Needs & lessons learnt on FastTracking Innovation

Summary of D1.2: "Findings from the FastTrack Needs Assessment"

At the very beginning of the FastTrack project, the needs of the 24 FastTrack Local Areas were assessed via an online survey and interviews. Delivearble 1.2 **summarises the findings from that Needs Assessment.** We overview the areas' planning contexts and recent success stories, before going into more details about the innovative solutions each area plans to deploy within FastTrack; local drivers and barriers for innovation; and areas' specific learning needs.

The Needs Assessment sheds light on which factors accelerate mobility innovation roll-out on the ground. It also enabled us to draw conclusions about needs, barriers and drivers by topic-based cluster, across cross-cutting themes, and with respect to peer-to-peer learning opportunities.

The insights generated throughout the Needs Assessment are of interest to a wide variety of audiences. The D1.2 report describes and helps define general barriers and drivers of speedy roll-out of mobility innovation – such as public, political, and professional acceptability of the area's mobility vision, readiness of people for behavioural change, quality of cooperation amongst relevant stakeholders, administrative delivery, funding, etc. Analysis is done on a general level, as well as with reference to specific prior success stories that areas achieved, and in terms of innovations they want to further develop.

Analysis also includes a series of **lessons learnt** relevant to any local authority keen to make use of others' experiences. Lessons touch on how: some areas respond well to external triggers (e.g., the pandemic) and use them to accelerate mobility innovation; some are skilled at making use of European and national support; some have generated strong political support; some promote long-term vision and thinking; some were successful in creating innovation clusters; some in engaging with citizens and/or end-users; and some found success by promoting "big projects", while others focused on "simple solutions".

This **catalogue of lessons learnt** may be the feature of this report that is most likely to be of use to any reader. It is inspiring, illustrates the huge potential of peer-to-peer learning, and indicates where to find leaders who can provide guidance to face various, specific concerns.

Curious to learn more?
Read FastTrack Deliverable 1.2 in full on our website at: FastTrackMobility.eu/resources.

Background

Local authorities across Europe are motivated to take bold and swift action to accelerate the transition towards more sustainable mobility and transport. However, it is not easy for them to keep pace with innovations in the field that are rapidly changing, nor with ever updating insights regarding what works, where, why, and how to transform innovations into worthwhile, reliable and rapidly-implementable mobility solutions.

CIVITAS FastTrack helps local authorities across Europe to accelerate their transformation by addressing these knowledge, capacity, governance, data, evidence and funding challenges, and by sharing insights from this process with stakeholders around the world. In order to meet local needs and requests, and to provide them with tailored expertise, consultation, support and advice, FastTrack makes use of a range of methods that provide local authorities with opportunities to learn from the best.

For more information, contact: stefan.gabi@vectos.eu