

## Urban Academy on Integration Evaluation Main findings & Recommendations

1. Participants were very positive about the Academy. 97% of the participants said that the event should take place annually and would consider applying again. There are, however, some recommendations that can be made for the overall guidance of the participants:

- One recommendation is to continue the support of the participants throughout the year. DG Home could, for example, set up an online workspace or bulletin board. This way, participants stay connected and can continue to exchange information and best practices.
- Another way of supporting the network is by organising a webinar in 6 months' time to discuss the progress participants made.
- It could also be interesting to divide the participants into smaller session working groups that can continue to support each other in the long run.

2. The format of the sessions works very well for the concept of the Academy. Recommendations:

- Consider focusing the modules' introduction on the dilemmas brought forth by the participants. Connecting scientific research and policy will create a more in-depth approach that way will improve the quality of the discussions even more.
- A second recommendation would be to let the facilitators help all participants prior to the Urban Academy with the formulation of their dilemmas and questions. This would save time during the sessions and improve the quality of the discussions even more.

3. The fieldtrip to Mechelen is a valuable asset to the Urban Academy and should definitely be part of the programme. Recommendation:

- Change the timing of the fieldtrip within the programme. Instead of starting the second day off with the fieldtrip, consider organising the trip in the afternoon after the first session. This allows for a more varied programme.