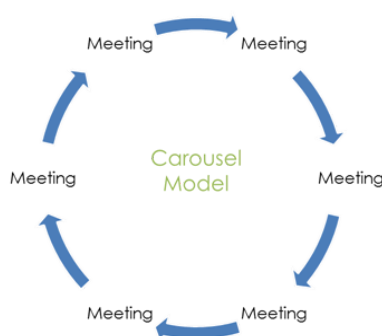


RU:RBAN Second Wave improved and updated Proposed Transfer Methodology

• Transfer Network Methodology

Principles of the transfer methodology:

A **Carousel model** approach will be used for all three elements, as it considered very successful for the First Wave. All partners will follow all project meetings and tasks, until the end of the project.



The outline of the transnational Exchange & Learning activities for RU:RBAN Second Wave will be implemented in 18 months.

- **First 15 months are for Understand – Adapt/Reuse:** All the respective network E&L activities are foreseen within the first 15 months.
- **Last 3 months – Finale:** During this period no network exchange and learning activities are foreseen. The activities in this period will be for final sharing of experience between partners, as also with a wider audience.

It is envisaged that activities through transnational Exchange & Learning activities will be **hybrid** and in the **worst-case scenario** these activities may be completely online. These activities should be interactive, stimulating and enjoyable. RU:RBAN will strongly use the support of **any possible Urbact tools** for online transnational working. The network will fully demonstrate and embed the lessons learned from the original transfer journey.

Since all partners were initially classified to transfer all Good Practices' elements, the LE draw the project methodology following wide online discussions with the LP, the ad-hoc experts, critical representatives of the LP stakeholders, as also the newcomer cities.

Different activities were considered: Expert speakers, site visits, peer review exchanges, structured discussions and analysis sessions.

The LE and the LP followed during the First Wave transfer implementation **advance planning**, that is considered a very strong tool to organise successful E&L

meetings. It includes case studies descriptions, brief city reports, former meetings suggestions for improvements and more. Outputs produced for the original network will be re-used with the necessary adjustments, especially internal working documents that are considered as very useful for the transfer journey. Detailed pre and post meeting materials & progress monitoring tools by the NE will be re-used, as friendly, but focus oriented tools. In addition, all Urbact TN communication tools will be also used to capture learning and experience.

Partners will gather and share lessons learnt throughout the project life cycle, both from the transnational E&L activities and from the local level in relation to the transfer journey. All sharing products by Sep 2022 will reflect the transfer results following the successful examples included in the Pilot Guide of the TN Second Wave. All details will be included in the updated Communication Plan by the responsible LP officer.

Regarding each city local dimension, all newcomer to RU:RBAN Second Wave cities thought carefully about the composition of their ULG and they ensured appropriate coverage. They have selected their ULG coordinator to provide their needs and expectations of the transfer journey. They have worked already during the summer of 2021 on their initial Transfer Roadmap thoughts, that is considered a critical working document based on the First Wave RU:RBAN Transferability Study. They will also be responsible to organise each city Final Local Event to celebrate the city's achievements.

Knowledge of urban gardening is strongly growing especially after the 2020 - 2021 COVID-19 crisis in the EU, with an important degree of experience in many cities. Through the RU:RBAN Second Wave URBACT Transfer Network, more EU cities can learn from strategies, projects and innovation in place all over Europe.

The model of governance in the GP of Rome concerns more policies: urban resilience, poverty, reuse of abandoned land, social inclusion and citizens' engagement, as well as communing and management of urban heritage. The added value expected from the Transfer Network is to extend the Rome's GP towards further integrated urban development scenarios that will be developed with the 4 new networking and transferring cities. The Network can take full advantage from the different backgrounds and expertise of all partner cities (including the lighthouse ones) in the matter of resilient urban gardening.

RU:RBAN will transfer an inclusive, flexible and friendly methodology to ULGs' of the networking cities in order to support them in the topic of management of urban gardens of the EU Urban Agenda and the related Sustainable Development Goals.

