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## **Part C: Knowledge Cities**

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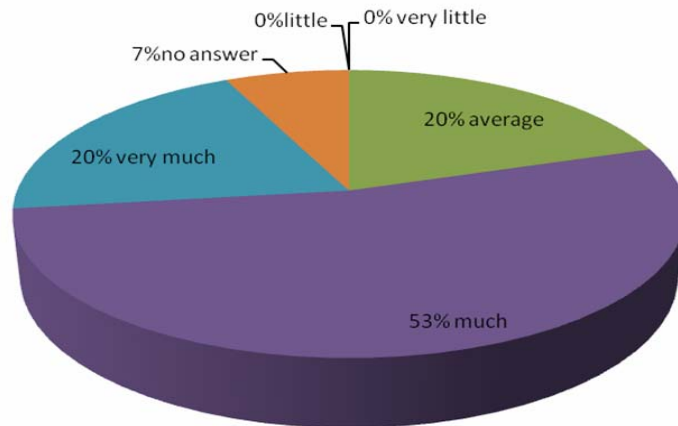
**30 October 2009, UCEU Conference**



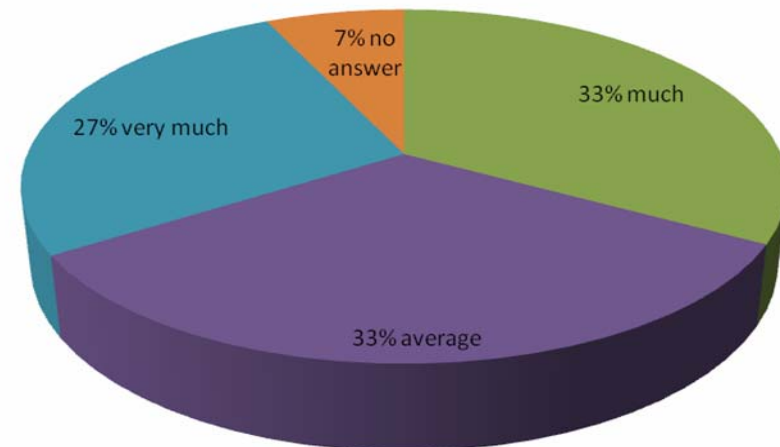
# Knowledge Cities

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Q17. What do you believe is the level of the role of the local authorities (municipalities) in the development of Knowledge cities?



Q18.1. Do you consider your City to be a "Knowledge City"?



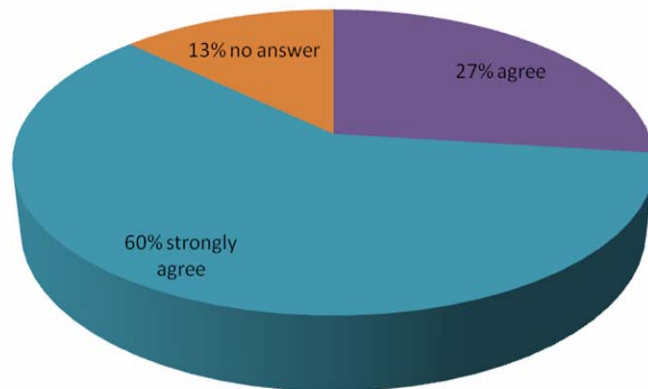
- 73% of the respondents perceive the significance of the local authorities in the development of knowledge regions. This finding is in accord with the scientific literature.
- At the same time, however, only 60% of the total respondents believe that their city can be considered “much” or “very much” as a knowledge city.



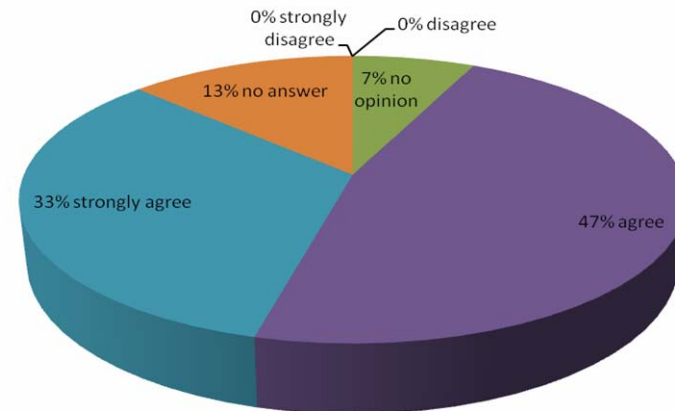
# Knowledge Cities

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Q19.1. Please respond on the level of your agreement on the following: The creation of "Knowledge Cities" as a tool for the progress and prosperity of the cities.



Q19.2. Please respond on the level of your agreement on the following: The integrated knowledge-based urban development can secure social, economic and environmental viability.



