

EUI City-to-City Exchange

Catalogue of moderators



Co-funded by
the European Union



Foreword

Dear city-to-city exchange beneficiary,

In the framework of your city-to-city exchange, you have **requested an expert moderator** to support the learning process between you and your peer(s).

In order to facilitate your choice of moderator, EUI PS proposes this catalogue including the **profiles of the moderators** who have been selected to support city-to-city exchanges. The information includes a summary of the moderator's experience, their moderation style, the type of exchanges they are most interested to support, as well as a link to their CV.

The procedure for selecting your moderator is the following:

1. Following approval decision, you will receive this moderator catalogue. You should select your moderator based on their expertise. A table for easy identification of moderators' expertise, country-specific experience and language skills is shown at the beginning of the catalogue. If your challenge is not specifically tackled by any of the moderators, please contact EUI PS and we will help you identify the person(s) most suitable to your needs.
2. You may request short online interviews with up to 2 moderators in the list: please inform us of your choice via e-mail and we will connect you with the selected person(s).
3. Following these online interviews, you will have 2 weeks to confirm your choice of moderator to EUI PS, via e-mail at capacitybuilding@urban-initiative.eu. EUI PS will confirm that moderation has been allocated to your city-to-city exchange.
4. As soon as the collaboration between you and your moderator is confirmed, you will be able to start working with them. Indicatively, moderators' roles may include:
 - Reviewing agenda developed by applicant and proposing improvements if needed to ensure a successful exchange;
 - Leading or participating in a pre-meeting among applicant and peers;
 - Facilitating the exchange between applicant and peers, including the adaptation and use of creative discussion methodologies;
 - Supporting adaption of the peer recommendations to applicant's urban context;
 - Supporting applicant in documenting the key recommendations and lessons learned for follow-up report.

Please let us know if you have any questions at capacitybuilding@urban-initiative.eu.

Best regards,

The EUI capacity building team

MODERATOR CATALOGUE MATRIX

Indicative thematic challenges		EXPERTS													
		ALISON PARTRIDGE	BIRGIT GEORGI	CARLOTTA FIORETTI	DANIELA PATTI	DIRK GEBHARDT	DONAL O'HERLIHY	MARIA JOÃO FILGUEIRAS RAUCH	MARION CUGNET	MATTHEW BAQUERIZA-JACKSON	PETER RAMSDEN	PIETRO L. VERGA	PIOTR PRZYBYSZ	SIMONE D'ANTONIO	WILLEM VAN WINDEN
Productive, smart and connected	Research and Innovation						x								x
	Digital transition	x							x		x	x			x
	Localising production						x								x
	Decarbonised mobility						x								
	Culture and sustainable tourism					x						x	x	x	
	Support to Small and Medium Entreprises and entrepreneurs	x					x		x	x	x				
Green	Sustainable soil and land use		x									x			
	Resilient environments		x						x						
	Climate adaptation		x				x		x				x		x
	Clean and healthy environments											x			
	Energy transition				x		x						x	x	x
	Circular Economy				x		x	x					x		x
Just and Inclusive	Inclusion	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x				
	Access to housing				x	x									
	Education and employment				x	x		x		x			x		
	Access to essential services					x		x							
Place based	Safe and secure urban environment													x	
	Balanced territorial development (including urban-rural linkages)							x					x	x	
	Urban regeneration		x	x	x	x				x	x	x	x	x	
	Sustainable urban planning		x									x	x	x	

MODERATOR CATALOGUE MATRIX

Indicative operational challenges		EXPERTS													
		ALISON PARTRIDGE	BIRGIT GEORGI	CARLOTTA FIORETTI	DANIELA PATTI	DIRK GEBHARDT	DONAL O'HERLIHY	MARIA JOÃO FILGUEIRAS RAUCH	MARION CUGNET	MATTHEW BAQUERIZA-JACKSON	PETER RAMSDEN	PIETRO L. VERGA	PIOTR PRZYBYSZ	SIMONE D'ANTONIO	WILLEM VAN WINDEN
Strategy	Diagnostics	x		x					x						
	Sustainable Urban Development Strategies			x	x			x		x	x			x	
	Localising Sustainable Development Goals							x							
Governance	Multi-level governance		x	x	x	x		x			x				
	Multi-stakeholder approach	x	x			x		x	x	x	x		x		
Participation and Communication	Citizen engagement		x	x	x	x					x		x		
	Communication with beneficiaries					x									
Resource and funding	Access to funding (including selection criteria and procedures, and project pipeline preparation, implementation and monitoring)	x		x	x				x		x		x		
	Public procurement and State Aid									x					
Data management and evaluation	Data collection and analysis						x								
	Monitoring and evaluation						x		x	x					
	Territorial Impact Assessment						x								
Scaling up and transfer	Capitalisation	x			x						x				
	Scaling up													x	
	Transfer/replication	x					x	x	x			x		x	
Territorial tools	Integrated territorial investment			x							x				
	Community-led local development		x	x						x	x				
Territorial focus	Functional urban areas, neighbourhood, municipality			x							x		x		

