

# INCLUSIVE CITIES IN EUROPE

The proposed Special Session is a follow-up on a COST proposal entitled: Network for Inclusive Cities in Europe (NICE) which aims to improve scientific knowledge on urban exclusion and to identify and disseminate the best practices that lead to making cities in participating countries more inclusive and to combatting deprivation. The Network's objective is to initiate a discussion on a new paradigm of development, one which is based on the existing development potential of contemporary cities, the openness of which effectively eliminates the threats of exclusion and alienation of individuals; it also reduces the effects of radicalisation of behaviours and attitudes of national governments, thus being supportive of convergence processes.

The discussions and analyses within the proposed Action will concentrate on **Second Tier Cities (STCs)** which are characterised by a high development potential, are internationally competitive and have significant potential for creating territorial impacts for development.

The Action will concentrate on those STCs that have accumulated experience relative to **urban renewal projects**, as these are the cities that possess the greatest capacity for developing and implementing (testing) innovative solutions to emerging problems, including those related to various types of exclusion.

## Main subject of analysis

The areas where problems related to exclusion of specified groups of inhabitants, unable to meet their basic needs, have already been identified or are expected to face such challenges in the near future shall become the core subject for discussions and analyses within the Network.

Exclusion may negatively affect individuals as well as urban societies or entire countries, possibly even the whole of the EU. The basic types of exclusion that are considered in the project are:

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| <b>Digital exclusion</b><br>[WG1: DE]        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inability to access (lack of competences and/or physical restrictions)</li><li>• Lack of infrastructure</li></ul>  |
| <b>Cultural exclusion</b><br>[WG2: CE]       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inability to access cultural institutions</li><li>• Cultural enclosure (ethnic and religious, gender)</li><li>• Intolerance for culture diversity</li></ul>  |
| <b>Housing exclusion</b><br>[WG3: HE]        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Houslessness</li><li>• Rooflessness</li><li>• Insecurity</li><li>• Inadequacy of available housing</li></ul>   |
| <b>Labour market exclusion</b><br>[WG4: LME] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mismatch between individual competences (knowledge, skills and attitudes) and labour market requirements</li><li>• Insecurity (unstable employment)</li><li>• Mismatch between individual values and organizational culture (free time, employment, work-life balance)</li><li>• Discrimination (age, gender, health, race/ethnic)</li></ul> |
| <b>Environmental exclusion</b><br>[WG5: EE]  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Restricted access to green infrastructure</li><li>• Restricted access to blue infrastructure</li><li>• Restricted access to green energy</li></ul>   |