

Quick facts on participation

Actively engaging citizens and stakeholders in the development of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans





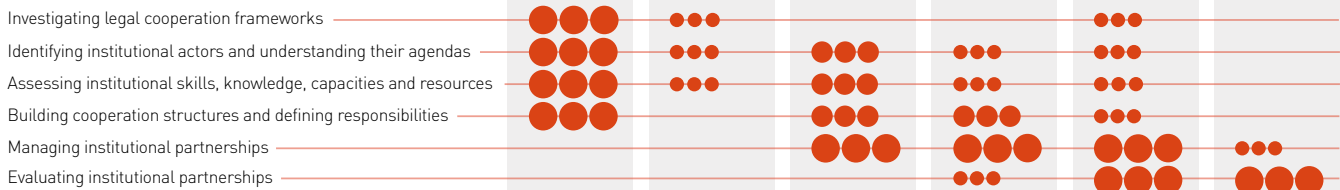
Participation – the challenge in a nutshell

A Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) sets out a programme with goals and priorities for the long-term development of a city's transport system. A transition towards sustainable mobility requires active support from the public and stakeholders and if successful, viable strategies are to be found. A dialogue-based participation process is crucial for example, for analysing mobility problems, developing common objectives, and selecting mobility measures. The engagement of citizens and stakeholders can create a positive foundation for collaborative planning, improve the knowledge base, consider new ideas and opinions and increase the overall quality and credibility of decision making.

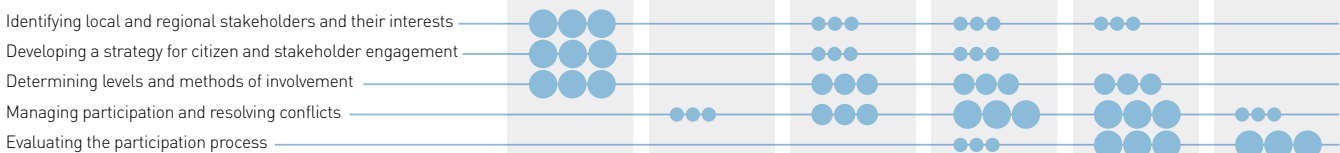
There are also challenges to running an effective participation process. For example, a lack of political support to conduct a SUMP process that takes lay and expert knowledge seriously, inadequate financial resources or limitations in staff capacities. If stakeholders and the public are insufficiently addressed during the SUMP development process, planners might face unexpected interventions and miss opportunities for cooperation. Further, a wide range of involvement tools are available from which the planning authority needs to find the most suitable combination. Finally, inputs from citizens and stakeholders need to be fed back into technical planning and political decision making.

Key tasks in SUMP development

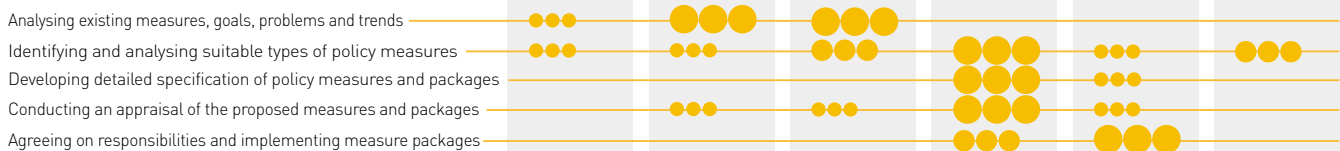
Institutional cooperation



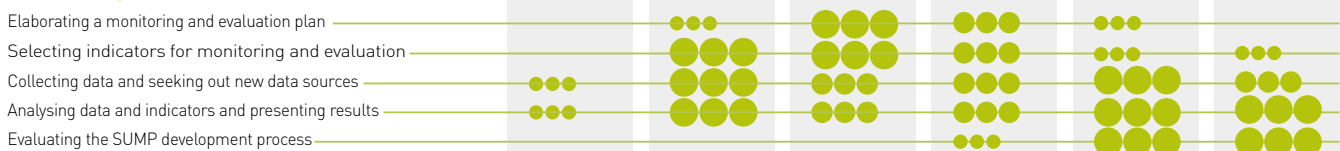
Participation



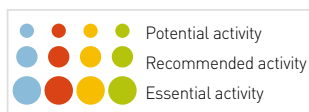
Measure selection



Monitoring & evaluation



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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



Stakeholder meeting in Budapest
Source: BKK Centre for Budapest Transport

Identify clearly the stages in the SUMP cycle for which participation will be pursued

Developing a participation strategy is helpful to define the stages in the SUMP cycle for which citizens and stakeholders will be invited to participate and whether to separate or blend them in terms of timing and format. A participation strategy facilitates coordination and provides transparency about the participation process and its objectives among participants.

Provide everyone with the opportunity to get involved

The participation process should reflect the range of stakeholders and demographic as well as socio-economic diversity who are affected by or affect the development and implementation of the mobility plan. This also includes groups that tend to be difficult to engage. There is a great variety of involvement formats available for SUMP development, each with different levels of collaboration (e.g. crowdsourcing local mobility information, interactive vision development, commenting on the draft mobility plan). The planning team should review face-to-face and online involvement tools for participation and select the most appropriate methods for each stage in the SUMP cycle and each group of participants.

Record and analyse the input received systematically and transparently

Input from citizens and stakeholders needs to be documented, reviewed and analysed. It is important to be clear and open about the SUMP development process and transparent about how decisions will be made. Dialogues should be open and respectful while accepting that it will not necessarily be possible to pursue every suggestion.

Secure sufficient resources to prepare and carry out the participation process

The overall participation concept should be appropriate to the local context, experience, skills, resources and capacities. Planning and coordinating participation activities requires substantial efforts and time. This also includes thorough monitoring and quality control to track progress and take corrective actions as needed. Resources should also be reserved for critically reviewing the effectiveness of the participation process in order to enhance participation in future SUMPs. Developing a quality participation culture is a learning and knowledge development process for the authority organising participation, and also its citizens and stakeholders.

Are you curious to know more?

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



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

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For more information

European Platform on Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans
www.eltis.org/mobility-plans
E-mail: enquiries@mobilityplans.eu

European Commission
Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport
Unit C.1 - Clean transport & sustainable urban mobility
Rue Jean-André de Mot 28
B-1049 Brussels

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Authors: Miriam Lindenau and Susanne Böhler-Baedeker, Rupprecht Consult
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