**Urban policy indicators – data collection survey**

**Project background and aims:**

Urban systems policies in domains such as transport, employment, land use and urban design, housing, public open space, public safety, education and social infrastructure help to shape urban and transport planning and design interventions, which in turn determine transport mode choices and lifestyles, and ultimately exposure to health risks (Giles-Corti et al 2016). A recent *Lancet* paper (Giles-Corti et al 2016) proposed a set of indicators which could be used to measure progress towards creating healthy cities. This research project attempts to measure both common policy indicators and spatial built environment indicators set out in that paper. The objective is to publish this work in the *Lancet*, which has expressed interest in reviewing a paper, or another high-impact journal.

This initial stage of the projects engages the IPEN investigator team and associated researchers to assist with data collection and analysis in IPEN cities worldwide. For the policy indicators Dr Melanie Lowe will work with colleagues in each participating IPEN city to find and collect basic information on relevant policies. Results from this demonstration project will be used to guide development of refined measures and processes for collecting similar data much more broadly across the world.

**Instructions:**

This document is a guide for measuring urban policy and governance indicators for the cities included in the IPEN Adult or Adolescent studies. The aim of this data collection is to measure the extent to which policy and governance practices support the design and creation of healthy cities and neighbourhoods in cities worldwide.

**Step 1: identify and train person(s) to collect the policy data.**

* Identify person(s) with good local knowledge of the policy context to help you collect policy data for your city. For example:
  + Academic or masters/PhD student in urban or transport planning *and/or*
  + Informant in city government, local healthy cities advocacy organization etc.

Data collectors will be acknowledged in papers, and those who actively contribute to the paper itself, will be eligible for authorship.

Training and support for data collection will be offered by Dr Melanie Lowe as needed, to clarify requirements and policy analysis strategies. Melanie is based in Melbourne, Australia and can be contacted via email [melanie.lowe@acu.edu.au](mailto:melanie.lowe@acu.edu.au). Webinar information and training sessions will be run for people undertaking data collection.

**Step 2: Summarise the policy context (relevant level(s) of government) in the survey below (Questions A-C)**

We expect each country to have different governance arrangements. The focus of this research is on government policy/legislation that governs the whole metropolitan area of each city.

Please list the level(s) of government that are a) involved in city planning in some way; and b) in charge of the whole metropolitan area (e.g. metropolitan government, state government, national government etc.) rather than just part of the city (e.g. local government).

If you need help identifying the relevant levels of government, see step 1.

**Step 3: Identify and source required policies [for clarification on policy terms, please see Glossary in Appendix 1]**

Data collection will require identification and assessment of the content of multiple policy/legislation documents.

Wherever possible, please identify and source policies developed by the *level(s) of government responsible for the whole metropolitan area*. If there are no relevant policies for the whole metropolitan area, identify policies for the local/regional government that covers the majority of the metropolitan population. If no single level of government covers the majority of the metropolitan population, please contact Melanie Lowe to discuss how to proceed.

If you need help identifying specific government agencies/departments and their policies, see step 1.

**Step 4: Enter data for each indicator into the survey below [for clarification on policy terms, please see Glossary in Appendix 1] (Questions 1-23)**

