

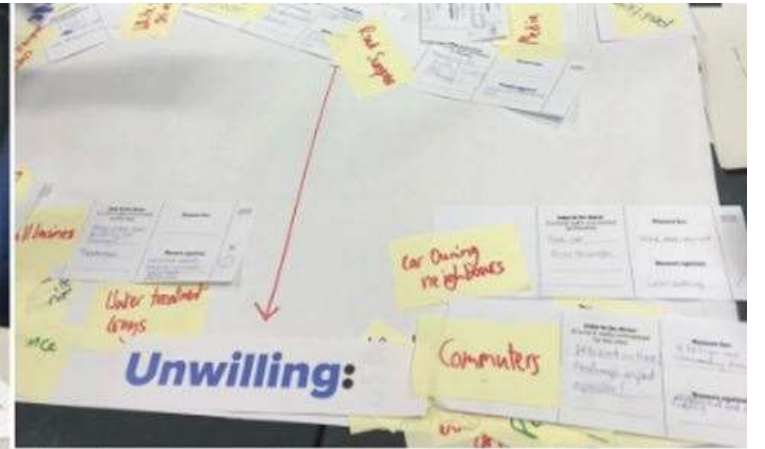
Social Innovation in an urban cohesion policy context

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Support from a variety of programmes

- URBACT the ERDF supported exchange and learning programme (now in 3rd edition).
- Urban Innovative Actions – 350m EUR programme supporting about 70 cities across themes from the Urban Agenda since 2014
- CLLD in main programmes since 2014
- Some INTERREG transnational programmes (e.g. Two Seas) specifically highlighted social innovation

Social Innovation is more than Post-It notes



URBACT

- URBACT local groups are loosely based on LAGs, they are set up by municipality, bringing in key stakeholders including other agencies
- Main emphasis is on developing Integrated Action Plans (formerly Local Action Plans) and using participative approach
- Wide variety of thematics selected based on bidding approach by lead cities with partner cities. Over programme period approximately 500 cities in around 50 networks
- Also experimenting with 25 networks to transfer good practices – more instrumental, less conceptual. And limited trials with four implementation networks
- Some networks have specifically and explicitly focused on social innovation e.g. BoostInno led by Gdansk,
- Also Genoa led on use of social media

Some reflections from URBACT experience

- Cities learn from each other and by working with other stakeholders in their city (especially civil society actors).
- Many cities still working in a hierarchic vertical siloed structure – especially in Southern, Central and Eastern Europe
- Integrated approach is a way of breaking down siloes but hard to do bottom-up without leadership from above.
- Often focus is thematic (e.g. Turin and Naples focus on re-use of spaces,
- Scandi cities, Netherlands, Germany at forefront
- Only a few networks focus on social innovation per se.

