





# The changing policy and regulatory context (WP4)

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### Explaining the shift towards sustainable cities policies: which factors?

#### Traffic growth policies

Rapid urban economic growth leads to car ownership & use: strict zoning policies, discouraging walking and cycling, declining investments in public transport etc. Traffic mitigation policies

Problems arising (road congestion, noise, air pollution etc.) and the search for alternatives to car use.

Sustainable cities policies

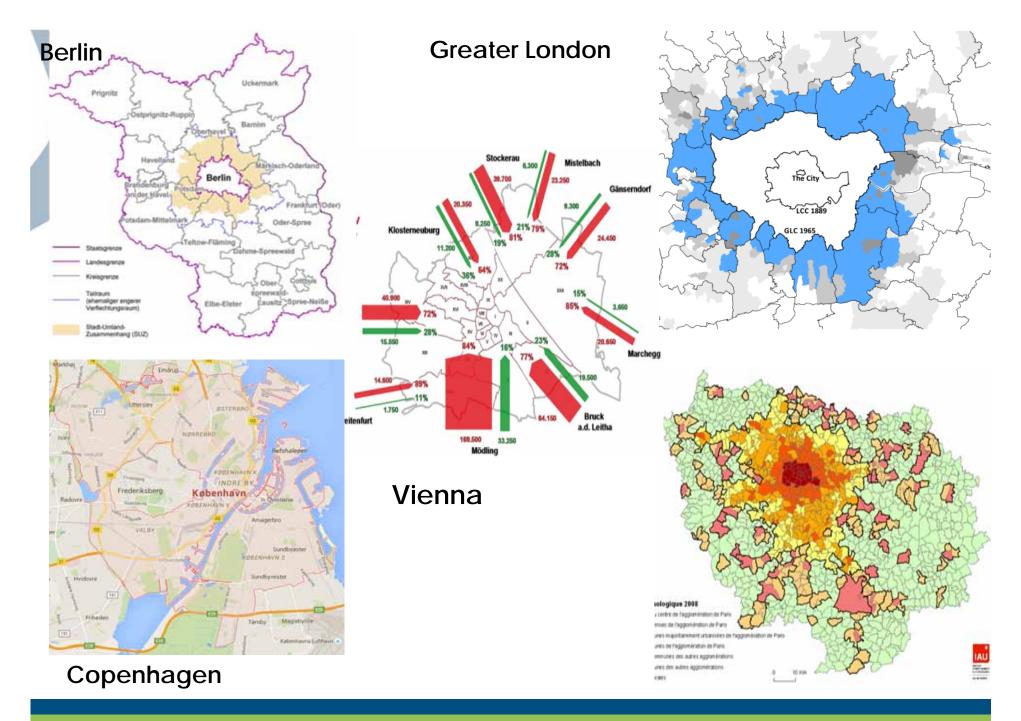
Emphasis on urban quality of life: reallocation of roadspace to other transport modes, demolishing Stage 1 infrastructures and networks, etc.



#### Context in all 5 cities

- Rapid demographic and economic growth
- Complex urban societies
- Growing technological needs, information and knowledge
- Reduced investment capacity from the public sector
- Additional opportunities for a rapidly evolving industry
- Multi-level governance from EU level to Boroughs.





## Governance matters, yes but ... why and how?

Economic regulation of transport

Veto-players vs. policy entrepreneurs

Institutional & governance setting (multilevel)

Policy shift towards urban sustainable transport Issue salience (electoral cycle, media, citizen attitudes)



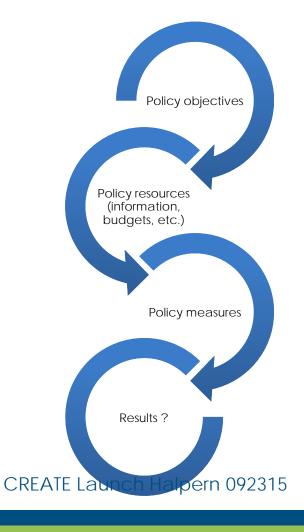
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### Governance matters, yes but ...

- Is it possible for policy-makers to have an accurate anticipation of the consequences of decisions and policies?
  - Policy goals are often vague, contradictory
  - Outcomes are contingent upon a large variety of factors, changing context
  - Unintended/unwanted effects Who gets what, when and how?
  - Additional complexity in large metropolitan areas

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## Understanding transport policy dynamics over time





### A qualitative approach

- Focus on "Stage 3 cities" and their evolution over time in order to speed up the process, avoid traffic growth/mitigation policies
- Identify in close cooperation with the work done in the quantitative WP - the qualitative drivers, which have enabled shift from "traffic growth" to "sustainable transport"
- Explain transport policy dynamics in each Stage 3 city
- Lessons to be learnt and speeding up processes for other cities









### Thank you for your attention - Comments welcome!

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