MODERATOR CATALOGUE MATRIX

Languages spoken at level C1/C2	EXPERTS													
	ALISON PARTRIDGE	BIRGIT GEORGI	CARLOTTA FIORETTI	DANIELA PATTI	DIRK GEBHARDT	DONAL O'HERLIHY	MARIA JOÃO FILGUEIRAS RAUCH	MARION CUGNET	MATTHEW BAQUERIZA-JACKSON	PETER RAMSDEN	PIETRO L. VERGA	PIOTR PRZYBYSZ	SIMONE D'ANTONIO	WILLEM VAN WINDEN
Catalan														
Danish		x												
Dutch														x
English	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
French			x		x		x	x		x			x	
German		x			x		x				x			
Italian			x	x							x		x	
Spanish			x	x	x		x	x					x	
Polish												x		
Portuguese				x			x							

Country-specific knowledge on Sustainable Urban Development	EXPERTS													
	ALISON PARTRIDGE	BIRGIT GEORGI	CARLOTTA FIORETTI	DANIELA PATTI	DIRK GEBHARDT	DONAL O'HERLIHY	MARIA JOÃO FILGUEIRAS RAUCH	MARION CUGNET	MATTHEW BAQUERIZA-JACKSON	PETER RAMSDEN	PIETRO L. VERGA	PIOTR PRZYBYSZ	SIMONE D'ANTONIO	WILLEM VAN WINDEN
Austria				x										
Belgium						x		x						x
Bulgaria														
Croatia			x				x			x				
Cyprus														
Czechia														
Denmark														
Estonia	x													
Finland			x											
France			x		x	x		x		x			x	x
Germany		x			x		x				x			x
Greece														
Hungary	x			x										
Ireland										x				
Italy		x	x	x							x	x	x	
Latvia														
Lithuania														
Luxembourg														
Malta							x							
Netherlands	x	x							x					x
Poland		x							x	x		x		
Portugal				x			x				x	x	x	
Romania							x				x		x	
Slovakia														
Slovenia										x				
Spain	x	x	x	x	x			x	x			x	x	x
Sweden	x													

ALISON PARTRIDGE

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Alison is a skilled, diligent, adaptable, and motivated professional with thematic expertise in tech, inclusive enterprise, entrepreneurship, and economic development in European cities. She has long term experience of co-creating and implementing integrated policies and programmes in response to complex ever-changing contexts and using a variety of different public and private funding streams.

For URBACT Alison has been:

- Lead Expert for 5 different networks focusing on local economies and digital transitions: ESIMeC I & II, TechTown + TechRevolution 1 and II.
- Lab Manager for Jobs & Skills/Digital Transitions at 2 x Summer Universities.
- Capitalisation and capacity building expert on Jobs and Growth and now Digital Transitions.

Alison is a proud advocate of diversity, equity and inclusion and founded One-Tech (1T) (www.weareonetech.org) in 2018. 1T connects underserved communities with opportunities in the tech startup ecosystem & is on a mission to build a just & equitable tech startup ecosystem where everyone has equal access & voice.



LANGUAGES

- English - Mother tongue

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 5 EU Member States in which Alison has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. Sweden
2. Estonia
3. Spain
4. Netherlands
5. Hungary

MODERATION STYLE

Alison uses a wide range of participative tools & a strong active listening ability to enable urban practitioners to get best value from transnational learning & peer exchanges. Icebreakers & energisers are incredibly important when it comes to building a team spirit & a trusting space for open exchanges. As an example, Alison uses the Bingo ice-breaker with new groups regularly & it never fails. She prepares questions carefully, combining theme-related statements with more light-hearted statements, acknowledging that everyone learns better when they're having fun. She provides prizes – usually chocolate ;).

Alison aims to build the capacity of urban practitioners take transnational learning & use it to achieve local impact on the ground in their cities. Her style creates a safe & trusting space where people can have meaningful exchanges about their local challenges & explore potential solutions. She creates structured yet flexible event programmes & uses interactive techniques which enable participants to actively engage, have fun & develop meaningful professional relationships & skills which last way beyond the meeting or workshop itself.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

Primary areas of expertise are emphasised by using bold text, whereas any other topics that the expert is comfortable moderating is presented in normal text.

- **Inclusion**
- **Digital Transition**
- **Support to Small and Medium Enterprises and entrepreneurs**
- **Transfer**
- **Capitalisation**
- Access to funding
- Multi Stakeholder Approach
- Diagnostics.

