

# WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO SUPPORT US IN DESIGNING OUR KNOWLEDGE CAPTURING AND SHARING STRATEGY

## A / DESCRIPTION

ASToN is a network of 11 African cities using digital tools to overcome local and global challenges. With over 30 million citizens between them, the cities are responding to questions like:

- > *How can a transition to digital technology improve my city for citizens and what should I be doing about it?*
- > *How might we collaborate and learn together with other cities to make that transition faster and more sustainable?*
- > *How can we make sure no one is left behind in the process?*
- > *Which digital experiments can I run that can have a positive impact on my city and citizens at scale?*

Through a 2 and a half years programme of **peer exchange and learning**, engaging local stakeholders and experimentation, ASToN cities are accelerating progress towards becoming sustainable and inclusive places to live and work. Our hope is that by creating a cohort of cities and collaborating in this way, ASToN cities can become leading digital actors, faster, and in a way that's appropriate and sustainable for each own's local context.

Following a selection process based on an open call, 11 cities are now part of the ASToN network: Bamako (Mali), Benguerir (Morocco), Bizerte (Tunisia), Kampala (Uganda), Kigali (Rwanda), Kumasi (Ghana), Lagos(Nigeria), Matola (Mozambique), Niamey (Niger), Nouakchott (Mauritania) and Seme-Podji (Benin).

This flagship programme is financed by the French Development Agency (AFD), managed by the French National Urban Renovation Agency (ANRU) and uses URBACT knowledge and tools.

## B / HOW IT WORKS

The network kick-started its activities September 2019 and it is due to last until mid-2022. The activities are organized in **3 phases** as follows:

EXPLORE	ENGAGE	EXPERIMENT
Through research and visits we published <a href="#">a baseline study</a> of where cities are now with a vision of what's next - what we'd like to learn, and how far we think we can go.	By the end of ENGAGE phase, cities will have a <b>clear vision</b> , an <b>action plan</b> to reach that vision, a <b>stakeholder group</b> to put the plan into action and ways to validate what's working and what's not.  Besides the local work, we'll hold a	The 'doing' phase where we'll each <b>implement pilot projects</b> , experimenting, working on our challenges in our respective cities, and leaving no one behind as we do so.

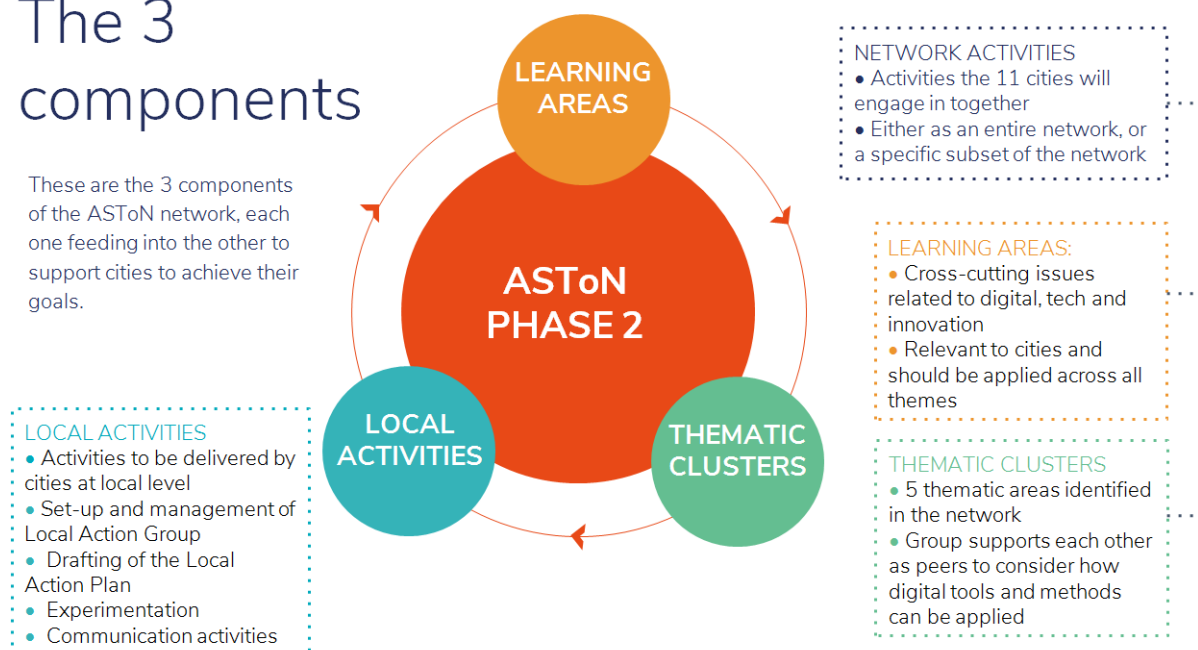
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Cities started to involve <b>local stakeholders</b> and build up a picture of what it's going to take, to make the changes we want, and what we'll each need to do it.	series of <b>transnational meetings, workshops</b> and exchanges to share ideas and what we are learning. We'll look into the <b>skills needed</b> for cities to succeed their digital transition.	By the end of EXPERIMENT phase, cities will have a clear idea of the actions which are <b>bankable</b> and not and the <b>calendar for action</b> .
<b>Sept 2019 -June 2020</b>	<b>July 2020 - March 2022</b>	<b>6 months between April - Dec 2021</b>

