



SAVE THE DATE
7th October 2014, Brussels [Belgium]

The partners of the European projects “URMA – Urban-Rural Partnerships in Metropolitan Areas” and “RURBANCE – Rural-Urban Governance” cordially invite you to take part in the

Joint conference

Alongside the Open Days 2014

“URBAN-RURAL COOPERATION: CONTRIBUTING TO TERRITORIAL COHESION AND IMPROVED GOVERNANCE?”

7th October 2014, 4:00 p.m. in the Royal Windsor Hotel Grand Place in Brussels, Belgium

Including

- Presentation of project results from partner regions
- Lessons learnt for future implementation of urban-rural partnerships
- Recommendations and discussion with high-ranked panelists
- Networking reception

Relations between urban and rural areas are characterised by functional, physical, environmental, social and cultural features. Administrative borders between municipalities, regions and national states thus often do not determine the adequate level for implementing specific policies. A territorial balanced development in urban-rural contexts calls for creating cooperative and integrated governance models towards the implementation of joint development strategies. Urban-rural partnerships can create mutual benefits for both, provided that urban and rural actors meet at eye level with each other.

The conference will provide discussion on the following questions:

- What is necessary to establish and stimulate more intensive urban-rural relationships?
- In which sectors and thematic fields could urban and rural areas benefit from a closer cooperation?
- How could urban-rural cooperation contribute to new forms of shared spatial responsibility and territorial cohesion?
- Which actors should be involved and how should their modes of cooperation look like?
- How to aggregate public and private stakeholders around a co-development model?

[Register for the conference here!](#)

Best regards,
URMA Team
RURBANCE Team

“URMA” AND “RURBANCE”

The project “URMA” has been operating under the INTERREG IVC Programme 2007-2013 since 2012 and holds its Final Conference with this event in Brussels. Nine partners from five countries test different types of partnerships in urban-rural areas and promote them as a tool to strengthen the potential for innovation in European metropolitan areas. This will enable the establishment of a regional, national and European policy agenda for a sustainable development of metropolitan areas. The key advantage to this approach is that urban and rural areas will benefit on equal terms and that cities will not gain competitiveness at the expense of rural areas and vice-versa.

“Rurbance” is a European co-operation project co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) in the frame of the ETC Alpine Space Programme. The partners are committed to support the governance of complex processes for the promotion of a balanced and sustainable development that recognizes the importance of the rural-urban linkages as a factor of competitiveness and resilience in the metropolitan areas. The RURBANCE project considers rural and urban communities as equal players in a win-win game where one each other they can exchange knowledge, culture, development models, traditions, values, investments. The balance among territories and the contamination between rural and urban development models are a presumption for the competitiveness of the whole areas towards a local sustainable development model that involves cultural, social, economic and environmental aspects.

More information

Watch out for more information (agenda, venue, travel information) to be published at <http://www.urma-project.eu> and <http://rurbance.eu/>

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