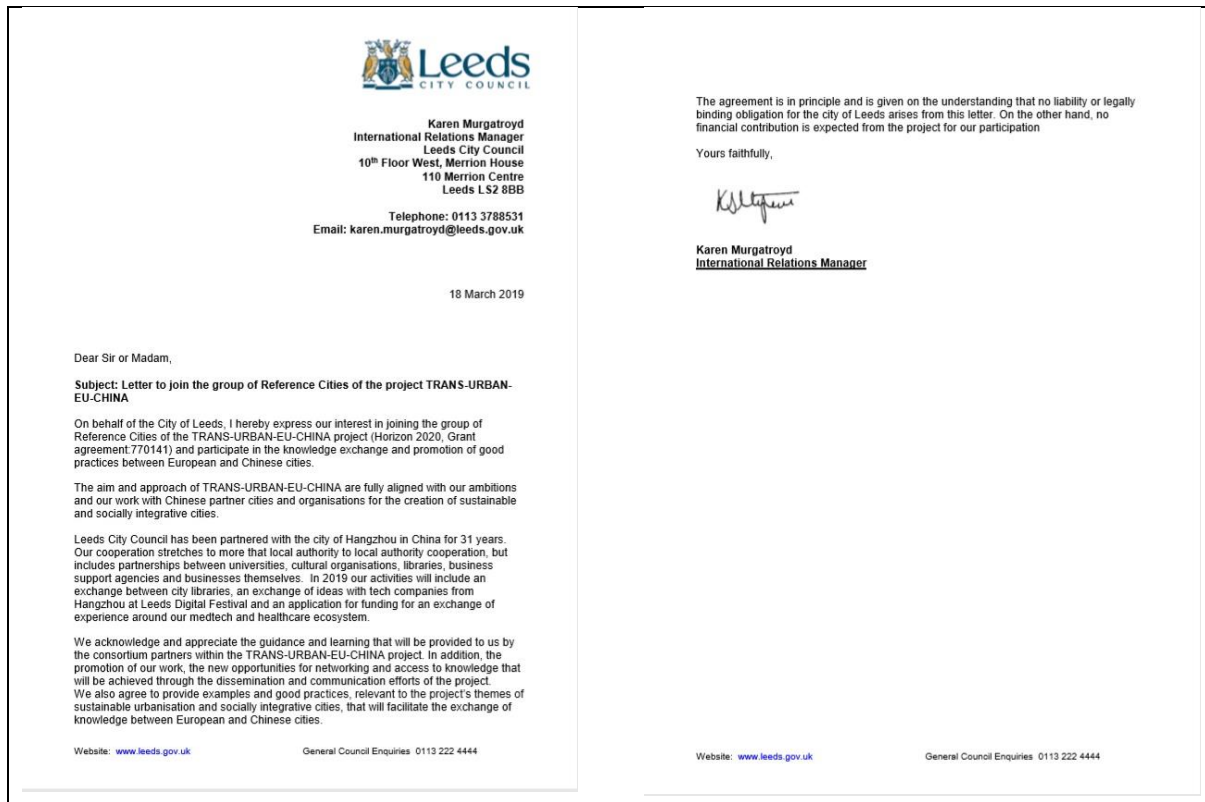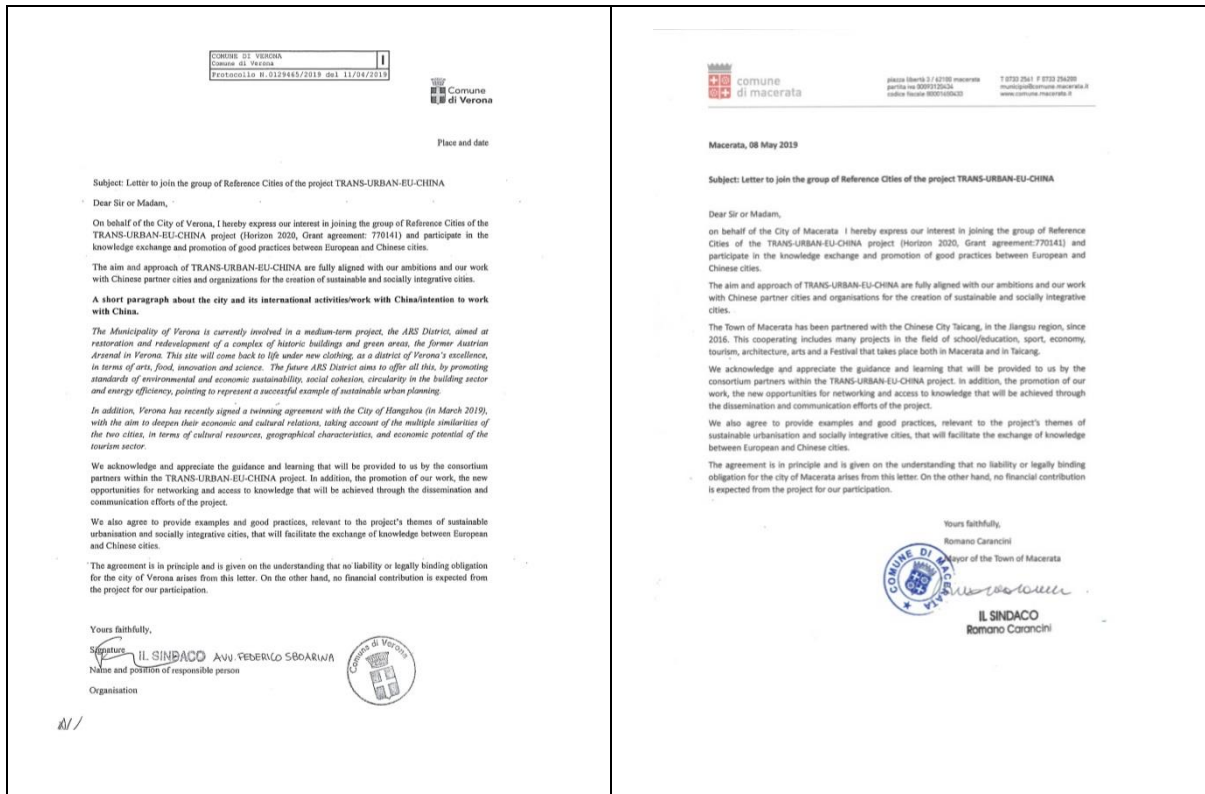

2.3.2 EVENTS AND ONLINE SEMINARS

In 2019, Eurocities further increased its efforts to engage the group of reference cities – including the list of cities outlined in table 1 – in the knowledge exchanges opportunities offered by the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA. Eurocities also kept promoting the project via targeted emails and articles in its corporate newsletter (Flash).

TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA was presented by Eurocities on 17 May 2019 in a speed-networking session organised in the framework of the Eurocities cooperation platform in Tallin, Estonia. The Eurocities cooperation platform is the opportunity for Eurocities members to catch up on what's happened over the past year, what's on the horizon, as well as information on the latest EU policy developments, updates on European projects and funding opportunities. During the event, a speed-networking session was hosted featuring "International Cooperation" as theme, during the session Eurocities outlined the upcoming knowledge exchange opportunities offered by the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA as well as the possibilities of becoming part of the Reference Cities group.

On 21 November 2019, TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA co-organised the "European cities working with China" workshop in the frame of the Eurocities annual conference. More than 50 participants joined the workshop where the following topics where discussed: how to expand the areas for collaboration and enrich projects in the framework of an already well-established international partnership; how to work with an oversupply of INCO requests and opportunities; how to deal with the political realities and challenges in cooperation with China and the lessons learned from the IUC experience. The

agenda included presentations from Gothenburg, Vienna, Prague and Nice followed by an open discussion with the participants.

Figure 6 *Agenda of the "European cities working with China" event – 2019*

By the end of 2019, as the first results from the WP1-4 started to emerge, Eurocities organised an online seminar on how to "Build and sustain an online community". The online seminar focused on the on success and failure in online community building, offering a knowledge exchange opportunity on the dos and don'ts for online community building. TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA was featured with a presentation from the Israel Smart Cities Institute on the key elements to build intercontinental expert knowledge sharing communities bringing in the experiences of the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA Community of Communities.