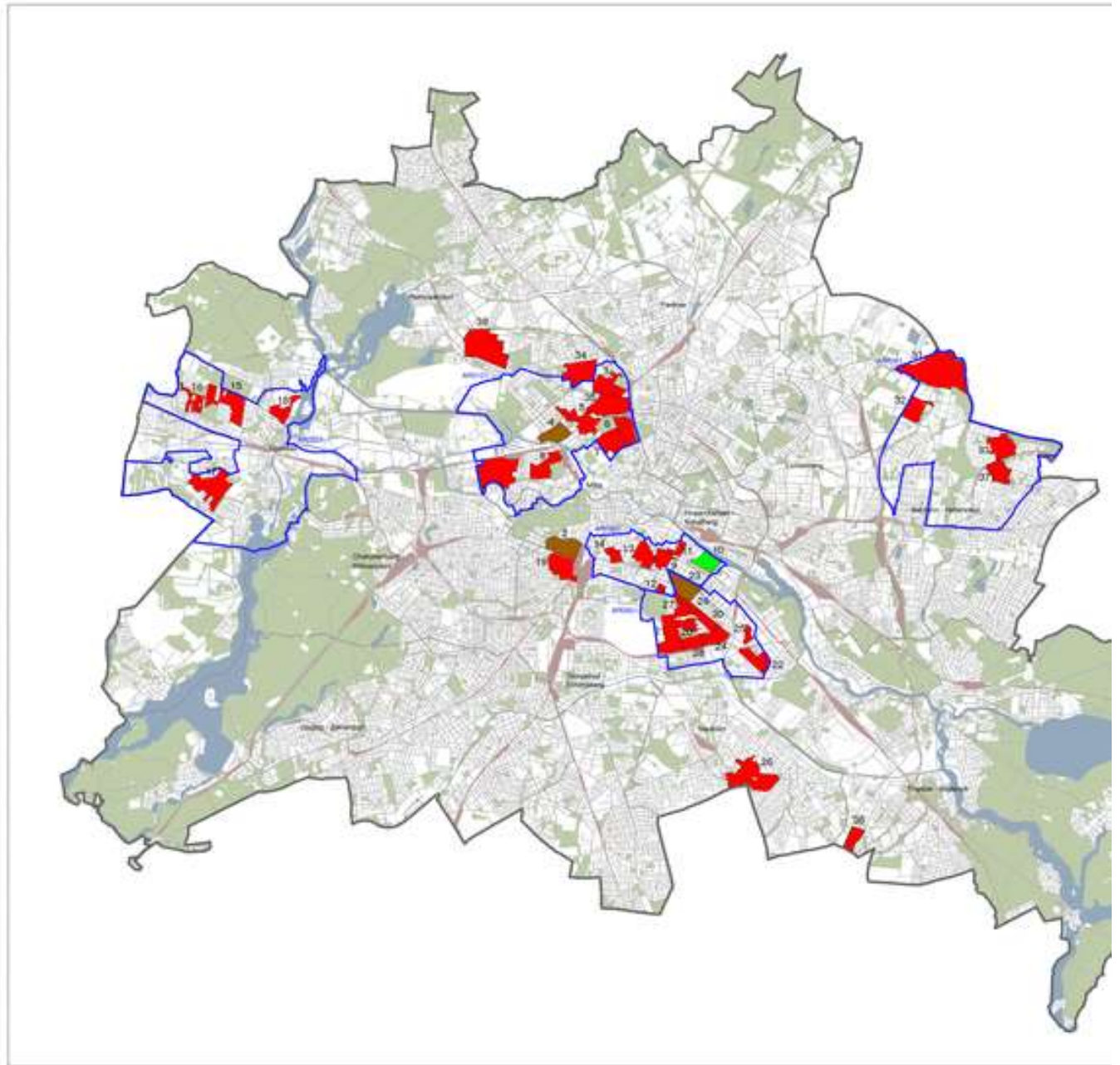
Berlin quarters management

Action fund <1500Eur 10k per area
340k total per year

- Project fund 5-50000 Eur per
project and 8m per year

Building fund 50,000 + Eur 50%
ERDF 12m per year

Network fund 50,000 + Eur 50%
ERDF 4m per year



Berlin – integrated delivery mechanism to enable grass roots projects to be funded

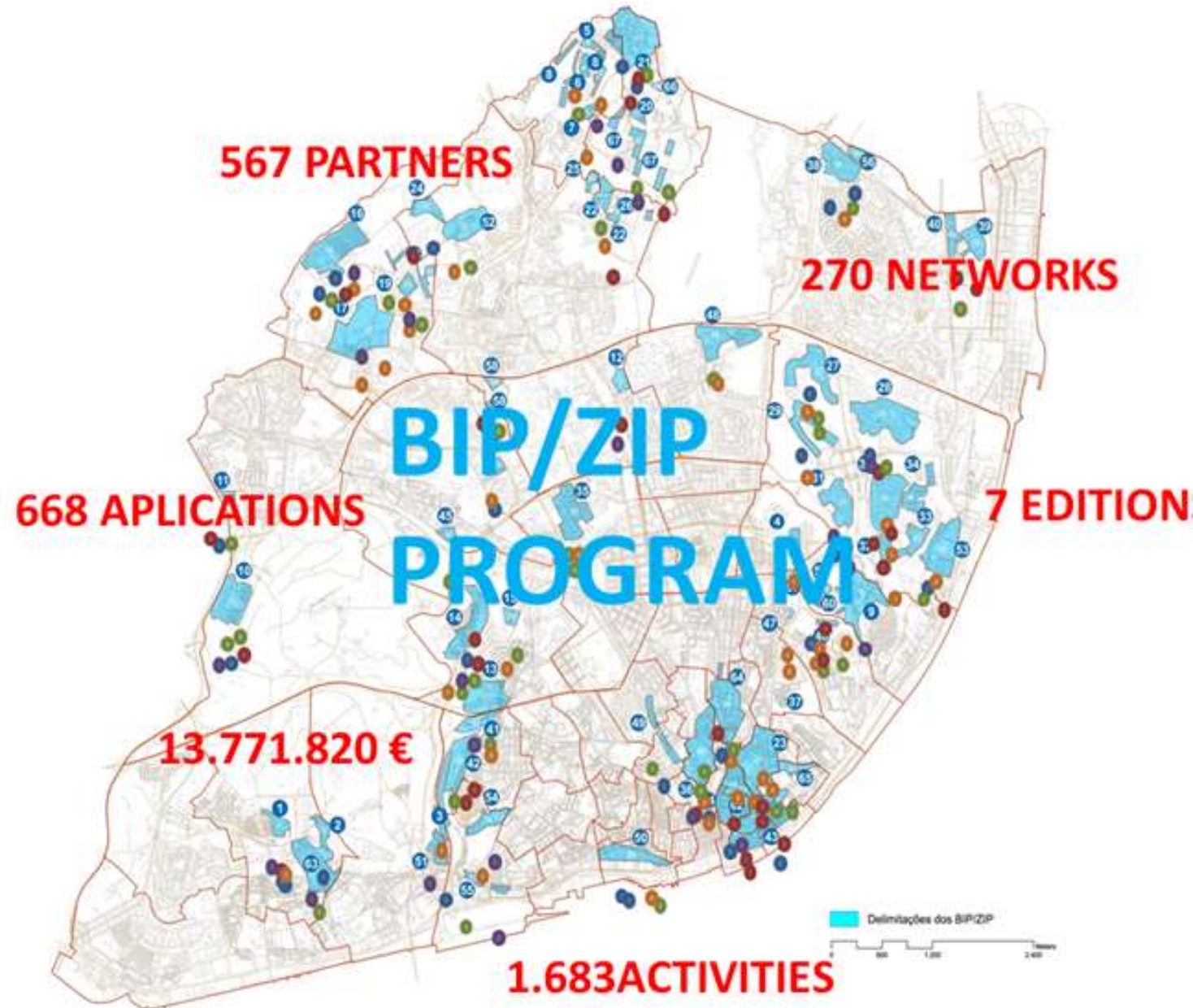
- 20 year old programme, using both ERDF and ESF with Federal Soziale Stadt funds and Berlin funds
- 34 target areas across the city identified by static and dynamic indicators of deprivation.
- Most are in the inner city (Kreuzberg, Mitte, Neukoln) but also outer estates such as Marzahn
- Big range in size (Marzahn is over 24,000 people, Kornerpark is under 8000)
- System of funds for different sizes of project
- Mothers project spanning several areas – important for working with newcomers and refugees.

