

CECICN CONTRIBUTION TO THE CONSULTATION OF EU LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES ON THE MID-TERM REVIEW OF EUROPE 2020, COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

October 2013

1. *"The Europe 2020 strategy's objectives have led local/regional authorities to improve their priority setting with regard to sustainable and inclusive growth-oriented policies, and thus helped them to make measurable progress." **

- Fully Agree
- Substantially Agree
- Agree to a limited extent
- Do not agree at all

2. *"The Europe 2020 strategy could benefit from a combination of bottom-up and top-down planning and target setting. This approach would make it possible to consider specific local and regional characteristics rather than just targets set at national or EU level. In doing so, the revised strategy could better address all the obstacles to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the country, making measures already being taken by local/regional authorities more effective."**

- Fully agree
- Substantially agree
- Agree to a limited extent
- Do not agree at all

3. "Further territorial differentiation of the Europe 2020 targets at the level of regions would make implementation easier and thereby make the Strategy more useful."*

- Fully agree
- Substantially agree
- Agree to a limited extent
- Do not agree at all

4. "With regard to the revision of the Europe 2020 strategy and setting territorially differentiated targets, the following principles of multilevel governance should be respected: full information and consultation; stakeholders' involvement; responsiveness ensuring that contributions coming from regions and cities are taken into account at all stages of the policy process." *

- Fully agree
- Substantially agree
- Agree to a limited extent
- Do not agree at all

5. "The individual contributions made by the regions and cities towards meeting the targets set at Member State level should follow a ..."

Please finish the above statement with one of the following:

- ...concentration model, whereby the best-performing regions agree to contribute more towards meeting the national targets than the less well-positioned regions
- ...a catch-up model, whereby the less well-performing regions try harder to meet the national targets
- ... balancing model, whereby all regions aim to contribute equally towards meeting the national targets.

6. *"The setting of targets should take cross-border interdependence between regions into account (e.g. commuter flows, cross-border economic cooperation, concentration of clusters with cross-border agreements etc.)"**

- Fully agree
- Substantially agree
- Agree to a limited extent
- Do not agree at all

7. *"Local and regional authorities can make use of the Europe 2020 strategy to benchmark their own progress and exchange good practices more effectively."**

- Fully agree
- Substantially agree
- Agree to a limited extent
- Do not agree at all

8. *"Learning from one another, sharing experiences and swapping examples of best practice between regions with similar challenges could help them to meet the Europe 2020 objectives."**

- Fully agree
- Substantially agree
- Agree to a limited extent
- Do not agree at all

9. "The potential contribution of local/ regional authorities to the Europe 2020 strategy's goals of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth could be greater if **multi-level governance agreements** were signed with their national governments – i.e. agreements setting **common deadlines** for coordinating and integrating actions by all the relevant stakeholders at different levels of government, and **joint steering and monitoring arrangements.**" *

- Fully agree
- Substantially agree
- Agree to a limited extent
- Do not agree at all

10. "The Europe 2020 strategy has prompted local and regional authorities to make more use of innovative financing tools such as revolving funds, public-private partnerships, pension fund investments, etc.. " *

- Fully agree
- Substantially agree
- Agree to a limited extent
- Do not agree at all

11. "Which of the following measures could help to increase awareness and ownership of the Europe 2020 strategy among local and regional authorities?" *

Please select the two things that you consider to be most important.

Select at least 2 and no more than 2.

- More funding for implementing direct actions
- A more clearly defined role for cities and regions in the implementation of the strategy
- A better multi-level dialogue about the objectives and the design of the strategy
- A better and more direct communication on Europe 2020 from the EU and national governments
- Assistance in aligning actions and projects under Europe 2020 headlines - contrary to the current trend of multiplying terminologies and avoiding using tools designed in 'Brussels'
- Changing the name of the Europe 2020 strategy to help local and regional players identify with the strategy.

12. Do you have any additional comments, input or clarifications (max. 500 characters)?

The CECICN (Conference of European Cross-border and Interregional City Networks) and AEBR prepared a strategic document on Smart Cooperation "Territorial Cooperation fostering European Integration: Cities and Regions linking across borders" (May 2012). It aims put European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) at the core of the debate about 2014-2020 period and the implementation of EU 2020 strategy.

http://www.cecicn.eu/CECICN_AEBR_report_12_03_12.pdf

13. I would like to receive further information of the Committee of the Regions regarding the monitoring of Europe 2020.

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