SCALE-UP

User-Centric & Data Driven Solutions for Connected Urban Poles

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User-Centric & Data Driven Solutions for Connected Urban Poles

CALL FOR FELLOW CITIES

29 September 2023

Disclaimer

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1. Summary

This document aims to support the application of follower cities willing to join the SCALE-UP peer-learning and replication activities. We seek interested local authorities (cities, metropolitan areas or agencies, relevant transport authorities) ready to share and learn from the three SCALE-UP Urban Nodes about their innovative mobility and transport actions and policies. You can apply by using the Word Form at the end of this document by **31 October 2023.**

Three selected Fellow Cities will be able to exchange and learn from the innovative measures and policies Antwerp (BE), Madrid (ES), and Turku (FI) have developed as part of the SCALE-UP project and develop replication roadmaps for actions to be implemented in their local contexts.

The replication and transferability programme will run from December 2023 until May 2025. The programme will involve both online cooperation and participation in two peer-learning visits in SCALE-UP cities, as well as in Urban Nodes Platform events and webinars organised during the project lifetime.

Eurocities will facilitate and support the development of peer-to-peer exchanges and replication roadmaps based on the framework developed by SCALE-UP partners.

2. Background information on SCALE-UP

Scale-Up User-Centric and Data-Driven Solutions for Connected Urban Poles (SCALE-UP) is a four-year Horizon 2020 Innovation Action that started in June 2021.

SCALE-UP is an urban-node-driven project that works on demonstrating and evaluating a combination of 28 technical and non-technical innovative, clean, smart and inclusive mobility measures to be implemented within the three urban nodes – **Antwerp**, **Madrid**, and **Turku** – under real-life conditions, focusing on the strategies to achieve their upscaling beyond the urban level and in an interconnected mobility ecosystem. The SCALE-UP concept relates to two ways of scaling up: **vertical upscaling** refers to integrating the mobility and transport strategies on multiple governance levels and beyond geographical boundaries (city, functional urban area, TEN-T) through collaboration and partnerships with all stakeholders. **Horizontal upscaling** refers to addressing, in a balanced way, the different layers that shape the multi-layered mobility system. These components were identified as the physical or infrastructural layer, the digital layer, and the human layer, referring to the central position of the end user. To function as a data-driven urban node, all three layers need to be addressed in a balanced way.