Phase 2 activities are organized around **3 components** as follows:

## The 3 components

These are the 3 components of the ASToN network, each one feeding into the other to support cities to achieve their goals.



## C / KNOWLEDGE CAPTURING AND SHARING IN ASTON

ASToN is a pilot project and as such we want to capture its story and share it with a wider audience. The main aspects of the project we consider worth capturing are the following:

- > **City stories** - how did the participation in ASToN impact the cities and which are the milestones along their journey
- > **The digital transformation topics of our network.** ASToN cities are working on cross cutting topics such as data, innovative policy making and service design but also **thematic areas:** mobility and transport, land management and addressing systems, collection of taxes, citizen engagement, waste management and city cleanliness.
- > **How do we do ASToN** - which are the tools, methods and general architecture of the project, which are the strengths and challenges of running a digital transformation 11 African cities network.

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The major aim of our Knowledge Strategy is to identify what's worth capturing and sharing with a wider audience whether these are city or network stories, innovative policy tools, thematic inputs, applied methods, innovative governance, etc.

The main elements of this Knowledge Strategy should therefore be:

- > Which are the main areas of our work we want to capture and why
- > How should we do it - how do we go around capturing the knowledge, how do we make sure we have it in the right format
- > Knowledge sharing - which are the best formats and how should we embed them in our communication strategy
- > Calendar, roles and resources

## D / WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

The profile we're looking for:

- > Proven knowledge of sustainable urban development issues from an international perspective (5 to 10 years of experience)
- > Work experience in Europe and world-wide on urban issues (at least one experience with a non-European institution)
- > Good understanding of international cooperation, city network dynamics and capacity building programmes
- > Good knowledge of communication and capitalisation tools. Communication experience is considered a plus
- > Previous experience with an international cooperation programme in urban matters is considered a plus

The daily expertise fee for the ASToN project is generally set at 750€ (all taxes included). For this specific mission we estimate the number of days of work to 5 or so.

If this sounds interesting to you and fits your profile, please send an email to the ASToN Secretariat [hello@aston-network.org](mailto:hello@aston-network.org) with a **max 2-page note** explaining how you would approach this mission and what are your main assets to successfully fulfil the job, along with your **cv**.

## E / CALENDAR

Deadline for applications: 17 January 2021.

Kick-off meeting with the ASToN team: first week of February 2021.

Submission of a first draft of the Strategy: 21st February 2021.

Meeting with the team on the 1st draft: week starting 22 February 2021.

Final version: Mid-March 2021.