

Urban Innovative Actions – Fourth Call for Proposals - 2018-19
Part of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
Borough Briefing
November 2018

Urban Initiative Actions

Urban Innovation Actions (UIA) is an initiative of the European Commission. The programme was launched in order to identify and test new solutions which address issues related to sustainable urban development and are of relevance at Union level. The main aim of the UIA initiative is to provide urban authorities across Europe with space and resources to test bold and unproven ideas addressing interconnected challenges and experiment how these respond to the complexity of real life. Projects supported shall be innovative, of good quality, designed and implemented with the involvement of key stakeholders, result oriented and transferable.

The European Commission has selected four topics that will be included in the fourth call for proposals: digital transformation, sustainable use of land and nature-based solutions, urban poverty and urban security. **The two first topics are most suited to borough priorities.**

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Timescale for bidding

- Planned opening date of the calls: 15 October 2018
- Deadline for submissions: 31 January 2019

Funding and co-financing

The initiative has a total European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) budget of €372 million for 2014-2020. UIA offers a funding rate of 80% and will fund projects up to €5 million. The indicative global budget for this call is between EUR 80-100 million.

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Digital transition

Context	Digital public services are crucial for reducing administrative burden on citizens, making interactions with public authorities faster and more convenient. Cities can also serve as an excellent place for innovation and thereby contribute to generating economic growth. Thanks to digitalisation, it is possible to create new tools for citizen-centric city development, including at the policy-making stage through eDemocracy.		
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enable and implement smart cities solutions - Enable and implement citizen-centric eGovernment solutions across sectors - Create value through free and fair access to data of any kind: open/public/private sector/personal data - Accelerate adoption of digital emerging technologies, which will modernize the city's infrastructure and services 		
Alignment with GLA priorities	Transport Sustainable Infrastructure	T4 Assessing and mitigating transport impacts T7 Freight and servicing SI6 Digital connectivity infrastructure	

Sustainable use of land and nature-based solutions

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Context	The sustainable city model implies efficient land use and discouragement of urban sprawl. It focuses on “inward” development, which implies restoring degraded land, using, recycling and retrofitting land.		
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporation of blue and green infrastructure Reducing soil pollution, improving water infiltration and protecting from the impact of soil sealing Renaturing the cities through conservation, restoration, regeneration and expansion of biodiversity and ecosystems Improving urban and up-stream territorial/regional planning - Innovative approaches to sustainable land use and land use planning Remediation, restoration and prevention of formation of brownfields Adaptive reuse of vacant and underutilised land Renaturing urban spaces to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation Tackling the existing urban sprawl and preventing further urban sprawl Set-up of a long-term strategy for urban planning to decide land functions 		
Alignment with GLA priorities	Transport Sustainable Infrastructure Green infrastructure and natural environment	T4 Assessing and mitigating transport impacts T7 Freight and servicing SI1 Improving air quality G5 Urban greening G6 Biodiversity and access to nature	