



SUITS Final Digital Conference

Join us virtually

Enhancing the capacity of small-medium local
authorities to deliver on green sustainable mobility

24th – 25th February 2021

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SUITS Final Digital Conference: Enhancing the capacity of small-medium local authorities to deliver on green sustainable mobility

The SUITS Final Digital Conference “Enhancing the capacity of small-medium local authorities to deliver on green sustainable mobility”, will take place on the 24th & 25th February 2021.

In a world of change, Local Authorities need to stay ahead the curve – though, it is harder for small and medium sized authorities to innovate, than their larger counterparts. Current research has shown that capacity gaps in small – medium local authorities’ knowledge and work practices, which may have arisen due government and economic cutbacks, re-organisation, changing technology (e.g. opendata), new business entrants, shifts in mobility, changing expectations of citizens (greener transportation) and new directives (e.g. in terms of financing and procurement), exist. Significantly, these gaps impact at individual, organisational and institutional levels, all of which need to be recognised in a far-reaching capacity building programme capable of making transport departments resilient and responsive to new challenges.

The SUITS project research proves that investing in capacity building of local authorities in Small-Medium cities, results fast to successful implementation of transport strategies and measures for green sustainable mobility; being a vital step to SUMP’s successful implementation.

The SUITS Consortium invites representatives from cities authorities, local regional bodies, national and regional authorities, regulators, policy makers, civil society, the larger scientific community, transport industry, transport service providers, civil society, media representatives, research institutions and academics working in the fields of transport and sustainable mobility to discuss the challenges associated with the capacity building of small-medium cities as to stimulate innovation in transport concepts and services through a citizen-oriented socioeconomic approach.

Join us virtually, to innovative results’ presentation, vivid debates and focus on realistic implementation of sustainable mobility measures in cities!

Programme

Day 1: 24th February 2021

12:00 – 12:30 Opening statements & Keynote speech

12:40 - 13:35 Policy innovation on Green Sustainable Mobility; role of SUMPs

This session will discuss the role of SUMPs as a key contributor in addressing traffic congestion, poor air quality, and inefficient transport systems that continue to impact upon lives across Europe and the world. With over 70% of EU citizens currently living in urban areas, Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs), as instruments of policy innovation have a great potential in strengthening and accelerating the transition towards Green Sustainable Mobility. Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans provide the policy framework for a shift towards more sustainable modes of transport in our cities.

A panel of key stakeholders representing policy makers, cities, researchers and industry, will discuss the role of local policies and initiatives to lead and guarantee a shift to green sustainable mobility to improve citizens' quality of life, to make cities more liveable.

13:45 – 15:15 Capacity building in small-medium Cities' Authorities

This session will showcase the Capacity building process in Cities' Local Authorities, with special emphasis on the learning process and transfer of knowledge to smaller sized cities, making them more effective and resilient to change and to the implementation of sustainable transport measures.

Invited speakers will discuss how a validated capacity building program is a key driving force and a prerequisite for the design and implementation of innovative transport measures and will present which resource learning assets (modules, e-learning material, webinars and workshops) and decision support tools (on procurement, financing, engagement of new business partners and handling of data) are the constitutional elements for such a program.

15:30 – 17:15 Innovative financing, procurement, bankable projects

This session will shed light to the policy perspective of innovative financing, procurement and the design of bankable projects on sustainable mobility. The new public procurement regulations are aimed mainly at simplifying the public procurement process and making it more flexible, while there is a dominant structure of transport and mobility finance for municipalities.

A panel of Invited speakers will discuss how in practice, the cities can benefit from innovative financing schemes and procurement tools in order to improve their transport systems and become more sustainable and organized.

End of Day 1

Day 2: 25th February 2021

10:00 – 11:30 Organizational Change for resilient Local Authorities

This session will focus on the organizational aspects for the implementation of innovative transport measures by local authorities. The panel will present best practices and ways for the reorganization of transport/mobility and planning departments of local authorities in order to increase their capability to develop and implement innovative transport measures.

A panel of invited speakers from Cities' Local Authorities, researchers and practitioners; will discuss on how local authorities could deal with the relevant challenges, use new technology and make their organizations more adaptable and flexible, to overcome future and unforeseen developments.

11:45 – 13:15 Tools for the Analysis and Exploitation of Mobility Data by Small-Medium cities

This session is to shed light on the possibilities for the exploitation of the open, legacy and real-time transport data by cities. Improving mobility and transport in cities should be based on scientific evidence. Through the collection of real traffic data in urban areas with the use of affordable technologies and the deployment of data analysis tools, cities can benefit substantially in many areas and would be in a better position to design and implement sustainable mobility measures that are realistic and efficient.

A panel of invited speakers from cities and industry will share their experiences on tested technologies and tools, that augment the benefits from transport data exploitation in the design and implementation of innovative urban mobility plans.

13:15 – 13:40 Wrap up of the SUITS conference

End of Day 2
