Once again a new record was reached, as more than 400 people gathered to Gdynia, Poland in September 2016 to network, discuss and learn about sustainable transportation. Under the banner ‘Shaping the Mobility of Tomorrow’, the highlights of this year’s conference included high-profile guests, six interesting site visits and the CIVITAS Awards ceremony which introduced a completely new awards category this year.

The other awards were handed to the city of Rzeszów (winner of the Technical Innovation Award), the city of Bologna (winner of the Public Participation Award with the European Cycling Challenge) and Málaga (CIVITAS City of the Year). In conjunction, the European Cycling Challenges Awards, brilliantly managed by the City of Bologna, celebrated the City of Gdansk as winner of the ‘City Leaderboard’ and ‘Best Cycling City Leaderboard’ categories.

The conference hosted a variety of insightful, exciting discussions and sessions from selected experts covering topics such as smart cities, e-buses, inclusive mobility, ITS solutions, urban freight logistics, alternative fuels and shared mobility. The programme also featured plenty of networking opportunities including an intriguing cocktail reception in Gdynia’s notable Immigration Museum and a grand dinner by the waterfront.

The City of Gdynia went all the way in making the event a success, including organising six different site visits to the most interesting spots in the city: a biking trip, tour of the city centre from an accessibility perspective, e-mobility trolleybus discovery, low emission bus visit and a cutting edge traffic management centre. The images and presentations from the conference are available at: http://www.civitas.eu/content/civitas-forum-conference-2016

Last but not least was the announcement that in 2017 the CIVITAS Forum Conference will be held in the city of Torres Vedras, one of Portugal’s leading examples in sustainable urban development.

We hope to see you all there!
The final project meeting of the CIVITAS PLUS II project 2MOVE2 successfully took place within the framework of the CIVITAS Forum 2016 in Gdynia, gathering for the last time representatives from all partners: Cities of Stuttgart (coordinator), Brno, Malaga and Tel Aviv-Yafo, as well as the University of Stuttgart, public transport company of Brno (DPMB), SSP Consult and Technion Israel Institute of Technology. The four cities had the opportunity to present in several sessions of the Forum some of the results and key findings of their activities in 2MOVE2. The main goal of 2MOVE2 has been to exchange knowledge and experiences between project partners and to implement innovative measures (22 in total) which support and enable the establishment of more sustainable transport systems. Topics addressed by 2MOVE2 range from e-mobility, freight, and ITS-based traffic management to Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs), cycling, public transport and corporate mobility management.

During the last four years, the 2MOVE2 cities implemented an ambitious integrated mix of technology and policy-based measures aiming at better mobility and a new mobility culture. These measures included among many others introducing smart parking in Brno, streamlining the use of heavy goods vehicles in Malaga, promoting corporate mobility management in Stuttgart and incorporating electric vehicles in the municipal fleet in Tel Aviv-Yafo. Several innovations developed in the project can easily be adopted by other European cities, such as the bus sensors for air quality in Malaga, the e-mobility information events in Stuttgart, the cycle-racks for buses in Brno and the urban transportation ‘hackathon’ for app development in Tel Aviv-Yafo. In effect, the project successfully contributed to enable the take up of mobility solutions by local authorities.

The 2MOVE2 International Charta for Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans was signed by political representatives of all four partner cities at the Gdynia Forum. The Charta represents a commitment of the four 2MOVE2 cities to competitive and resource-efficient urban mobility, to be achieved through the development and implementation of SUMPs. Each city underwent a detailed analysis of its existing planning instruments. The work carried out in 2MOVE2 has helped the partner cities to better understand their own set of planning instruments, uncover their potential and address weaknesses.

To learn more about the project and all the measures please read the new 2MOVE2 brochure “Moving together for a better mobility” which can be downloaded at http://www.civitas.eu/content/brochure-2move2-nutshell

For more information contact Wolfgang Forderer - wolfgang.forderer@stuttgart.de
CIVITAS DYN@MO – time to wrap up

The main achievements of the DYN@MO project and its four participating cities Aachen, Gdynia, Koprivnica and Palma were presented during the CIVITAS Forum in Gdynia. These achievements were related to sustainable mobility, particularly clean and energy efficient vehicles, deployment of ICT and ITS and Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning.

