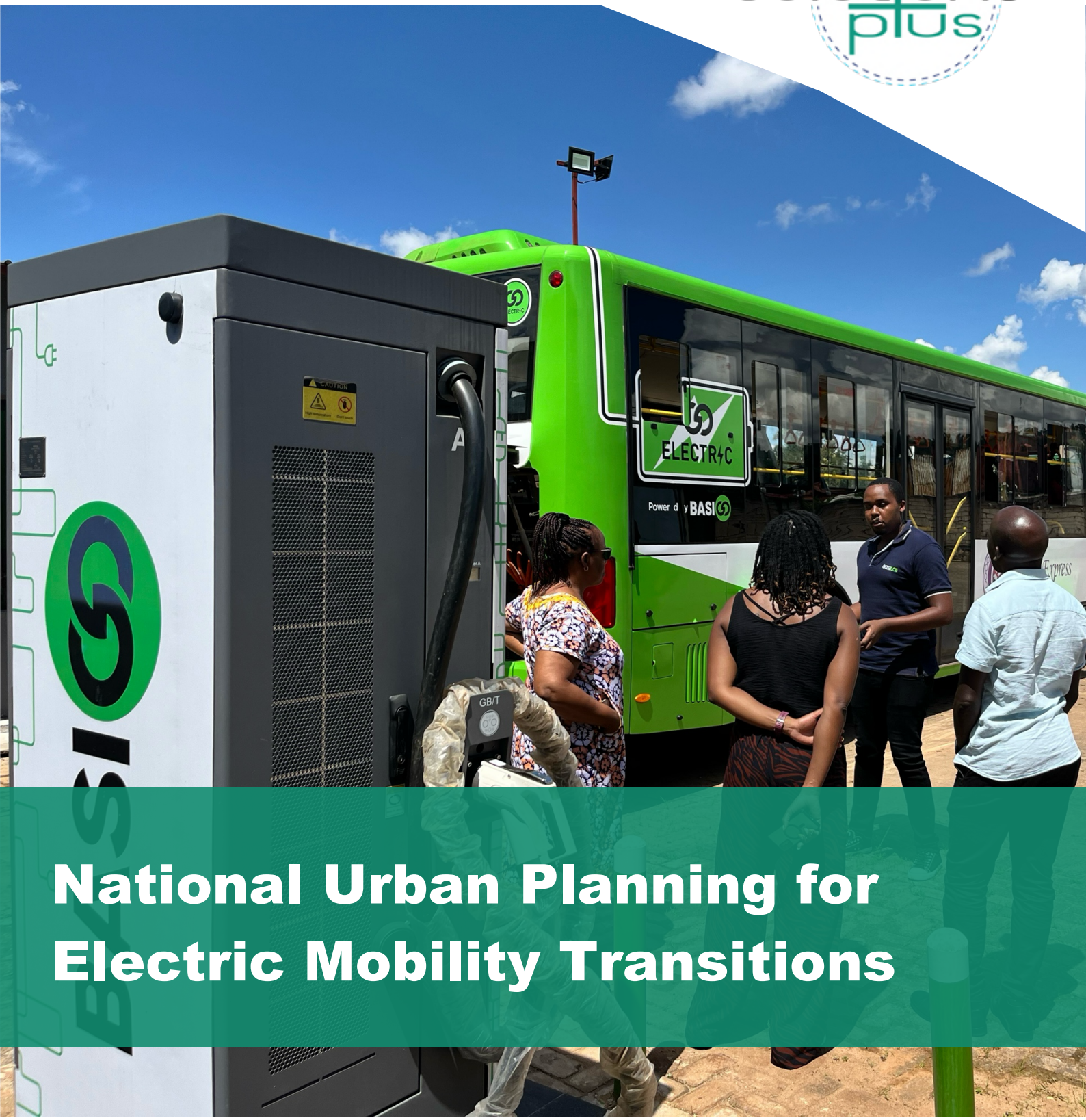

National Urban Planning for Electric Mobility Transitions

This project has received funding from the European Union Horizon 2020 research and innovation Programme under grant agreement no. 875041

PROJECT PARTNERS

ABOUT

This report has been prepared for the project SOLUTIONSplus. The project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the grant agreement no. 875041

TITLE

National Urban Planning for Electric Mobility Transitions

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All the pictures are provided by the SOL+ partners

June, 2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The transition to electric mobility (e-mobility) is a critical step toward achieving sustainable urban mobility, addressing climate change, and improving air quality in cities worldwide. This publication provides a comprehensive guide for national policymakers on how to foster e-mobility through strategic planning, policy development, and the promotion of local businesses and innovative technologies. Drawing heavily from the SOLUTIONSplus initiative and its practical experiences in implementing e-mobility solutions across various urban contexts, this report outlines key strategies and actions that can be taken to ensure the successful integration of e-mobility into national and urban transport systems.

