

## European Partnership for Integrated Sustainability Management

### Our Goal

The mission of the Partnership is to mainstream the integrated approach to build sustainable European cities and regions.

The Partnership is focused on developing common and continuous capacity building services for local and regional authorities with special focus on Integrated Management System for Sustainability.

The common – but localised – capacity building services are provided to cities and regions by National Training Hubs. The Hubs are focused on serving cities and regions that are aiming at sustainable growth and thus require new skills and capacities on integrated sustainability management.

### State of the art

The EU 2020 Strategy calls for sustainable, smart and inclusive growth and synergies between various policies. On local and regional level, green growth and climate investments are the key to a more sustainable and competitive future. However, this requires more synergies and bridges to overcome barriers between different sectors of policy and governance. Sustainable urban development is thus closely linked to the integrated approach.

Despite of a common vision, many challenges still exist on the way of sustainable urban Europe. Most often the problems of any strategic management lay on the way of transferring the visions into practices. Considering the implementation of EU sustainability and climate policies on local and regional level, the biggest challenges are:

1. Lack of localised tools and guidance materials
2. Lack of continuous training and support
3. Lack of long term resources to coordinate and to monitor implementation

Furthermore, many parallel initiatives, methodologies and projects should be coordinated more closely to build synergies and avoid competition. The Managing Urban Europe Initiative, through the CHAMP project, is answering to these challenges by building up **National Training Hubs** and a **European Partnership** for capacity building on sustainability management throughout the EU-27. Institutional support from the European Commission is needed for spreading and maintaining this concept.

### The concept

The European Partnership is formed by the National Training Hubs and other organisations that are aiming at mainstreaming the integrated approach on local and regional level in EU-27 to successfully implement EU sustainability policies. More specifically the Partnership aims at enabling local and regional authorities to use Integrated Management System to structure and organise their work on sustainability and climate change issues. Focus is put also on finding synergies between different initiatives on sustainability and climate change.

The Partnership supports the member organisations to organise nationally localised training programmes and awareness raising by promoting and developing mutual learning possibilities and exchange of experiences between the member organisations and keeps them aware of current developments on IMS and relevant EU policies and initiatives.



Guide books, training materials, working methods and tools, good practices and other capacity building materials are shared through the e-platform of the partnership [www.localmanagement.eu](http://www.localmanagement.eu).

Practical capacity building and dissemination takes place through the National Training Hubs in each EU member state. This is necessary in creation of sustainable growth in European cities and regions.

### Role of 'national training hubs'

- "represent" the partnership on national level
- can be formed by one or several organisations
- training of local and regional authorities, support for cities during the implementation of IMS (e.g. assessment in case of conflicts or special questions, how to build up IMS on environmental management or other instruments), training of trainers to implement and mainstream IMS and EU sustainability policies.

### Role of 'other partner organisations':

- definition: any organisation that is willing to support the mainstreaming of EU sustainability policies and integrated management: universities, consultancies, networks, research institutes etc. Local and Regional Authorities can belong to this group but are considered as clients at the first hand.
- are non-vote holders
- can also become part of the national training hub

### Role of cities and regions

- are the "clients" of the national training hubs
- can be partner in case they wish, but it's not the main focus.