Responding to the survey questions in the table below, please enter data directly into the table. Please add comments where needed to help explain further details or limitations. We expect great diversity in governance arrangements, and sources, content, and specificity of policies, so it is useful to provide details that help explain the context of the policies.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Measurement** | **Data entry** | **Additional Comments** |
| **Policy context** | Briefly summarise your city’s governance arrangements:   1. Which level(s) of government are involved in city planning? | 1. Please list, and indicate the level as follows: N=National; R=state/regional; M=metropolitan; L=local   Please also indicate the approximate % of the population that each level of government covers. |  |
| 1. Which level(s) of government are involved in transport planning? | B. Please list and indicate the level as follows: N=National; R=state/regional; M=metropolitan; L=local  Please also indicate the approximate % of the population that each level of government covers. |  |
| 1. Which level(s) of government are in charge of planning the whole metropolitan area? | C. Please list and indicate the level as follows: N=National; R=state/regional; M=metropolitan  Please also indicate the approximate % of the population that each level of government covers. |  |
| **Indicators (from Giles-Corti et al. 2016)** | **Measurement** | **Data entry** | **Additional Comments** |
| **Integrated transport and urban planning:**  National and state urban planning legislation requires integrated transport and urban planning actions to create healthy and sustainable cities and regular review of policies | 1. Are transport and planning combined in one government department, or separate? | (Please indicate)  Separate  Combined |  |
| 1. Is there a national urban policy that determines land use planning for the whole city? | No – go to 3  Yes – Please list the policy name(s): |  |
| 2a. Are health/wellbeing/quality of life (or similar words) mentioned as a specific policy goal in that document (e.g. “urban design should support wellbeing and healthy lifestyles”)? | No - go to 2c  Yes - please specify that goal: |  |
| 2b. Are there specific health-focussed actions in the policy (i.e. explicit mention of a health goal or rationale when outlining an action. E.g. “create medium density housing to support walkability and healthy lifestyles”)? | No – go to 2c  Yes – please specify: |  |
| 2c. In the policies identified: Which, if any, of the following words/phrases/concepts are mentioned in the policy? | (Tick all those relevant )  Walkable/walkability/pedestrian-friendly  Liveable/liveability  Cycling-friendly  Smart growth  Complete neighbourhoods  Complete streets  20- or 30-minute neighbourhoods  Social justice  Equity of opportunity  Social inclusion  Equitable mobility options  Right to mobility/for pedestrians  Right to the city  Right to public spaces  Other relevant terms? (please specify) |  |
| 1. Is there a metropolitan/sub-national policy that determines land use planning for the whole city? | No – go to 4  Yes – Please list the policy name(s) and the level of government (R=state/regional; M=metropolitan; L=local): |  |
| 3a. Are health/wellbeing/ quality of life (or similar words) mentioned as a specific policy goal in that document (e.g. “urban design should support wellbeing and healthy lifestyles”)? | No – go to 3c  Yes - please specify that goal: |  |
| 3b. Are there specific health-focussed actions in the policy (i.e. explicit mention of a health goal or rationale when outlining an action. E.g. “create medium density housing to support walkability and healthy lifestyles”)? | No – go to 3c  Yes – please specify: |  |
| 3c. In the policies identified: Which, if any, of the following words/phrases/concepts are mentioned in the policy? | (Tick all those relevant )  Walkable/walkability/pedestrian-friendly  Liveable/liveability  Cycling-friendly  Smart growth  Complete neighbourhoods  Complete streets  20- or 30-minute neighbourhoods  Social justice  Equity of opportunity  Social inclusion  Equitable mobility options  Right to mobility/for pedestrians  Right to the city  Right to public spaces  Other relevant terms? (please specify) |  |
| 1. Is there a national policy that determines transport planning for the whole city? | No – go to 5  Yes – Please list the policy name(s): |  |
| 4a. Are health/wellbeing/quality of life (or similar words) mentioned as a policy goal in that document? | No – go to 4c  Yes - please specify that goal: |  |
| 4b. Are there specific health-focussed actions in the policy (i.e. explicit mention of a health goal or rationale when outlining a action. E.g. “deliver public transport stops within 800m of homes to support healthy lifestyles)? | No – go to 4c  Yes – please specify: |  |
| 4c. In the policies identified: Which, if any, of the following words/phrases/concepts are mentioned in the policy? | (Tick all those relevant )  Walkable/walkability/pedestrian-friendly  Liveable/liveability  Cycling-friendly  Smart growth  Complete neighbourhoods  Complete streets  20- or 30-minute neighbourhoods  Social justice  Equity of opportunity  Social inclusion  Equitable mobility options  Right to mobility/for pedestrians  Right to the city  Right to public spaces  Other relevant terms? (please specify) |  |
| 1. Is there a metropolitan/sub-national policy that determines transport planning for the whole city? | No – go to 6  Yes – Please list the policy name(s) and the level of government (R=state/regional; M=metropolitan; L=local): |  |
| 5a. Are health/wellbeing/quality of life (or similar words) mentioned as a policy goal in that document? | No – go to 5c  Yes - please specify that goal: |  |
| 5b. Are there specific health-focussed actions in the policy (i.e. explicit mention of a health goal or rationale when outlining a action E.g. “deliver public transport stops within 800m of homes to support healthy lifestyles)? | No – go to 5c  Yes – please specify: |  |
| 5c. In the policies identified: Which, if any, of the following words/phrases/concepts are mentioned in the policy? | (Tick all those relevant )  Walkable/walkability/pedestrian-friendly  Liveable/liveability  Cycling-friendly  Smart growth  Complete neighbourhoods  Complete streets  20- or 30-minute neighbourhoods  Social justice  Equity of opportunity  Social inclusion  Equitable mobility options  Right to mobility/for pedestrians  Right to the city  Right to public spaces  Other relevant terms? (please specify) |  |
| 1. For this question, consider urban and transport policies as well as relevant legislation   Is health impact assessment for major urban planning and transport interventions incorporated into transport and/or urban policy or legislation? | No – go to 7  Yes – in transport policy  Yes – in urban policy  Yes – in transport legislation  Yes – in urban planning legislation  Please specify document name(s), level(s) of government that produced them, and provide policy details (copy policy language if possible): |  |