Chapter 1 focuses on the integration of e-mobility within National Urban Mobility Policies (NUMPs), emphasizing the need for a holistic approach that includes infrastructure development, regulatory frameworks, and supportive business environments. It discusses the critical role of NUMPs in aligning national and local policies to foster e-mobility and ensure that it contributes to broader sustainability goals while fostering economic opportunities.

Chapter 2 delves into the planning principles that underpin sustainable mobility and the transition to e-mobility. It emphasizes the importance of integrating land use and transport planning, ensuring equity and inclusion, and promoting resilience and innovation. The chapter provides guidance for national policymakers on how to incorporate these principles into their strategies, drawing on international guidelines and best practices.

Chapter 3 explores the role of participatory methods, such as Living Labs, in national and urban planning. It highlights the importance of involving diverse stakeholders in the planning process to ensure that e-mobility solutions are inclusive, responsive, and innovative. The chapter draws on the experiences of the SOLUTIONSplus initiative, showcasing how Living Labs have been used effectively to develop and test e-mobility solutions in real-world settings.

Chapter 4 offers specific recommendations for national policymakers on how to promote e-mobility, focusing on practical implementation, the role of local businesses, and the integration of innovative technologies into urban mobility systems. It includes strategies for developing comprehensive e-mobility policies, supporting the development of charging infrastructure, fostering the growth of local e-mobility industries, promoting public awareness, and leveraging innovative technologies.

This publication serves as a strategic resource for national governments looking to lead the transition to e-mobility and create more sustainable, resilient, and inclusive urban environments. By adopting the recommendations outlined in this report, policymakers can ensure that e-mobility becomes a central component of their national urban mobility strategies, contributing to a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future.

1. E-Mobility in the Context of National Urban Mobility Policies (NUMPs)

Urban mobility lies at the intersection of numerous national and global development goals, impacting everything from economic growth and social inclusion to environmental sustainability. As urbanization continues to accelerate, particularly in developing and emerging economies, cities are confronted with the challenge of creating transport systems that are efficient, accessible, and sustainable. National Urban Mobility Policies (NUMPs) are instrumental in guiding this transition, particularly in the context of promoting electric mobility (e-mobility) as a key strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving urban air quality.

This chapter delves into the integration of e-mobility within the NUMP framework, offering guidance to national policymakers on fostering e-mobility and associated local businesses. The discussion draws heavily from the SOLUTIONSplus initiative, which provides innovative solutions and Living Labs for implementing e-mobility in various urban contexts.

E-Mobility as a Catalyst for Sustainable Urban Mobility

E-mobility, which encompasses electric vehicles (EVs) including buses, cars, two- and three-wheelers, and freight vehicles, is a critical component of sustainable urban mobility strategies. It addresses multiple urban challenges simultaneously, such as reducing dependency on fossil fuels, improving air quality, lowering noise pollution, and enhancing energy security. However, the successful integration of e-mobility into urban transport systems requires more than just the deployment of electric vehicles; it necessitates a comprehensive approach that includes infrastructure development, regulatory frameworks, and the promotion of supportive business environments.

NUMPs serve as the overarching strategic framework that guides cities in adopting and scaling up e-mobility solutions. By aligning national and local policies, NUMPs ensure that the transition to e-mobility contributes to broader sustainability goals while also fostering economic opportunities in the growing e-mobility sector.

Policy Integration and Governance for E-Mobility

Policy Integration: The transition to e-mobility requires the integration of policies across various sectors, including transport, energy, environment, and urban development. NUMPs provide the necessary framework to ensure that e-mobility policies are not developed in isolation but are instead coordinated with national energy policies, climate action plans, and urban development strategies. For instance, the deployment of EVs must be accompanied by policies that support the development of charging infrastructure, incentivize the adoption of EVs, and promote the use of renewable energy for charging.

Governance and Institutional Coordination: Effective governance is essential for the success of e-mobility initiatives. NUMPs help establish clear roles and responsibilities among national and local governments, private sector stakeholders, and civil society. The SOLUTIONSplus initiative, through its Living Labs, demonstrates the importance of involving a diverse range of stakeholders in the planning and implementation of e-mobility projects. These Living Labs, which are real-world environments where e-mobility solutions are tested and refined, provide valuable insights into the governance structures that support successful e-mobility transitions.

Investment and Financing Strategies

The transition to e-mobility is capital-intensive, requiring significant investments in infrastructure, such as charging stations, grid enhancements, and the electrification of public transport fleets. NUMPs outline the investment priorities and financing mechanisms necessary to support these transitions. By providing a clear framework for investment, NUMPs can attract both public and private financing for e-mobility projects.

Innovative Financing Mechanisms: The SOLUTIONSplus initiative highlights several innovative financing mechanisms that can be employed to support e-mobility transitions. These include public-private partnerships (PPPs), which leverage private investment to finance the deployment of charging infrastructure and electric public transport vehicles. Additionally, national governments can explore the use of green bonds, climate funds, and international development finance to support e-mobility projects. NUMPs can play a crucial role in coordinating these various funding sources to ensure that they are aligned with national e-mobility goals.