URBAN CLLD in the Hague

- Neighbourhood of Scheveningen. 50k people. About 400,000 EUR
- Project examples
 - Narare; documentary about Scheveningen, the youth and elderly
 - SCH 236; redevelopment of a boat with historic value, with the help of students
 - Generatieplan; redevelopment of a playground on a school yard, with the goal to create an environment for the locals to come together. It would lead to social inclusion
 - Sporttuinduindorp; development of a playground, enhancing social inclusion.
 - Muze cultuur; redevelopment of a Museum adding more historic value and storytelling.
 - YMCA hostel; redevelopment of the hostel by means of a learning-working path for students. [?](#) App van toen; development of an app meant for tourists.

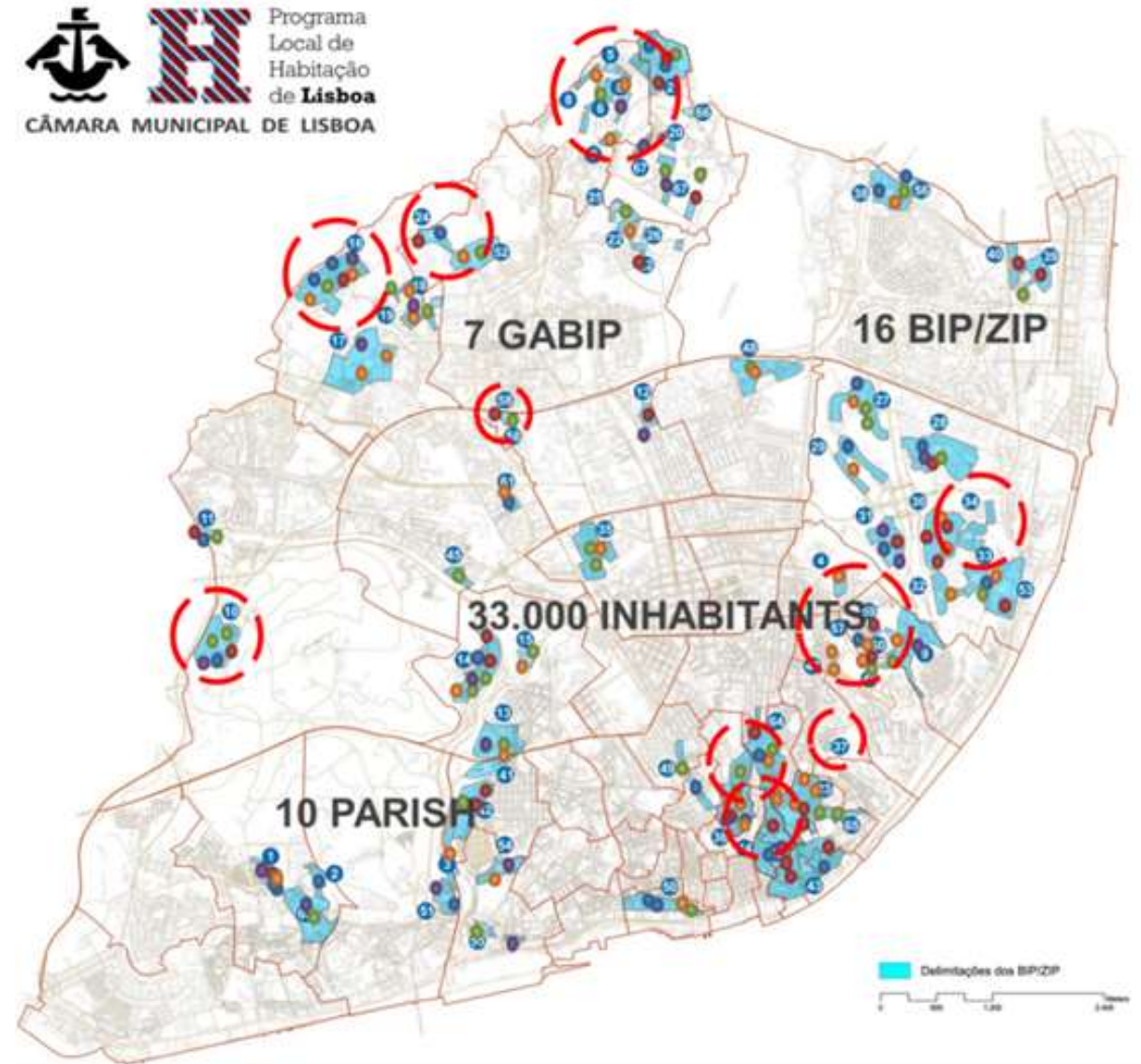
Lisbon BIP/ZIP Boavista

- 67 local areas chosen using data analysis and local knowledge
- Annual editions since 2010
- Municipality funds the main competition
- Each project must be completed in 12 months. Last for a further 12 months, have 2 partners and grant up to 50000EUR



GABIP devolved management of urban regeneration

- ERDF support for GABIP areas where co-management being implemented with residents
- Boavista drawing on Eco funds from main programme
- 4.5m programme including free wifi, insulation, housing renovation, urban agriculture, mobility, playgrounds



Urban Innovative Actions: parameters

- 3 Year projects, worth up to 5m EUR. 80% grant rate. Projects selected by Jury and Commission
- Projects must be presented by a municipality or group of them of at least 50,000 people
- Municipalities have good engagement of social actors – social cooperatives, social enterprises, charities and foundations depending on project
- Budget of up to 5MEURO is very high for smaller cities, and for genuinely innovative projects. Risk of padding with property initiatives.
- Communities are involved but are rarely in the driving seat
- 3 years can be too short, especially if problems arise. 1 year extension now possible

UIA examples

- B Mincome testing several minimum income approaches in a poor part of Barcelona using Randomised control group methodology
- Antwerp receiving young refugees in a co-living spaces by buddying with host community young people.
- Brussels working on community land trusts to deliver affordable housing
- Some innovative approaches to evaluations (e.g. Barcelona with control groups, citizen evaluators in Bologna, Utrecht working with Oxford University and Runnymede Trust)
- UIA very popular among cities because of significant budget, direct funding from EU, high intervention rate and therefore very competitive (at least 5:1 bid to win ratio)
- Good relationship between Urban Agenda themes and projects selected
- For social innovation question is whether adapting existing funding models or developing purpose built models is the best way forward.

Some Conclusions

- Collaborative method of CLLD local groups is a good basis for local social innovations.
- Capacity needs to be built in local groups to help them to develop new ideas and to implement them. Animators and trainers at national/regional level could help
- Grant funding often not well adapted to social innovation initiatives (dealing with failure, timescales)
- More programmes need to adopt step/gate approaches (See Bloomberg City challenge) in which full funding only awarded to a proportion of first gate selected cities and after full feasibility.
- People like direct application process of UIA, and also specific exchange and thematic learning networks for 8-12 partners like URBACT. We may need rural equivalents.
- Many problems are multi-level and need local action supported by national policy

Thankyou

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