



WP3

SIMPLA guidelines and online observatory

D3.2

SIMPLA online observatory

Expected date

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Premise

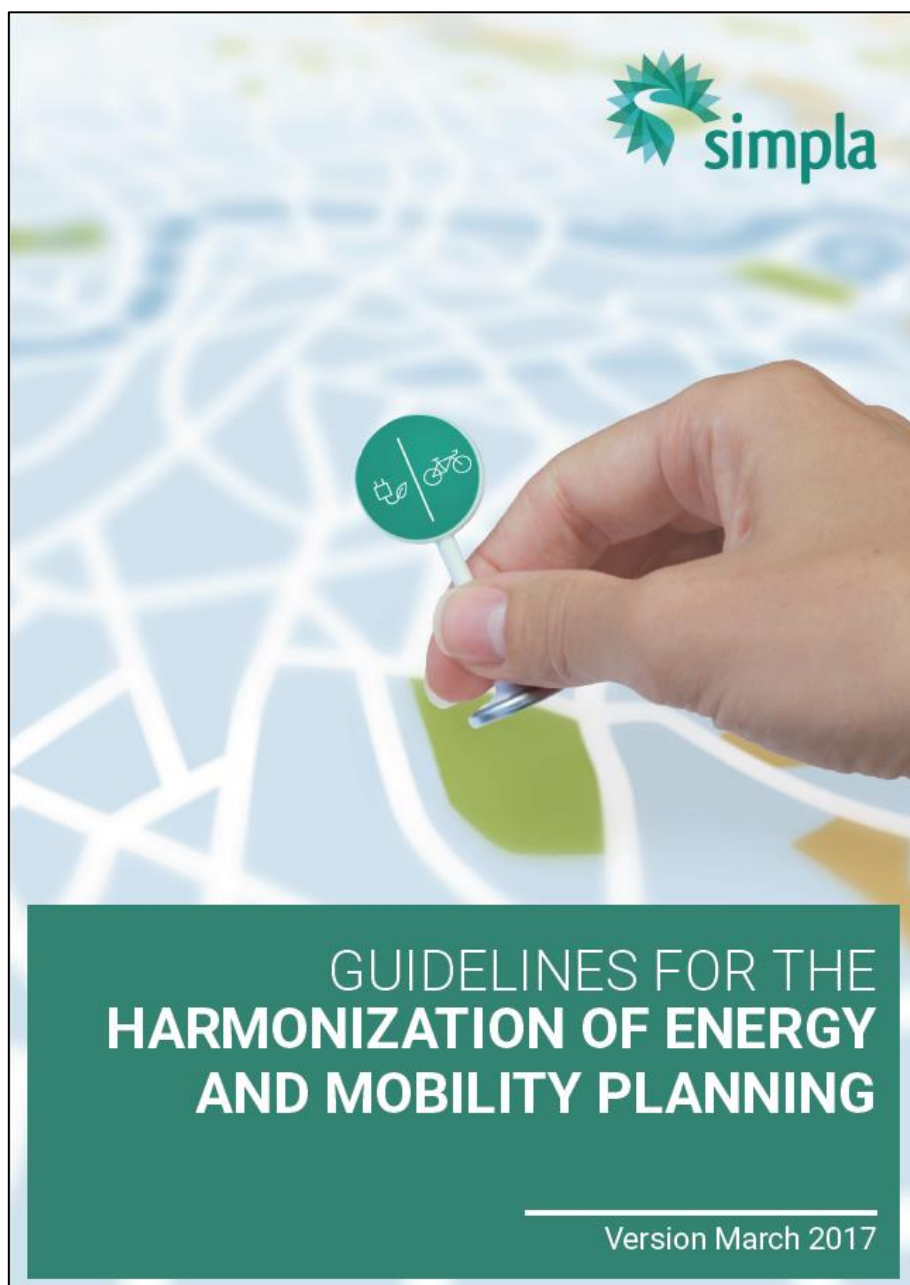
This deliverable is related to the activities carried out within *Task 3.3 – Development of the online observatory*.

The bone structure of the Online Observatory was developed during the first months of the project and was subsequently updated as the SIMPLA Guidelines took shape. The Guidelines are an evolving document and therefore, the Online Observatory is being continuously updated as new content becomes available.

The Online Observatory was temporarily published online as a password-protected area, accessible only to project partners. As the first official version of the Guidelines was completed in March 2017, the Online Observatory was updated with the full text in English and the related resources and is now accessible to the public.

SIMPLA Guidelines

The *Guidelines for the Harmonization of Energy and Mobility Planning* are the starting material for the Online Observatory. The first English version was completed in March 2017 and a browsable and printable version was developed and circulated with all partners. The document was meant to be used as is for general dissemination, but also to be translated in all the local languages in order to reach the relevant stakeholders and provide a useful document for Local Authorities. The document has now been translated in all languages and has been circulated within the Consortium, published online and presented at some of the training courses which took place in May and June 2017.