Supporting Local Businesses: E-mobility transitions also present opportunities for local businesses, particularly in the manufacturing, maintenance, and operation of EVs and related infrastructure. NUMPs can support the growth of local e-mobility industries by providing incentives for local production, creating favorable business environments, and facilitating access to finance for startups and small businesses. The SOLUTIONSplus Startup Hubs are an example of how local businesses can be nurtured to develop innovative e-mobility solutions that are tailored to the specific needs of their cities.

Fostering Public Participation and Stakeholder Engagement

Public participation and stakeholder engagement are critical for the successful implementation of e-mobility initiatives. NUMPs emphasize the importance of involving citizens, businesses, and other stakeholders in the planning process. This engagement helps build public support for e-mobility projects and ensures that the solutions developed meet the needs of all urban residents.

Living Labs as a Model for Participation: The Living Labs created under the SOLUTIONSplus initiative provide a model for how public participation can be effectively integrated into the development of e-mobility solutions. These labs bring together stakeholders from various sectors, including government, industry, academia, and civil society, to co-create and test e-mobility innovations. By involving stakeholders in the early stages of project development, Living Labs ensure that the solutions developed are both technically feasible and socially acceptable.

Building Public Awareness: In addition to direct participation, NUMPs can promote public awareness of the benefits of e-mobility through education campaigns and incentive programs. This is particularly important in contexts where there may be resistance to change or where the benefits of e-mobility are not well understood. By raising awareness and demonstrating the advantages of e-mobility, NUMPs can help accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles and other sustainable transport solutions.

Ensuring Accountability and Continuous Improvement

NUMPs include mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the progress of urban mobility initiatives, including e-mobility. This allows for the continuous assessment of the impact of e-mobility projects and enables adjustments to be made to ensure that policy goals are being met.

Metrics and Indicators: Effective monitoring requires the development of clear metrics and indicators that can track the performance of e-mobility initiatives. The SOLUTIONSplus initiative provides a set of core impact indicators that can be used to assess the effectiveness of e-mobility projects, including reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, improvements in air quality, and increases in the use of electric vehicles. These indicators can be incorporated into NUMPs to provide a standardized framework for evaluating the success of e-mobility transitions.

Adaptive Policy Making: The dynamic nature of urban mobility requires that policies be adaptable to changing circumstances. NUMPs should include provisions for the regular review and updating of e-mobility policies based on the results of monitoring and evaluation activities. This ensures that policies remain relevant and effective in the face of new challenges and opportunities.

Implementing E-Mobility in Emerging Economies through NUMPs and SOLUTIONSplus Innovations

In emerging economies, where urbanization is rapid and transport systems are often underdeveloped, NUMPs are particularly important for guiding the transition to e-mobility. For example, in many African and Asian cities, the informal transport sector, including minibuses and motorized two-wheelers, plays a significant role in urban mobility. NUMPs can help integrate e-mobility solutions into these informal systems, providing cleaner and more efficient transport options. The SOLUTIONSplus initiative has demonstrated the potential of e-mobility innovations in these contexts through its Living Labs in cities such as Dar es Salaam, Kigali, and Hanoi. These labs have piloted a range of e-mobility solutions, from electric motorcycles and three-wheelers to e-buses and charging infrastructure. The lessons learned from these pilots are invaluable for informing national policy makers on how to scale up e-mobility across different urban contexts. Moreover, NUMPs can leverage international climate finance to support e-mobility transitions in emerging economies. By aligning national urban mobility goals with international climate commitments, NUMPs can help countries access funding for e-mobility projects, such as the electrification of public transport fleets or the development of charging infrastructure.

National Urban Mobility Policies provide the framework needed to guide the transition to e-mobility, ensuring that it contributes to broader national and global sustainability goals. By addressing the challenges and harnessing the opportunities of e-mobility, NUMPs can help cities and nations build cleaner, more efficient, and more inclusive urban transport systems. SOLUTIONSplus, through its Living Labs and Startup Hubs, offers practical examples and insights that can inform national policymakers as they develop and implement NUMPs. By incorporating these lessons into their policy frameworks, national governments can foster the growth of e-mobility and associated local businesses, ensuring that the benefits of this transition are widely shared. In the following chapters, we will explore in greater detail the specific strategies and actions that NUMPs can employ to promote the adoption of e-mobility solutions, focusing on practical implementation and the role of local businesses in driving innovation and economic growth.

2. Planning Principles in the Context of Sustainable Mobility and Electric Mobility

Urban planning plays a crucial role in shaping sustainable and resilient cities. As cities worldwide confront the dual challenges of rapid urbanization and climate change, sustainable mobility, including the integration of electric mobility (e-mobility), becomes a key component of urban and territorial planning. Effective planning not only ensures that mobility systems are efficient and equitable but also that they contribute positively to environmental goals, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality.

