



Quick facts on institutional cooperation

Working jointly with institutional
partners in the context of
Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans





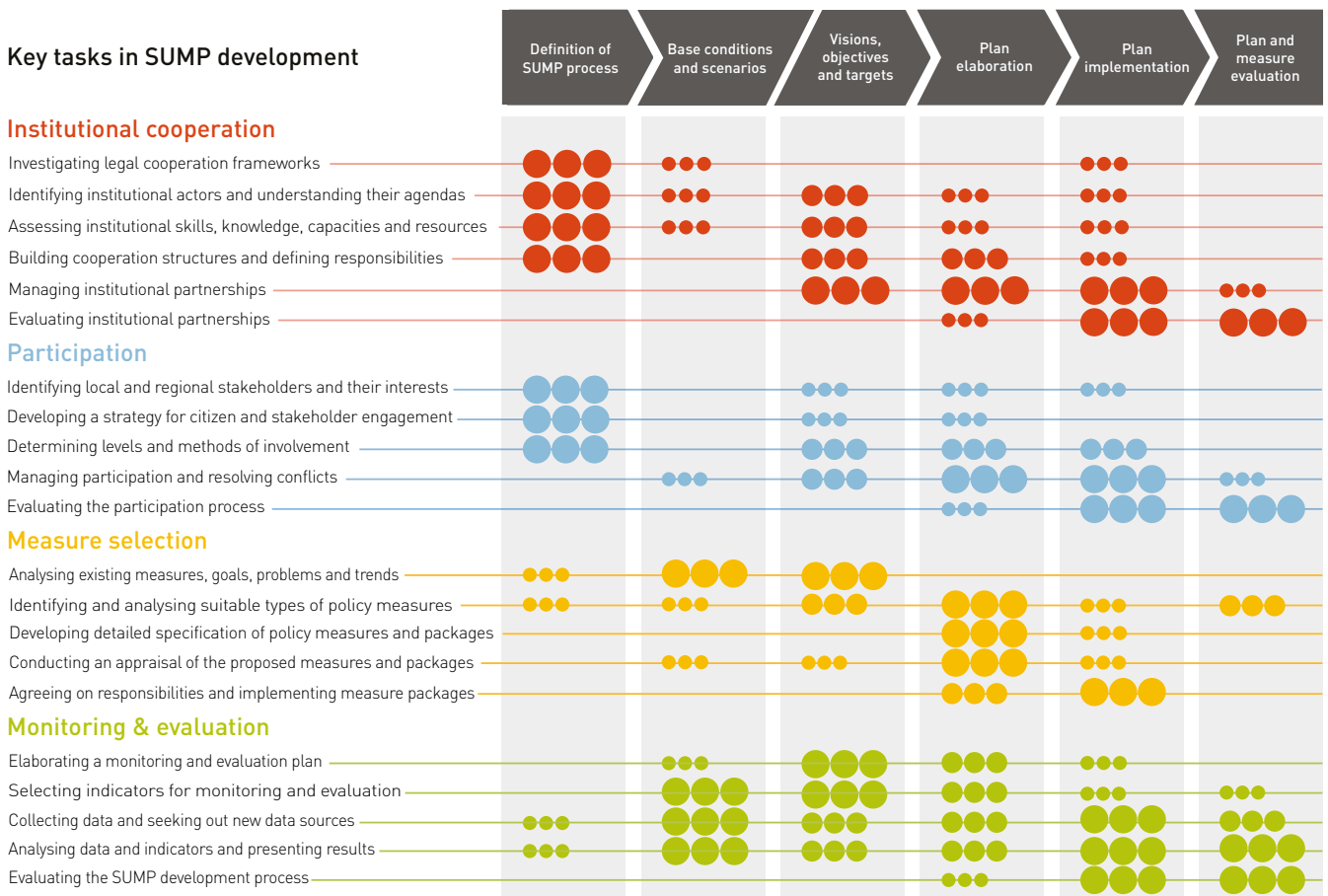
Institutional cooperation – the challenge in a nutshell

The planning authority responsible for the development of a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) usually takes the lead in the plan preparation process. However, it should also engage with other institutional actors as cooperation can bring value, knowledge and resources to the SUMP preparation process and plan implementation. Institutional cooperation can improve the acceptability of the SUMP, create ownership among institutional stakeholders and the public, and help to attract funding for measure implementation. Strengthening institutional cooperation can also positively influence the strategic development of transport networks and infrastructure towards sustainable mobility in the long-term.

A number of actors may be approached for SUMP cooperation, such as other departments within the local authority (e.g. environment, land use, health), municipal agencies, political bodies, neighbouring communities and higher level authorities.

Institutional cooperation is a topic to be treated with care. For example, composing a SUMP partnership is a challenge for many planning authorities. A lack of expertise in multi-stakeholder project management, incompatible timeframes and variances in transport planning approaches can add to the complexity. Accommodating conflicting views is a necessary but sensitive task to undertake. In addition, each local

Key tasks in SUMP development



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- ● ● ● Potential activity
- ● ● ● Recommended activity
- ● ● ● Essential activity

A SUMP process is a sequence of phases from process definition to plan and measure evaluation. The chart presents key SUMP tasks for planning authorities related to the four challenges.

Institutional cooperation and participation are continuous, horizontal activities that should commence early, during the SUMP process definition phase. Measure selection as well as monitoring and evaluation activities

are particularly relevant in the subsequent analytical and technical planning phases. The chart reflects first-time SUMP development; revision and updating of a SUMP should build on the already established structures.

Key tasks in the SUMP development process
Source: Rupprecht Consult, 2016



authority has to develop its own cooperation framework taking into account local structures and resources and respecting legal cooperation duties.

Preparing well for institutional cooperation

Thorough preparation of SUMP cooperation is a key task for planning authorities. This should include an assessment of internal resources such as skills and finances available for the SUMP process and a review of legal cooperation requirements. It is also crucial to appoint the 'project management', i.e. the team or person who is in charge of managing the entire SUMP process and partnership. As SUMP development can be considered as a project, the project management should have the right set of skills such as management control or negotiation skills. They should also know when and how to use relevant management tools, for example implementation plans or progress reports.

Identifying the relevant partners

At the beginning of the SUMP process it is important to define who will be invited for the SUMP partnership. The project management should ensure that partners represent the whole functional area and together have the necessary skills and competences for elaborating and implementing the SUMP. A successful partnership should have competencies in the SUMP area's transport networks and services, provide the required level of technical excellence in different fields of expertise and be able to gain political and public support.

Encouraging the relevant stakeholders

To encourage the participation of stakeholders, the project management needs firstly to approach the identified actors. This might require persuasion efforts and presenting the benefits that the SUMP partnership can bring for individual actors and for the city and region as a whole. It is also important to design a clear agenda together with institutional stakeholders so they know what is expected and how much capacity may be required. Finally, understanding partners' agendas is crucial for reaching agreement on mobility priorities and measure packages.



Institutional cooperation meeting in Brno
Source: Marie Schmerková, City of Brno

Agreeing on responsibilities

The SUMP partnership needs to agree on the project scope, governance, outputs, timescale and resources required as well as procedures for decision making. When the SUMP has taken shape, the project management might use specific tools for detailed planning of, for example, staff resources required for the implementation of each mobility measure and the level of involvement of partners during SUMP delivery.

Are you curious to know more?

Further information and various local case examples can be found in the full **Manual on Institutional Cooperation!**



For more information you may also join us on www.eltis.org and www.sump-challenges.eu

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For more information

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