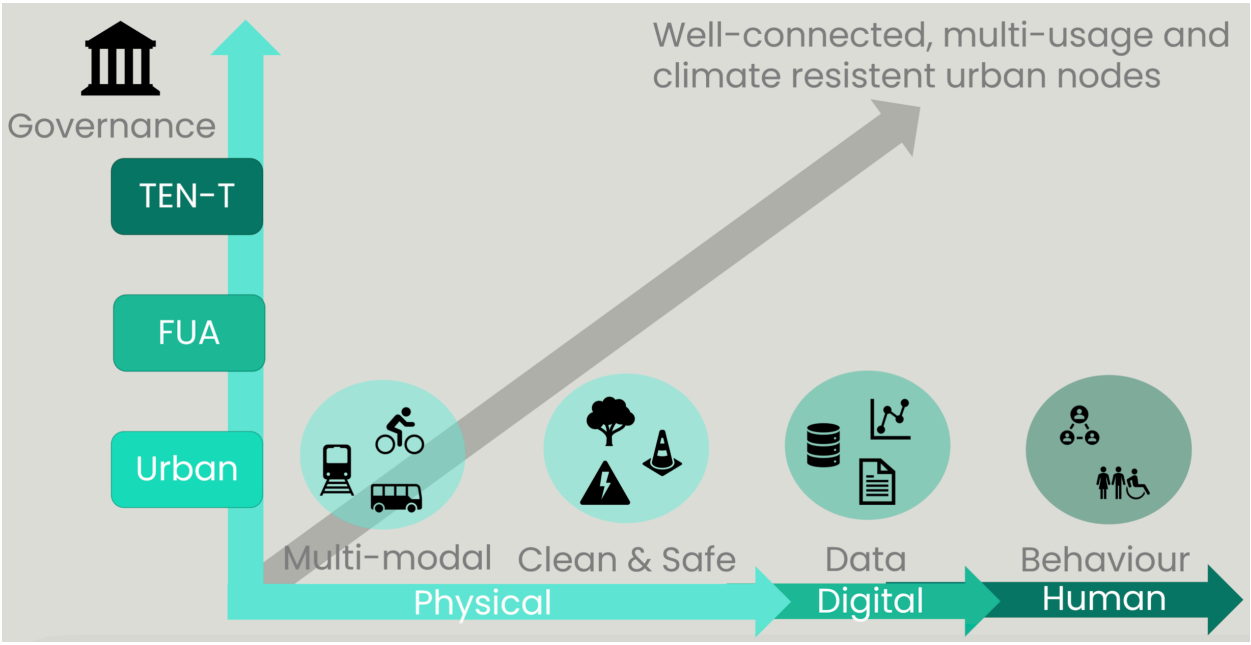

Figure 1: The SCALE-UP concept

Through the measures implemented and relevant upscaling, three advanced urban nodes team up around one main goal: developing data-driven and user-centric strategies to accelerate the take-up of smart, clean, and inclusive mobility, by means of well-connected and multi-usage urban nodes, and to the level needed to meet EU climate and transport objectives.

To reach the main goal, five strategic objectives were defined, around which the 28 implemented measures were clustered in a relevant way:

- Improve multi-level and multi-stakeholder governance enabling seamless multimodal transport across urban nodes (GOVERNANCE)
- Develop (inter)connected and multimodal nodes for passengers and freight as a backbone of a resilient mobility system, including network optimisations (MULTIMODALITY)
- Develop data-driven mobility strategies and tools to stimulate seamless multimodal transport of passengers and freight, and optimise network capacity across the wider urban area (DATA)
- Provide access to inclusive, clean, and safe mobility solutions (CLEAN-SAFE-INCLUSIVE)
- Change travel behaviour, focussing on clean, active, and healthy modes of transport (BEHAVIOUR).

The five objectives relate to fields of intervention in which the SCALE-UP urban areas excel and deliver valuable output by implementing 28 mobility measures scaled to the functional urban area and taking into account the TEN-T dimension. Furthermore, a strong framework for thematic policy validation amongst SCALE-UP experts guarantees meaningful cooperation between the three urban areas, internal capacity building, and mutual exchange and learning.

A sixth strategic objective (TAKE-UP) defines how the project delivers evidence of the effectiveness of the different actions in relation to EU climate and transport targets, and how it accelerates the take-up of these solutions amongst and beyond SCALE-UP urban areas.

This innovation action project brings together 23 partners from five different European countries, including organisations representing different governance levels in the three urban nodes, universities and consultancies, technology companies, as well as city or stakeholder networks.

Figure 2: The SCALE-UP consortium partners

More information on SCALE-UP can be retrieved by accessing the project website: https://www.scale-up-project.eu.

3. The replication & transferability programme

3.1. Objectives and general approach

Replication is an important objective for the SCALE-UP project, which focuses on three advanced urban nodes situated on the Core Network of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T): Antwerp alongside three corridors (North Sea-Baltic, Rhine-Alpine, North Sea-Mediterranean), Madrid alongside two corridors (Mediterranean and Atlantic), and Turku alongside one corridor (Scandinavian-Mediterranean).[1] They are aimed to act as 'examples' and 'multipliers' for other cities on the TEN-T corridors, therefore allowing other urban nodes to benefit from the experience of implementations, challenges, and practices in the three urban nodes.

Three Fellow Cities or their representative agencies are to be recruited via this open call to closely observe the SCALE-UP Urban Nodes demonstrations and engage in peer-learning activities, with the aim of preparing a replication roadmap for selected measures and strategies adapted to their local and regional context conditions. The open call is mainly targeted at cities identified as urban nodes in the proposed revision of the TEN-T Regulation made public by the European Commission in December 2021.[2] Selection will be done within the consortium on the basis of pre-defined criteria (complementarity to SCALE-UP Urban Nodes, relevance to wider project, level of ambition) and officialised by signing a memorandum of understanding.