This chapter explores the planning principles that underpin sustainable mobility and the transition to e-mobility, drawing extensively from international guidelines, case studies, and theoretical frameworks. It provides guidance for national policymakers and urban planners on how to incorporate these principles into their strategies, with a particular focus on the innovations and approaches promoted by the SOLUTIONSplus initiative.

Integrating Sustainable Mobility into Urban and Territorial Planning

Urban and territorial planning is essential for creating the conditions necessary for sustainable mobility. It involves not just the physical layout of cities but also the policies, regulations, and institutional frameworks that govern the development and operation of transport systems. As outlined in the *International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning* by UN-Habitat, planning should be seen as an integrative process that balances economic, social, and environmental objectives .

Planning for sustainable mobility requires an approach that considers the entire urban system. This includes the integration of land use and transport planning, which helps reduce the need for long commutes, promotes the use of public transport, and encourages non-motorized transport modes like walking and cycling. The planning process must also address issues such as accessibility, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability, ensuring that mobility solutions are equitable and beneficial to all segments of the population.

Principles of Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning

The principles of sustainable urban mobility planning (SUMP) provide a framework for cities to develop transport systems that meet the needs of their residents while minimizing environmental impacts. These principles, which have been widely adopted and adapted by cities around the world, include:

1. **Integrated Planning**: Mobility planning must be integrated with broader urban and territorial planning efforts. This means coordinating transport policies with land use, economic development, housing, and environmental protection strategies .
2. **Sustainability**: The planning process must prioritize sustainability, focusing on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving air quality, and promoting the use of renewable energy. E-mobility, with its potential to decarbonize the transport sector, is a critical component of this effort .
3. **Equity and Inclusion**: Sustainable mobility plans must ensure that transport systems are accessible to all, including marginalized and vulnerable groups. This includes ensuring affordable access to public transport and developing infrastructure that supports walking and cycling .

4. **Resilience**: Urban mobility systems must be resilient to the impacts of climate change and other external shocks. This involves planning for infrastructure that can withstand extreme weather events and developing strategies to maintain mobility during crises .
5. **Innovation and Flexibility**: The rapid pace of technological change, particularly in the field of e-mobility, requires that urban mobility plans be flexible and adaptable. Cities must be open to experimenting with new technologies and approaches, such as electric vehicle (EV) sharing schemes and smart mobility solutions .

E-Mobility as a Decarbonization Strategy

E-mobility is a key strategy for decarbonizing the transport sector. It involves the transition from internal combustion engine vehicles to electric vehicles, which produce zero tailpipe emissions and can be powered by renewable energy sources. The adoption of e-mobility is critical for cities aiming to meet their climate targets, as the transport sector is one of the largest contributors to urban greenhouse gas emissions .

National and local governments have a crucial role in facilitating the transition to e-mobility. This includes developing policies that incentivize the adoption of EVs, investing in charging infrastructure, and integrating e-mobility into public transport systems. For example, the SOLUTIONSplus initiative has demonstrated the potential of e-mobility through its Living Labs, where electric buses, scooters, and other vehicles are tested in real-world urban environments .

Planning for E-Mobility Infrastructure

The successful deployment of e-mobility requires careful planning and investment in infrastructure. This includes the development of charging networks that are accessible, reliable, and strategically located. Urban planners must consider a range of factors when designing charging infrastructure, such as the availability of space, the existing electricity grid capacity, and the needs of different types of users (e.g., private vehicles, public transport, freight).

In addition to charging infrastructure, cities must plan for the integration of e-mobility into the broader transport system. This involves creating synergies between EVs and other modes of transport, such as buses and bicycles, and ensuring that e-mobility solutions are compatible with public transport networks. For instance, charging stations can be co-located with bus depots or bike-sharing stations to create integrated mobility hubs .

Regulatory and Policy Frameworks

A supportive regulatory and policy framework is essential for promoting e-mobility. National governments can set the direction by establishing emissions reduction targets, providing financial incentives for EV adoption, and regulating vehicle emissions standards. Local governments, in turn, can implement policies that encourage the use of EVs, such as low-emission zones, preferential parking for EVs, and the development of EV-only lanes.

The *International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning* emphasize the importance of creating legal and institutional frameworks that support the implementation of sustainable urban mobility plans. This includes the development

of policies that promote the use of clean energy, regulate land use to encourage compact and mixed-use development, and incentivize the adoption of low-carbon technologies .

The Role of Living Labs in Advancing E-Mobility

The SOLUTIONSplus initiative's Living Labs provide a practical example of how e-mobility can be integrated into urban planning. These labs, which are established in cities around the world, serve as testbeds for innovative e-mobility solutions. For example, in the Living Lab in Dar es Salaam, electric motorcycles are being tested as a clean alternative to conventional motorcycles, which are a major source of air pollution in the city .

