



The KIC concept

Knowledge and Innovation Communities

The European Union has established the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) to increase European sustainable growth and competitiveness by reinforcing the innovation capacity of the EU. Its key instruments - the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) are integrated European innovation platforms that combine research, education and business capacity to address larger societal challenges under central executive governance. A successful KIC is expected to make a significant impact within its specific thematic challenge.

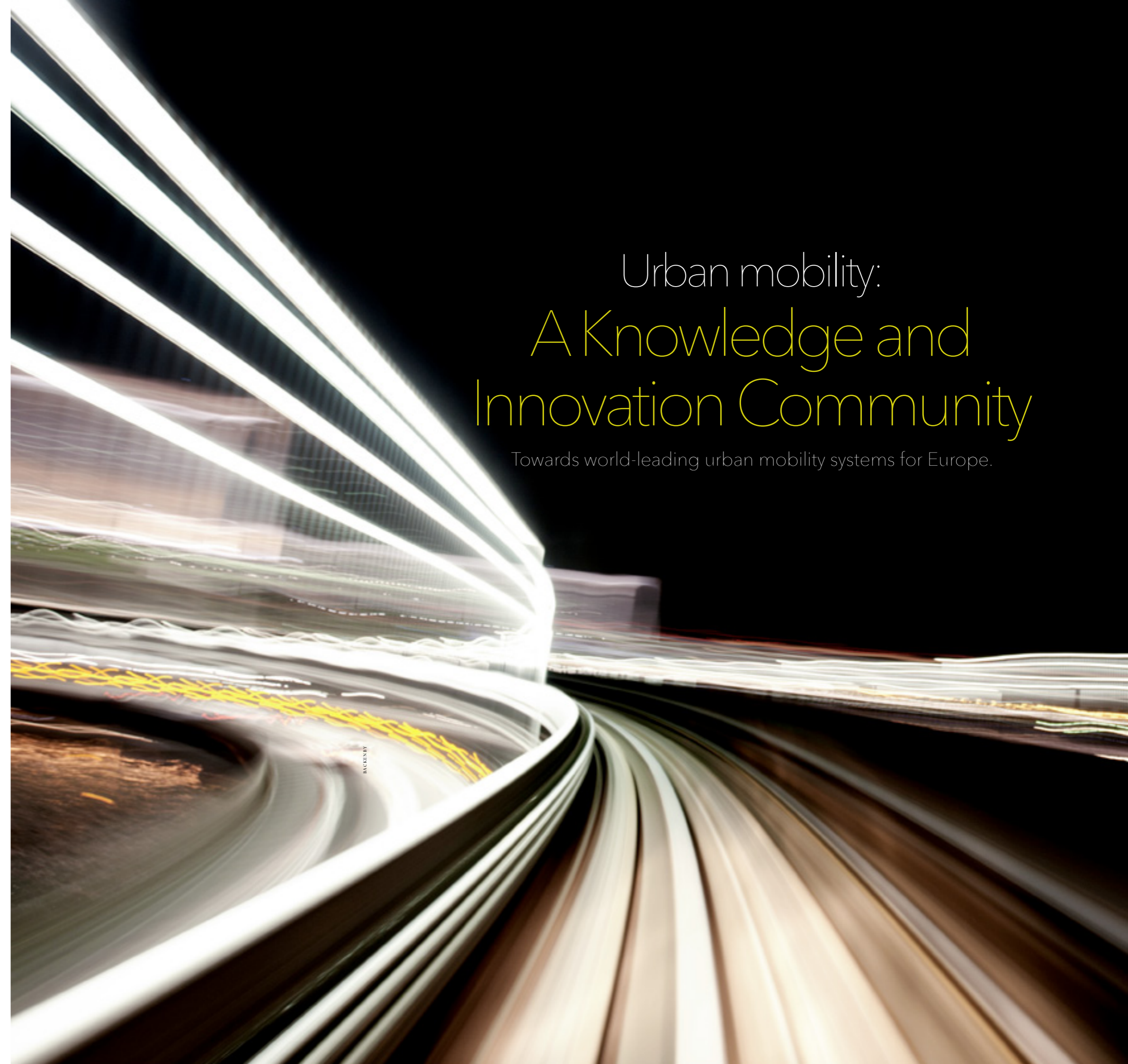
Each KIC brings together leading European stakeholders from industry, academia, and policy in regional European nodes under a 7-15 year commitment to generate systemic solutions and best practice.