Aachen’s innovative approach towards e-mobility was presented at several sessions and was also acknowledged during the CIVITAS Awards 2016. Gdynia’s successful activities with regards to their trolleybuses were also highlighted. All Forum conference participants, who enjoyed free access to Gdynia’s public transport during the event, were able to experience for themselves how silent, clean and convenient the trolleybuses are. Thanks to the DYN@MO project, these trolleybuses also go off-wire in order to reach key areas of the city centre. Representatives from Koprivnica explained how DYN@MO has made it possible for the city to implement its first public transport line, at the same time being the first electric bus service in Croatia. Palma’s success story regarding the implementation of traffic restrictions in the city centre was also unveiled, and the lessons learned on the development of Palma’s comprehensive SUMP were shared. This also demonstrated that Palma’s SUMP, along with the developed or improved SUMP’s of the other DYN@MO cities, supported the project’s efforts significantly, and have changed the culture of transport planning in the cities. This has had a strong impact on the implemented sustainable urban transport measures in the concerned cities, and will continue to have a positive impact in the future.

Lastly, two sessions took place at the CIVITAS Forum conference that underlined the interesting experiences of the DYN@MO cities. The topics included implementation of public bike sharing schemes and lessons learned from applying the lead user approach for citizen and stakeholder involvement in planning sustainable urban mobility.

These were just some of the many achievements of the project, demonstrating how new mobility planning and smart technologies create opportunities for changing mobility behaviour and creating a citizen friendly urban environment. A complete overview of the 30 measures can be found in the DYN@MO in a nutshell brochure. Towards the end of this year a final brochure and a set of best-practice case studies will be published, enabling knowledge transfer, as well as exchange of lessons learned and success stories, to other cities.

NEW CITY PROFILES

New CIVITAS City!

Polotsk is a mid-sized city located in a polluted region in northern Belarus. The city has seen a surge in the number of private vehicles: in 2010, more than 300 cars were registered per 1000 residents. The local Polotsk government and a range of stakeholders have been consistently working on relevant measures to tackle the situation and reduce the amount of carbon dioxide emissions. Among such measures is an EU-funded Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (to be adopted in 2016). This official document will be used as a strategy to expand the existing networks of bus stops, create a network of bicycle lanes (the first one connecting the downtown area with a major residential neighbourhood by 2017), and promote eco-friendly means of transportation. This includes hosting the European Mobility Week, which Polotsk organised officially for the first time in Belarus in 2015. It is worthy to note that Polotsk became the first official host of the European Mobility Week in Belarus and its active promoter.
Looking back at the last four years, the CIVITAS Community can be very proud of all what it achieved under the CIVITAS Plus II programme phase. There were two support projects, CIVITAS WIKI and CIVITAS CAPITAL, who worked hand-in-hand to help the demonstration projects, manage the website, organise the yearly conferences and produce the regular newsletters. CIVITAS CAPITAL looked back at the learnings produced since the start of the programme in 2002 to extract in a structured and effective manner the essential knowledge which is still valid today. It also ran the Advisory Groups which provided great assistance to the Commission’s policy thinking.

Both projects delivered policy documents which are now at the disposal of city authorities and other relevant stakeholders so that they do not need to reinvent the wheel, but can start from the latest stage of knowledge in the different areas of sustainable urban mobility. CIVITAS 2MOVE2 and CIVITAS DYNAMO successfully implemented sustainable urban mobility measures in eight cities in different areas of urban mobility, providing an additional pool of learnings and best practice. The Commission, and more specifically DG MOVE, would like to thank all people involved in the four projects of CIVITAS Plus II for these great achievements and the nice journey travelled together. We wish their successors, and our successors at INEA, to have as nice an experience as we did and, of course, to take the CIVITAS programme further forward to the benefit of EU cities and EU citizens!

Isabelle Maës, Policy Officer, European Commission, DG MOVE

CIVITAS NEWS

Looking back at the last four years

Inspiring CIVITAS stories and expert ideas for better urban mobility

New CIVITAS publication presents case studies of measures and projects implemented within the last three years under the latest phase of the Initiative, CIVITAS PLUS II, and accompanied by two to three contributions per case study by members of different CIVITAS groups.

This enables a great deal of productive discussion, debate and learning on what this shift should look like and how it can be achieved. Through its support for testing, implementing and evaluating innovative mobility measures in cities across Europe through demonstration projects led by local governments, CIVITAS has also generated a wealth of case studies that emerged from participating cities, in addition to guidance and policy advice on a number of transport and mobility topics.