2.3.3 DISSEMINATION AND AWARENESS RAISING

In 2019, three long articles were produced to raise awareness of the project and its results. These articles appeared on the Eurocities.eu website and the Eurocities 100 Days campaign, where they received thousands of views, and were shared with city representatives as well as through social media channels where they had thousands of engagements. Emails directed to the reference cities informed them of these articles, as well as giving them other updates on the project and its outcomes. For detailed figures, please see the Technical Report, part A.

Figure 7 *Eurocities.eu article disseminating findings of TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA (https://Eurocities.eu/latest/eu-and-china-on-what-makes-a-city-smart/)*
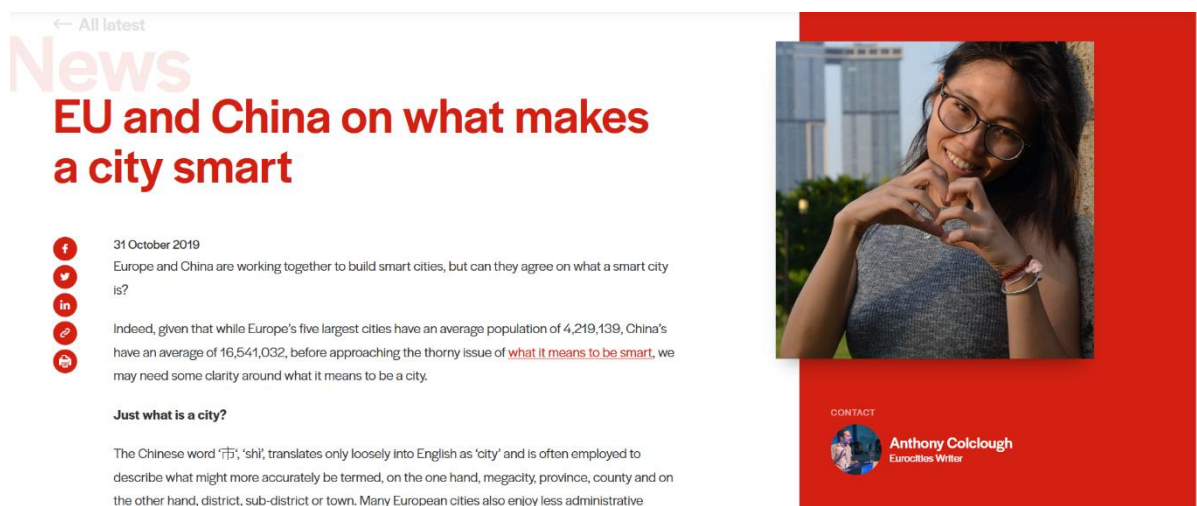
2.3.4 ASSESSMENT OF THE WORK AND WAY FORWARD

Through the year 2019, thanks to these efforts the group of cities interested broadly in EU-China cooperation opportunities grew considerably, as more and more cities expressed interest in being kept updated on the project events and knowledge exchange activities. However, it became more and more

evident that cities were not inclined to sign the formal letter of support. Similarly to the written commitments pursued during the first year of the project, letters of support were perceived by the city administration as far too binding and it proved to be difficult for city staff to find the necessary support internally to formally sign the letters of support. Therefore, Eurocities in agreement with the project consortium opted once again for a revised strategy. A decision was taken to directly involve the cities that expressed interest in the project into a concrete activity: a questionnaire on socially integrative cities. The aim of the questionnaire (Annex 1) was to raise awareness about the project and involve cities directly on the questions covered by the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA project, de facto making them Reference Cities in the process.

2.4 TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA WORK WITH REFERENCE CITIES IN 2020

2.4.1 QUESTIONNAIRE FOR REFERENCE CITIES

The questionnaire for Reference Cities was developed with the aim of directly involving cities with a series of the questions the project aimed to address. The questionnaire sought to find out where cities stand in their approach to social integration and inclusion, to make it easier for cities and experts to work together on this challenge in the future. The full questionnaire is included in Annex 1.

A total of nine cities replied to the questionnaire, which was sent to cities in January 2020.

