

## CITY OF KRAGUJEVAC AMONG 27 CITIES DRIVING CHANGE WITH URBACT PIONEERS ACCELERATOR

The city of Kragujevac is among the 27 cities from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia selected as part of the **URBACT Pioneers Accelerator** programme.

URBACT is a European Territorial Cooperation programme, active since 2002, that helps cities develop sustainable solutions to urban challenges through networking, knowledge-sharing, and capacity-building. The programme is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) with a budget of EUR 79 769 000, by the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance with a budget of EUR 5 000 000 and by the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument with a budget of EUR 2 000 000 for the period 2021-2027. Through the URBACT Pioneers Accelerator, a new bespoke learning programme, URBACT empowers cities from the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) beneficiary countries addressing sustainable urban development.

These pioneering cities are tackling pressing urban challenges across six core themes: sustainable tourism development, urban nature (environment protection), social inclusion, jobs and small and medium-sized enterprises support, sustainable mobility, and waste management, with particular emphasis on effective approaches to communication and stakeholder engagement.

### HERE THE COMPLETE LIST OF THE 27 PIONEER CITIES

Thematic cluster	City	Country
Mobility	Municipality of Arandjelovac	Serbia
	Subotica - Public Enterprise PERMUPHS	Serbia
	City of Sremska Mitrovica	Serbia
	City of Tuzla	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Municipality of Tivat	Montenegro
	Municipality of Himara	Albania
	Municipality of Shtip	North Macedonia
Waste Management	Municipality of Herceg Novi	Montenegro
	Municipality of Backi Petrovac	Serbia
	City of Novi Pazar 2	Serbia
	Municipality of Kamza	Albania
	City of Mostar	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Trebinje - Development Agency - TREDEA	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	City of Sarajevo	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Urban Nature	City of Bijeljina	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	City of Banja Luka	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	City of Dobo	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Municipality of Nikšić	Montenegro
	Municipality of Vinica	North Macedonia
	City of Zrenjanin	Serbia
	City of Kragujevac	Serbia
	City of Nis	Serbia

<b>Sustainable Tourism</b>	Kakanj Municipality	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	City of Široki Brijeg	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Municipality of Lezhë	Albania
	City of Smederevo	Serbia
	Senta	Serbia

Each participating city will receive **EUR 35 000 in EU funding** through URBACT, to support their involvement in the programme, including the implementation of small-scale pilot actions that contribute to their sustainable urban development goals.

The Pioneers Accelerator programme serves as an excellent entry point for cities with little or no previous experience in EU-funded projects, offering a structured and supportive environment to develop impactful initiatives. After the completion of the learning journey, the cities and public agents working in municipal public administrations shall gain practical knowledge and develop capacity to design and implement urban development projects in line with Global and EU sustainable urban development standards and policy frameworks.

Over 18 months (April 2025 – September 2026), participating municipal teams will engage in a learning journey based on URBACT's integrated and participatory method, which includes **international study visits, peer-learning camps, and the development of visible small-scale pilot actions.**

The programme positions participating cities as regional leaders in sustainable urban policy. By applying integrated approaches and working closely with citizens and stakeholders, they demonstrate how even small and medium-sized municipalities can implement visible, systemic change.

As [name of your city] embarks on this learning journey, the city is committed to build new capacities, forge meaningful partnerships, and lay the groundwork for long-term, sustainable urban transformation that can inspire similar efforts across the region.

More information on this and other URBACT initiatives are available on the URBACT webpage: [www.urbact.eu](http://www.urbact.eu).

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

*Ivan Radulović, The main urbanist of the city of Kragujevac*  
[radulovic.ivan@gmail.com](mailto:radulovic.ivan@gmail.com)  
+381 34 335 251