

The *ekip* partnership funded by the European Commission consists of 5 universities, 4 consultancies, 4 creative and cultural organisations and 4 cities. Together we develop innovation policies for the cultural and creative industries in Europe.

We do that in various ways: through research, consultations and interaction with people in the sector at policy labs and focus groups and assessments in city ecosystems.

This City Case Description is the result of a policy assessment in a city ecosystem. How does it work?

As soon as a policy area and its relation to cultural and creative industries and innovation has been investigated by the *ekip* research team, we explore what this would mean in a local city context. Together with local stakeholders, we find out what the draft policy recommendation could stimulate in terms of innovation locally.

To understand better the strengths and gaps of the local support system, the local stakeholders simulate an innovation portfolio case and analyse what it would need in terms of resources and support to be realised.

One of the outcomes of the policy assessments is a series of case descriptions that tells the story of how different local actors identify relevant projects, ideas, resources and initiatives and start drafting an innovation portfolio.

This case description only reflects the views of the workshop participants. It doesn't aspire to give a comprehensive picture or analysis. Each City Case Description is a unique perspective from a local city context across Europe that we hope will inspire and ignite action.

• Introducing the Policy Area and the City



NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS

The New European Bauhaus (NEB) aims to create beautiful, sustainable, and inclusive spaces by blending design, accessibility, and affordability. It focuses on transforming living environments to improve quality of life, foster social cohesion, and drive innovation. The NEB is relevant for Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI), promoting their role in integrating art and culture into urban development and sustainability, enabling CCIs to shape innovative, inclusive, and sustainable communities.

KOŠICE, SLOVAKIA

Košice, located in eastern Slovakia, is the country's second-largest city with a population of approximately 230,000. Being the economic and cultural centre of eastern Slovakia, Košice is the seat of the Košice Region and Košice Self-governing Region, and is home to the Slovak Constitutional Court, three universities, various dioceses, and many museums, galleries, and theatres. Košice is an important industrial centre of Slovakia, and the U.S. Steel Košice steel mill and Volvo automotive factory are the largest employers in the city. The town has extensive railway connections and an international airport. The city has a preserved historical centre which is the largest among Slovak towns. In 2013 Košice was the European Capital of Culture, together with Marseille, France. Košice boasts a robust cultural infrastructure that supports a variety of activities and initiatives, attractiveness. The city is a part of UNESCO Creative Cities Network (cluster of New Media Art Cities) and host of EIT Culture and Creativity KIC hub.



Participants who worked with the city case came from:

- City of Košice, Department for Strategic Planning
- City of Košice, Department of Environment
- Creative Industry Košice, n.o.
- Business Košice Agency
- Tabačka Independent Cultural Centre
- Cinema Usmev
- Eastern Coast, NGO
- Spolka NGO
- ETP NGO
- The Spots City Community Centres
- Technical University of Košice
- University of Pavel Jan Šafarik, Košice
- Slovak Academy of Science, Department in Košice
- East Slovak Gallery

• Main Conclusions and Recommendations

CONCLUSIONS

1. Importance of Collaboration: Effective coordination and communication among stakeholders are essential for the successful implementation of the New European Bauhaus (NEB) policies in Košice, ensuring that all partners are informed and aligned in their efforts.

2. Need for Inclusive Practices: Addressing the needs of marginalized communities and ensuring their inclusion in development projects is critical for fostering social cohesion and enhancing community well-being.

3. Focus on Sustainable Development: The integration of NEB principles can significantly contribute to sustainable urban development, improving the quality of life, economic growth, and the cultural landscape of Košice.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Enhance Stakeholder Engagement: Foster continuous dialogue and collaboration among all stakeholders to promote synergy and cooperation in urban planning and policy-making.

2. Implement Systematic Data Collection: Develop standardized data collection methods and open data platforms to support informed decision-making and transparency, facilitating better evaluation of initiatives.

3. Promote Community-Driven Initiatives: Encourage community participation in projects and decision-making processes to ensure that local needs and perspectives are adequately represented and addressed.