Table 2 *List of cities participating in the questionnaire on social integration and inclusion*

Dresden	Munich
Ghent	Nuremberg
Gothenburg	Pau
Groningen	Stockholm
Leeds	

2.4.2 BUILDING AN ONLINE COMMUNITY

Throughout 2020 a series of 7 online seminars were held in order to disseminate the project's results among the reference cities and a wider expert community. Topics for online seminars were defined in consultation with project partners, reference cities and outside experts to determine which subjects would be of particular interest for cities, and how best to frame them. The topics selected can be seen in Table 3 below.
To foster dialogue and widen the audience for project results, other European projects, such as Sharing Cities and Enrich, as well as cities such as Izmir (Istanbul) and Burgas (Bulgaria), were welcomed to take part and present their findings on the same themes. Following each online seminars, recordings were uploaded on YouTube and emails were sent out to the reference cities and participants. Recordings and information about the online seminars were also made available through channels like the Eurocities newsletter where thousands of EU city employees had the chance to learn about them. It is important to highlight that recording online seminars and publishing them on an online platform such as YouTube greatly increases the outreach possibilities, as shown in the table below (column: Views of the recordings on YouTube).

Table 3 *TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA Online seminars in 2020*

Online seminar title	Date	Recording link	Registrants	Views of the recordings on YouTube
Cultural heritage – social and economic returns	06-Feb-20	LINK	72	72 Views
Replicate replicate replicate – the secrets to success and failure	09-Apr-20	LINK	50	44 Views

Landing good policy: Urban renewal, urban expansion and land banking	06-May-20	LINK	57	40 Views
EU-China solidarity – city to city ties during COVID-19	18-May-20	LINK	68	128 Views
Social cost/benefit analysis – How does it work?	26-May-20	LINK	156	336 Views
Invigoration and expansion in cities – land policy possibilities	19-Jun-20		38	
Wuhan and Tel Aviv - Digital resilience and COVID-19	22-Oct-20	Tel Aviv LINK Wuhan LINK	35	33 Views 23 Views

In 2020, due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic the 2020 edition of the annual China cooperation workshop was also held online. The "European cities working with China" workshop took place virtually on 5 November 2020 in the frame of the Eurocities annual conference. 30 participants from European city administrations joined the online workshop, which featured a presentation of the results of Ghent's survey on mask donations from Chinese to EU cities followed by two interviews with Jani Moliis, Head of International Affairs, City of Helsinki (Finland) and Laura Leonard, European and International Relations Manager, Belfast City Council (UK). A lively open discussion with the participants followed the presentation and interviews.

Figure 8 *Agenda of the "European cities working with China" Event – 2020*
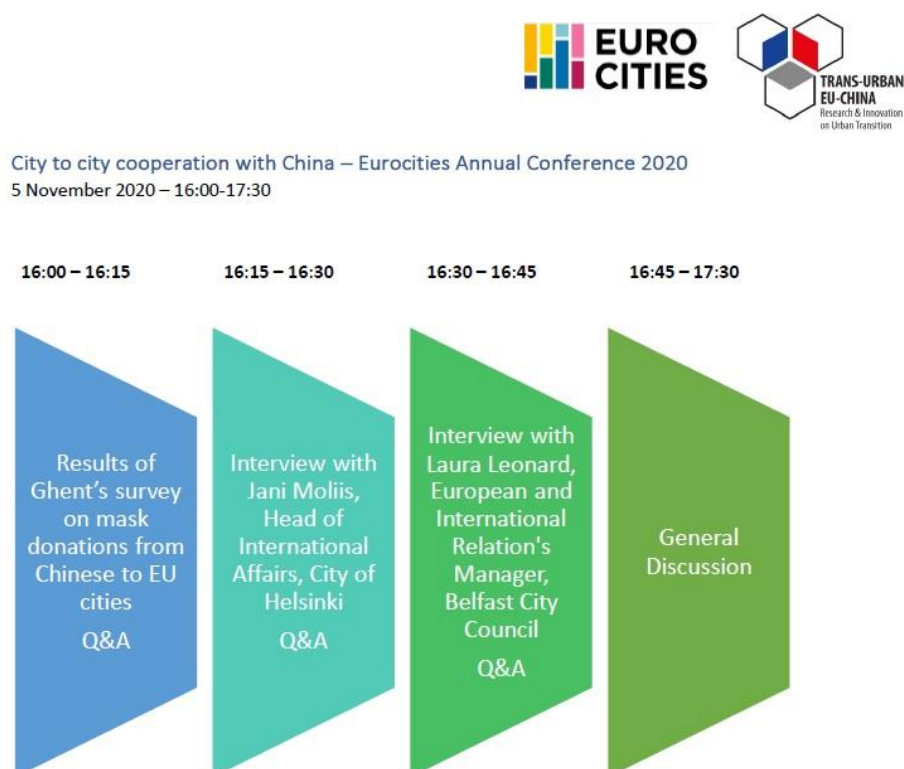
Several measures were taken that can be seen as best practices in recreating the workshop atmosphere online. First, the decision was taken to institute Chatham House rules, meaning that while participants are free to make use of the outcomes and material from the meeting as they see fit, it is forbidden to attribute this material to particular participants. As topics like working with China can at times be politically sensitive, especially when it comes to failures, which can be very instructive for learning, the institution of such a rule is very useful to foster open communication. For the same reason, the decision was taken not to record the event.

