Throughout Europe, urban authorities have gained more responsibilities and resources. They seek to maximise their effectiveness by fostering new forms of cooperation among a large variety of actors and interests, in order to address urban problems and set their own policy priorities.

Why have some cities in Europe been able to achieve a shift from the car-oriented city towards more sustainable modes of transport? How can other parts of Europe and the EuroMed draw lessons from CREATE?

In order to answer these fundamental questions, the CREATE (Congestion Reduction in Europe, Advancing Transport Efficiency) project’s main objective is to reduce road congestion in European cities by encouraging a switch from cars to more sustainable modes of transport. Among other valuable lessons, the CREATE project shows how strong urban governance contributes to the shift towards the liveable city.

URBAN AUTHORITIES FACE COMMON TRANSPORT CHALLENGES

- address contradictory demands
- seek trade-offs between environmental, economic and social objectives
- overcome resistance and protest

URBAN GOVERNANCE IS CHANGING AND BECOMING STRONGER

CITIES AS LABORATORIES
small-scale experiments, policy innovations, trial and error
- promotion of economic incentives
- offer new mobility services
- develop alternative street uses

A COMBINATION OF HIGH- AND LOW-TECH SOLUTIONS
by mobilising transport organisations
- developing new systems while modernizing old infrastructures

GAIN MORE AUTONOMY
through capacity building
- finances
- information and data management
- authority
- human resources and expertise
- communication

BUT THERE IS NO ‘ONE SIZE’ FITS ALL!

Local governments use different methods to achieve their goals. Each city has a different history and local context. They develop differently and find the best solutions for their local circumstances. According to the local context, policy innovations in transport come from either or:

- Civil society participation
- Private-led initiatives
- An elected mayor
- An integrated transport agency

WHAT IS NEXT AND HOW CAN THE EU HELP?

RESULTS AND FUTURE CHALLENGES
- shift from the car-oriented city towards planning the liveable city
- transport and mobility policies to ensure social and spatial inclusion
- foster transport policy change outside cities

THE ROLE OF THE EU
- regulations
- long-term policy goals
- the promotion of knowledge and policy solutions