



FACTSHEET: TEMPORARY USE FUND

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WHAT?

The city of Ghent started using a Temporary Use Fund in 2014 as a financial incentive for new ideas and initiatives related to temporary use. The funding goes to initiatives that propose a new use for empty land or buildings that also contribute to the liveability of the area or the city. The Fund distributes 300,000 EUR annually, to be used on infrastructure, safety measures and soundproofing, insurance, maintenance and in some cases communication. Individual projects receive between 6000 and 35,000 EUR.

The application process is relatively simple. Applicants fill in a standard form and are then invited for an interview with a multidisciplinary jury. Its members represent different departments of the city administration. They examine each application according to a set of criteria and decides on the allotted budget.

WHEN?

Since 2014

WHERE?

Ghent, Belgium

WHY?

- Financial support for bottom-up initiatives
- Encouraging citizens to come up with new ideas

LESSONS LEARNT

Since the outset of the Temporary Use Fund, there has been an increase in smaller, bottom-up temporary use projects in the neighbourhoods of Ghent, supported and coordinated by citizens.

The multidisciplinary jury plays an important role in the intake and the decision-making process. As a result, the initiators of temporary use projects more easily connect with the relevant departments of the municipality.

HOW TO TRANSFER

This Fund thrives in an open and participative atmosphere between citizens, bottom-up initiatives and political and/or organisational structures. The broad and open framework is key to its success.

In the case of Ghent, the jury has operated independently, making adjustments along the way based on self-evaluation and feedback from the applicants.

- **Support bottom-up initiatives for temporary use**
- **Provide a financial push for new ideas**
- **Connect with bottom-up initiatives**