[LINK TO CV](#)

BIRGIT GEORGI

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Based on her degree on landscape architecture, Birgit Georgi has worked with sustainable urban development for more than 20 years as project manager of the German and the European Environment and later as freelancer nationally and EU-wide. She has worked closely with cities themselves on sustainable urban development, urban transport, urban adaptation to climate change, just transitions and governance.

She co-founded the annual European Urban Resilience Forum (since 2013) and has moderated at the event, which she and partners have designed explicitly for city-to-city learning. She also supported peer to peer exchanges between cities for the UIA initiative on just transitions and adaptation to climate change, helped Asturias and Puglia regions for the Policy Support Facility of the Covenant of Mayors on urban adaptation action, and she organised a two-years intensive exchange between 8 European cities on becoming energy net zero (UrbEnPact project, URBACT).



LANGUAGES

- German - Mother tongue
- English - C1
- Danish - C1

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 5 EU Member States in which Birgit has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. Germany
2. Spain
3. Italy
4. Poland
5. Netherlands

MODERATION STYLE

When approaching a new moderation task, Birgit Georgi starts with a careful preparation on the topic at stake and the concrete situation in the city with a challenge. Apart from studying papers and online-information, preparation focusses on identifying the different stakeholders involved or to be involved, their (potential) interest in the case and thus figuring out which particular information, learning and matching peer experience is needed.

This information she collects preferably from direct pre-talks with different stakeholders, carefully listening on their says. This and a clearly formulated objective forms then the basis for the interactive exchange between cities. Here, she takes a moderating role to assist in finding out how pieces of good practice in the peer city can be transferred to the specific circumstances of the receiving city (instead of prescribing certain solutions). In this way, she ensures that the exchange runs smooth but targeted and effective.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

- Climate adaptation
- Sustainable urban planning
- Resilient environments, Urban regeneration
- Multi-stakeholder approach
- Inclusion, Community-led local development
- Citizen engagement
- Multi-level governance
- Sustainable soil and land use.

[LINK TO CV](#)

CARLOTTA FIORETTI

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Carlotta is an urban policy expert, trained as an architect, specialized in urban regeneration and with a PhD in territorial policies. She has over 15 years of experience as researcher and expert at EU level and she worked in Italy, Scotland, France and Spain. Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy has been a central focus throughout her studies.

Then, in 2008, she gained hands-on experience collaborating with the City of Arezzo in Italy, designing its Integrated Plan for Urban Development, successfully funded under ERDF 2007-2013 and ranked first regionally. From 2017 to 2023, at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, she played a crucial role in developing tools supporting cities in designing and implementing urban development strategies and projects.

As the first author of the Handbook of Sustainable Urban Development strategies, her expertise is well recognized. During her job at the JRC, she also gained extensive experience moderating both in-person and online exchanges focused on EU Sustainable Urban Development.



LANGUAGES

- Italian - Mother tongue
- English - C1/C2
- Spanish - C1
- French - C1

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 5 EU Member States in which Carlotta has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. Italy
2. Spain
3. France
4. Croatia
5. Finland

MODERATION STYLE

Carlotta is a knowledgeable moderator. Thanks to her expertise as researcher both in the University and at the JRC, she has a wide and strong knowledge of sustainable urban development in the EU, including several examples of successful practices across the EU that she can refer to, as useful resources.

Moreover, her analytic thinking allows her to guide participants into a reflective process, clarifying the objective of the exchange, and helping them to overcome eventual bottlenecks that may arouse. Carlotta has strong inter-personal skills, and she uses them in the moderation to make everybody at ease, to break the ice when needed, and to create an inclusive and respectful environment where all viewpoints can be expressed and heard.

Using different techniques according to the actual dynamics that characterise the exchange, Carlotta will ensure that discussions stay on track, that no one (including herself) dominate or control the exchange, and that everybody has the chance to contribute to the process.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

- Sustainable Urban Development Strategies
- Inclusion
- Urban regeneration
- Integrated territorial investment
- Community-led local development
- Multi-level governance
- Access to funding
- Functional urban areas, neighbourhood, municipality
- Diagnostics
- Citizen engagement.

[LINK TO CV](#)

DANIELA PATTI

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Daniela Patti is an Italian-British urban planner, her recent interests have been the revitalisation of local food markets, economic models for community-based urban development and strategies to tackle urban poverty.

She regularly works with the URBACT, Urban innovative Actions, the International Urban Cooperation and EU Urban Agenda on Urban Poverty and Sustainable Tourism. In particular, she has been lead expert on UIA projects such as [Prato urban Jungle](#), [Urban Soil 4 Food](#) and one of the co-authors of the report on [Integrated Territorial Development](#). Since 2015 she is co-founder and co-director of [Eutropian](#), a research and action agency on collaborative urban practices based in Vienna, Rome and Budapest.