The success of these Living Labs depends on close collaboration between national and local governments, private sector partners, and civil society. By involving a wide range of stakeholders in the planning and implementation process, the Living Labs ensure that the solutions developed are both technically feasible and socially acceptable.

Good Practices in E-Mobility Planning

Several cities around the world have successfully integrated e-mobility into their urban planning frameworks, providing valuable lessons for others. Key best practices include:

1. **Public-Private Partnerships**: Cities like Amsterdam and Oslo have leveraged public-private partnerships to develop extensive EV charging networks. These partnerships have enabled the rapid deployment of infrastructure while minimizing public costs .
2. **Incentives for EV Adoption**: Financial incentives, such as subsidies and tax rebates, have been effective in increasing EV adoption in cities like Shenzhen and San Francisco. These incentives reduce the upfront cost of EVs, making them more accessible to a wider range of consumers .
3. **Integration with Public Transport**: Integrating EVs with public transport systems has been a successful strategy in cities like Vienna, where electric buses and trams are key components of the city's sustainable mobility strategy. This integration helps reduce emissions from public transport and encourages the use of clean energy .

Challenges in Planning for E-Mobility

Despite the clear benefits of e-mobility, there are several challenges that cities and national governments must address. These include the high upfront costs of EVs and charging infrastructure, the need for significant investments in electricity grid capacity, and the development of supportive regulatory frameworks. Additionally, the transition to e-mobility requires changes in consumer behavior, which can be difficult to achieve without effective public education and awareness campaigns .

Opportunities for Innovation and Economic Growth

The transition to e-mobility also presents significant opportunities for innovation and economic growth. The development of new technologies, such as advanced batteries and smart charging systems, can drive economic development and create new jobs. Moreover, by positioning themselves as leaders in e-mobility, cities can

attract investment and enhance their global competitiveness.

The SOLUTIONSplus initiative's focus on fostering local businesses and startups in the e-mobility sector is an example of how cities can capitalize on these opportunities. By supporting the growth of local companies that develop and deploy e-mobility solutions, cities can create new economic opportunities while advancing their sustainability goals .

Planning for sustainable mobility, including the integration of e-mobility, is essential for building resilient and sustainable cities. The principles outlined in this chapter provide a framework for national and local governments to develop mobility systems that are efficient, equitable, and environmentally sustainable. By adopting these principles and learning from the experiences of cities around the world, governments can ensure that their mobility systems contribute to broader urban development goals while also addressing the urgent challenge of climate change.

The next chapters will continue to explore the specific strategies and actions that national policymakers can employ to promote e-mobility, focusing on practical implementation, the role of local businesses, and the integration of innovative technologies into urban mobility systems.

3. The Role of Participatory Methods in National and Urban Planning: Insights from Living Labs and the SOLUTIONSplus Experience

Participatory planning has emerged as a crucial component of modern urban development, particularly in the context of sustainable mobility and e-mobility transitions. Participatory methods, such as Living Labs, play a significant role in ensuring that urban planning processes are inclusive, responsive, and innovative. These approaches allow for the co-creation of solutions by involving a diverse range of stakeholders, including citizens, businesses, governments, and academic institutions. This chapter delves into the role of participatory methods in national and urban planning, drawing extensively from the experiences and learnings of the SOLUTIONSplus initiative, which has implemented Living Labs across various global cities.

The Importance of Participatory Planning in Urban Development

Urban planning has traditionally been a top-down process, with decisions made by a centralized authority. However, this approach often overlooks the needs and perspectives of local communities and other stakeholders, leading to outcomes that may not be fully aligned with the actual requirements of the urban population. Participatory planning seeks to address this gap by involving stakeholders directly in the planning process. This method ensures that the solutions developed are more likely to be accepted, effective, and sustainable.

Participatory planning is particularly important in the context of sustainable mobility and e-mobility transitions. These transitions require not only technological innovations but also changes in behavior, infrastructure, and policy. Engaging stakeholders through participatory methods helps to build the necessary consensus and commitment to these changes.

Living Labs as a Participatory Method in Urban Planning

What Are Living Labs?

Living Labs are user-centered, open innovation ecosystems based on a systematic user co-creation approach, integrating research and innovation processes in real-life communities and settings. They are environments where different stakeholders work together to co-create, develop, and test new services, products, or solutions in real-world settings. In the context of urban planning, Living Labs provide a dynamic platform for experimenting with sustainable mobility solutions, including e-mobility.

The SOLUTIONSplus initiative has been at the forefront of implementing Living Labs to foster sustainable urban mobility. These labs serve as platforms for collaborative innovation, bringing together a wide range of stakeholders to co-create solutions tailored to the specific needs and conditions of the local context .