This publication is a product of these two facets of CIVITAS together, presenting 10 case studies of measures and projects implemented within the last three years under the latest phase of the Initiative, CIVITAS PLUS II. The case studies feature two to three contributions each, including members of different CIVITAS groups such as the Thematic Groups, Advisory Groups, and National and Regional Networks (CIVINETs). Download and read CIVITAS Voices, and let these case studies inspire you. Consider the advice offered by the experts, and begin to plan measures or projects in your own cities.
On 5 and 6 July 2016 a combined study tour and thematic workshop was organised in Italy by the CIVITAS Thematic Groups Collective Passenger Transport and Integrated Planning. Around 30 participants from other CIVITAS cities learned on how the cities of Parma and Reggio Emilia successfully connected their urban areas with rural/suburban territories and the wider area to faraway destinations via the new high speed railway station Mediopadana.

The visit started in Parma at the headquarters of TEP, the local public transport operator. The IT customised platform used to manage the flexible/on-demand service Pronto Bus, operating during the night and connecting also to neighbouring towns, was presented by TEP technicians. The group also had the chance to learn more about the new North-South Trolleybus Corridor that Parma designed after a CIVITAS study tour in Nantes. It then visited the renovated railway station Parma Centrale, now an advanced intermodal hub with car parking facilities, urban and interurban bus station, car and bike sharing, recharging points for e-vehicles and the Cicletteria, a cycling sub-hub with safe parking facilities for over 600 bikes, a bike cafe and a lab with bike rental/repair services. Aboard Italobus, the regular coach transfer service operated from Parma central station, the group reached the high speed train station Mediopadana in Reggio Emilia, a TEN-T node designed by the architect Santiago Calatrava.

On the second day, the workshop’s hosting city of Reggio Emilia presented in detail the Mediopadana project as part of a wider analysis carried out within the coordinated URBACT project ENTER-HUB. It discussed the role of railway hubs/multimodal interfaces of regional relevance in medium cities as engines for integrated urban development and economic, social and cultural regeneration. This topic was also presented by the Swiss city of Lugano followed by the city of Porto with the case study from its new multimodal interface Campanã. Parma complemented the study visit with a presentation of its new SUMP. The workshop was moderated by Cosimo Chiffi (TRT/CIVITAS WIKI) who also introduced the rail vision towards 2015 resulting from the Living Rail project roadmap.

The presentations of the workshop and a photo gallery are available on the event page @ http://civitas.eu/content/civitas-study-tour-and-workshop-linking-territories-long-short-distance-co-modality

CIVITAS call for host & visiting cities is now open!

CIVITAS launched its new peer-exchange programme at the Forum which took place on 28-30 November 2016.

The programme is aimed at transport stakeholders and city representatives who are interested in learning from and sharing with their peers in other European cities through work placements and study visits dedicated to innovative transport measures.

The work placements are designed to provide a 2-3 days hands-on learning experience in cities which face similar challenges. The study visits will be open up to 10 visiting city representatives. Financial subsidies are available to cover travel and accommodation.

CIVITAS is looking for both host and visiting cities. If you are interested, please fill in the application form available at www.civitas.eu by 7 November. We look forward to hearing from you! Contact: melanie.leroy@eurocities.eu
The involvement and participation of citizens and stakeholders in the field of sustainable urban mobility is necessary to address their actual needs and to obtain public legitimacy. In the CIVITAS Plus edition (2008-2012), the CIVITAS ELAN project ‘Mobilising citizens for vital cities’ introduced ambitious transport measures and policies towards sustainable urban mobility. The ELAN project took an approach where ‘Putting the citizen first’ was at the core of the work. The five participating cities – Ljubljana, Gent, Zagreb, Brno and Porto – agreed on a common mission statement. With the adoption of new Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), citizen participation methods have started to shift towards online environments. Within CIVITAS Plus II – the current CIVITAS edition – the four cities of Aachen, Gdynia, Koprivnica and Palma that are involved in the DYN@MO project tested and implemented new methods of citizens’ participation called Participation 2.0. The latter removes barriers of time and space and allows citizens to participate and interact with local authorities and among each other to propose new ideas rather than just be subjected to decisions that others make.
CIVITAS Insights: A thorough understanding of CIVITAS mobility solutions

The CIVITAS CAPITAL project produced insights in the form of compact publications on specific mobility solutions. A definition and the status quo of a respective mobility and transport theme are accompanied with examples from CIVITAS cities and beyond. Lessons learned and a future outlook of the topics help to provide up-to-date information on current developments and new innovations.