She worked for the Rome Municipality in 2014-15, since 2012 she is board member of the Wonderland Platform for European Architecture and was a researcher at the Central European Institute of Technology in 2010-14.

She has studied in Rome, London, Porto and holds a Ph.D. from the Technical University of Vienna on the food governance of peri-urban landscape.



LANGUAGES

- English - Mother tongue
- Italian - Mother tongue
- Portuguese - C2
- Spanish - C1
- German - B2

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 5 EU Member States in which Daniela has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. Italy
2. Portugal
3. Spain
4. Austria
5. Hungary

MODERATION STYLE

Daniela has an extensive experience in participatory processes and moderating professional discussions and debates, combined with a deep knowledge of urban and regeneration. She has lived and worked in many different cities and countries in Europe, therefore she speaks different languages and understands the cultural differences when exchanging knowledge amongst different contexts.

Also, she works with cities, both political and administrative sides, as well as with NGOs, research organisations and private sector, therefore allowing for a fruitful exchange.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

- Inclusion, Access to housing
- Education and employment
- Urban regeneration, circular economy, energy transition
- Sustainable Urban Development Strategies
- Multi-level governance
- Citizen engagement
- Access to funding (including selection criteria and procedures, and project pipeline preparation, implementation and monitoring)
- Capitalisation.

[LINK TO CV](#)

DIRK GEBHARDT

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

A PhD in Urban Geography, Dirk has more than 15 years of experience in facilitating city-learning as consultant for Eurocities, CEMR, MedCities and individual city councils in projects funded by various EU programmes, including UIA and Urbact.

His thematic focus is on social inclusion, but he also has comprehensive experience in affordable housing, labour market integration and integrated neighbourhood development; and SUD-approaches such as co-design, multi-level governance, stakeholder coordination and evaluation.

He has facilitated learning formats including peer reviews, communities of practice, mentoring and action learning; and is experienced in providing policy guidance in written reports and through video.

Dirk has a solid understanding of EU urban policies and a variety of sectoral policies. He believes in the potential of Europe's cities to be innovators and not just implementers and is a strong believer in transnational learning as a means to trigger local change.



LANGUAGES

- German - Mother tongue
- English - C2
- French - C1
- Spanish - C1
- Catalan - C1

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 3 EU Member States in which Dirk has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. Germany
2. France
3. Spain

MODERATION STYLE

Dirk regularly moderates conference or workshop sessions with city politicians, managers and officers; academics and NGO representatives. He has facilitated city-to-city learning through formats such as action learning sessions, mentoring processes, peer reviews, good practice presentations or training sessions.

Dirk is a fan of well-structured exchanges, site visits and practitioners who supporting each other as critical friends, based on mutual trust. He aims to encourage bottom-up processes that feed local trends and needs into (often more abstract) EU policy contexts to identify their shortcomings.

Dirk pays importance to context information to ensure that participants understand each other's situation, enabling them to talk about their real problems and learning from each other. Dirk likes relatively informal moments within learning exercises that give participants the chance to reflect on what they have seen, heard and learned.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

Primary areas of expertise are emphasised by using bold text, whereas any other topics that the expert is comfortable moderating is presented in normal text.

- **Inclusion**
- **Access to housing**
- **Education and employment**
- Multi-stakeholder approach
- Citizen engagement
- Access to essential services
- Multi-level governance
- Communication with beneficiaries
- Urban regeneration
- Culture and sustainable tourism.

[LINK TO CV](#)

DONAL O'HERLIHY

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Donal has an engineering degree but has spent nearly all of his career working in the field of sustainable development. He is an innovation consultant (25 years), most active in the space between the Governmental, research and industrial communities. He has extensive experience of helping universities link with business and to commercialise their research. He has designed and evaluated entrepreneurship programs.

Donal's sectoral specialisms are in areas of climate, low and zero carbon technologies and circularity. These specialisms have underpinned his work with URBACT and UIA on projects supporting cities with their Climate 2050 responses. He also has a specialism in advanced manufacturing policy (these two areas are increasingly merging).

Donal has extensive policy/strategy development and programme evaluation experience.

As a consultant, Donal has undertaken nearly 400 project engagements for municipalities, regional and central governments, universities and research institutes.



LANGUAGES

- English - Mother tongue

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top EU Member States in which Donal has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. Belgium
2. France (less so)

MODERATION STYLE

Donal is a very experienced moderator, both of in-person and on-line events. At the outbreak of COVID-19, he led a group of URBACT experts investigating the use of on-line tools to support URBACT's transition to on-line working. He has track record of delivering successful on-line facilitated meetings.