The document is structured as follows:

Foreword – it introduces the document and contains also the text that was used for the SIMPLA Manifesto, which was published in February 2017

Chapter 1: Introduction and Problem Setting – it introduces the background and basic concepts of SEAPs, SECAPs and SUMPs

Chapter 2: The Harmonization process – defines the meaning of harmonization between the different plans, why it is needed and how it should be carried out

Appendices – provide useful information on financing mechanisms, a list of references and two attached documents (Self-assessment Questionnaire and Harmonization Report Template)

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The full document is available at the following links:

[English](#)

[Italian](#)

[Spanish](#)

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[Croatian](#)

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Online Observatory

As mentioned in the Premise of this deliverable, the Guidelines are the starting point of the Online Observatory. Finalising the text of the Guidelines has required more effort than foreseen because obtaining guidelines for the harmonisation of SEAPs and SUMP that could be implemented in all countries was quite challenging.

Moreover, the process of translating the Guidelines in all languages was a slowed down by the organisation of the training courses and the training courses themselves. This resulted in a delay in the publishing of the Online Observatory, which at the moment is available on the English, Romanian and German versions of SIMPLA website, but will soon be available in all languages.

The Turn-key packages (TKP) are also part of the Guidelines; however, they have been finalised after the release of the first version of the Guidelines and will be part of the next version which is foreseen for October 2017. At the moment, the TKPs are available on the Online Observatory in English and Romanian.

The online version follows the structure of the document that was finalized in March 2017, each chapter and subchapter, although it has a slightly different layout owing to the fact that it was developed to make it mobile-friendly, just as the rest of the project website is.

Guidelines

» Guidelines

Guidelines FOREWORD

*Energy production and consumption, **transport** and **mobility** are crucial, transversal elements affecting all aspects of socio-economic development in Europe, central to each European citizen's quality of life and essential in any **urban development planning** in a continent characterized by growing urbanization.*

European policies have set ambitious sustainability targets for all levels of governance for 2020 and the coming decades, expecting important reductions in GHG emissions, a significant increase in energy efficiency and in production from renewable sources, and a dramatic reduction of Europe's dependence on imported oil. The role of local authorities through their local strategic energy, transport and mobility plans is pivotal to meet these targets. However, individual sectoral plans dealing with energy, transport and mobility separately have often proved inefficient to provide effective, long-term solutions.

The SIMPLA project offers local authorities an innovative, comprehensive approach to harmonize energy, transport and mobility planning in the frame of wider urban development and land-use planning, providing a step-by-step methodology described in the chapters of these guidelines.

The guidelines are the outcome of a preparatory process entailing extensive consultations in the territories of the SIMPLA partnership. An acknowledgement goes to the over 350 stakeholders, institutional and non-institutional actors involved, including local, regional and national authorities, academy and research centres, national and local energy agencies, utilities, associations, environmental NGOs. Their feedback was elaborated by an international team of energy, mobility and climate change experts to come up with the concept underpinning the SIMPLA methodology.

Based on the guidelines, the 6 SIMPLA National Focal Points established in Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Italy, Romania, and Spain, are going to implement an extensive capacity building action involving several local authorities in the six countries. The local authorities selected to be piloting the scheme are going to develop harmonized strategic energy and mobility plans using the step-by-step methodology for the development, review, update and upgrade of their plans in the frame of wider-reaching sustainable urban development schemes.

The guidelines' development process entails two further revisions of this first version of the document, encompassing feedback collected during the capacity building activities.

All versions of the document are freely available for consultation in the project website and can be used by any local authority for the harmonization of local strategic energy and mobility plans, provided the project and the authors of the guidelines are mentioned.

It is possible to view the online version of the Guidelines by clicking on the top menu of the project website (www.simpla-project.eu/en) Browsing through the Guidelines is quite easy, thanks to an interactive index which allows the reader to skip from one chapter to another if desired. Moreover, upon selecting a chapter, the reader has an overview (the *in depth* section) of the content of the subchapters (title and brief introduction), as show in the figure below.

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CHAPTER 1: 1. INTRODUCTION AND PROBLEM SETTING

1.1 BACKGROUND

In depth

1.1.1 WHAT IS A SEAP

Following the adoption of the European Union's Climate and Energy Package in 2008, the European Commission launched the Covenant of Mayors, to endorse and support the efforts deployed by local authorities in the implementation of sustainable energy policies. Signatories of the Covenant of Mayors have committed to prepare and implement a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) before 2020, addressing climate mitigation by means of a reduction in fossil fuels consumption.

A **SEAP** is a key planning document aimed at promoting energy efficiency and the use of energy from renewable sources in a local authority's territory.