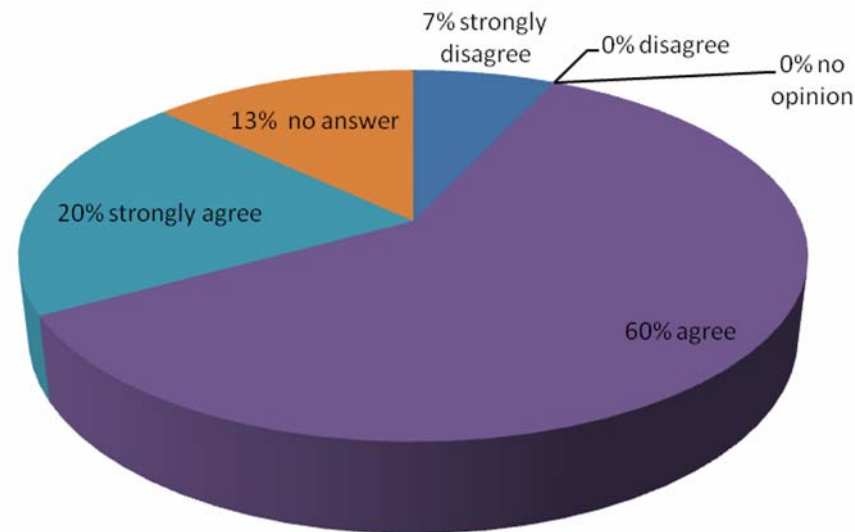
There is also a general strong support of the view that knowledge cities are a tool for progress and prosperity (87%). A very high percentage of 80% also believes that integrated knowledge-based urban development can secure social economic and environmental viability.



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Q19.3. Please respond on the level of your agreement on the following: Tools and opportunities within "Knowledge Cities" can contribute to the revival of underdeveloped parts of the cities and their population (so as to avoid exclusion).



80% believes that tools and opportunities within "Knowledge Cities" contribute to the revival of underdeveloped parts of the cities and their population



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- **Effective inclusion of citizens in the decision making and access to knowledge** is considered by many to be the main tool that can contribute to the revival of underdeveloped parts of the cities and their population (so as to avoid exclusion)
- Cities also wish to provide their citizens with the **tools to innovate** but, do not have very concrete suggestions on this field.



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- To the question “**what do you think you are missing that hinders your city from becoming a “Knowledge City” or becoming a “very much” Knowledge City**” the answers of the cities converged.
  - The foremost factor is the **lack of strategy**, followed by:
    - **lack of awareness of the need to invest in knowledge and innovation,**
    - **not enough collaboration between stakeholders,**
    - **not enough funding and limited support from EU and governments for the implementation of knowledge cities projects.**
- The economic crisis was also mentioned as a draw fall.



# Questionnaire Conclusions

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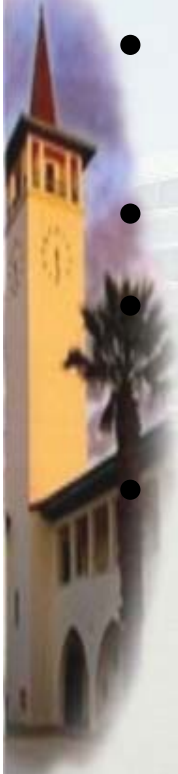
- Firstly, local authorities are by large aware both for the advantages of becoming knowledge cities, and of the special role they have to play if this goal is to be achieved.
- Second, success in developing knowledge cities requires a carefully research and well planned out long term strategy. Lack of such strategy seems to be the major obstacle in achieving the goal.
- Finally, UCEU members have a lot to learn from each other for best practices. Some good examples came out of this survey and more could be learned if the Cities were to engage in a more structured dialogue on this issue.
- Knowledge cities seem to be of interest to many UCEU members and to have an impact on the cities, both from economic and social perspective.



# The Dublin Example

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- Developed a joint economic action plan with a number of key actions such as:
- appropriate policies to facilitate economic corridors on the north and west of the city,
- developed benchmarks on economic performance,
- developed key transport projects  
&
- next generation broadband projects





# CyEC Entrepreneurship Competition Example

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- Entrepreneurship competitions are a good practice for stimulating the start-up creation
- Good practice of CyEC competition, how it works, how it is structured, 400 applied in the last 6 years that the competition is on
- How to create an entrepreneurship culture: involve students/researchers, include incubators and research grants



# Main questions raised

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- Does size matters? !
- Can inclusion go hand in hand with economic development?
- Who takes the lead in this partnership?
- Innovation must be orchestrated from the top!? What is the responsibility of the governments?
- Should knowledge cities have a brand?