

Conference report:

**Building better mobility relationships:
Start with the city.
Expand to individuals.**



10th Informed Cities Forum

23-25 November 2022 | Grenoble, France

Produced by CIVITAS SUMP-PLUS

Organised by ICLEI Europe

Hosted by the City of Grenoble, European Green Capital 2022

Conference report

The 10th Informed Cities Forum (ICF) took place from 23-25 November 2022 in Grenoble, the 2022 European Green Capital, with over 50 participants attending from all over Europe. Researchers, local government representatives, entrepreneurs, mobility experts and civic technology enthusiasts got together for three days to discuss urban mobility, cross-sectoral links and private and public involvement in building better and stronger mobility relationships. After the last two years where impacted by the pandemic, the anniversary edition of the ICF went back to its original interactive and innovative format: an in-person event that puts aside PowerPoint presentations and places engaging discussions, round table activities, games, and study tours in the centre of the programme.

Moreover, the City of Grenoble organised several site visits to show the ICF participants the latest mobility measures implemented in the city, a best-case study tour on SUMP implementation and transit-oriented approaches.



56 participants

10 countries

22 cities

18 speakers

10 interactive sessions

9 guided site visits



The venues

The City of Grenoble offered two unique venues for the indoor sessions. On the first and third days they took place in the City Hall, one of Grenoble's most symbolic buildings. It was given in 2003 the "Patrimoine du XXe siècle" (20th Century Heritage) by the French state for its remarkable contemporary architecture. On the second day, the ICF moved to Le Totem, a co-working space supported by the national government to foster and promote innovative start-ups in the French city.

The moderator

Jasmin Miah

Specialist on Sustainable Urban Development at ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability



The speakers

Dr. Lewis Akenji (Hot or Cool Institute), **Stuart Blackadder** (TfGM), **Julie Blais** (SMMAG), **Sébastien Castelin** (SMMAG), **Lucia Cristea** (EIP), **Nicolas Fontaine** (SMMAG), **Vincent Fristot** (Deputy Mayor of Grenoble), **Dr. Charlotte Halpern** (Sciences Po), **Annelies Heijns** (City of Antwerp), **Prof. Peter Jones** (UCL), **Simon Labouret** (City of Grenoble), **Iolanda Moldoveanu** (EIP), **Sarah Morailon** (Urban planning Agency of the Grenoble area), **Gilles Namur** (Deputy Mayor of Grenoble), **Éric Piolle** (Mayor of Grenoble), **Stavroula Tournaki** (University of Crete), **Clément Viola** (Grenoble-Alpes Métropole) and **Steve Wright** (Vectos SLR)



Day 1

Opening

The mayor of the European Green Capital opened the 10th Informed Cities Forum in Grenoble's City Hall, and a brief panel discussion preceded the first site visits. The participants discovered the measures and approaches that Grenoble implemented to promote active mobility and reduce the presence of cars in the city centre.

"By promoting sustainable mobility we addressed the current climate challenges and at the same time we gave back the public space to the citizens of Grenoble"

Éric Piolle
Mayor of Grenoble



"We need to find a way to encourage more people to try out public transport and use bicycles to go to work or to get groceries. Just by trying, they will be convinced of the many benefits it brings to them"

Annelies Heijns
SUMP-PLUS Project Coordinator



Site visits

Grenoble developed the area around the train station following a transport-oriented perspective which prioritised public transport and active mobility. Once dominated by private cars and traffic jams, the space accommodates now new tram lines, segregated bus lanes, Grenoble's most extensive bike-sharing station and plenty of room for pedestrians and cyclists. The Mvélo+ hub, located in the square, offers 9000+ bicycles and repair and maintenance services to its users.