Key Features of Living Labs

Living Labs are characterized by several key features that make them effective in

participatory urban planning:

1. **Geographical Embeddedness**: Living Labs are situated within a specific physical environment, ranging from a single neighborhood to an entire city. This geographical focus allows for context-specific experimentation and learning .
2. **Experimentation and Learning**: Innovations are tested in real-world conditions, allowing for iterative learning and adaptation. This feature is critical for developing solutions that are not only innovative but also practical and scalable .
3. **Stakeholder Participation**: A hallmark of Living Labs is the active involvement of a diverse range of stakeholders, including local residents, businesses, government agencies, and academic institutions. This broad participation ensures that the solutions developed are holistic and inclusive .
4. **Leadership and Ownership**: Successful Living Labs require effective leadership and a sense of ownership among participants. Local champions play a crucial role in driving the initiative forward, while the involvement of all stakeholders in decision-making processes ensures shared ownership of the outcomes .
5. **Continuous Evaluation and Refinement**: Living Labs operate on a principle of continuous improvement. Solutions are not only tested but also evaluated and refined based on feedback and data gathered during the experimentation phase. This iterative process ensures that the solutions are effective and adaptable to changing conditions .

The Role of Living Labs in National and Urban Planning

Living Labs have a profound impact on both national and urban planning processes, particularly in the context of sustainable mobility and e-mobility transitions. Their role can be understood through several dimensions:

1. Fostering Innovation and Experimentation

Living Labs provide a structured environment for innovation and experimentation. By bringing together diverse stakeholders, these labs create a fertile ground for generating new ideas and testing them in real-world conditions. In the context of e-mobility, Living Labs have been instrumental in developing and testing electric vehicles, charging infrastructure, and smart mobility solutions.

For instance, in the Dar es Salaam Living Lab, the development and testing of locally adapted electric vehicle prototypes have been a significant focus. This lab has not only fostered innovation in vehicle design but also in business models and policies that support the adoption of e-mobility .

2. Enhancing Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration

One of the primary benefits of Living Labs is their ability to enhance stakeholder engagement and collaboration. By involving a broad range of participants in the planning and development process, Living Labs help to ensure that the solutions developed are responsive to the needs of the community. This inclusive approach also helps to build trust and buy-in from stakeholders, which is crucial for the successful implementation of sustainable mobility projects.

The SOLUTIONSplus initiative has demonstrated the effectiveness of this approach in cities like Kigali and Kathmandu, where local stakeholders, including government agencies, businesses, and community groups, have collaborated to develop e-mobility solutions that are tailored to the unique needs of their cities .

3. Supporting Policy Development and Implementation

Living Labs play a critical role in supporting policy development and implementation at both the national and urban levels. By providing real-world data and insights, these labs inform the development of policies that are grounded in practical experience. Moreover, the collaborative nature of Living Labs ensures that these policies have broad support from key stakeholders, which is essential for their successful implementation.

For example, in the context of the SOLUTIONSplus initiative, Living Labs have provided valuable data and insights that have informed the development of e-mobility policies in several cities. These policies have been designed to support the adoption of electric vehicles, the development of charging infrastructure, and the integration of e-mobility into public transport systems .

4. Scaling and Replicating Successful Initiatives

One of the key challenges in urban planning is scaling and replicating successful initiatives. Living Labs address this challenge by providing a platform for testing solutions in different contexts and gathering data on their effectiveness. This data can then be used to refine the solutions and develop strategies for scaling them up or replicating them in other locations.

The SOLUTIONSplus initiative has placed a strong emphasis on replication and scaling. Successful solutions developed in one Living Lab, such as the electric bus services in Dar es Salaam, are being adapted and implemented in other cities, both within the same country and internationally .

5. Building Capacity and Empowering Local Communities

Living Labs also play a crucial role in building capacity and empowering local communities. Through participatory processes, these labs provide opportunities for local residents and other stakeholders to develop new skills and knowledge. This capacity-building is essential for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the solutions developed.

In the SOLUTIONSplus initiative, capacity-building has been a key focus. Training workshops, seminars, and hands-on learning opportunities have been provided to local stakeholders, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to develop and implement e-mobility solutions .

Case Studies: Living Labs in Action

1. Dar es Salaam Living Lab

In Dar es Salaam, the Living Lab has focused on developing and testing electric vehicle prototypes, including three-wheelers, which are widely used in the city. The lab has brought together local public institutions, research partners, industry stakeholders, and transport operators to co-create solutions that address the city’s unique mobility challenges. The lab has also played a crucial role in developing business models and policies that support the adoption of e-mobility in Dar es Salaam .

2. Kigali Living Lab

The Kigali Living Lab has focused on integrating e-mobility into the city’s public transport system. By involving local stakeholders, including government agencies,

transport operators, and community groups, the lab has developed and tested electric buses and other e-mobility solutions. The lab's work has informed the development of policies and strategies that support the scaling up of e-mobility in Kigali and beyond .

3. Kathmandu Living Lab

In Kathmandu, the Living Lab has been instrumental in developing electric mobility solutions that are tailored to the city's specific needs. The lab has focused on addressing challenges related to charging infrastructure, vehicle design, and policy development. Through a participatory process, the lab has engaged local stakeholders in co-creating solutions that are both innovative and practical .

Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing Living Labs

While Living Labs offer significant benefits, they also present several challenges that need to be addressed to ensure their success:

1. Sustaining Engagement and Commitment

One of the primary challenges in implementing Living Labs is sustaining the engagement and commitment of stakeholders over time. This requires continuous communication, collaboration, and the ability to adapt to changing conditions. Ensuring that all stakeholders feel that their contributions are valued and that they have a stake in the outcomes is crucial for maintaining engagement.

2. Securing Resources and Funding

Another challenge is securing the resources and funding needed to implement and sustain Living Labs. This includes not only financial resources but also the human resources needed to manage and coordinate the lab's activities. Innovative financing models, such as public-private partnerships, can help address this challenge.

3. Managing Diverse Stakeholder Interests

Living Labs involve a wide range of stakeholders, each with their own interests and priorities. Managing these diverse interests can be challenging, particularly when there are conflicting goals. Effective facilitation and negotiation are essential for ensuring that all stakeholders can work together towards a common goal.

4. Ensuring Long-Term Sustainability

The long-term sustainability of Living Labs depends on their ability to produce tangible results and to adapt to changing conditions. This requires continuous monitoring, evaluation, and refinement of the solutions developed. It also .

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4. Recommendations for National Policymakers to Promote E-Mobility

The transition to e-mobility presents a significant opportunity for cities and nations to address climate change, reduce air pollution, and improve the quality of life for urban residents. However, achieving this transition requires a concerted effort by national policymakers to create an enabling environment for the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and related technologies. This chapter provides specific recommendations for national policymakers, focusing on practical implementation strategies, the role of local businesses, and the integration of innovative technologies into urban mobility systems.

1. Develop Comprehensive E-Mobility Policies and Regulatory Frameworks

1.1 Establish National E-Mobility Roadmaps

National policymakers should develop and adopt comprehensive e-mobility roadmaps that outline clear goals, timelines, and strategies for the transition to electric mobility. These roadmaps should be aligned with broader national objectives, such as climate action plans and sustainable development goals, and should provide a coherent framework for coordinating efforts across various government agencies and sectors.

1.2 Create Supportive Regulatory Frameworks

A supportive regulatory environment is essential for the widespread adoption of e-mobility. National governments should establish regulations that incentivize the use of EVs, such as mandating vehicle emissions standards, providing tax incentives for EV purchases, and setting targets for the phase-out of internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles. Additionally, regulations should facilitate the development of charging infrastructure by standardizing connectors, ensuring grid compatibility, and streamlining the permitting process for charging stations.

1.3 Integrate E-Mobility into Urban and National Planning

E-mobility should be integrated into both urban and national planning processes. This includes incorporating EV infrastructure into city master plans, zoning regulations, and public transport strategies. National governments should provide guidelines and support to local authorities for the inclusion of e-mobility in their urban planning frameworks. This integration ensures that e-mobility solutions are considered in the early stages of urban development and that infrastructure is designed to accommodate the growing demand for EVs.

2. Support the Development of Charging Infrastructure

2.1 Invest in Public Charging Networks

One of the key barriers to e-mobility adoption is the lack of adequate charging infrastructure. National governments should invest in the development of extensive public charging networks, ensuring that charging stations are available in both urban and rural areas. This investment can be facilitated through public-private partnerships (PPPs) that leverage private sector expertise and resources to expand the charging network rapidly.

2.2 Encourage Innovation in Charging Technologies

Policymakers should support the development and deployment of innovative charging technologies, such as fast charging, wireless charging, and vehicle-to-grid (V2G) systems. By fostering research and development in these areas, national governments can help reduce charging times, increase the efficiency of energy use, and improve the overall user experience for EV owners. This innovation can also be supported through grants, tax incentives, and collaboration with academic and research institutions.

2.3 Promote Standards and Interoperability

To ensure the seamless operation of charging networks, national governments should promote the adoption of common standards for charging infrastructure. This includes standardizing connectors, communication protocols, and payment systems across different regions and operators. Interoperability is crucial for creating a user-friendly charging network that encourages EV adoption.

3. Foster the Growth of Local E-Mobility Industries

3.1 Provide Incentives for Local Manufacturing

The development of a local e-mobility industry can create jobs, stimulate economic growth, and reduce dependency on imported technologies. National policymakers should provide incentives for the local manufacturing of EVs, batteries, and charging equipment. This could include tax breaks, subsidies, and grants for companies that invest in e-mobility production facilities. Additionally, governments can support the creation of industrial clusters or special economic zones dedicated to e-mobility manufacturing.

