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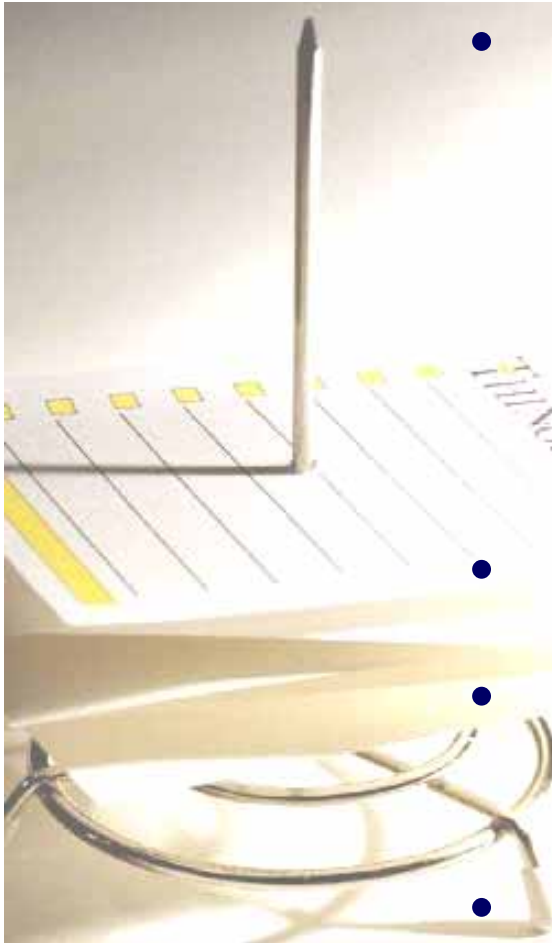
New directions in European Urban Research

Vincent Favrel

**European Commission - Research DG
Unit I.1 – Policy aspects and Strategy for
Sustainable Development**

Vincent.Favrel@cec.eu.int

Overview Presentation



- The FP5 Key-Action 'City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage'
 - Objectives
 - The needs of the urban stakeholders
 - Achievements - A new range of tools
- Urban research in FP6
- Thematic Strategy and future of urban research
- Conclusions

EU Research for Urban Sustainability

The City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage – FP5

Objective

To provide the means for local and regional stakeholders to implement sustainable development practices in their own local circumstances.

Four interrelated themes

- Urban governance and sustainable resource management
- Cultural Heritage
- Sustainable built environment
- Sustainable Transport



Main issues addressed – Clusters of projects

- 1. Urban governance and sustainable resource management:** Urban Governance and Citizen participation, Urban Planning and economic development, Green Areas, Air Quality, Urban Waste Management, Urban Regeneration
- 2. Cultural Heritage:** Air Pollution Threshold Levels for Cultural Heritage, Salt Damage to Historic Buildings, Bio-deterioration, Environment inside Museums and Libraries, Urban Integration of Cultural Heritage
- 3. Sustainable built environment:** Sustainable buildings and neighbourhoods, Mitigating Seismic Risk, Brownfield Regeneration
- 4. Sustainable Transport:** Land Use and Transport, Tomorrow's Solutions for Sustainable Urban Transport

The original approach of the key-action

- **Holistic approach and integration** as absolute requirements at the proposal evaluation stage
- Strong emphasis on the development of **affordable, effective and accessible tools** for the application of SD in urban areas
- **Involvement of all stakeholders** within the research-demonstration-dissemination phases
- Contribution to a wide range of **EU/MS policies**

The needs of the urban stakeholders (1/2)

- Cities and regions may believe that they can find **win-win solutions** to their environmental, social and economic problems.

But:

- **Which combination** of policies, support measures and environmental technologies will optimise benefits in all three domains?
- What are the **long term impacts** of new measures?
- To which extent are they **transferable** to other local contexts across Europe?
- How to overcome the **barriers** limiting their implementation?
- How should decisions reflect the sometimes **conflicting views** of residents, businesses, public authorities and landowners?