| **Air pollution:**  Federal/state air pollution legislation seeks to protect and enhance air quality to promote public health | 1. For this question, consider urban and transport policies as well as relevant legislation   Are there policies related to air pollution and/or legislated limits on air pollution? | No – go to 8  Yes – in transport policy  Yes – in urban policy  Yes – in transport legislation  Yes – in urban planning legislation  Please specify document name(s), and level(s) of government that produced them: |  |
| 7a. If yes, do they specifically relate to transport planning (e.g. requirements for private vehicle emissions/restrictions on private motor vehicle use etc.)? | No  Yes – please provide details: |  |
| 7b. If yes, do they specifically relate to land use planning (e.g. regulation of industrial land uses) | No  Yes – please provide details: |  |
| **Destination accessibility:** Federal/state transport and urban planning legislation requires coordinated planning for transport, employment and infrastructure that ensures access by public transport | 1. Is there policy/legislation (E.g., zoning laws, master plans, design codes, strategic plans or development guidelines) that includes requirements for access to employment and infrastructure by public transport? | No – go to 9  Yes – Please list the document name(s), relevant level of government, and describe the requirement: |  |
| **Distribution of employment:**  Urban planning and design codes that require a balanced ratio (e.g., from 0.8 to 1.2) of jobs to housing | 1. Is there a zoning law/strategic plan/design code/master plan/guideline/policy on local employment and/or economic development, which includes requirements for distribution of employment across the city? | No – go to 10  Yes – please list the document, relevant level of government and employment distribution requirements |  |
| 1. Is there a zoning law/strategic plan/design code/master plan/guideline/policy on local employment and/or economic development for the city that includes a ratio of jobs to housing? | No – go to 11  Yes – please list the document, relevant level of government, and ratio |  |
| **Density:**  Urban design codes require minimum and maximum context-specific housing densities;including higher density development around activity centres and transport hubs | 1. Is there a zoning law/strategic plan/design code/master plan/guideline/policy that includes housing density requirements/targets across the city or within close proximity to transport or town centres? | No – go to 12  Yes – please list the document, relevant level of government, and density target(s) |  |
| 1. Is there zoning law/strategic plan/design code/master plan/guideline/policy that includes height restrictions on residential buildings (minimums and/or maximums)? | No – go to 13  Yes - please list the document, relevant level of government, and building height restrictions |  |
| 1. Is there a zoning law/strategic plan/design code/master plan/guideline/policy that includes a required urban growth boundary; and/or maximum levels of housing development in greenfield sites (e.g. 40% of new housing)? | No – go to 14  Yes - please list the document, relevant level of government, and nature of the growth boundary or maximum levels of greenfield housing development |  |
| **Demand management:**  Urban planning, building codes and local government policies limit car parking; and price parking appropriately for context | 1. Are there parking restrictions (e.g. limits on number of car parks provided; time restrictions; pricing mechanisms) set out in zoning laws/policies/design codes/master plans/guidelines/building codes/policies? | No – go to 15  Yes – please list the document name(s), relevant level of government, and car parking restrictions: |  |
| **Design:**  Urban design codes aim to create pedestrian- and cycling-friendly neighbourhoods, requiring highly connected street networks (e.g., ped-sheds ≥ 0.6);§ pedestrian and cycling infrastructure provision;§ public open space; and lot layouts that maximise natural surveillance | 1. Is there a policy/guideline/urban design code that includes minimum requirements for public open space access and/or provision? | No – go to 16  Yes – please list the document name, relevant level of government, and specify minimum requirements |  |
| 1. Is there a policy/guideline/urban design code that explicitly aims to create pedestrian-friendly environments that support walking/walkability? | No – go to 17  Yes – please list the document name, relevant level of government, and provide details |  |
| 16a. If yes, are there targets/goals for walking participation (e.g. % mode share) | No – go to 17  Yes – please provide details |  |
| 1. Is there a policy/guideline/urban design code that explicitly aims to support cycling? | No – go to 18  Yes – please list the document name, relevant level of government, and provide details |  |
| 17a. If yes, are there targets/goals for cycling participation (e.g. % mode share) | No – go to 18  Yes – please provide details |  |
| 1. Is there an urban design policy or active transport policy that requires a minimum level of street connectivity or pedshed ratio? | No – go to 19  Yes – please list the document name, relevant level of government, and provide details |  |
| 1. Is there an urban design policy or active transport policy that requires provision of pedestrian infrastructure (e.g. sidewalks, pedestrian crossing requirements)? | No – go to 20  Yes – please list the document name, relevant level of government, and provide details |  |
| 1. Is there an urban design policy or active transport policy that includes cycling infrastructure requirements (e.g. bike lanes, bike parking, crossing requirements)? | No – go to 21  Yes – please list the document name, relevant level of government, and provide details |  |
| **Distance to public transport:**  Urban design codes require public transport to be within 400-800 m of residential walkable catchments | 1. Is there an urban design policy or public transport policy for the whole city (as a separate document or included in broader policy)? | No – go to 22  Yes – please list the policy name(s), relevant level of government, and provide details |  |
| 22. Is there an urban design policy or active/public transport policy that specifies minimum requirements for public transport accessibility? | No – go to 23  Yes – please list the policy name(s), relevant level of government, and specify requirements (e.g. distance to stops/stations from homes, or density of stops etc.) and whether some areas have special requirements (e.g. disadvantaged areas) |  |
| 22a. If yes, are there targets/goals for public transport use (% mode share) | No – go to 23  Yes – please provide details |  |
| **Transport infrastructure investment by mode:** % of total government transport expenditure in a given financial year spent on (i) pedestrian infrastructure; (ii) cycling infrastructure; (iii) public transport; (iv) road infrastructure | 23. Is there information on government expenditure on infrastructure for different modes of transport?  Tip: review government budgets and/or transport agency websites/documents | No – data collection complete  Yes – record % of total government transport expenditure in a given financial year spent on  (i) pedestrian infrastructure:  (ii) cycling infrastructure:  (iii) public transport:  (iv) road infrastructure: |  |