3.2 Support Startups and Small Businesses

Startups and small businesses play a critical role in driving innovation in the e-mobility sector. National governments should create an enabling environment for these enterprises by providing access to financing, mentoring, and business development services. Initiatives such as the SOLUTIONSplus Startup Hubs can serve as a model, offering dedicated support to startups working on e-mobility solutions. Policymakers can also facilitate connections between startups, investors, and larger companies to foster collaboration and scale up innovative solutions.

3.3 Encourage Public Procurement of E-Mobility Solutions

Public procurement can be a powerful tool for supporting the growth of local e-mobility industries. National and local governments should prioritize the procurement of electric vehicles and related technologies for public transport fleets, government vehicles, and public service operations. By doing so, governments can create stable demand for locally produced EVs and incentivize further investment in the sector.

4. Promote Public Awareness and Acceptance of E-Mobility

4.1 Launch Public Awareness Campaigns

Public acceptance is crucial for the successful adoption of e-mobility. National governments should launch public awareness campaigns that highlight the benefits of EVs, such as lower emissions, reduced operating costs, and improved driving experiences. These campaigns should address common misconceptions about EVs, such as concerns about range anxiety and charging availability, and provide clear information about the incentives available for EV owners.

4.2 Engage Communities in the Transition to E-Mobility

Engaging local communities in the e-mobility transition can help build public support and ensure that the solutions developed are responsive to the needs of residents. Policymakers should involve communities in the planning and implementation of e-mobility projects, such as through participatory workshops, public consultations, and Living Labs. This engagement can help identify potential barriers to adoption and develop strategies to address them.

4.3 Develop Educational Programs on E-Mobility

National governments should support the development of educational programs that raise awareness of e-mobility and its benefits. These programs can be integrated into school curricula, vocational training, and public information campaigns. By educating the public, especially younger generations, about the importance of sustainable mobility, governments can foster a culture of environmental responsibility and encourage the adoption of e-mobility.

5. Leverage Innovative Technologies to Enhance E-Mobility Systems

5.1 Invest in Smart Mobility Solutions

The integration of smart technologies into e-mobility systems can enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and improve the user experience. National policymakers should promote the development and deployment of smart mobility solutions, such as intelligent transportation systems (ITS), connected vehicles, and mobility-as-a-service (MaaS) platforms. These technologies can optimize traffic flow, reduce congestion, and provide real-time information to EV users, making e-mobility more convenient and accessible.

5.2 Encourage the Use of Renewable Energy for EV Charging

To maximize the environmental benefits of e-mobility, it is essential to power EVs with renewable energy sources. National governments should incentivize the use of renewable energy for EV charging, such as through subsidies for solar-powered charging stations or preferential tariffs for renewable energy use. This approach not only reduces the carbon footprint of e-mobility but also supports the growth of the renewable energy sector.

5.3 Support Research and Development in Battery Technology

Battery technology is a critical component of e-mobility, and advancements in this area can significantly impact the performance, cost, and sustainability of EVs. National governments should support research and development in battery technology, focusing on improving energy density, reducing costs, and enhancing recyclability. Collaboration with universities, research institutions, and private companies can accelerate innovation in this field.

6. Facilitate International Cooperation and Knowledge Exchange

6.1 Participate in International E-Mobility Initiatives

National governments should actively participate in international e-mobility initiatives and forums, such as the Global EV Outlook and the Clean Energy Ministerial's Electric Vehicles Initiative (EVI). These platforms provide opportunities for knowledge exchange, collaboration, and the sharing of best practices among countries. By engaging in international initiatives, governments can learn from the experiences of others and apply successful strategies in their own contexts.

6.2 Foster Regional Cooperation on E-Mobility

Regional cooperation can help address cross-border challenges related to e-mobility, such as charging infrastructure compatibility and vehicle standards. National governments should work with neighboring countries to develop regional frameworks for e-mobility, including harmonized regulations, joint infrastructure projects, and collaborative research initiatives. Regional cooperation can also facilitate the development of larger markets for e-mobility solutions, attracting investment and reducing costs.

6.3 Support Capacity Building in Emerging Economies

National governments, particularly in developed countries, should support capacity-building initiatives in emerging economies to promote the global adoption of e-mobility. This can include providing technical assistance, sharing knowledge and expertise, and facilitating access to financing for e-mobility projects. By supporting the growth of e-mobility in emerging economies, developed countries can contribute to global climate goals while also creating opportunities for their own e-mobility industries.

The transition to e-mobility is a critical step towards achieving sustainable urban mobility and addressing global environmental challenges. National policymakers have a vital role to play in creating the conditions necessary for the widespread adoption of e-mobility solutions. By developing comprehensive policies, supporting infrastructure development, fostering local industries, promoting public awareness, leveraging innovative technologies, and engaging in international cooperation, governments can accelerate the transition to e-mobility and create more sustainable, resilient, and inclusive urban environments.

The recommendations outlined in this chapter provide a roadmap for national policymakers to guide the e-mobility transition. By implementing these strategies and actions, governments can ensure that e-mobility becomes a central component of their national urban mobility strategies, contributing to a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future for all.

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