As Fellow Cities, they will have a dedicated travel budget to participate in mutual learning and capacity-building activities organised within the SCALE-UP Community of Practice and receive tailored support and advice from project partners in applying the SCALE-UP strategies for vertical and horizontal integration and for designing their replication roadmaps. These roadmaps will describe in detail the different steps, responsibilities, and timeline towards implementation, as well the stakeholders that

[1] Corridors are as defined in the 2013 TEN-T Regulation, as the proposed revision is still in the legislative process at the date of the publication of this call.
[2] The European Commission's initial legislative proposal for the revision of the TEN-T Regulation is available here: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52021PC0812.

need to be involved, and also identify potential investment needs, funding sources, and business models.

3.2. Why to apply to become a SCALE-UP Fellow City

Bringing together and aligning policies concerning long-distance transport and urban mobility is a known challenge for urban nodes across Europe. There are challenges having to do with multi-level governance, as well as with ensuring policy coherence across the different layers and a balanced transport system overall, in a way that promotes the cities' objectives for accessibility and connectedness, and liveability and sustainability at the same time. The SCALE-UP replication and transferability programme represents a great opportunity for Fellow Cities to discuss with relevant peers their challenges and local objectives, learn and be inspired by other cities, and receive feedback and advice from other cities and experts on tackling mobility and transport challenges.

As part of SCALE-UP, Antwerp, Madrid, and Turku have already tested innovative solutions and upscaling strategies. By joining the replication and transferability programme as a Fellow City you will benefit from this hands-on experience and you will be able to define a relevant replication action plan for your city's local context.

Moreover, in defining these replication roadmaps, you will receive tailored support and advice from project partners in applying the strategies for vertical and horizontal integration as they were developed and tested in SCALE-UP. Also, you will be able to receive insights and support on effective monitoring and evaluation approaches that take into consideration upscaling and integration.

And, as peer learning is meant to be a two-way process, you will also be able to share your experiences and challenges, and get relevant feedback from your city peers and relevant support from technical partners.

3.3. How will the Fellow Cities be involved

The selected Fellow Cities will specifically benefit from and contribute to the following components of SCALE-UP:

- Learn from the experiences and the **solution portfolio** tested in the three SCALE-UP urban nodes, and contribute through replication to assessing the transferability of the innovative measures piloted;
- Learn about and receive tailored support on the SCALE-UP **effective strategies on vertical upscaling and horizontal upscaling** and contribute to their validation; this will result in the responsible technical partners developing guidelines and policy recommendations for other cities / urban nodes;
- Support the wider take-up of SCALE-UP innovative solutions and strategies by defining **replication roadmaps** adapted to your local context;
- Benefit and actively contribute to the **Urban Nodes Platform** activities, by participating in policy dialogues (involving EU, local, regional and national policymakers) and peer-learning exchanges with other TEN-T urban nodes.

These outcomes will be achieved through specific involvement in the activities detailed in the table below.

Table 1: Involvement of the Fellow Cities

Type of activities	Specifics
Preparatory meeting	• One online meeting to become familiar with the SCALE-UP structure and the types of measures tested in the Urban Nodes
Peer-learning visits	• Two peer-learning visits in Turku and Antwerp • Share and learn first-hand on the locally-implemented measures and context
Transferability webinars	• Thematic knowledge exchange webinars dedicated to identifying the lessons learned and analysing the transferability of the innovative measures piloted under the five areas of intervention • Key activities in preparing the replication roadmaps
Cities' session	• One cities' session organised next to the visit in Turku • Dedicated mainly to the validation of the strategies for vertical and horizontal upscaling and relevant knowledge sharing
Urban Nodes Platform	• A collaborative platform addressing all TEN-T urban nodes and relevant stakeholders, and dedicated to policy dialogues and knowledge exchange • Several webinars and two in-person events, in Antwerp and Brussels

3.4. Calendar of activities

Once the applications are assessed and the Fellow Cities are decided, a preparatory embarking meeting will be organised (December 2023 – January 2024). Following

that, Fellow Cities will be involved in at least five thematic knowledge exchange webinars focusing on the transferability of the solutions and innovative approaches implemented in the three SCALE-UP Urban Nodes under the five areas of intervention: GOVERNANCE, MULTIMODALITY, DATA, CLEAN-SAFE-INCLUSIVE, and BEHAVIOUR. These are expected to happen on different dates between May and December 2024. Fellow Cities will also join two in-person peer-learning visits in Turku (June 2023, next to a cities' session dedicated to knowledge sharing among the urban nodes and technical partners) and Antwerp (October-November 2023, next to an Urban Nodes Platform event). Fellow cities will also get access and will be able to contribute to the online exchange hub that hosts the SCALE-UP Community of Practice.