Cities can implement various sustainable transport measures to counteract the main urban traffic problems. However, old habits are hard to break, while considerable demonstration and testing is needed to see if urban dwellers are willing to embrace these more sustainable forms of transport. CIVITAS supports the wellbeing of residents by offering them viable alternatives to driving their cars, getting users to travel by bus, bicycle or on foot, with the promise of better health and quality of life.

The CIVITAS Insights reflect on this philosophy and cover a plethora of topics. These include safety for pedestrians and cyclists, accessible mobility for all, urban freight transport, real-time information for public transport, and parking management to access regulations. The insights also cover shared mobility, multimodality and mobility as a service, e-mobility, sustainable planning, social marketing, and engagement of the citizens to build sustainable cities.

The CIVITAS Insights emphasise that CIVITAS does not live within the laboratory but that it thrives in the real world!

All CIVITAS Insights can be accessed on the CIVITAS Key Publications page and the CIVITAS Library. If you’re inspired by what you read in these Insights join the discussion within the CIVITAS Thematic Groups or on CIVITAS Interactive.

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CIVITAS guidance on procuring sustainable urban mobility released

CIVITAS has released new guidelines on public procurement that provides local and regional policymakers and transport operators with policy reflections and practical insight from European procurement experts.

The report outlines how public authorities should rethink the manner in which they meet their mobility needs, and how their procurement strategies can have broader positive (or negative) impacts on sustainable urban mobility patterns.

It also describes what cities need to do before procuring vehicles, such as assessing needs and priorities, providing a methodological approach to greening public fleets. Lastly it underlines how public authorities can go further and be bolder – for example, by procuring vehicles or infrastructure together with other cities or beyond local markets.

The guidance builds upon existing initiatives and projects and offers some of the most inspiring good practice examples on sustainable mobility procurement in Europe.

Sustainable public procurement is a topic that touches upon many, if not all, of the 10 CIVITAS themes. Examples include purchasing new vehicles or infrastructure that is more sustainable than traditional alternatives, and procuring public transport vehicles that clean or maintain roads and paths.

Concepts such as more efficient distribution systems for urban freight and Total Cost of Ownership (TCO), which takes a holistic view of the environmental impact of a product, can also be invaluable tools to cities seeking to reduce their carbon footprint.
Working with the (social) media

With the collaboration of the CiViNET Spain and Portugal Network, CiViTAS Capital organised in Madrid during May 2016, a CiViNET Work event titled Working with the (social) media.

Although the event was opened for the whole CiViNET and CiViTAS community, the majority of the attendees were Spanish and Portuguese, particularly since it was mainly organised in Spanish (with some presentations in Portuguese and English). This event started with the participation of the Presidency of the CiViNET Network in Portugal (Hugo Lucas from Torres Vedras) welcoming participants and explaining the nature of the event. Francisco José López Carmona from the Madrid City Council welcomed the City and Ms. Marjan Frederix from Mobiel 21 conducted a presentation titled “Reaching the Citizen: Effective Communications and Marketing”

Moderated by María Eugenia López-Lambas, Professor at the Polytechnic University of Madrid, the event was divided into two parts.

During the first part, with a focus on social networks, Samir Awad Núñez from the blog Ecomovilidad.net explained public participation in the mobility experience, especially before the local elections in 2015. Ignacio Ramos, from the Madrid City Council explained the participation process through social networks for his city. This was followed by a presentation on Social Media by Isabel Ramis, blogger and social influencer with the support of her blog mueveteenbicipormadrid.com.

The second part focused on Marketing on Sustainable Mobility projects. CiViTAS demo cities Málaga represented by Carlos Sánchez Pacheco and Palma de Mallorca represented by Rosa Rodriguez from the Company Verbigrafia discussed how they have implemented the dissemination processes. Towards the end of the session, José María Diez from CiViNET Spain and Portugal unveiled his vision on personalised marketing and active mobility campaigns, explaining the experience of the cities of Burgos and Santander in the PTP-Cycle and SmartMove projects (IEE).

New H2020 Mobility for Growth open calls:

MG4.1-2017 - Increasing the take up and scale-up of innovative solutions to achieve sustainable mobility in urban areas
MG4.2-2017 - Supporting ‘smart electric mobility’ in cities
MG4.3-2017 - Innovative approaches for integrating urban nodes in the TEN-T core network corridors

For more information, visit the Horizon 2020 Participant Portal/Mobility for Growth Working Programme

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