2.4.3   DISSEMINATION AND AWARENESS RAISING

In 2020, two detailed articles for the general public were produced to raise awareness of the project and its results. These articles appeared in Open Access Government (Figure 9) and Forbes Austria (Figure 10), where tens of thousands of readers were able to encounter them, including city employees, urban experts and the general public. Regular emails to the reference cities also kept them abreast of other updates on the project and its outcomes, as did articles in the Eurocities monthly newsletter. For detailed figures, please see the Technical Report, part A.

Figure 9 Open Access Government article disseminating findings of TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA (https://www.openaccessgovernment.org/citizen-participation-2/84339/)
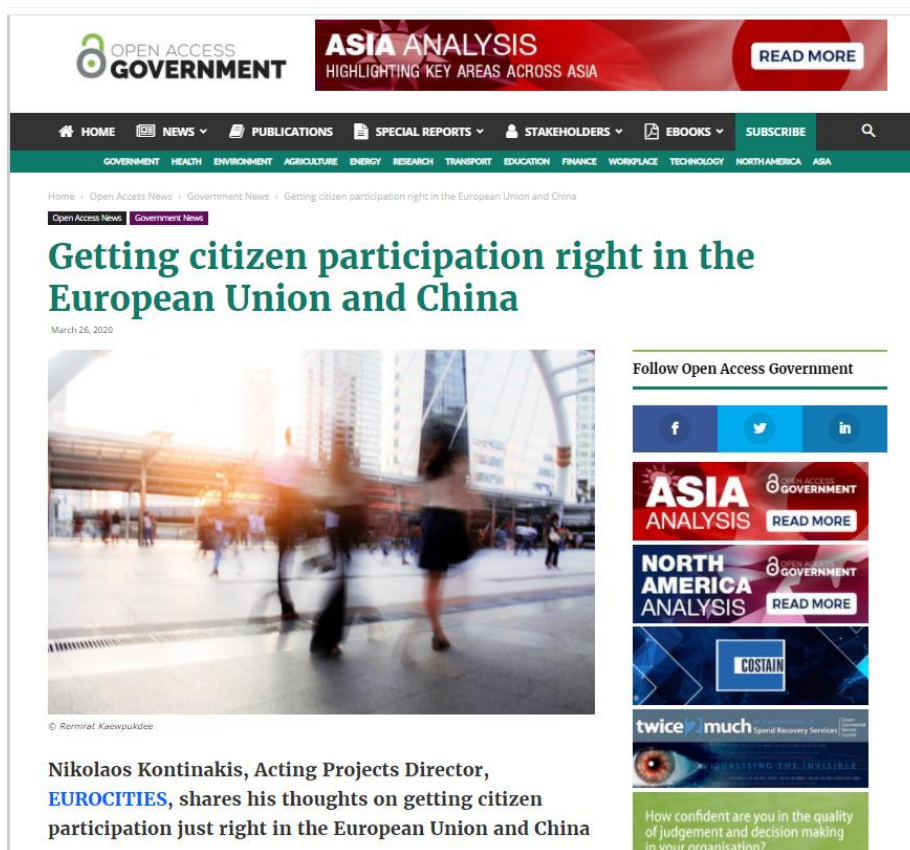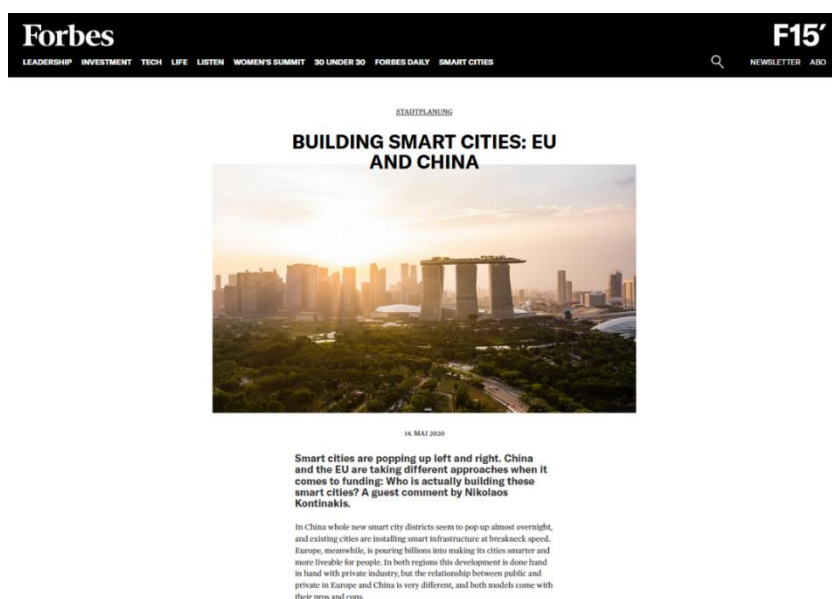
Figure 10 *Forbes article disseminating findings of TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA (https://www.forbes.at/artikel/public-or-private-building-smart-cities.html)*

