To whom it may concern,

The EU Commission considers the development of sustainable urban mobility plans (SUMPs) as one of the prerequisites for sustainable, efficient and environmentally-friendly mobility in city areas. A SUMP is properly developed if citizens are actively involved, if the transport role to the city’s economic development, environment and climate is addressed and if it leads to stronger political commitment to medium-long term transport investment perspectives. A SUMP is also a solid basis for any project related EU funding request.

To support understanding of the SUMP process and substance a number of events have been carried out over recent years, a wide range of information sources and tools has been made available on the ELTIS platform and target groups have been approached through local activities. Additional training is considered an important element in this process.

The Commission Directorates General DG MOVE and DG REGIO have asked JASPERS to provide SUMP training and capacity building to interested parties in EU member states. JASPERS (the Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions) is a partnership between the European Commission, the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) which seeks to improve the quality of investments supported primarily by the EU Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)—the European Regional Development Fund, and the EU Cohesion Fund. Where EU funding may contribute to the improvement of public transport systems at local and regional level, JASPERS can support the transition towards competitive and resource-efficient mobility systems in Europe’s cities and urban areas by:

- supporting the development of sustainable urban mobility plans (SUMPs) at local or regional level;
- providing guidance, training and capacity building to support SUMP capabilities and application within EU member countries;
- publishing relevant information and guidance on the JASPERS networking website; and
- offering opportunities for the exchange of knowledge, experience and contacts through networking and technical workshops focusing on improved uptake of new tools and processes for urban mobility planning.

Within this framework, JASPERS will carry out SUMP introductory training courses in interested countries. The core training concept is for interactive two-day training workshops for groups of up to 25 persons.

The target group is lead officials in charge of urban transport at national and urban level.

The primary objective of the training is to provide participants with in-depth knowledge of key elements of the SUMP process, thus assisting them in planning, preparing, implementing and evaluating the development of urban transport systems.

To assist in the learning process the training will include in-depth case studies (of both good and bad practice), with participants divided into groups to debate and improve understanding of key issues arising during various stage of the SUMP process.
The training workshop is provided free of charge but on the condition that only relevant participants are selected. Therefore proposed participants should hold an appropriate position, with responsibility for overseeing urban transport/planning, in a government department, urban municipality or equivalent.

The training workshops are to be provided during a pilot phase extending between September and December 2016. Conclusions from the experience gained will be drawn upon and evaluated so that the capacity building through JASPERS and/or through EU projects funded from Horizon 2020 (under the titles “SUMPs UP” and “PROSPERITY”) can be extended. From 2017 onwards SUMPs UP will establish exchange fora and learning centers for individual experts and PROSPERITY shall offer trainings in areas of particular need, e.g. stakeholder participation, monitoring etc. Consortia leaders of those EU programs may already have contacted you or will be doing that.

Attached is a short note on the preliminary training concept, which we hope will be of interest to you. A more detailed note is available on request. Please note our intention to tailor, to the maximum extent possible, the training event to the particular needs of interested parties.

We hereby request that you inform us of the potential interest for such training in your country. In case you may signal such interest, we will revert back to you to plan the selection process and to discuss potential training dates. The number of events we can conduct in this pilot phase is limited, so if you are interested to have a SUMP training in your country please contact us, if possible within the next three weeks. This will give us time to plan and deliver a suitable training program focused on your individual needs.

Jochen Schneider is the contact person in JASPERS for these trainings. His email address is j.schneider@eib.org and his mobile phone number is 0032 471 35 52 50. JASPERS has hired Mott Macdonald as our consultants for the delivery of this training. Mark Finer will act as the contact point on behalf of Mott Macdonald. His email address is Mark.Finer@mutmac.com. His mobile number is 00420 724 884 259. Don’t hesitate to contact them with any queries you may have. Email correspondence should be addressed to both Jochen and Mark.

Kind regards,

Norbert Hahn
Head of Networking and Competence Centre

Jochen Schneider
Senior Networking Platform Officer