Donal's moderation approach is structured and has a clear focus on outcomes. It's goal directed.

Donal has a particular interest in working with partners to identify stakeholders who need to be engaged to make a project a success and then using moderated meetings that bring partners and stakeholders together to achieve their engagement.

Donal is frequently engaged by government to lead facilitated meetings that build a consensus view on the optimum way forward for policy, programmes and projects, for example bringing Climate Change and Economic Development directorates together to develop a consensus. These activities can be very high value (€100bn+).

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

- **Energy transition**
- **Research & Innovation**
- **Climate adaptation**
- **Transfer/replication**
- Decarbonised mobility
- Support to Small & Medium Sized Enterprises and entrepreneurs
- Data collection and analysis
- Monitoring & Evaluation
- Territorial Impact Assessment
- Localising production
- Circular Economy

[LINK TO CV](#)

MARIA JOÃO FILGUEIRAS RAUCH

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Maria has worked for over 30 years in supporting regions and municipalities with integrated place-based approaches in Portugal, Romania, Malta through technical assistance to the public policies development and with cities networks (URBACT). In Romania she supported the development of 8 Regional Pacts for Employment and Social Inclusion and 36 local partnerships; in Malta developed the Project LEAP (best ESF practice) that has created local partnerships to design holistic integrated approaches to reintegration of social beneficiaries.

Most recently has been Lead Expert in 2 URBACT Transfer networks (Volunteering cities and VC+) and 1 network of Portuguese cities on Circular Economy using the URBACT methodological approach. In the moment Maria is the Network Manager of the recently created SDSN Portugal and gives support to Municipalities in developing the Local Voluntary Reviews on SDGs.



LANGUAGES

- Portuguese - Mother tongue
- English - C2
- French - C1
- German - C1
- Spanish - C1

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 5 EU Member States in which Maria has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. Portugal
2. Germany
3. Romania
4. Croatia
5. Malta

MODERATION STYLE

Maria believes that learning is more interesting than teaching - what people discuss, exchange and “discover/experience” by themselves becomes knowledge and is retained with ownership and has potential to promote change. Maria’s moderation style is based on those premises. She uses frequently the world café approach to promote the widest possible exchange and discussion highlighting the different perspectives.

For problem analysis and planning Maria uses the diagram trees for its simplicity especially in heterogeneous groups. When necessary to bring a knowledge input this is used in Capacity building workshops to trigger the discussion and the collaborative learning exchange. Deep Dives are also used Tools to focus the attention of the groups in a subject.

Learning must also be fun and it is important to create always a ludic atmosphere that enables a better learning collective process besides the important aspect of creating trustful relationships between the participants.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

Primary areas of expertise are emphasised by using bold text, whereas any other topics that the expert is comfortable moderating is presented in normal text.

- **Transfer/replication**
- **Sustainable Urban Development Strategies**
- **Localising Sustainable Development Goals**
- **Multi-level governance**
- **Multi-stakeholder approach**
- **Circular Economy**
- Balanced territorial development (including urban-rural linkages)
- Inclusion
- Education and employment
- Access to essential services

[LINK TO CV](#)

MARION CUGNET

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Marion has over 15 years of experience working with cities and their stakeholders, providing strategic & expert support in designing, developing and delivering collaborative projects and integrated strategies, helping cities through their transformative process to address common challenges. Her thematic focus is on innovation applied to places, innovation ecosystems, digital transition and local economic development and entrepreneurship with a focus on inclusiveness.

In her work, Marion uses design thinking, comparative analysis and inclusive participatory methods and tools for greater knowledge creation, learning and exchange.

She has led and facilitated capacity-building and knowledge transfer workshops for local authorities in Europe and the UK. She has been involved in URBACT in various capacities including as capacity-building expert, trainer & facilitator (URBACT Universities & Campus), as an expert designing and moderating the Resourceful Cities Network's first peer review.



LANGUAGES

- French - Mother tongue
- English - C2
- Spanish - C1

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 3 EU Member States in which Marion has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. France
2. Belgium
3. Spain (limited)

MODERATION STYLE

Marion is an experienced moderator of in-person & online events and workshops with a focus on peer exchange & learning and capacity-building. Her moderation style is inclusive, informative, participatory and engaging. She has a sound understanding of the challenges of transnational and peer-exchange events, and strong technical knowledge of participatory methods and tools. When designing & moderating events, Marion pays particular attention to creating a welcoming and trustful atmosphere where everyone feels comfortable sharing, and to guiding participants to ensure that the event reaches its goals. She uses a mix of informative & practical exercises with converging moments to maximise opportunities for exchange and collective learning.

