

# ACTORS OF URBAN CHANGE

URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
THROUGH CULTURAL ACTIVITIES  
AND CROSS-SECTOR  
COLLABORATION IN EUROPE

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**OPEN CALL** *extended  
deadline*  
**FOR APPLICATIONS**  
APPLY UNTIL 29.09.2017

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Actors of Urban Change aims to achieve sustainable and participatory urban development through cultural activities. This is carried out by strengthening the competencies for cross-sector collaboration among actors from the cultural, public and private sectors. Through local projects, an international qualification program, Europe-wide exchange and individual coaching, our participants put those skills into practice.

Actors of Urban Change is a program by Robert Bosch Stiftung in cooperation with MitOst e.V. Following on from two previous program rounds (2013-15 and 2015-17), this is the call for the third program round.

- :: Do you want to change your city?
- :: Are you working in the cultural/non profit sector, public sector or the private sector?
- :: Do you have project ideas on how to contribute to the development of your city, together with partners from other sectors, and in a participatory and sustainable way?
- :: Are you looking for inspiration, mutual learning and international exchange?

If so, we invite you to apply to the Actors of Urban Change program!

[WWW.ACTORS-OF-URBAN-CHANGE.EU](http://WWW.ACTORS-OF-URBAN-CHANGE.EU)



**MitOst**

Robert Bosch **Stiftung**

## WHAT DO WE OFFER?

We offer financial support to enhance your local project as well as international training activities focusing on workshops and peer-learning activities.

To support your local collaboration we offer a total amount of up to 13,000 EUR. This includes:

- :: Grants for the implementation of your local project (up to 5,000 EUR)
- :: Process-related and tailor-made support by experts (up to 5,000 EUR)
- :: Mobility grants, i.e. financial support for Shadowing Internships in other cities in the network (up to 3,000 EUR)
- :: In addition: Reimbursement of all travel expenses and accommodation related to the international seminars.

This financial support is embedded in international activities. These include participation in five international Actors of Urban Change Academy Meetings (4-5 days each) with a strong focus on peer-learning, as well as mobility grants to spend Shadowing Internships in other cities in the network.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

For 18 months, groups of three actors each, one from the cultural, the public and the private sectors, form a local cross-sector team for the implementation of an innovative project in their city. All teams from different European cities obtain support for professional training, their local project as well as through international exchange within the Academy Meetings.

At a local level, the teams receive project grants and individual support for their projects through customized tools from experts such as coaching, moderation, counseling and process analysis. During the international Actors of Urban Change Academy Meetings, advanced training is given on topics such as project and process management, as well as transition management, citizen participation or design and implementation of cross-sector collaborations. Shadowing Internships in cities of other participants allow sharing of experiences and mutual learning, and help to extend perspectives from a local to an international level. Throughout the process, participants receive practical support for project-related and formal issues from the program management.



### 10 LOCAL PROJECTS

*Project Grants €5,000*  
*Process-Related Consulting Grants €5,000*

### ACADEMY MEETINGS

*4-5 days each*



### SHADOWING INTERNSHIPS

*Mobility Grants for mutual learning in the network €3,000*

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## WHO IS IT FOR?

Actors of Urban Change is designed to strengthen participants' skills and practical experience as well as to foster knowledge-sharing in the field of cross-sector collaboration and participatory urban development. It is for individuals who:

- :: work in the cultural, the public or the private sector
- :: apply as a local team with a joint project proposal for their city
- :: are highly motivated to develop their skills in cross-sector collaboration and participatory urban development
- :: are interested in international exchange and networking
- :: are ambitious to engage in local project work as well as the international elements of the program
- :: have a good command of English
- :: are based in one of the 47 Council of Europe member states, Kosovo or Belarus.

The applicant's project needs to address a particular aspect of urban or community development within their city (e.g. social inclusion and cultural diversity, affordable housing, environmental justice, the sustainable use of resources). It must be relevant to the city's development, innovative at the local level and must involve the local community.

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## WHY ARE WE DOING IT?

We believe in the importance of skilled, open-minded and committed actors as drivers for a sustainable urban change directed towards the common good. We are convinced that such actors can create positive changes more effectively by combining their competencies and pooling different resources. Moreover, interaction with new organizations and individuals with different backgrounds, both at local and international levels, provides inspiring learning opportunities and facilitates further cross-sector understanding and collaboration.

We believe that culture is an enabler of and a driver in the sustainable development of cities. This is because culture is inherently linked to creativity, heritage, knowledge and diversity, and has potential to facilitate citizen participation, intercultural dialogue, mutual understanding, social inclusion, and innovation.

Through our program we seek to further sustainable and participatory development of European cities by connecting and training change-makers and by building a European network across sectoral borders.

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## HOW TO APPLY?

The only way to apply is via our online application form. Please visit [www.actors-of-urban-change.eu](http://www.actors-of-urban-change.eu) for further information.

### DEADLINE

The application deadline is September 29, 2017 (23:59 CET).

### SELECTION

Applicants will be selected by an international, interdisciplinary jury and informed about the decision by end-November 2017.

### FURTHER QUESTIONS

Please check the FAQs on our website first. If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact the program management team, Sebastian Schlüter (Program Coordinator) and Elisabeth Kremer (Program Manager) at [info@actors-of-urban-change.eu](mailto:info@actors-of-urban-change.eu)

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