Independent exercise 1 – Selecting Indicators to Monitor Your City's Mobility Challenges

Purpose of the exercise

This exercise helps municipalities identify **relevant indicators (KPIs)** to monitor and evaluate a real mobility challenge in their own city. Participants will use the **BSR SUMP Indicator Selector** to explore possible indicators and develop a **shortlist of KPIs** that could realistically support decision-making and monitoring in their local context. The outcome should be a **small set of indicators that the city could use** in its Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) or related strategies.

The example below, developed by the authors, demonstrates how the exercise can be applied

A medium-sized town with around 100,000 inhabitants is located outside the TEN-T network. The city has a compact structure, with most daily destinations within short distances. The town centre contains key services such as administration, shops, schools, and cultural facilities.

The road network allows easy car access to the centre, but this also creates challenges for walking and cycling safety. A higher-order road passes through the city, and residents—particularly parents, older people, and persons with reduced mobility—report feeling unsafe when walking near intersections and along key pedestrian routes.

During the preparation of the city's first Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan, public consultations revealed strong concerns about pedestrian safety. Residents frequently mentioned conflicts with motor traffic, speeding, and insufficient lighting. Some residents report avoiding walking after dark.

At the same time, some drivers argue that pedestrians behave unpredictably. Fragmentary traffic counts also suggest that walking and cycling may be **more common than previously assumed**.

In this situation, the city needs reliable indicators to understand whether pedestrian safety problems are **perceived or evidenced by data**, where the most critical locations are, and whether implemented measures improve the situation. This example illustrates how indicators can support **evidence-based discussion and decision-making**.

Your task within your own city

Instead of analysing a fictional case, this exercise focuses on **a real mobility challenge in your city**. Examples may include pedestrian or cycling safety, school travel patterns, congestion in the city centre, low cycling uptake, accessibility of public transport, parking pressure or winter cycling conditions

Step 1 – Identify a mobility challenge

Choose one concrete mobility challenge relevant to your city.

Try to formulate it as a simple monitoring question, for example:

- *How safe is walking near schools?*
- *Are cycling levels increasing after infrastructure investments?*
- *How congested is the city centre during peak hours?*
- *Are residents shifting from cars to active mobility?*

Step 2 – Potential indicators

Using the BSR SUMP Indicator Selector: https://bsr-sump.eu/tool/, search for indicators that could help measure or understand your selected challenge. Examples could include:

- number of pedestrian accidents
- traffic speed near schools
- pedestrian counts at key crossings
- perception of safety from surveys
- street lighting coverage
- modal share of walking

Step 3 – Reflection

Create a **list of possible indicators that are relevant for your own city**. Check whether they are clear and cover different aspects of the challenge (e.g. safety, infrastructure, behavior, perception). Consider whether there are any clear gaps and whether the required data is available in your city of difficult to collect. Reflect on whether better data availability in your city would change your selection.

Outcome of the exercise

This process mirrors an important step in the **SUMP monitoring and evaluation framework**, where cities define how they track progress and assess the impact of implemented mobility measures.

We encourage you to explore additional resources developed within the **SUMPs for BSR project**, available through the SUMP Competence Centre: https://bsr-sump.eu/