2.4.4   ASSESSMENT OF THE WORK AND THE WAY FORWARD

By the end of the project the number of cities that expressed interested in the project and more broadly into EU-China cooperation reached 63 cities. As explained above, most of these cities did not formally sign a written commitment nor a letter of support (only 3 letters of support were collected), however a much broader group of cities (63 cities, visible in Table 4) expressed intereston the topic and their engagement into the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA activities was constant throughout the last year of the project, with many of these cities attending the online seminars and the online "European cities working with China" event.

This group now forms an 'informal working group' that meets twice per year in meetings facilitated by Eurocities, to exchange knowledge, best practices and challenges in the cooperation with China and Chinese cities in particular. Eurocities will keep this working group running after the end of the project. Other European partners will also keep alive the synergies that were developed during the project (e.g. POLITO with the cities of Prato and Macerata). The full list of European cities is detailed below in table 4.

Table 4. List of European cities interested in EU-China cooperation

Aalborg	Lyon
Almere	Malaga
Amsterdam	Malmo
Angers	Manchester
Antwerp	Mannheim
Athens	Milan

Barcelona	Munich
Belfast	Munster
Belgrade	Nantes
Bergen	Nice
Berlin	Nuremberg
Bilbao	Oslo
Bologna	Oulu
Borlange	Pau (Bearn Pyrenees)
Bremen	Pisa
Brussels	Riga
Cardiff	Rotterdam
Dresden	San Sebastian
Edinburgh	Skopje
Espoo	Stavanger
Essen	Stockholm
Frankfurt	Sunderland
Ghent	Tallinn
Gothenburg	Tampere
Groningen	Terrassa
Hamburg	Turku
Helsinki	Vantaa
Hengelo	Verona
Kiel	Vienna
Leeds	Vilnius
Lisburn & Castlereagh	Zaragoza
Ljubljana	

The two final deliverables, developed by Eurocities in the framework WP5, namely the D5.6: Knowledge sharing guidebook and the D5.7: Technical guidebook for cities, have also been disseminated towards the list of cities presented above and will be presented during at the future informal working group meetings.

The Knowledge sharing guidebook offers practical support for cities willing to engage with peers and organise knowledge sharing activities. It features detailed advice for organising the following three types of peer-to-peer learning activities:

Figure 11 Peer-to-peer learning activities - TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA Knowledge sharing guidebook

The D5.7: Technical guidebook for cities, is part of an integrated TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA product, namely the D4.4 Web-based storylines illustrating the integrated transition pathways towards sustainable urban planning and governance.