Fellow Cities are expected to actively contribute to the Urban Nodes Platform activities set up as part of SCALE-UP. These will include several online webinars and two in-person events (in Antwerp, in October-November 2023, next to the study visit and in Brussels, in April-May 2025, next to the SCALE-UP final conference).

Additionally, Fellow Cities might be invited to join other relevant knowledge exchange or technical webinars, as well other peer-learning, capacity-building, or dissemination activities organized in SCALE-UP.

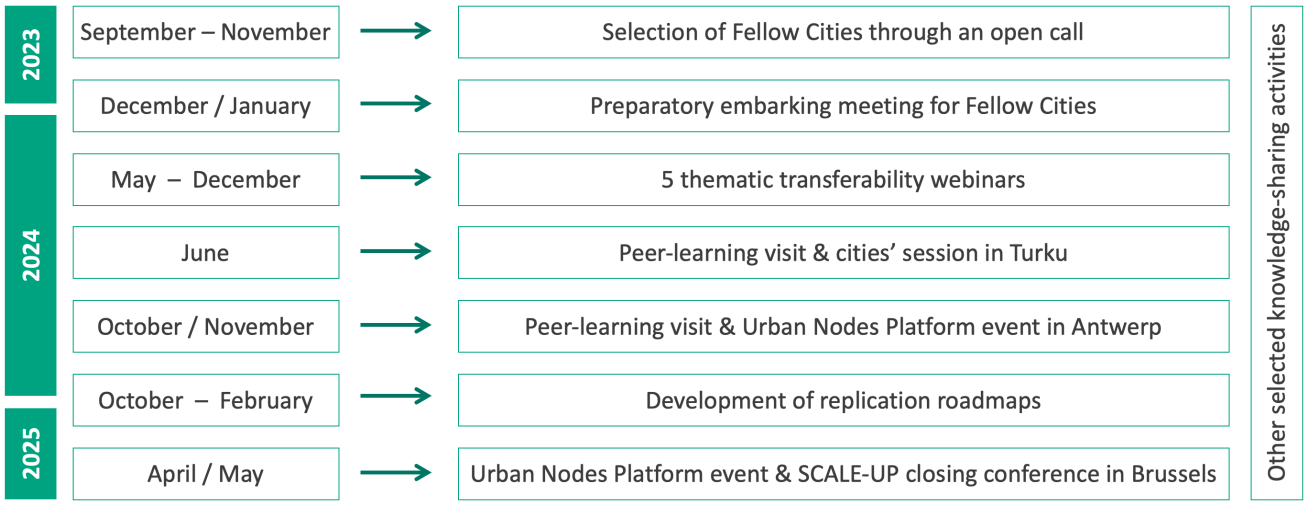

Figure 3: Calendar of activities for the Fellow Cities

The figure above offers an overview the activities Fellow Cities are expected to actively contribute and their respective timeline.

3.5. Replication roadmaps

By the end of the replication and transferability programme, Fellow Cities are expected to develop replication roadmaps, that is action plans focusing on the steps, responsibilities and timeline towards implementation, stakeholders to be involved, identification of potential investment needs, funding sources, and business models. **The deadline for submitting the replication roadmaps is mid-February 2025** and the months before will be spent preparing and drafting these. Eurocities will support the Fellow Cities with specifically tailored templates and advice along the process.

These will be incorporated into a formal SCALE-UP deliverable, including a summary of the outcomes of replication and relevant conclusions, that is led by Eurocities and due to be submitted by the end of March 2023, after the completion of a consortium-internal peer review process. The report is a key deliverable of the project as it documents the replication and transferability programme and its outcomes.