Together, the stakeholders educate and foster innovators and entrepreneurs, generate scientific breakthroughs, and drive the growth of new and existing business to support societal value creation and Europe's global competitiveness.

An urban mobility KIC will have the capability to coordinate, integrate and deploy world-leading mobility solutions, necessary for future European competitiveness.

Urban mobility: A Knowledge and Innovation Community

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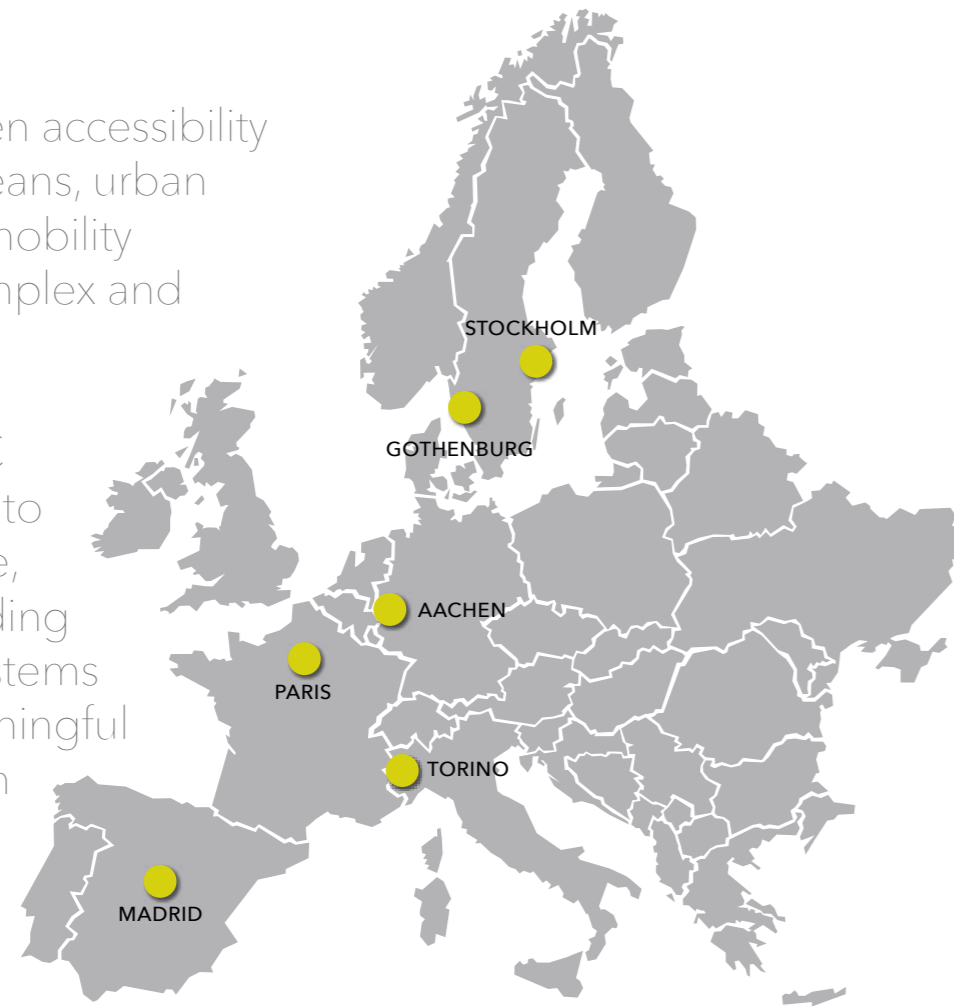
Urban mobility: A Knowledge and Innovation Community

Towards world-leading urban mobility systems for Europe.

Urban environments – our key to future competitiveness

The interfaces between accessibility provision, mobility means, urban planning and urban mobility management are complex and sub-optimized.

An urban mobility KIC will have the capacity to redesign this interface, resulting in world leading European mobility systems with sustainable, meaningful and democratic urban contexts to live our lives in.