It will do so through an adaptive approach for a variety of types of European networking cities, fostering the inclusion and activation of local stakeholders and the collaboration among civic society, knowledge, public actors and associations for the cooperative management of urban resources.

The topic of urban gardens management can contribute to cities' prosperity leveraging value of collaboration with local communities, mostly with well organised associations – local networks that are interested in the policy topic. Efforts made by the new partner cities can also contribute to raise the capacity building of local authorities and urban communities. It is a clear finding by the Lead Expert (LE) that a successful transfer can be a Second Wave urban successful story during the RU:RBAN implementation.

Therefore, the added value expected from the TN is to extend the Rome's GP towards further integrated urban development scenarios that will be developed with the networking cities and inspired by the lighthouse cities too.

Aspects of the GP that can be improved through the network's activity and key lessons are urban gardens governance, as well as the different kinds of involvement of different associations, NGOs, local networks etc. in the urban gardening learning processes.

The model of urban gardens management in Rome is mostly based in the strong involvement of city's associations and their belief in the profitability for citizens from this topic. **It is strongly suggested** that all improvements should be made with their active participation to the project as ULG members.

The ULG meetings reports carried out during the First Wave highlighted the follow up actions for the upcoming Second Wave as the updated SWOT analysis of the 5 Focus groups (governance, resilience – climate change, innovation, social inclusion/integration and quality of life/health) was strongly taken into account by the Lead Expert in order to update the project methodology, in terms of scope of improvement for the City of Rome (Sustainability Plan). Since the new partners' cities will draw their Transfer Roadmaps with the LE support, the LP project team (including the ULG members) will all work following a similar style of Sustainability Roadmap.

Governance is an issue that will be further deepened as it is considered a critical integral part of the Good Practice of Rome by the URBACT Programme. Improvements will also focus on the evolution of its exportability, based on the exchange of experience with the lighthouse cities urban gardens representatives. Added value for the transferring cities is also the efforts that will be given by the LP to train and coach all newcomer ULGs following a specific structure, especially in the begging of the transfer journey.

At a time when Covid-19 seemed to complicate everything, particularly the cooperation and meetings amongst the RU:RBAN partners, something extremely surprising happened, not least thanks to the encouragement of the Network and Ad-Hoc Experts.

During the Second Wave transfer period the partnership will capitalize all successful First Wave methodology adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the success stories, as to add more value in transferring the good practice. RU:RBAN during the First Wave COVID-19 period managed to continue working for the project in a very fruitful way. Monthly online project meetings among the partners and ULG coordinators, as also additional online ULG meetings were organised following the NE friendly directions and templates to fulfil the transfer tasks (final adaptations of the cities regulation, NRP, FLL and transfer stories). RU:RBAN partnership remained strongly connected and managed to finalize the transfer period on time and according to the plans. This is considered as another success story, as also the promotional material produced by the partners and disseminated during the 1st Wave transfer.

Finally, the projects' monitoring tools and methodology are considered as very well structured and successful by the JS and were introduced to all Transfer Networks in a Webinar held on May 12th, 2020 called EPISODE 2: Getting results: Masterclass from RU:RBAN. They will be re-used during the 2nd Wave Transfer Journey in an even more friendly way.

WP2 - Transnational Exchange and Learning Activity

- **(E1):** The ULG members **will be the key factor of the learning process** and their participation & efforts that will be made to transfer all elements, will be the **key factor** for the success of the transfer.

Their participation is included in the **"Carousel model"** proposed by the Lead Expert: exchanging knowledge, information, experience and practices among the local stakeholders of each transfer city partner.

- o The Carousel model (Transnational Network meetings - TNMs) will be used to transfer the 1st element (E1) focused on **raising the Capacity building in managing - organizing urban gardens**. E1 is the **core** element of the project, as partners will try to transfer experiences and lessons learnt from the lead partner in the Management model of urban gardens in Rome to their ULGs.
- o Ad hoc expert will be supporting the NE for the transfer of the 1st element that will involve mainly **coordination meetings, including transnational workshops/seminars & field visits** between the partners, with the active participation of ULG from the city of Rome.