4. Practical matters

4.1. Who can apply

Are eligible any interested local authorities (cities, metropolitan areas, or their representative agencies and transport authorities) based in an EU Member State or an approved Horizon 2020 Associated Country. Still, for the highest relevance, cities that were identified as urban nodes in the proposed revision of the TEN-T Regulation (Annex II) will be prioritised. You can check whether your city is on the relevant list here: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:7b299e69-5dc8-11ec-9c6c-01aa75ed71a1.0001.02/DOC_25&format=PDF.

List of formally eligible countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Iceland, Norway, Faroe Islands, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Moldova, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Georgia, Armenia, Turkey, Israel, Tunisia.

No population threshold or size criteria apply, but similarities with the context of the SCALE-UP cities will be considered to foster collaboration, relevance of the knowledge sharing, and replicability potential.

4.2. What you commit to

In order to reach the objectives of the replication and transferability programme, Fellow Cities engaged in it commit to contributing to the following stream of activities:

- **Active participation in the online peer-learning and capacity-building exchanges, study visits, and Urban Nodes Platform events**. Peer learning involves a two-way exchange in which Fellow Cities commit to completing and participating in the activities outlined below. During the knowledge-sharing exercises, the Fellow Cities are expected to comprehensively analyse learnings, good practices, and policies that could be transferred in their own context.
- **Development and drafting of replication roadmaps**. On completion of the knowledge exchange webinars and exchange visits, the Fellow Cities are expected to write an action plan, defining concrete actions that could be

taken to transfer innovative approaches and solutions piloted in the three SCALE-UP Urban Nodes to achieve mobility and transport systems transformation in their city, by taking into consideration the TEN-T dimension.

It is important for Fellow City representatives to allocate sufficient and adequate resources (time, staff, expertise) to create a good environment for collaboration and gain the most from the peer-learning exchanges. The replication and transferability programme will run for 18 months, with an estimated involvement of 20-25 working days (travel included).

4.3. Available budget and financial matters

A budget of €17,000 is earmarked for the replication and transferability programme. This budget is foreseen to cover reimbursement of travel costs (travel, hotel, subsistence) for up to six Fellow City representatives (two representatives per each of the three selected cities) for attending two Urban Nodes Platform events and two SCALE-UP study visits (linked to consortium meetings or other events).

For each event, Fellow Cities are invited to select participating representatives to ensure productive and meaningful exchanges with the SCALE-UP cities and relevant contributions. Fellow Cities can join with two interested participants and can choose to be represented by technicians and/or politicians. Depending on the nature of the relevant meeting, different city representatives can participate and contribute.

The travel and accommodation cost reimbursements will be subject to providing original supporting documents (i.e., invoices, boarding passes, receipts, etc.). Exact guidelines and procedures will be shared with the selected cities.

No budget is available and no financial compensation can be granted to Fellow Cities for the implementation of the transferred measures or policies.

4.4. How to apply

In order to apply, please fill in the application form in Section 5 of this open call for Fellow Cities and return it to Eurocities, in their role as leader of the Replication & Transferability task in SCALE-UP. **Deadline for applications: Tuesday, 31 October 2023, 17:00 CET**.

Relevant contacts to submit the application:

- Lucian Zagan, lucian.zagan@eurocities.eu;
- Peter Staelens, peter.staelens@eurocities.eu.

A notice confirming the receipt of your application will be sent within one working day after your submission.

4.5. How will applications be assessed

Selection of the participating Fellow Cities will be based on the quality of the application, overall motivation, higher chance of transfer of the solutions (similar enablers and barriers), and role of the people involved in the exchange programme. SCALE-UP partners will review the applications and assess them to select Fellow Cities that match with the SCALE-UP cities and the good practices coming up from the implementation of the piloted measures and policies.

Eligible applications will be evaluated by the members of the SCALE-UP project consortium according to the following criteria:

- The overall quality of the application (i.e., answers provided are clear, complete, detailed, and consistent);
- Interest and experience in transport planning approaches bringing together the city, functional urban area, and TEN-T levels;
- Interest and experience in the five thematic areas of intervention in SCALE-UP;
- Common challenges with the three SCALE-UP Urban Nodes;
- City typology, population size, and similar geographical circumstances as the SCALE-UP cities;
- Relevance of the role of the participants to be involved in the exchanges (local experts or technicians, members of the international department, policymakers, etc.).