• The Context

Košice has a strong cultural and creative sector that plays a crucial role in the city's identity and economic development. The city benefits from active participation of various stakeholders, including community organizations, local authorities, and educational institutions, fostering collaboration and innovation. The local innovation ecosystem is characterized by a gradual enhancement model, focusing on steady improvements and collaborative efforts among diverse actors. The main relevance of the policy area for Košice's context is focusing on transitioning to renewable energy

sources and enhancing energy efficiency, developing and integrating new industrial sectors that align with sustainable practices, addressing climate change through adaptive and mitigative strategies, ensuring safety and resilience in the face of evolving threats and promoting inclusive and sustainable societal values. The selected focus for inclusion in the innovation portfolio is the development of accessible and affordable housing within inclusive neighborhoods, emphasizing effective communication, community feedback, and transparency in the planning process.

• The Innovation Support Ecosystem

The current resources and infrastructure in Košice are well-aligned with the objectives of the innovation portfolio, in several key aspects. Košice boasts a robust cultural infrastructure, including museums, galleries, theatres, and cultural centres. These facilities support a variety of cultural and community-based events, focusing on integrating cultural dimensions into urban development. The presence of universities (Technical University of Košice and the University of Pavel Jozef Safarik) provides a strong foundation for research and innovation. Organizations like Creative Industry Košice and the Agency for Regional Development of the Košice Region provide networking opportunities, policy expertise, and capacity building. Financial resources are available through national and EU grant schemes, as well as local funding bodies like the National Fund for Affordable

Housing. The infrastructure supports innovative communication strategies and community feedback mechanisms, ensuring active participation in the development process.

However, there is a clear need to further establish and enhance channels for ongoing community feedback and participation. This will ensure transparency and responsiveness to residents' needs, building trust and collaboration among stakeholders.

While there is a strong emphasis on cultural and creative industries, there is a need to prioritize energy-efficient solutions and improve stakeholders' know-how to enhance quality of life and contribute to sustainable urban development.

• The Innovation Portfolio Case

Policy Innovation Portfolio Case:

Accessible Housing in Inclusive Neighborhoods

The Scope:

The innovation portfolio focuses on the short-term goal of communicating the accessible and affordable housing within inclusive neighborhoods.

This involves leveraging innovative communication strategies, establishing channels for community feedback, and ensuring transparency in planning and implementation to build trust and collaboration among stakeholders.

Key Aspects of the Innovation Portfolio:

- **Effective Communication:** Leveraging innovative communication strategies to keep residents informed and engaged in the development process.
- **Community Feedback:** Establishing channels for ongoing community feedback and participation in decision-making.
- **Transparency:** Ensuring transparency in planning and implementation to build trust and collaboration among stakeholders.

The potential impact of the innovation portfolio has been identified:

Demographic and Economic Growth (increased population: more people moving to the city will result in a higher tax base and Improved Services: An increased tax base will enable the provision of better public services,

Safety and Health (enhanced safety: safer neighbourhoods will contribute to a more secure living environment and healthier population: improved living conditions will lead to better health outcomes and higher overall happiness),

Economic Demand:

- **Higher Demand for Services:** A growing population will increase the demand for various services.
- **Life-Saving Measures:** Implementing safety measures can reduce fatalities and save lives.

Aesthetics and Nutrition:

- **Increased Aesthetics:** enhancing the visual appeal of neighborhoods will contribute to a more pleasant living environment.
- **Better Nutrition:** access to better quality food will improve overall nutrition.

Cultural and Social Mobility:

- **Neighbourhood Culture:** developing a vibrant, decentralised neighbourhood culture.
- **Social Mobility:** improved living conditions will facilitate better social mobility.

Social Cohesion and Public Engagement:

- **Stronger Social Cohesion:** enhanced social interactions will strengthen community bonds.
- **Public Engagement:** more public spaces for engagement and higher community involvement in public affairs.
- **Community Engagement:** active participation of residents in community activities.

Resource Sharing and Mental Health:

- **Shared Resources:** Increased sharing of resources within the community.
- **Better Mental Health:** improved living conditions and social cohesion will lead to better mental health outcomes.
- **Increased Trust:** higher levels of trust in local institutions, leading to a more caring and supportive city.

