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Finland's Presidency
of the Council
of the European Union

ESPON seminar 20 June, Iasi, Romania

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PRESIDENCY AIMS ON TERRITORIAL COHESION

- 1) Contribute to the drafting of the **Territorial Agenda of the EU** (in co-operation with the RO-FI-CR Trio + DE)
- 2) View the possibilities of the **digitalization for territories** as part of theme Digital innovation in urban environments

THE TERRITORIAL AGENDA OF THE EU 2020+

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE RENEWAL

Updating the current agenda but keeping goals that are still relevant

Modernizing the narrative and communication

Developing a new implementation mechanism

Gaining political relevance and attention

Connecting more strongly to other EU policies, most notably cohesion policy

THE TERRITORIAL AGENDA OF THE EU 2020+

Finland will build up on RO presidency by assessing the current TA and work already done towards the TA 2020+ including

- the output of the DG meeting and previous meetings
- the RO questionnaire

Discussion paper for the DG meeting: themes to be amended & possible new themes to be added |
Communication plan outline | Implementation mechanism outline


Questionnaire to interest groups

TENTATIVE AIMS OF THE FINNISH PRESIDENCY ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- 1) Support the successful implementation of the **Urban Agenda for the EU** (in co-operation with the Trio)
- 2) Highlight a specific theme: **Digital innovation in urban environments**
- solutions for sustainable and fluently working cities

KEY QUESTION:

Which new solutions based on digitalization can increase quality of life in cities and green development while accelerating economic growth?



Events under the Presidency

EVENTS AND MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Official Presidency events

- Network of Territorial Cohesion Contact Points, 11 September 2019 and Urban Development Group, 12 September 2019
- Directors General Meeting on
 - 1. Cohesion Policy and Territorial Cohesion, 16 October 2019**
 - 2. Urban Matters, 17 October 2019**
- ESPON Seminar, 27-28 November 2019
- Events located in Helsinki, complemented by related site-visits and social dinners

Events scheduled:

Side Events in partnership with cities

Helsinki Impact Conference

- European conference addressed to decision makers and city officials from leading cities
- "The EU is as strong as its cities and neighbourhoods"
- Organized by the City of Helsinki and European networks of cities
- 9-10 October 2019, Helsinki

Upscaling Digital Solutions in Cities

- European conference highlighting the potential of digital solutions in cities
- Addressed to cities as well as EU and national stakeholders across Europe
- Organized by the City of Oulu and partners 10-11 December 2019 in the City of Oulu



Summing-up the ambition

- Contribute towards up-to-date TA with an outline for themes and implementation
- Highlight what are frontrunners or promising cities and regions that make the best out of digitalization
- Interconnect the EU Urban Agenda Themes in a cross-thematic manner under the umbrella of digitalization
- At the EU community level, to recognize the potential of digital innovations for comprehensive urban development and to support related initiatives

Thank you for your attention

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