Her moderation experience with local authorities includes URBACT's IAP peer review, URBACT Transfer Network Campus, focus groups with MUAs, smart city capacity-building & knowledge transfer workshops, and strategic prioritisation & co-creation workshops.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

Primary areas of expertise are emphasised by using bold text, whereas any other topics that the expert is comfortable moderating is presented in normal text.

- **Digital transition**
- **Support to Small and Medium Enterprises and entrepreneurs**
- **Climate adaptation**
- Inclusion
- Resilient environments.
- **Access to funding (including selection criteria and procedures, and project pipeline preparation, implementation and monitoring)**
- **Multi-stakeholder approach**
- Transfer/replication
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Diagnostics

[LINK TO CV](#)

MATTHEW BAQUERIZA-JACKSON

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Matthew has spent the last 19 years undertaking research, advice and strategy work around local economic development. This has included 13 years working for the think-tank, CLES, 5 years running his own policy advice business, and 8 years as an accredited URBACT Expert.

In all of this, Matthew has worked with cities across EU Member States to develop integrated strategies with a specific focus on Community Wealth Building (CWB). CWB is an approach to economic development which is not focused upon attracting inward investment to places as a way of enabling growth; but which is focused upon harnessing the existing wealth that places have such as procurement spend for the benefit of local economies, local people and in addressing social and environmental challenges.

Matthew has moderated a range of meetings and events with cities, including national and international conferences, meetings for URBACT Networks and the EU Urban Agenda Partnerships, training courses, and focus groups.



LANGUAGES

- English - Mother tongue

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 3 EU Member States in which Matthew has relevant expertise, in order of expertise:

1. Poland
2. Spain
3. The Netherlands

MODERATION STYLE

Matthew's approach to moderation is a blend of seriousness and fun. Matthew seeks to stimulate a dynamic between participants through starting meetings with Icebreakers so that they get to know each other.

Matthew then seeks to thoroughly ensure that everybody is engaged in the meeting through bringing key stakeholder voices into the conversation to explain the thematic focus. He also brings his own thematic knowledge into the conversation and particularly around public procurement and local economic development.

Finally, Matthew seeks to ensure that moderation includes a mix of methods, whether that be short presentations, the setting of tasks, the facilitation of question-and-answer sessions, or support with the development of strategies. His approach to moderation is flexible with the focus always on the learning and exchange needs of the participants. Matthew has moderated a range of events involving politicians, directors, business, the social sector and communities.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

Primary areas of expertise are emphasised by using bold text, whereas any other topics that the expert is comfortable moderating is presented in normal text.

- **Public procurement and state aid**
- **Multi-stakeholder approach**
- **Sustainable Urban Development Strategies**
- **Urban Regeneration**
- **Monitoring and evaluation**
- Support to Small and Medium Enterprises and Entrepreneurs
- Community-led local development
- Education and Employment

[LINK TO CV](#)

PETER RAMSDEN

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Peter has worked for 30 years with cohesion policy supporting cities and regions to work on sustainable urban development.

He has a deep knowledge of cohesion policy having worked for the European Commission for 3.5 years in the 1990s as a desk officer for Objective 1 and 2 programmes (less developed and transition regions in current parlance).

He managed ERDF funds when a board member of the East Midlands Development Agency from 2001-6 where he was chair of the large projects committee and of the Innovation sub committee of the ERDF/ESF programme monitoring committee.

He has worked extensively for cities and city networks across the EU including for URBACT, EUI, and Eurocities. He was a member of the social innovation advisory committee of the mayor of Seoul Park Wonsoon.



LANGUAGES

- English - Mother tongue
- French - C1

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 5 EU Member States in which Peter has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. France
2. Ireland
3. Poland
4. Slovenia
5. Croatia

MODERATION STYLE

Peter is an experienced moderator having worked as a programme expert with Urbact for ten years from 2008-18 and for EUI from 2015-present day.

In 2023 he co-designed, directed and moderated two events for EUI. The first was a capacity building event on Community led local development in Timisoara. The second was on Integrated approaches in Ljubljana building on the study that he co-led for AEIDL.

He is a trained educator and has also undergone training on personal impact at the UK's National Theatre.

He is Vice president and founder member of LDnet which is the Europe wide local development network. He has a particular interest in community-led local development and has moderated several meetings for LDnet.

His moderation style is light and buzzy while maintaining a serious edge. He is a good listener and can respond to changing moods in groups and adapt workshops to changing situations.

He has moderated both large and small events. These range from plenary

events at URBACT summer universities (such as Dublin where he was the lead moderator and played the role of Mayor of Allium) and Knowledge events social innovation and other topics for Social Innovation exchange, the World Bank/IFC, OECD and the EC. He has moderated events in 18 European countries as well as in S. Korea and China.