All submissions will be assessed fairly and transparently, in accordance with the eligibility and quality criteria assessment scope.

Decisions as to whether an application is accepted or rejected are expected be communicated to the applicants no later than the end of November 2023.

4.6. GDPR aspects

By submitting your application to this open call for Fellow Cities, you consent to SCALE-UP partners using the information submitted for internal Fellow Cities application assessment purposes and, if selected, for reports and project activities aimed to support the replication and transferability programme.

Please note that no personal information will be used in any project reports or activities. The personal data collected in this application is for Fellow Cities call purposes only and is managed by the SCALE-UP consortium in line with our data protection policy.

5. Application form

Please fill in this application form and sent it to Lucian Zagan (lucian.zagan@eurocities.eu) and Peter Staelens (peter.staelens@eurocities.eu) no later than ***31 October 2023, 17:00 CET****.*

5.1. Contact details of the applicant

1. First name: .....
2. Last name: .....
3. The city on behalf of which the application is submitted: .....
4. Country: .....
5. Function/role: .....
6. Email: .....
7. Phone number: .....

5.2. Local context

8. Local authority details. *Please provide the official name of the applying local authority in English. Only one application may be submitted by an eligible city.*

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9. Type of authority. *What type of authority is the subject of the application?*
   - City authority
   - Metropolitan authority
   - Transport authority
   - Other *(please detail)*: .....

10. City department(s) / unit(s) involved. *Please list participating city departments (or equivalent) committed to or relevant to the SCALE-UP Fellow City programme.*

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11. Who will be joining from your organisation? *Please indicate the names and positions (including a short description of the role, if not immediately transparent in the title) of the people to be involved in the SCALE-UP Fellow City programme.*

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12. Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning. *Does your city have a SUMP? And if so, is it defined at the city level or at the functional urban area level? Which aspects were considered in defining the functional urban area? Does the SUMP consider in a relevant way TEN-T connections?*

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13. Urban nodes. *Is your city identified as an urban node in the December 2021 proposed revision of the TEN-T Regulation? The full list is published here: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:7b299e69-5dc8-11ec-9c6c-01aa75ed71a1.0001.02/DOC_25&format=PDF.*

- Yes
- No

5.3. Motivation and interests

14. Challenges. *Briefly describe the challenges your city is facing in relation to transport (including freight) and mobility. Please look beyond the city level, to the functional urban area and beyond, and also consider challenges having to do with bringing together long-distance transport and urban mobility, and ensuring policy coherence.*

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15. Focus on your current objectives. *What are the main objectives your city administration is targeting in relation to transport and mobility?*

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16. Current projects. *List some of the current projects that your city has in the implementation or planning stage and which are relevant to the SCALE-UP thematic areas. Please focus on relevance and depth rather than on quantity.*

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17. Connecting Europe Facility. *Was your city involved in local investment projects funded through the Connecting Europe Facility programme? Or does it have projects in preparation that are aimed for CEF funding? If yes, please briefly describe.*

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18. Thematic interest. *Which relevant topics would you like to exchange on together with the SCALE-UP Urban Nodes or other cities joining the Urban Nodes Platform?*

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19. Expectations. *Briefly explain what would be a successful learning experience for your city.*

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5.4. Capacity and resources

20. Allocated resources. *The Fellow Cities programme will run through the period of 18 months, with an estimated involvement of up to 20-25 working days (travel included). Does your municipality have the capacity to dedicate time and human resources to the exchanges that we have planned?*

- Yes
- No

21. Working language. *The SCALE-UP working language is English and all related exchanges and materials will be carried out in English. Participants must have a good command of English to be able to communicate efficiently within their peers in all activities of the programme.*
    - They do.
    - Some of them don't, but we have a way to overcome this. (Please explain, if the case.)

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5.5. Other relevant aspects

22. Please feel free to add any other aspects you consider relevant, if the case.

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