The needs of the urban stakeholders (2/2)

Support to the different steps of the decision-making process:

- vision making
- ex-ante impact assessment
- definition of objectives and targets
- planning
- implementation
- monitoring and information
- benchmarking and transfer of good practice

Achievements

Three categories of deliverables

- **Practical tools** to enhance the capacity of city managers, public authorities and enterprises to identify from a range of options the most effective practical measures
- Emergence of a new market for environmental products and services through the development and deployment of **new technologies** with real commercial potential
- Science-based **policy recommendations** supporting the formulation of sustainable policies at EU, national, regional and city levels

Achievements

From good principles to common practice

Practical tools

Indicators

Guidelines

Training tools

Codes of practice

Management and monitoring systems

Models and simulation tools

Forecasting scenarios

Participative approaches

Decision-support systems

Database

EU Urban Research

Sustainable governance principles

Integration of issues

Long-term vision

Partnerships

Participation and democracy

Capacity building

Sustainable resource management

Urban Research in the 6th Framework Programme

- No more appearing as a single entity
- **Main opportunities** for funding:
 - Scientific Support to Policies cross-cutting activities
 - Priority 6.3 on “Global Change and Ecosystems”
 - Priority 7 on “Citizens and governance”
 - CRAFT, Specific Support Actions (SSAs) and ERA-NET

Urban Research in the 6th FP

Scientific Support to Policies

3. Underpinning the economic potential and cohesion of a larger and more integrated European Union

3.4. Forecasting and developing innovative policies for sustainability in the medium and long term

- Task 1 - Development of the appropriate tools to assess the effectiveness of the **Urban Thematic Strategy**

Urban Research in the 6th FP

Scientific Support to Policies

3.6. The protection of cultural heritage and associated conservation strategies

- Task 1- Identification of durable ancient or traditional materials and craft technologies for application in modern conservation treatments of movable cultural heritage
- Task 2- Idem for immovable cultural heritage
- Task 3-Sustainable impact assessment of conservation treatments
- Task 4-impact assessment of results achieved in EU research projects related to the movable & immovable cultural heritage

Urban Research in the 6th FP

Global Change and Ecosystems

Priority 6.3 - Call Global-3

(Call publication: 16 June 2004; 1st deadline: 26 October 04)

V. Strategies for sustainable land management, including coastal zones, agricultural land and forests

V.1. Sustainable use of land

V.1.1.1. Land use and landscapes in sensitive regions

V.1.1.1. Education and training

V.1.2.1. Integrated coastal zone management

Urban Research in the 6th FP

Citizens and Governance

Priority 7

(Call publication: end of 04; tbc)

5. Articulation of areas of responsibility and new forms of governance

5.1.2. Multilevel governance, democracy and new policy instruments

Urban Research in the 6th FP

CRAFT, SSA and ERA-NET

- **CRAFT**: “small” research projects designed for SMEs (next deadline: 21 October 2004; tbc)
- **SSAs - Specific Support Actions**: to support the implementation of the thematic priorities (next deadline: 26/10/04)
- **ERA-NET**: networking of national and regional programmes (next deadline: 2 October 2004)



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Urban Research in the 6th FP

Further information

www.cordis.lu

The research needs of the Urban Thematic Strategy (1)

- From the **Sixth Environmental action programme**, a mandate from the Council and the European Parliament to propose:

A “Thematic Strategy on the urban environment”, promoting an integrated horizontal approach across Community policies and improving the quality of the urban environment

The research needs of the Urban Thematic Strategy (2)

- Communication "*Towards a Thematic Strategy on the urban environment*" [COM(2004)60] adopted on 11 Feb 04
- Sets the scene for a wide stakeholder consultation in 2004
- Final Thematic Strategy in 2005
- Interim Communication lists possible action points in four themes (management, transport, construction, design):
 - e.g. **Each city of over 100,000 inhabitants to adopt an environmental management plan and a sustainable urban transport plan**

The research needs of the Urban Thematic Strategy (3)

- A **research working group** (part of TS definition process) has been created in April 2004 – first meeting 25 May 04 in Stockholm
- Mandate will be **to identify research needs to implement the Strategy**
- Final report by 2004

An unpredictable future (1)

Interim Communication of the Thematic Strategy states that:

“the knowledge gaps identified in the preparation of the TS should be the basis for the continuation of the EU urban research and demonstration activities, including enhanced dissemination of the results from existing and future European urban research”

An unpredictable future (2)

HOWEVER, future will depend on “external” factors:

- Political packaging of the 7th FP
- Financial perspectives
- Level of support from Member States (Council) and European Parliament
- Capacity to show relevance for topical and strategic problem areas

An unpredictable future (3)

A possible evolution?

- Integration with broader issues relating to sustainable development (e.g. natural resources management)
- Focus on other emerging problems such as sustainable growth (Lisbon strategy), tourism or land use planning
- More economic (e.g. external costs) and technological (i.e. Environmental Technological Action Plan - ETAP) approach to sustainable development

Conclusions

- Move from “SD theory to reality” is made possible for the first time
- New range of tools/measures will become available from now until the end of 2005
- Limited funding possibilities exist in FP6
- Identification of future research needs is in progress: your input is welcome!
(eric.ponthieu@cec.eu.int)
- Future is uncertain