CALL FOR APPLICATIONS –
SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS:
TU1204 – People-Friendly Cities in a Data Rich World

The City Sounding Board Working Group (part of the COST Action People-Friendly Cities in a Data Rich World (TU1204)) http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/tud/Actions/TU1204 invites you to participate in a Short Term Scientific Mission in Glasgow, Scotland.

The application deadline is March 1, 2016. The STSMs will take place during the second and third weeks of April 2016.

BACKGROUND

This STSM Call for Applications sits within the COST Action TU1204 'People Friendly Cities in a Data Rich World, where a major emphasis to date has been on the area of citizen engagement and on understanding the factors that promote or indeed inhibit collaboration between city institutions, agencies, and the everyday citizen. While it is acknowledged that citizens have not played a significant part in the shaping of cities traditionally, the availability of the infrastructure of the internet constitutes a new context which may have major implications for urban governance and the relationship between urban stakeholders. Key issues which have arisen, include the conflict between top-down and bottom-up, the relationship of the citizen with data, the citizens' capacity to undertake research, and the emergence of what is called 'Smart-City'. It is also fair to say that despite a phenomenal explosion in the use of the internet for recreational, entertainment, and social media purposes, we have not seen similar platforms created to enable collaborative citizen participation in the shaping of cities or in the area of city governance.

A key dimension of this COST Action has been the establishment of reference cities that have provided real city contexts in which to study best-practice, carry out research, and test emerging perspectives. The real city context also helps ground the virtual world of the internet. Reference cities to date include Lucca (September 2014 STSM), Dublin (STSMs in September 2015 and November 2015), Reykjavik (Winter Training School March 2016), and now Glasgow. The existence of a network of reference cities supports initiatives such as STSMs which can operate under a single researcher format, or, as was the case in both Lucca and Dublin (September 2015) under a team format. This brief is drawn up to guide the STSM team proposal for the city of Glasgow.

Reference City: Glasgow

Glasgow is a city with a proud industrial history, particularly in ship-building and allied service areas, which flourished through the 19ᵗʰ and early 20ᵗʰ century. The City's success as an industrial manufacturing centre created a wealthy mercantile class and an employment magnet for indigenous and immigrant labour, a culture that bred political activism and ensured a labour sensibility informed public life and the generation of political perspectives. Manufacturing and industrial decline after the World War II created large scale unemployment and environmental challenges that led to a long search for a new role for the city as a post industrial city urban landscape emerged.

Glasgow has featured strongly in the narrative of urban regeneration through the second half of the 20ᵗʰ century both in terms of profile within the UK and internationally, and this commitment to innovation and creative renewal continues to underpin current political thinking. However, in order to narrow the focus of this research, three episodes from the last 50 years are highlighted which have the potential to reveal interesting insights into how Glasgow citizens relate to urban governance. These episodes are as follows:

1. *Housing Regeneration in the 1970s:* The powerful storm in mid-January 1968 severely damaged many of Glasgow's tenement buildings and prompted a radical approach to urban regeneration, where in order to receive grants, tenants became owners of their properties. The innovation was championed by the Community Based Housing Associations and innovative practices such as 'Assist Architects' formed out of Strathclyde University.

2. *European City of Culture*: Glasgow made a successful bid for European City of Culture in 1990, after a series of European capitals and Cities of the Renaissance. The city had been working creatively on an image change for some years, and had opened the impressive Burrell collection in 1983, and won the UK Garden Festival in 1988. Glasgow used the City of Culture to express all of the City's culture, and strove to generate a process to include a citizenry which often felt excluded. The working–class women of the city used stitch work to create 12 celebrated banners under a project 'Keeping Glasgow in stitches'.

3. *Glasgow City Vision 2011:* In 2011 Glasgow was one of 50 cities in the UK to be awarded a feasibility grant to show how integrated services would work more effectively. The city then was awarded £24 million to create a future demonstrator project, and to envision what the city would look like and how it would operate in 2061. Over 2700 people participated in over 40 events. The process operated across three strands; a technocratic strand, a thought-leadership strand, and a pro-active citizen engagement strand.

Brief – Core Focus

The process of urban regeneration and renewal in Glasgow has at times involved a close working relationship between the City Authority, the Universities and the private sector. The objective of the brief is to focus on the three episodes outlined above, and to establish

to what extent the triangular relationship played a positive role in building bridges with citizens, and engendering a culture of collaborative urbanism in the city. In particular, the brief requires a response to the following:

- To what extent did 'The City' [Glasgow City Council], 'The Academy' [University sector] and 'Practice' [Private Practice] collaborate with each other and engage with the three major city episodes outlined above, i.e   [a] The Housing Regeneration; [b] City of Culture 1990; and, [c] City Visioning project 2011.
- How did each of these movements engage with citizens. Establish the qualities of citizen involvement in the process.
- Provide insight on the quality of leadership in each of the three movements. Establish the extent to which collaborative leadership played a part in generating the three initiatives.
- Identify the role of technology in the three initiatives [Internet only available in the Visioning project].
- Assess to what extent the lessons learned in Glasgow can be applied in other city contexts.

The research team will be expected to carry out desk-top research before arrival, on the general Glasgow context, and also to become familiar with the core history of the three episodes which are the focus of the research.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON STSMs

- A STSM grant is a fixed contribution based on the requested budget which is evaluated by the STSM Committee. The grant is for travel and subsistence costs only. It does not necessarily cover all such expenses.
- The Management Committee of the COST Action TU1204 will award up to 5 STSMs. The budget will be divided among the successful applicants (called Grant Holders) in accordance with COST rules. **Successful applicants will receive an allowance of €120/day and €300 (maximum) for travel up to a maximum total budget of €2,500.**
- After the STSM, the Grant Holder must submit a scientific report to the Host and to the STSM Coordinator within 30 days after the end of his/her stays. Moreover, the Grant Holder must request a signed acceptance letter of his/her scientific report from the Host (senior researcher at the Host Institution), which the Host sends to the STSM Coordinator.
- The STSM grant will be paid after the Grant Holder's scientific report and the acceptance letter from the Host institution have been approved by the STSM Committee. The Grant Holder must therefore pre-finance costs related to the STSM (travel, stay, meals).