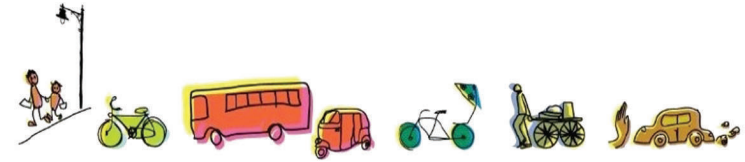


Recognise that people occupy center-stage in our cities and all plans would be for their common benefit and well being

- National Urban Transport Policy



SUM NET India

Sustainable Urban Mobility Network

SUM Net members are expected to:

- i. Fully subscribe to the SUM Net Mission Statement
- ii. Participate actively in SUM Net activities
- iii. Advocate the SUM Net mission at all decision-making levels

People or organizations wishing to be members may apply using the SUM Net Membership Application Form available on SUM Net website (www.sumnet.in) or mail to shweta@parisar.org

Mission

SUM Net seeks to improve the overall quality of life for all by securing deeply democratic processes of decision-making to ensure that urban transportation systems are

- universally accessible
- socially just
- safe and secure
- economically viable
- environmentally sound



History

The National Urban Transport Policy was brought out by the Government of India in 2006, but little seems to have changed post this policy. Some civil society organisations working on sustainable mobility in their respective cities realised that leading lone, city restricted initiatives may not yield much. How cities developed and what they decided to do was found to be controlled by actors and events at the central level and strong policy advocacy was the only way to deal with this situation. With this understanding that binds SUM Net members, it was also believed that policy advocacy without local participation is incomplete, and unsustainable. Top down approaches need to go and people need to be more empowered to opine on what happens and does not happen in their cities. And this is what SUM Net works for.



Members

The network is made up of such diverse individuals and organizations who see urban mobility as a part of the larger sustainable agenda. While all members agree with the larger sustainability vision, each member brings with them a unique local perspective which is what SUM Net seeks as a network- a true local, grassroots character where action and policy travel bottom up and not the other way round.

Activities

- Critical analysis of and facilitation of discussions on policies and project implementation experiences
- City and national campaigns to enhance public participation in urban transportation planning and project implementation
- Experience sharing of the involvement of local communities in shaping their urban transportation policies and systems
- Networking and partnerships with groups engaged in democratizing urban governance
- Public awareness and outreach including through a newsletter, organizing seminars and public events, media interactions, student internships, school-based projects etc.



SUM Net members are broadly involved in three activity areas- Walkability and Non-motorized transport, City Transport Budgets, and Transport and Livelihood with a special focus on Cycle Rickshaw pullers. Within these areas, a range of issues are brought to the fore through research and advocacy, viz. gender, hawking and vending, built environment, urban design, etc. That such a diverse group may exist and bring their understanding to the subject of urban transport is powerful.