Stakeholders in the Portfolio:

The identified innovation portfolio will make a difference in Košice context mainly for entrepreneurs (increased business opportunities and a more vibrant economic environment), cultural institutions (higher attendance and engagement from a more diverse population) and local businesses (more customers and increased economic activity)

1. Community organisations:

Tabačka
Spolka NGO
Cinema Usmev

2. City and Regional Authorities:

Office of the Chief City Architect
City of Košice, Strategic Department
Innovation Center of the Košice Region
Business Košice
Agency for the Regional Development of the Košice Region

3. Educational and Cultural Institutions:

Technical University
University of Pavel Jozef Šafarik
Slovak Academy of Science
K13 City Cultural Centres

4. Local Entities:

KARPATSKA NADACIA NGO
ETP NGO
Dedo Foundation
Construction Companies
Associations of housing cooperatives (bytove družstva)
Local Business Associations and Networks

5. Foreign Students:

International students who are part of the local academic community and contribute to cultural diversity.

Coordination:

The portfolio coordinator is the City Government of Košice.

Key Indicators of Success

Success and progress are defined as harmonising language and goals among identified actors and stakeholders.

1. **Unified Terminology:** developing a common vocabulary to ensure all stakeholders, including residents, planners, and policymakers, are on the same page and using clear and consistent terminology to avoid misunderstandings and foster effective collaboration.

2. **Stakeholder Awareness:** ensuring all partners are aware of each other's roles, contributions, and ongoing projects to promote synergy and cooperation. Maintaining open lines of communication among stakeholders to share updates, challenges, and successes.

3. **Data Consolidation:** using standardising data collection methods to ensure consistency and reliability in evaluating the impact of initiatives and making data accessible to all stakeholders to support informed decision-making and transparency.

Coordination within the innovation portfolio is achieved through harmonizing language and goals among identified actors and stakeholders. This involves developing a common vocabulary to ensure all stakeholders, including residents, planners, and policymakers, are aligned and can communicate effectively.

• Inventory

Inventory:

Košice has a tradition of involving citizens in decision-making, fostering a collaborative environment. The city benefits from robust business and cultural networks that promote knowledge exchange. A well-developed cultural infrastructure supports diverse activities, contributing to the city's appeal.

Citizens engage actively in public planning, providing valuable insights for innovative projects. Local institutions contribute expertise and resources for ongoing projects related to the New European Bauhaus (NEB).

Actors and Funders	Function	Area of Expertise	Who is/are their Target Group(s)?	What RESOURCE do they have?
<u>City of Košice</u>	Municipality	Policy frameworks and strategies, support schemes	Local business and innovation system	Administrative staff, grant schemes
<u>K13 - Košické kultúrne centrá</u>	City cultural centres	Cultural and community based events, asset management of the cultural and community venues owned by the City	Cultural and community initiatives and organisations, NGOs, business entities, citizens	Administrative staff, grant schemes
<u>Creative Industry Košice</u>	NGO	Intermediary culture and creative industries support organisation, developing strategic frameworks and capacity building of the local CCIS ecosystem	Culture and creative professionals and organisations, businesses and citizens	Staff, infrastructure, pool of networks and cooperations, policy expertise, project management expertise
<u>CSPV SAV, v.v.i.</u>	Research institutions	Academic and applied research and science	Scholars, businesses, researchers, city, citizens	Staff, expertise, project management, international and national pool of networks
<u>Agentúra na podporu regionálneho rozvoja Košice, n.o.</u>	Regional support agency	Support, capacity building, networking and funding for regional businesses	Businesses	Staff, grant schemes, innovation programmes
<u>UPJŠ v Košiciach</u>	University	Education, research	Students, researchers, scholars, citizens	Staff, expertise, project management, international and national pool of networks
<u>Tabačka Kulturfabrik</u>	Independent cultural centre	Cultural and community-based events	Citizens, artists, cultural and creative professionals	Staff, infrastructure, networking
<u>ETP Slovensko</u>	NGO	Empowerment of excluded communities, strategic frameworks, affordable housing	Social and ethnical minorities, citizens, city policymakers	Staff, project management, networks, policy expertise
<u>TUKE, Ekonomická fakulta</u>	University	Education, research	Students, researchers, scholars, citizens	Staff, expertise, project management, international and national pool of networks
<u>USMEV</u>	Cultural centre	Cultural and community-based events	Citizens, artists, cultural and creative professionals	Staff, infrastructure, networking
<u>ICCK</u>	Regional support agency	Regional business support agency	Businesses	Staff, grant schemes, innovation programmes, policy expertise, networking, international project management expertise