The initiative to develop an urban mobility KIC is supported by several European regions and major players in transport, mobility and urban development.

In Europe urban environments are the most significant generators of economic value, cultural output, social development, employment opportunities and human interaction.

Our ability to build competitive urban mobility systems for the future will have tremendous impact on our European economies and societies, not to mention the major consequences this will have for incumbent players such as automotive companies, transit networks and transportation service providers, as well as to related sectors like ICT.

Innovative, integrated, and holistic urban mobility systems will increase our ability to nurture businesses, both in deploying new innovations, but also in making our cities more accessible, attractive and competitive markets for existing solutions. In this way we can create sustainable, meaningful and democratic urban contexts to live our lives in.

We owe it to ourselves and coming generations to capitalize on our opportunity and to base the future of our urban mobility systems on the best that Europe has to offer. We strongly believe that we can achieve the vision of world-leading urban mobility system through establishing a KIC.

Redesigning urban mobility could potentially reduce our global ecological footprint by 70 percent and unlock a share of the over 100 billion euros, or 1 percent of the EU's GDP, that are annually lost to the European economy as a result of chronic congestion.

Today's challenges - a business opportunity

There are essential and complex issues related to the increasingly integrated and changing urban environment.

At the same time as urban environments are the growth drivers of the world, they also present substantial challenges to sustainability. They account for the majority share of our greenhouse gas emissions and energy use, have the highest concentrations of unemployed persons, consume increasing land area, threaten biodiversity, and contribute substantially to inefficiency, inequality and health problems.

With an estimated 60 percent of the world's population living in cities by 2030, tomorrow's urban mobility systems will be even larger, more integrated and complex than today's. Managing the big data aggregations of heterogeneous mobility data will itself be a significant challenge.

It will take coordination to generate the critical mass needed to sustain solutions that will be too holistic for any one actor or stakeholder to sustain alone.

A KIC is necessary

Europe will have to build urban mobility systems in which accessibility has been decoupled from negative impact on climate, health, safety, and social cohesion. We will need systems that are efficient, reliable, affordable and convenient, and that will be available to all of us regardless of demographic category, region, economic status, or social class.

Like no other European instrument, a KIC allows us to integrate resources across stakeholder boundaries. This creates balanced openness among partners, facilitates common standards creation and interoperability, and align stakeholder interests and agendas.

A KIC for Urban mobility systems would allow us to align policy, business models and technology, to make practical use of and leverage brilliant but isolated solutions already out there, as well as drive concerted innovation efforts for the future, both in the public and the private sphere.

Successful mobility solutions for urban systems in Europe can also set a competitive model for solutions globally.

Failure to coordinate Europe's leading actors in contributing to this development could lead to lock-in and sub-optimized action for decades to come.

Benefits

When people, goods and services can move into, through, and from cities effortlessly, seamlessly and without negative impacts on sustainability, we can reap the full benefits of our growing urban regions.

By combining long-term commitment with effective management, an urban mobility KIC can align policy, business models and technology innovation with the needs and possibilities of future urban mobility. The KIC could help stakeholders make informed, future proof investments, create a new important breed of professionals and partake in changing people's life-styles, attitudes and behaviors.

A KIC would for example provide unique capability for development in fields like:

- Emission control.
- Modal integration.
- Interoperability of ITS systems.
- Seamless and robust mobility services.
- The alignment of infrastructure development with the next generation mobility means and mobile connectedness.

Time for action

The next 5-10 years will see the setting of roadmaps for the coming 50 years of urban mobility.

Europe is facing undeniable global competition in all areas relating to urban mobility. Delayed action and timid introduction of new technologies, regulation and innovations could condemn the EU transport industry to irreversible decline. The next 5-10 years will see the setting of roadmaps for the coming 50 years of urban mobility, and the standards and specifications for worldwide intelligent transport. This is particularly relevant for actions affecting the long-term urban structure.

If we are to ensure European future competitiveness, coordinated action must be taken now to make appropriate impact.

! The time for an urban mobility KIC, with the capability to coordinate, integrate and deploy world-leading urban mobility solutions, is now.

