

Consultation workshop on urban freight transport and logistics

21 June 2021, online (Zoom); 120 participants

Introduction by DG MOVE, FM Logistic/ALICE, Madrid City Council/POLIS; four breakout thematic sessions; closing remarks by DG MOVE.

The workshop was organised as part of the consultation process of the new EU urban mobility initiative, planned for adoption by the end of 2021. It aimed to collect the views of the urban freight transport and logistics stakeholders and was co-organised by the European technology platform [ALICE](#) and the [ELTIS](#) consortium. The event was attended by approximately 120 participants (37% private companies, 21% civil society/associations, 19% academia/research, 14% local authorities).

Following a presentation by DG MOVE on the plans for the new EU urban mobility initiative and an intervention by ALICE and Madrid City Council/POLIS, the workshop was structured into four breakout sessions to discuss the following areas:

Improving integrated urban logistics planning (DG MOVE, ELTIS)

This session helped to clarify the needs of local authorities in order to develop a Sustainable Urban Logistics Plan (SULP) and ensure its integration within the overall mobility planning framework, as well as the role of private stakeholders in its preparation and implementation. The majority view was that a SULP should be a mandatory component of a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP), and that this would be a very positive move.

Data collection and sharing to support operational efficiency and sustainable urban logistics planning (DG MOVE, ALICE)

While data is fundamental to plan and monitor passenger mobility and urban freight transport, data on urban logistics is not available in most cities. In this session, stakeholders indicated that one of the most important needs is to define a clear framework for sharing data (who provides which data and how; data security and confidentiality; governance; interoperability, etc.) and for a core data set to be shared by private stakeholders. Such a framework should be agreed in cooperation with the local authority and the private stakeholders that collect and own the data, to ensure mutual benefit.

Spatial planning to accommodate sustainable last mile urban logistics (DG MOVE, ELTIS)

This session investigated which infrastructure and facilities are required to support a sustainable and multi-modal logistics industry, and how these can be managed in a dynamic and flexible way. The majority opinion was that a SUMP guidance document is needed for the integration of spatial planning as a component of mobility policy, to link Urban Vehicle Access Regulations (UVARs) with designated freight zones (i.e. consolidation/distribution hubs, loading/unloading areas, off-peak deliveries, etc.).

Uptake and upscaling of new, innovative and sustainable transport solutions (DG MOVE, ALICE)

Numerous innovative vehicles (e.g. electric vans, cargo bikes and even drones) and innovative solutions (new distribution models using cargo trams or inland waterways) are available on the market, but cities and private stakeholders alike struggle to adopt and scale up these innovative solutions. A major focus was proposed in the area of supporting city regulations and incentives for the adoption of clean vehicles and innovative solutions, together with subsidies and financing.