• Our Methods

THE INNOVATION PORTFOLIO POLICY CANVAS

The Assessment Workshop Methodology and the Innovation Portfolio Canvas guides local stakeholders to analyse their local ecosystem. They make an inventory of actors and resources, identify and create a potential innovation portfolio and analyse their local innovation support system.

[SEE MORE](#)

THE OPSI MODEL

The OPSI-model (Open Public Sector Innovation) is adapted to analyse the innovation character of the policy area. Participants explore whether the policy involves new legislative measures or is more exploratory in nature, allowing for a deeper understanding of how the policy might influence the local ecosystem.

[SEE MORE](#)

THE LIEPT MODEL

The Lund Innovation Ecosystem Portfolio Tracking (LIEPT) model is a tool that provides a framework for tracking changes in innovation portfolios within ecosystems where impact relies on collaborative, multi-stakeholder efforts.

[SEE MORE](#)

• Conclusions and Recommendations

CONCLUSIONS

1. Enhanced Communication and Engagement:

The innovation portfolio must effectively utilize innovative communication strategies to keep residents informed and engaged throughout the development process. This approach has been instrumental in building trust and fostering collaboration among stakeholders. By ensuring that the community is actively involved in decision-making processes, the portfolio has strengthened the relationship between residents and policymakers, leading to more effective and inclusive urban development.

2. Unified Stakeholder Goals:

A key achievement of the innovation portfolio is the harmonization of language and goals among the various actors and stakeholders involved. By developing a common vocabulary, the portfolio has ensured that all parties, including residents, planners, and policymakers, are aligned and can communicate effectively. This alignment is crucial for the success of the initiatives, as it facilitates coordinated efforts and reduces misunderstandings that could hinder progress.

3. Integration of Cultural and Social Considerations:

The portfolio has successfully integrated cultural, minority, and climate considerations into its policies, promoting sustainability and inclusion across various sectors. This approach not only preserves cultural heritage but also fosters innovation, contributing to a more cohesive and vibrant community. By addressing these considerations, the portfolio has created a more inclusive environment that supports diverse perspectives and encourages creative solutions to local challenges.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Strengthen Community Feedback Mechanisms:

It is recommended to further establish and enhance channels for ongoing community feedback and participation. By doing so, the development process can remain transparent and responsive to the needs and concerns of the residents. This increased transparency will help build community trust and collaboration, ensuring that the portfolio's initiatives are well-received and effectively implemented.

2. Focus on Energy Efficiency and Sustainability:

Addressing energy challenges, particularly in housing, should be prioritized. Implementing energy-efficient solutions and improving residents' know-how can significantly enhance the quality of life and contribute to sustainable urban development. By focusing on sustainability, the portfolio can reduce environmental impact and promote long-term resilience in the community.

3. Promote Social Cohesion through Inclusive Housing:

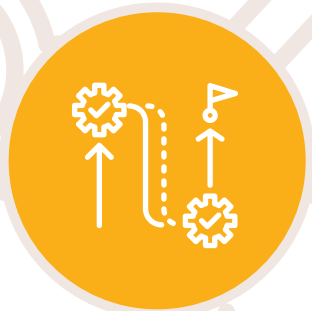
Developing accessible and sustainable housing solutions should continue to be a priority to enhance social cohesion and community well-being. This involves ensuring that marginalized communities are included in development projects, thereby fostering a more inclusive and equitable urban environment. By promoting social cohesion, the portfolio can create a stronger sense of community and improve the overall quality of life for all residents.

WANT TO DIG DEEPER?
WANT TO DO IT IN YOUR CITY?



More information
about Košice:

<https://www.kosice.sk/en>
<https://www.cike.sk/en>



More information
about **METHODS**



More information about
HOW TO DO THIS IN YOUR CITY
(Knowledge Bank / Prototyping Cities)