- **(E2):** An external expert contracted with the LP will take over for this element transfer.
 - The “**Carousel model**” (Customised transfer activities) will also be used to transfer the 2nd element which focuses on **customised vocational training of Gardenisers**.
 - The Expert will use **customised training methods** mostly through **Interactive meetings – workshops/seminars** to transfer the knowledge and the experience of the Gardeniser project to participants interested in becoming urban multifunctional gardens’ facilitators.
 - The training methods will include the customised use of a special educational kit, called the **Gardeniser tool-kit**, and it is expected that each partner will participate **with at least 2 members of their ULG in 4 rounds of workshops/seminars**.
 - The external expert will also take over responsibilities **and tasks to guide and train all partners ULGs in the Urbact methodology** and the tools to be used during the transfer journey of the Second Wave.
- **(E3):** Each partner working on transfer element 3 will set up an **Assessment Panel** that will work on one hand, to support the LP to improve the Urban Gardens Governance through a Sustainability Plan and, on the other hand, to **adapt** it for the needs of each city and finally **adopt** it for future use in urban gardens governance needs.
 - The “**Carousel model**” (Customised transfer activities) will also be used to transfer the 3rd element, while an ad-hoc expert will be supporting the LE, the LP and the 4 partners.
 - There will be mainly **coordination meetings** (virtual and physical) between the partners’ Assessment Panels, which will produce **thematic (peer reviews) reports as a result of E3 meetings**.
- For the transfer of elements 2 and 3 **the LP travels along with the partners and ULG members** for in-depth meetings – workshops/seminars representing principles of the “Carousel model approach”. These travels are always scheduled on the **same days** of the round meetings for the transfer of Element 1.
- **Element 2 is very important to take place with physical appearance**, but an online model is also possible.
- The methodology involves a **strong connection** between the transnational activities those at local level (URBACT Local Group activities).
- A **deep-dive kick-off meeting (KOM)** is planned for September 2021 to recall all objectives, give feedback from the program on-line KoM in June, clarify final ULG composition, present in details the GP and the First Wave results, finalise all

details of the project methodology based on partners addition information during the summer, organise and support each City Transfer Roadmap efforts, that will be finalised by the end of Autumn 2021.

- Partners & ULG members will meet **six times** for their **Transnational Network meetings** including a menu of network defined exchange and learning activities of different formats (hybrid mix), during which they will explore in depth the adoption and adaptation of the GP.
- A “**mid-point reflection**” occasion as **Mid Term review** will be organised in quarter 4.
- For all **virtual and physical Coordination meetings** (workshop/seminars, field visits, round table meetings etc.) different activities are considered. These include:
 - Inputs from external experts and speakers (Lead Expert and Ad Hoc experts working in the project, local experts on a particular topic or guest speakers from other networks and organisations)
 - Field visits (with the active involvement of local stakeholders of each hosting city)
 - Peer review exercises (for the Element 3)
- **Up to 3 site visits to ‘lighthouse’ cities outside the partnership** are foreseen for the LP and the experts to bring in additional good practices in urban agriculture (the cities of Reykjavik, Oslo and Helsinki are among the possible site visits, coming from countries in North Europe that weren’t represented by partners in both waves of Ru:rbán). Each site visit results will be presented to a forthcoming project TNM by LP & LE and one guest from the lighthouse cities will also introduce transferable parts of their Urban Gardens Management GP.
- The methodology also includes **six virtual meetings** as regular ‘check-in’ sessions in between the physical meetings with all partners participating through GoToMeeting web tool {mostly to discuss “housekeeping” (managerial & financial aspects of the project implementation) and all other coordination’s aspects}.
- All cities will organise **at least 8 ULG meetings per partner** before/after each Network meeting.