Increasing poverty and inequality, made worse by the recent financial and housing crises, are putting the social cohesion and resilience of European cities to the test. Yet cities play a key role in responding to the great challenges of our time.

Many researchers and innovators have focused on understanding urban social inequality and ecological unsustainability and have identified numerous ways of making cities more just and sustainable. This knowledge and experience needs to be further consolidated and effectively communicated.

**URBANA TAKES UP THIS CHALLENGE**

- Distilling and sharing knowledge generated by research and innovation projects and translating it into action.
- Facilitating interaction and knowledge exchange.
- Empowering UrbanA participants to apply this knowledge locally.
- Influencing policies in favor of sustainable and just cities.
Four co-creative spaces, known as Arena events, will bring together city-thinkers and city-makers from across Europe. They will be invited to connect with one another, to reflect on previous research, to exchange expertise and ideas, and to generate promising approaches to creating sustainable, inclusive and thriving cities. Each Arena event takes place in a different city and focuses on a specific theme. The events will be blended gatherings, allowing people to participate either in person or online.

### URBAN ARENAS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mapping Approaches to Urban Sustainability and Justice</td>
<td>28-29 November 2019</td>
<td>Rotterdam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding How Making Cities Sustainable Can Create (In)Justice</td>
<td>4-5 June 2020</td>
<td>Barcelona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identifying Governance Scenarios for Sustainable and Just Cities</td>
<td>Feb/March 2021</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distilling Policy Solutions for Sustainable and Just Cities</td>
<td>October 2021</td>
<td>Brussels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Images: Pixabay / Unsplash
Are you a policy-maker, activist, entrepreneur, intellectual or citizen engaged and interested in making cities better? Are you from a grassroots initiative, a social enterprise, a citizens’ group, an NGO, a university, a think tank or a local government? Are you curious about what others are doing? UrbanA offers you the opportunity to connect and reflect with other city makers, to help distil best practices and, most importantly, to contribute to a sustainable and just future.

YOU CAN GET INVOLVED AS AN URBANA FELLOW OR AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE ARENA EVENTS

- **UrbanA fellow.**
  You will join all four Arena events. You will be offered a place in the program, social media profile and reimbursement of your travel costs up to a maximum of 350 euros (per event). In return you contribute by sharing your knowledge or skills for example, by writing a blog.

- **UrbanA participant.**
  You can participate in one or all of the Arena events in Rotterdam, Barcelona, Berlin or Brussels.

To apply to become an UrbanA fellow or to register as a participant please see the UrbanA website: www.urban-arena.eu/arenas.

You can also become part of our Community of Practice alongside the Arena events. Within the Community of Practice we learn together about sustainable and just cities through blogs and podcasts, arena webinars and the UrbanA-wiki. By registering for our newsletter (www.urban-arena.eu/newsletter), you will have access to the Community of Practice and have the opportunity to co-shape it.
UrbanA is a 3-year project funded by the European Commission and run by seven partners:

- www.urban-arena.eu
- twitter.com/arena_urban
- www.linkedin.com/company/urban-arenas
- www.instagram.com/arena_urbana
- info@urban-arena.eu

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement Nº 8223 57.