Eurocities in agreement with the Project Coordinator and the project partner ISINNOVA, decided to integrate the Technical guidebook for cities into the Web-based storylines for two main purposes, on one hand to create a direct link between the main research findings of TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA and practical examples from cities and on the other hand to increase the visibility of both the Web-based storylines and the Technical guidebook for cities. The objective was to create a single, accessible, and visually appealing product bringing together the research findings of the project with practical examples from cities and most importantly also linking the latter with the extensive list of tools featured in the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA Compendium. The D5.7: Technical guidebook for cities consists of the "Urban Experiments" section of the Web-based storylines and can be accessed at the following link: https://www.urbantransition-euchina.com/urban-experiments/
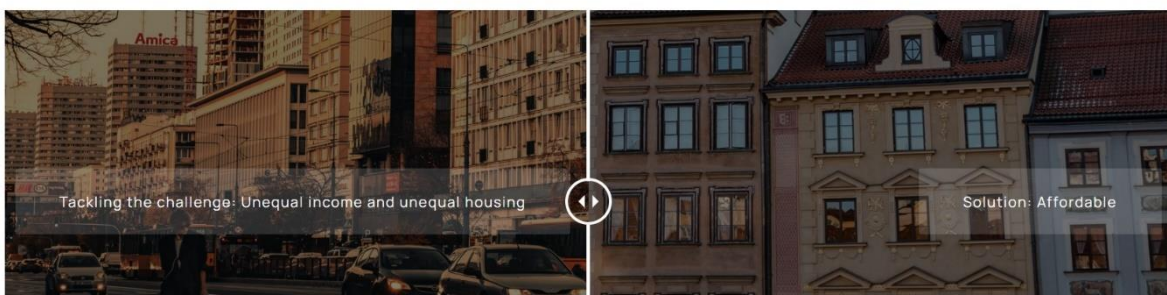
Figure 12 Urban Experiments - TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA Technical guidebook for cities

3   RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Working with Reference Cities in the context of the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA project represented an enriching opportunity for both the research partners and for the cities themselves. What clearly emerged from the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA experience is that European cities are eager to deepen international cooperation with Chinese cities but that financial constraints in city administration do play an important role when it comes to international cooperation. This became evident looking at the reluctance of cities in signing written commitments or even letters of support, as city administrations have in most cases limitations in terms of financial and human resources that can be invested in unplanned and unbudgeted activities. For these reasons the key recommendation for future projects with an international cooperation component at city level is to envisage from the start a budget for travelling (e.g. peer-to-peer study visits) or for staff cost (e.g. through selecting at the proposal stage cities to be actively involved in the project or to include the possibility to select them via an open call during the course of the project).

Nevertheless, an outstanding number of 63 European cities became involved in the project dissemination and exchange activities, and while no formal commitment was signed by most of these cities their willingness to be kept up-to-date when it comes to EU-China international cooperation represents a clear sign of interest towards building stronger ties with their Chinese counterpart.

With Eurocities managing (as of January 2021) the dissemination and visibility work of the second phase of the IUC programme, International Urban and Regional Cooperation (IURC), new synergies and an enhanced cooperation with the group of reference cities will be fostered in the framework of the EU-China cooperation opportunities offered by the IURC programme.

The experience of disseminating information throughout the project taught us a number of new lessons, as well as confirming or sharpening pre-existing understandings about project dissemination and peer-to-peer learning through events, articles and newsletters.

When it comes to planning events, the preparation stage is key. It is good to include a range of speakers besides project partners, as external speakers will enliven the conversation, allow for the cross-pollination of ideas, and attract a broader audience thanks to the dissemination efforts of these extra-project participants among their own networks. Speakers should be chosen on the basis of their complementarity with the theme of the online dissemination event. The publicization of the event should begin early, but become more intense in the two weeks leading up to the event, as those that sign up for online events within two weeks of the final date are consistently far more likely to actually participate than those who sign up three or four weeks before it takes place. When communicating about the event, choose a compelling image to compliment the description, and in the description be concise and immediately make it clear what will be the contents of the event and the concrete benefits for attendees. Also, be careful which hosting platform you opt for – accessibility to various hosting platforms is not the same in Europe and other parts of the world like China. If you want international participation, considering the time at which you hold your online seminars is essential – it must be at a time that is reasonable for participation not just in the hosting time-zone.