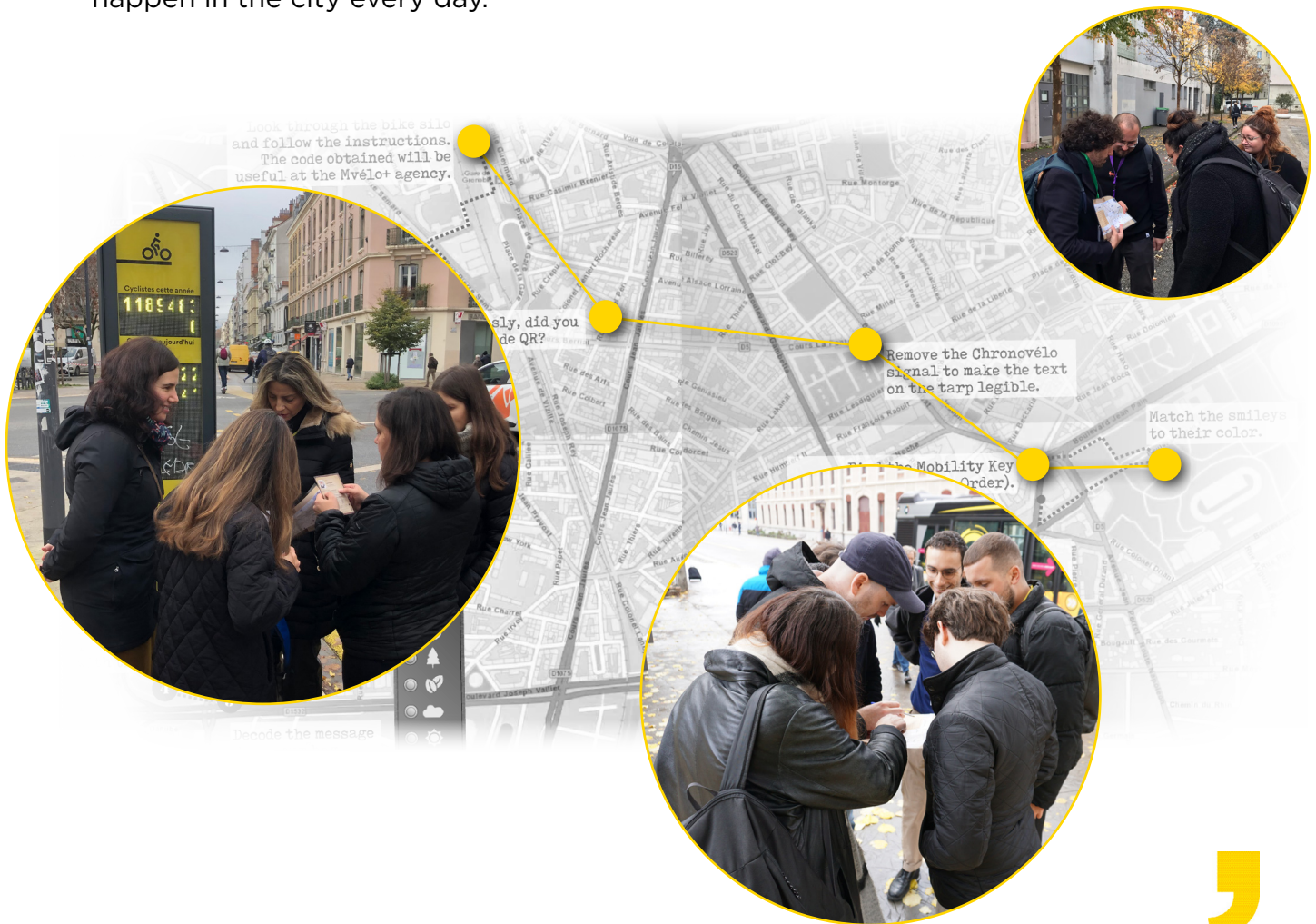


Day 2

Mobility Treasure Hunt and SUMP-PLUS workshops

The Mobility Treasure Hunt

Grenoble's public transport network was used at its full potential by the participants of the ICF during the Mobility Treasure Hunt. Grouped in teams, they had to follow the enigmatic instructions on a map to discover the final secret code that would make them the winners. Following the instructions correctly, they could not only enjoy the services of the bus and tram networks but also have a glimpse of Grenoble's car-sharing system, appreciate one of its several pedestrian areas and count the cycling trips that happen in the city every day.



PLAN, TALK, ENGAGE



Three sessions focused on the SUMP-PLUS project and how to address the gaps when considering the successful implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans. The participants were guided on the development of Transition Pathways to achieve long-term city visions (PLAN), short-term Implementation Strategies to enable the effective delivery of measures (TALK), and necessary governance reforms (ENGAGE).

“To reduce carbon emissions, we need to devise a set of strategies validated through backcasting, engaging a wide range of stakeholders effectively, and with a comprehensive implementation strategy on both spatial and temporal dimensions”

Prof. Peter Jones

University College London (UCL)



“Small and middle-sized cities often need more knowledge and expertise to understand how different scales and timings of mobility policy strategies impact carbon emissions. SUMP-PLUS has developed tools that can help the cities with their mission, like the Carbon Reduction Strategy Support Tool”

Steve Wright

Vectos SLR

“Governance plays a critical role in reconciling diverging interests, setting a shared vision and steering transformative change over time”

Dr. Charlotte Halpern

Sciences Po



Day 3



Grenoble's mobility transition and game on!

As usual with Informed Cities events, some sessions were rooted in the local experience. On the last day, participants could hear the ambitions of the Urban Planning Agency of Grenoble Area and the mission of the SMMAG (Syndicat Mixte des Mobilités de l'Aire Grenobloise) before closing the event with an interactive session that tested the participants' knowledge on mobility.



“The inhabitants of Grenoble connect within the urban, suburban and rural areas with a multimodal network that includes regional trains, trams, buses carpooling and active mobility, and we offer them personalised price ticketing for it”

Simon Labouret
City of grenoble

Interested in Informed Cities and CIVITAS SUMP-PLUS?

Visit the [Informed Cities website](#) to learn more about the series and the [SUMP-PLUS website](#) to discover the final results of the project, which finishes in February 2023.





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Date: February 2023

Authors: Jordi Bosch (ICLEI Europe)

Pictures: Lucy Russell (ICLEI Europe)

Layout: Iker Larrañaga (ICLEI Europe)

Cover picture: [Fabe Collage](#) (Unsplash)

About the project: SUMP-PLUS is a three-year research and innovation project, designed to address urban mobility related challenges and to exploit new opportunities, by developing a strong, rigorous evidence base through a co-created City Laboratories approach building on the strengths of the existing SUMPs and SULPs. SUMP-PLUS develops and applies transition pathways towards more sustainable cities taking into account the need to establish stronger links with other urban system components.

About the publication: The 10th Informed City Forum took place on 23-25 November 2022 in Grenoble, France and gathered around 50 urban thinkers and practitioners, including representatives of local governments, researchers, social entrepreneurs and urban activists. This report shows the highlights of the event. The event was co-organised by ICLEI Europe and the City of Grenoble and produced by SUMP-PLUS.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no 814881. The sole responsibility for the content of this website lies with the SUMP-PLUS project and in no way reflects the views of the European Union.