He is also a well-regarded public speaker and has done keynotes in Urban Development Network meetings in Brussels and Budapest, as well as for OECD in Paris, and for the European Commission in Shanghai, Shaoxing and Chongqing.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

Primary areas of expertise are emphasised by using bold text, whereas any other topics that the expert is comfortable moderating is presented in normal text.

- **Integrated territorial investment**
- **Community-led local development**
- **Functional urban areas**
- **Sustainable Urban Development Strategies**
- **Multi-level governance**
- **Multi-stakeholder approach**
- **Citizen engagement**
- Digital transition
- Support to Small and Medium Enterprises and entrepreneurs
- Inclusion
- Education and employment
- Urban regeneration
- Access to funding (including selection criteria and procedures, and project pipeline preparation, implementation and monitoring)
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Capitalisation.

[LINK TO CV](#)

PIETRO L. VERGA

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Pietro has been researching and working on innovative, place-based sustainable development initiatives and strategies for nearly two decades.

Remarkably, he supported different Municipalities (e.g., Baia Mare, RO; Ferrara and Milano, IT) in the design, management, and/or coordination of European Projects and strategies focusing on community-led and participatory approaches, nature-based solutions, circular economy principles, and social innovation.

Pietro organised and facilitated a wide range of in-person and online peer to peer exchanges with international city representatives in the context of several EU projects (H2020, UIA, URBACT) or events (e.g., the EUROCITIES Social Affair Forum and the first EUI Capacity Building Event on CLLD) fostering proactive interactions and mutual learning on sustainable urban development innovative experiences and models.



LANGUAGES

- Italian - Mother tongue
- English - C1/C2
- German - B2/C1

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 4 EU Member States in which Pietro has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. Italy
2. Romania
3. Germany
4. Portugal

MODERATION STYLE

In his moderation style, Pietro adopts an overarching co-creation approach, relying on a mix of tools, formats and dynamic facilitation techniques based on design-thinking principles, to gather, elaborate, and share knowledge in a light and playful way, fostering open, collaborative exchange among all participants. In particular he makes use of:

- “experience matrixes” (where each participant can classify and prioritise selected items, features, or policy elements according to their own experience/knowledge), and “collaborative SWOT analyses” (where participants identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats related to the issue/topic at stake);
- group problem solving efforts and brainstorming sessions, including role playing and gamified activities, where mixed teams seek potential solutions to a specific challenges;
- Peer-exchange exercises to enhance synergies between the participants, and in particular to cross-pollinate with each-others experience and creativity.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

Primary areas of expertise are emphasised by using bold text, whereas any other topics that the expert is comfortable moderating is presented in normal text.

- **Community-led local development**
- **Circular Economy**
- **Urban regeneration**
- **Sustainable urban planning**
- **Sustainable Urban Development Strategies**
- Multi-stakeholder approach
- Sustainable soil and land use
- Clean and healthy environments
- Culture and sustainable tourism
- Digital transition

[LINK TO CV](#)

PIOTR PRZYBYSZ

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Piotr has extensive experience in working with small town partnerships, he has also participated as an expert in project evaluation in various grant programmes (URBACT, UIA/EUI, NetZeroCities, INTERREG, EOG/Norway Grants, regional and horizontal programmes in Poland). By education he is an urban planner, still interested in the topics of urban regeneration, physical urban planning and urban-rural connections (he is a member of Polish Association of Urban Planners).

On a daily basis he works in Poland for the project “Center of Advisory Support” lead by Cooperation Fund Foundation and Association of Polish Municipalities, financed by Ministry of Funds and Regional Policy. The main goal of the project is to support small local government from the marginalised areas.

He has also broad experience as the project manager in the fields of cultural heritage and local governments cooperation. At the beginning of the work career he worked as a public funding officer in Mosina - small town in Poland.



LANGUAGES

- Polish - Mother tongue
- English - C2

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 4 EU Member States in which Piotr has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. Poland
2. Italy
3. Spain
4. Portugal

MODERATION STYLE

Piotr uses his knowledge and experience in his moderation style. He declares to involve tools and techniques described in URBACT Toolbox (adequately to the needs and specificity of given cities and exchange of knowledge and good practices).

Flexible to needs of exchange participants he puts an attention to:

- best practices in the topic of exchange (developed so far in all EU programmes – benchmarking at the beginning of exchange);
- funding sources in a given field (funding offer in EU Programmes like HE, Creative Europe, LIFE, NetZeroCities etc. – at the end of exchange).

He uses on-site tools and techniques as well as on-line platform (MIRO).

Piotr feels better in small towns exchanges, but is also able to provide professional support to big cities.

During site visits, Piotr encourages to find the originality and “genius loci” of the place or the hidden condition of good practises success – what difference has it locally made and how to transfer it to other local conditions.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

Primary areas of expertise are emphasised by using bold text, whereas any other topics that the expert is comfortable moderating is presented in normal text.