1.1.2 WHAT IS A SECAP

SECAPs (Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans) are strategic plans that local authorities develop and adopt after joining the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy.

1.1.3 WHAT IS A SUMP

'A **SUMP** has as its central goal improving accessibility of urban areas and providing high-quality and sustainable mobility and transport to, through and within the urban area. It regards the needs of the 'functioning city' and its hinterland rather than a municipal administrative region^[1].

1.1.4 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SEAP, SECAP AND SUMP

The Online Observatory is not merely an online version of the Guidelines. It contains added features and a specific tool for adding links, documents, videos and other material which is related to a specific topic/chapter within the Guidelines. The related resources appear in a box on the right, as shown in the figure below.

CHAPTER 1: 1. INTRODUCTION AND PROBLEM SETTING

1.1.3 WHAT IS A SUMP

A **SUMP** has as its central goal improving accessibility of urban areas and providing high-quality and sustainable mobility and transport to, through and within the urban area. It regards the needs of the 'functioning city' and its hinterland rather than a municipal administrative region^[1].

Promoted by the European Commission in the White Paper on Transport (2011) and the Urban Mobility Package (2013), Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs) are one of the main tools available at EU level to tackle transport and mobility in urban and suburban areas.

SUMPs are strategic plans based upon a long-term vision, with the main goal to provide integrated solutions to transport and mobility needs of people and goods, guaranteeing technical, economic, environmental and social sustainability.

The pillars underpinning the process leading to a SUMP are^[2]:

1. Building on existing practices and regulatory frameworks in Member States;
2. Defining a clear long-term vision, objectives, measurable targets and a suitable, regular monitoring and evaluation system ensuring quality of implementation and a cyclical approach;
3. Pledge for economic, technical, environmental, social sustainability;
4. Participatory approach involving stakeholders and population in decision making;
5. Vertical and horizontal integration to foster cooperation and coordination between different levels of government and different departments within a local authority;
6. Review of transport costs and benefits, including direct and indirect, internal and external.

A SUMP's objectives include:

1. Guaranteeing accessibility to all road users, with a focus on the so-called vulnerable users, namely pedestrians, cyclists, children, disabled persons, etc.;
2. Fostering a balanced development of all transport modes, tackling public and private, motorized and non-motorized transport, intermodality, urban logistics, mobility management and ITS systems;
3. Reducing environmental impacts (primarily air and noise pollution) rationalizing efficiency and cost-effectiveness;
4. Optimizing the use of urban areas leading to a cleaner urban environment and consequently more attractive cities and better quality of life for all citizens;

RELATED RESOURCES

CURRENT LANGUAGE ▼

Websites	LINK
THE SUMP CONCEPT	
Useful docs	DOC
DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY PLAN	
Useful docs	DOC
COM(2013) 913 FINAL 'TOGETHER TOWARDS COMPETITIVE AND RESOURCE EFFICIENT URBAN MOBILITY'	
Websites	LINK
ELTIS - THE URBAN MOBILITY OBSERVATORY	
Websites	LINK
CIVITAS - CLEANER AND BETTER TRANSPORT IN CITIES	

The resources appear in order according to relevance (which can be defined when adding the resource) and language – when browsing through the English version of the website, the first resources that appear are those in English, and the resources that are available in different languages as well, appear below. The opposite happens when browsing in another language (resources of the current language appear at the top). Moreover, the box provides added information on the resources – it provides the nature of the resource (e.g., link, doc, etc.) and the category (e.g., website, useful docs, etc.).

RELATED RESOURCES	
CURRENT LANGUAGE ▼	
Useful docs	DOC
HOW TO DEVELOP A SEAP	

Websites	LINK
COVENANT OF MAYORS WEBSITE	
OTHER LANGUAGES ▼	
Siti web	LINK
SITO PATTO DEI SINDACI	

All resources can be downloaded/opened/watched by clicking on the name of the resource (e.g., HOW TO DEVELOP A SEAP).

A Suggestions Form is also available for anyone who wishes to make a suggestion concerning a document, link or other resource that he/she thinks relevant to the topic and that should be added to the resources.

SUGGESTIONS
Do you have any website, document, video or other material to suggest for this topic?
LEAVE US A COMMENT ▼
Name*: <input type="text"/>
Surname*: <input type="text"/>
Email*: <input type="text"/>
Suggestions*: <div> Please leave a comment and indicate the url of the document/website/video/other material that you consider to be of interest for this topic and would like us to publish in this section </div> <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> I herewith authorize the treatment of my data* link
<input type="button" value="SUBMIT"/>

One-on-one tutorials were held with the technical partners in October 2016 in order to explain how the platform works and how to add/edit content, including the resources (useful documents, links, etc.) that are linked to the different chapters of the Guidelines.

The translations of the Guidelines are now finalized and all technical partners are in charge of adding the translations on the project website under their local language. This task is currently ongoing.