To keep people's attention during online events, it is essential that presentations are not too long – they cannot be nearly as long as their real-life equivalents. We found that we were able to maintain attendees' participation with interventions of between five and 20 minutes, and also had much success with an interview format replacing standard slide-based presentations. Presentations should be

regularly punctuated with the opportunity for participants to engage and ask questions or make their own contributions.

You can foster different levels of engagement with different approaches. For example, when discussing potentially sensitive topics, create a private registration and promise participants that the content of the discussion will not be recorded.

After the event, you can disseminate the dissemination – distil the main points of the conversation into a short document that can be sent to attendees but also to interested parties that did not attend the session, for example those who registered but did not attend. It can also be a good idea to record the session and place it online. This can be a handy reference tool for people, but does not generally garner much traffic compared to the live event.

Keeping an online community of cities engaged via email correspondence is something of a balancing act: it is important to send enough mail to keep the community engaged, but not to send too much so that people feel bombarded. Key to this also is ensuring that mails have useful content, and provide actionable information that cities can use to participate in or move forward with something, for example by asking readers to share their own experiences or expertise, or by carrying out surveys and questionnaires, like it was done in the case of TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA at the beginning of 2020.

Sharing engaging articles about the project is also something that garners a lot of attention if managed correctly. Rather than getting bogged down in the details of the project, it is important to find the most tantalisingly interesting details and use these to draw people to the website where they can access more technical information. This is the case both in terms of attracting a readership and in getting interest from outside reporters. This was precisely the reason behind the decision to develop the Technical guidebook for cities around practical "Urban Experiments": https://www.urbantransition-euchina.com/urban-experiments/ The catchy format and the relatable stories coming directly from the cities aim at involving the readers, while at the same time giving them the chance to dive into more technical guidance through the links to the TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA Compendium.

The overall takeaway from this across all channels is that dissemination and community building among reference cities is optimal when engagement is two-way, content focused and content driven.

ANNEX 1 - QUESTIONNAIRE ON SOCIALLY INTEGRATIVE CITIES

TRANS-URBAN-EU-CHINA

Transition towards urban sustainability through
socially integrative cities in the EU and in China

QUESTIONNAIRE ON SOCIALLY INTEGRATIVE CITIES

All cities want social integration and inclusion, but we have different ideas about how to achieve it. Should we invest in more buses to economically distressed areas, in promoting social enterprises, or printing leaflets in other languages? One thing we have learned the hard way: we cannot do nothing and hope that things will sort themselves out!

This is a hard topic, and, as the wise old saying goes, a few hundred heads are better than one. This survey seeks to find out where cities stand at the moment in their approach to social integration and inclusion, to make it easier for cities and experts to work together on this problem in the future. If your city wants its people to work better together, lead the way by working with us. Please take a moment to fill in this 20-minute survey, so that we can influence the EU funding to addressing issues that are relevant to you.

1. **According to your opinion, how important are the following features for achieving a socially integrative / inclusive development in your city?**

	Necessary	Important	Less important	Undecided
Reducing urban sprawl and promoting well-balanced land conversion from "rural" to "urban" areas				
Providing equal access to urban land in an appropriate way				
Involving the different stakeholders in collaborative and participative planning and design processes on the different political/administrative levels				
Improving the environment and living conditions in urban areas				
Upgrading the physical environment in distressed areas				
Promoting efficient and affordable urban transport for all				
Assuring equal access to municipal services				
Strengthening the local economy and labour market				
Strengthening (technical and social) innovation in cities and neighbourhoods opening up new possibilities for the local population				
Fostering proactive education and training policies for children and young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods				
Preserving cultural heritage and fostering the identity of neighbourhoods and their inhabitants				
Fostering social capital and engagement of local stakeholders				
Supporting adequate institutional and financial conditions and mechanisms				
Others (please specify)				

2. **Please name a good example of socially integrative / inclusive development in your city. Please provide a short description and a website for further information.**

Name
Short description

3. **According to your opinion, how important is or has been the following for achieving a socially integrative / inclusive development in your city?**

	Necessary	Important	Less important	Undecided
Strong leadership				
Good governance / collaborative environment				
Community initiative / active engagement by citizens				
Monitoring success and failures				
Interest and engagement of (real estate) developers				
Availability of municipal finance / budget				
Sufficient capacity in city administration				
Support programmes from supranational or national levels				
Others (please specify)				