- **Culture and sustainable tourism**
- **Energy transition**
- **Urban regeneration**
- **Sustainable urban planning**
- **Access to funding**
- Balanced territorial development (including urban-rural linkages)
- Citizen engagement
- Transfer/replication
- Functional urban areas, neighbourhood, municipality
- Climate adaptation

[LINK TO CV](#)

SIMONE D'ANTONIO

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Simone has worked for over 15 years supporting cities in the realization of integrated urban strategies at local, national, and European level. As expert of the EU programs URBACT, Urban Innovative Actions, Covenant of Mayors and Urban Agenda for the EU, Simone supported the exchange of knowledge among cities and the development and the implementation of integrated strategies on a wide range of topics with a place-based approach and the active involvement of the local communities.

Simone has a broad knowledge of the methodological and financial tools for sustainable urban development within Cohesion Policy and beyond, with a strong experience in supporting cities in securing additional funding and resourcing but also in managing integrated and participatory design of strategies.

Simone has moderated several city-to-city exchanges at European and global level, highlighting replicable urban solutions and supporting the capitalization of results of urban exchanges also in the framework of global programs such as ICP-AGIR or in collaboration with UN-Habitat.



LANGUAGES

- Italian - Mother tongue
- English - C1
- French - C1
- Spanish - C1

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 5 EU Member States in which Simone has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. Italy
2. Romania
3. Spain
4. France
5. Portugal

MODERATION STYLE

Simone adopts a moderation style based on a forward-thinking and proactive approach to fostering harmonious collaboration among different types of participants such as elected representatives, civic officials, experts and stakeholders.

His style of moderation encourages active participation from all the participants, while creating a positive environment for learning and exchanging knowledge. His approach wants to promote an open and constructive dialogue, ensuring that the interests and needs of all the participants are taken into account. The moderation style of Simone put emphasis on diversity and inclusivity, but also on highlighting solutions and practices that can be replicated in other urban contexts. His strong background as facilitator helps also in underlining key takeaways and elements that deserve to be capitalized and communicated at different levels.

Simone strongly focuses on the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability in the challenges highlighted, proposing interesting examples taken from the experience of other cities at European and global level.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

Primary areas of expertise are emphasised by using bold text, whereas any other topics that the expert is comfortable moderating is presented in normal text.

- **Energy Transition**
- **Culture and Sustainable Tourism**
- **Urban Regeneration**
- **Balanced Territorial Development**
- **Multi-stakeholder approach**
- Citizen Engagement
- Safe and Secure Urban Environment
- Sustainable Urban Planning
- Access to Funding
- Education and Employment.

[LINK TO CV](#)

WILLEM VAN WINDEN

SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

Willem has 20+ years of experience in supporting cities from many countries to develop strategies and policies. He has worked as (lead) expert for various EU-funded projects (URBACT, UIA, Interreg), in the following domains: knowledge-based economy & innovation, economic transformation, smart cities, campus development, circular economy, nature-based solutions, energy transformation, and international talent attraction.

He also has deep experience in leading workshops and capacity building activities for professionals in international settings and can work with a large toolbox of interactive learning tools to facilitate learning & exchange.



LANGUAGES

- Dutch - Mother tongue
- English - C2

EXPERTISE IN SPECIFIC EU COUNTRIES

The top 5 EU Member States in which Willem has relevant expertise on Sustainable Urban Development within Cohesion Policy, in order of expertise:

1. The Netherlands
2. Belgium
3. Germany
4. Spain
5. France

MODERATION STYLE

For Willem, good moderation always starts with good preparation: getting a grip on the local issues and problems and developing a common understanding between the participants about what we want to achieve.

His moderation style is inclusive, making sure that all participants feel safe and have an equal voice. He has a broad experience with various styles of moderation for peer learning, including role plays, pressure cooking sessions, various brainstorming techniques, implementation labs (in which peers develop solutions together), interactive site visits, OPERA and many other tools for collaborative work. It is always a matter of adapting the method to the specific need of the city.

TYPE OF EXCHANGES MOST INTERESTED TO SUPPORT

Primary areas of expertise are emphasised by using bold text, whereas any other topics that the expert is comfortable moderating is presented in normal text.

- **Research and Innovation**
- **Digital transition**
- **Circular Economy**
- **Scaling up**
- **Transfer/replication**
- Climate adaptation
- Localising production
- Energy transition
- Sustainable Urban Development Strategies

[LINK TO CV](#)



Co-funded by
the European Union



Les Arcuriales, 45D rue de Tournai, 7th floor, 59000 Lille - France
info@urban-initiative.eu - www.urban-initiative.eu