

## School Bike Planner for the Frankfurt Rhine-Main Region

Effective measures for SUMP implementation

Germany – Frankfurt Rhine-Main

### → Context, objectives and target group

Cycling to school is a sustainable and healthy way to foster an independent mobility behaviour. A web-based school bike planner helps pupils and their parents to find the best routes from home to school, targeting existing safety risks and fears.

### → Description of the activities

School bike plans were developed for all secondary schools in the Frankfurt Rhine-Main region (7 districts, 8 main cities). As a first step, professional planners surveyed the public street network to draft usable routes between schools and residential areas.

Secondly, pupils got the chance to participate in the planning process during school projects providing their local knowledge and ideas. These projects were individually designed according to the schools' needs and prerequisites, and age and level of knowledge of the participants. They learned how to use maps as well as to plan their own route with the web-based school bike planner. Students analysed the biking infrastructure around their school and in the municipality by walking or cycling, followed by intensive discussions about the best, safest and fastest bike routes to school. Critical points were marked and complemented by advice on how to act in these situations, also appearing in the school bike planner. Questions of mobility behaviour, related environmental, social and health issues as well as the process of mobility planning, became more relevant for the older participants, which used the opportunity get an insight into the work of a professional planner.



Afterwards, the routes were finalised during advisory board meetings together with all relevant stakeholders before they were published online. The competition “Schulradeln” was launched in parallel together with the partner Climate Alliance to encourage cycling to school and raise awareness about the school bike planner.

### → Communication

- 15 letters to local politics
- 23,000 project fliers distributed
- 33 advisory committee meetings
- 12 articles and presentations to professionals
- 50 public information events
- 25 press releases
- 24,000 fliers distributed for the competition

### → Costs and who paid them

The project “Schülerradrouthenetz Region Frankfurt Rhein-Main” was funded by the German Ministry for Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) under the National Cycle Transport Scheme between 2013 and 2015 (total project costs: approx. €300,000 – BMVI share: 80 %, IVM share: 20 %).

## → Project objectives, indicators, data and impact/results

OBJECTIVE	INDICATOR	DATA USED	IMPACT/RESULTS
Number of schools connected to the dedicated bicycle route network (2013–2015)	Number of school projects involving pupils in planning (2013–2015)	Number of pupils, parents, teachers, politicians and other stakeholders involved in planning (2013–2015)	Number of kilometres cycled during the competition “Schulradeln” (2015)
250	110	2,500	152,000

- experiences summarised in guidelines
- competition will be continued annually and extended to other regions
- regular information for schools continued
- activities to transfer the concept to other regions within Germany
- the planner has become a measure for local mobility plans
- mobile app available

### → Barriers

- getting schools (and teachers) engaged in school projects is difficult due to different “mobility cultures”, difficult prerequisites, a lack of resources and interest and competition with other topics
- constant and increased communication and approach, using politicians as leading figures, delivering ready-made projects can help but don’t lead to a 100% activation

### → Drivers

- using politicians as leading figures
- promotional activities within existing networks
- incorporating a wide range of possible local and regional stakeholders, especially pupils in planning activities
- support of local administration

### → Contact information

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### → Details

The school bike planner is part of the program “Better to School” – mobility management for schools in the Frankfurt Rhine-Main region, provided by ivm.  
[www.radroutenplaner.hessen.de/schule](http://www.radroutenplaner.hessen.de/schule)



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