**Appendix 1**

**GLOSSARY OF POLICY TERMS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Design code** | A set of illustrated design rules and requirements which instruct and may advise on the physical development of a site or area. The graphic and written components of the code are detailed and precise, and build upon a design vision such as a masterplan or other design and development framework for a site or area. (from https://www.planningportal.co.uk/directory/4/glossary/category/7/categoryInfo/3) |
| **Integrated planning** | Collaboration and partnerships between sectors and/or different levels of government, to address cross-cutting issues (e.g. planning healthier cities) that do not correspond to the responsibilities of individuals departments/levels of government. |
| **Legislation** | Acts of Parliament that set out laws. For our purposes, this term also includes statutory regulations (or “subsidiary legislation”) issued under an Act, usually to deal with matters of detail that are not specified in Acts. |
| **Master plan** | A type of planning brief outlining the preferred usage of land and the overall approach to the layout of a development in a defined area. Provide detailed guidance for subsequent planning applications. (from  https://www.planningportal.co.uk/directory/4/glossary/category/7/categoryInfo/3) |
| **National urban policy** | A coherent set of decisions derived through a deliberate government-led process of coordinating and rallying various actors for a common vision and goal for urban development over the long term. (adapted from http://citiscope.org/story/2017/explainer-what-national-urban-policy) |
| **Planning/development guideline** | A set of planning provisions intended to guide development toward a desired level of quality through the design of the physical environment. |
| **Zoning law** | A planning control that sets land use and development controls, based on identification of areas as suitable for different purposes (such as commercial, residential or industrial) (from Rowley 2017) |
| **Actions (in a policy)** | Plans of action for achieving the aims and objectives of policies or plans |
| **Strategic plan** | A document that sets out a vision, goals and objectives for land use/transport planning and (usually) the actions required to achieve those goals. |
| **Transport policy** | A document that outlines decisions including goals, objectives and actions for the design and delivery of transport systems. |
| **Urban policy** | A broad term for documents that outline the decisions taken by those responsible for planning and/or delivery of infrastructure, services or land uses in urban setting. For our purposes, we are most interested in policies created by governments. Can include strategic plans, transport policy, guidelines etc. |