“Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans”

Siegfried Rupprecht,
Rupprecht Consult GmbH, Köln

POLIS Conference, Dresden, 25 Nov 2010
Do we need a new "planning culture"?
Do we need a new "planning culture"?

- Will we be able to cope with the grand urban (mobility) challenges?
  - Climate change
  - Resource shortage
  - Environmental quality loss
  - Urban growth & shrinkage
  - Informisation
  - Economic growth
  - Financial instability
  - Equity & social cohesion

- How will we deal with uncertainty and risk?
- How can we bring together conflicting interests and people?
- How to address the "complex world" and "loss of credibility" issues?
What could be elements of a new "planning culture"?

- Requiring active **involvement** of all stakeholders and the engagement of citizens
- Being fully committed to **sustainability**, i.e. balancing social equity, environmental quality and economic development
- Looking "**beyond the borders**"
  - an integrated approach between policy **sectors**
  - cooperation between **authority** levels
  - coordination across **neighbouring** authorities
- Focusing on achieving ambitious, measurable **targets**
- Targeting **cost internalisation** i.e. reviewing transport costs and benefits for society
- Including all steps of the **project life cycle**
What are European institutions thinking about the need for better planning?

- The **European Council of Ministers** "supports the development of sustainable urban mobility plans for cities and metropolitan areas" (Luxembourg, 24 June 2010), it:
  - "supports the initiatives … to adopt an **integrated policy approach**"
  - "recognises that policies … can be conducted most efficiently through a **cooperation between competent public bodies**"
  - "considers that **public participation** processes favour the inclusion of stakeholders including all social groups"
  - "encourages the coordination of transport **infrastructure and service planning with town and country planning**, including land use planning"
What is the status of sustainable urban mobility planning in Europe?

- Very different legal frameworks and practices
  - countries with a **legal requirement** (PDU, LTP, PUM…)
  - countries/regions with a (favourable) **push-pull** framework
  - countries **without an effective framework** for sustainable urban mobility planning

- EU Response:
  - **Expert Group** on "SUTP" (2004)
  - **Thematic Strategy** for the Urban Environment (2005)
  - **PILOT** and **BUSTRIP** Projects (2005 – 07)
  - Action 1 of the EC **Action Plan on Urban Mobility** (2009): Accelerating the take-up of sustainable urban mobility plans
  - **ELTIS Plus** / SUMP project (since May 2010)
  - SUMP = eligibility criterion for **CIVITAS Plus II** Call
  - … a growing concern that public (European) funding needs to be based on **good quality planning** (e.g. discussion on future cohesion policy!)
Principles of Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning

- **Preparation** Process
  - policy coordination through actor cooperation
  - stakeholder and citizen involvement
  - include urban and peri-urban areas (the "functional city")

- **Content of SUM-Plan**
  - committed to sustainability
  - integrative: multimodal, passenger and freight, other sectoral policies
  - consider social inclusion and gender equity
  - committed to achieving measurable targets
  - monitoring and evaluation provide input to an innovative policy process
  - rationalising policy development and implementation

- **Perspective** for cities in the EU
  - builds on existing practices and regulatory frameworks
  - creates an opportunity for improving planning practices through exchange
  - needs to grow from and within local authorities
Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning in Practice

Benefits and drivers
- Social capital increase and behavioural change
- Stakeholder acceptance and responsibility
- Mobilisation of resources (public and private)
- “Requisite variety” of policies (better policy choice)
- Innovation leaps
- (Gradual) target achievement
- Cost efficiency (long-term)
- Political capital (process)
- Internalised external costs
- Compliance with EU Directives, policies and practises
- …

Barriers
- Resistance to change: transport planning cultures, discourses and routines
- Unfavourable regulatory frameworks: territories, competencies, subsidies, election periods, …
- Longer processes
- Complexity and “wicked problems“
- Knowledge gaps (planners, stakeholders)
- Higher costs (short-term)
- Political risk (outcomes)
- …
Action Plan on Urban Mobility

- **Action 1 — Accelerating the take-up of sustainable urban mobility plans**
  - EC will **support local authorities** in developing sustainable urban mobility plans covering freight and passenger transport in urban and peri-urban areas.
  - It will provide **guidance material**, promote **best practice exchange**, identify **benchmarks**, and support **educational activities** for urban mobility professionals.
  - EC could take further steps, for example through **incentives and recommendations**.
  - Whenever possible, the Commission will **encourage Member States** to provide platforms for mutual learning and sharing of experiences and best practices that would foster the development of sustainable urban mobility policies.
  - The Commission will also introduce an urban mobility dimension in the **Covenant of Mayors** in order to promote an **integrated approach** linking energy and climate change with transport. It will encourage the incorporation of transport and mobility issues in the **Sustainable Energy Action Plans** to be prepared by the cities participating in the Covenant.

What is the ELTISplus Project doing to promote SUMP?

Based on Action Plan on Urban Mobility (2009):
- **Aim**: To accelerate the **large scale uptake** of sustainable urban mobility plans by local and regional authorities
- By means of:
  - Differentiated **recommendations**
  - **Training** material and events
  - **Awareness raising**, dissemination and promotion

Knowledge **consolidation, awareness** raising and **training** on sustainable urban mobility plans in 31 European countries
- 27 EU Member States, Croatia, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway
- 13 partner consortium, working May 2010 – **April 2013**
- service contract granted by the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI)
- SUMP-related work is co-ordinated by Rupprecht Consult, DE (under overall “ELTISplus” co-ordination by FGM AMOR, AT)
An example of work in progress …

The eleven elements of Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning in Europe:

- practical guidance for practitioners
- quality criteria for planning, plans, implementation and reflection
- further explained in 35 steps
- enriched by good practice examples
- to be finalised soon
- widely promoted all over Europe
The "The Transport Policy Innovation Cycle"

European policy context

National (regional) framework (policy, regulations, funding, …)

Decision for "SUMP"

"SUMP" Development Process

Process evaluation

Local context (policies, actors, practices, …)

Preparation

Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan

Adoption

Implementation of Measures

Impact evaluation

Review & monitoring

Policy Impacts

Appraisal

Coordination & exchange

Innovation process

Policy & knowledge development

European policy context

National (regional) framework (policy, regulations, funding, …)

Decision for "SUMP"

"SUMP" Development Process

Process evaluation

Local context (policies, actors, practices, …)

Preparation

Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan

Adoption

Implementation of Measures

Impact evaluation

Review & monitoring

Policy Impacts

Appraisal

Coordination & exchange

Innovation process

Policy & knowledge development

POLIS Conference, Dresden, 25 Nov 2010
Getting involved

- Website and Helpdesk (launch in Jan 2011?)
  - www.mobilityplans.eu
  - www.eltis.org

- Direct contact:
  - Frank Wefering
  - f.wefering@rupprecht-consult.eu
  - +49.221.60 60 55 13