



## APPLICATION FORM – CATEGORY II PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### Evaluation Criteria

As a CIVITAS Forum member city you are eligible to apply for this award. However, you may **not** apply, if you received the CIVITAS Award in 2009. To be rewarded, in your application you should demonstrate how your city administration have consulted and involved citizens and other stakeholders with respect to your sustainable urban transport measure/policy/strategy's:

- 1) Design
- 2) Development and adoption
- 3) Implementation
- 4) Monitoring and evaluation

### Selection Process

The category I award winner will be selected by the CIVITAS Award Jury, based on the merit of its application.

**Please send your entry via e-mail to the CIVITAS Secretariat at the following address, with "CIVITAS Award Category I" placed within the subject of your message**

[secretariat@civitas.eu](mailto:secretariat@civitas.eu)

**This call closes on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010**

### APPLICANT DETAILS

Local authority	Mr. Patxi Lazcoz Baigorri (Mayor of Vitoria-Gasteiz)
Country	Spain
Street / Post box	Plaza de España 1
Postal Code, City	01001 Vitoria-Gasteiz
Name of contact person	Juan Carlos Escudero Achiaga
Telephone	+34 945162696
Fax	+34 945162695
Email	jcescudero@vitoriagasteiz.org

## JUSTIFICATION

Please answer the following questions using no more than 150 words for each answer.

**How has your city involved citizens and stakeholders within the design and development of sustainable urban mobility measures/policies/strategies? (in your response please describe whom you have involved) (max. 150 words)**

The [Sustainable Mobility and Public Space Plan](#) (SM&PSP) has been based on an intense process of public participation as is shown in the [Citizens' Pact for Sustainable Mobility](#) which establishes a consensus between the public administration and civil society to define the new scheme of sustainable mobility.

An attempt was made to involve all citizens and stakeholders in the process.

The information flow was not only vertical (from City Council to Citizens), but also introduced citizen-to-citizen communications, contributing to the socialization of the Plan. In other words, the [volunteer campaign](#) developed to provide information about the [changes in the PT network](#) was oriented to this end. As a result, more than 27,000 people were provided with information by 101 volunteers.

We must also highlight the strong consensus position between all political groups, obtaining unanimous approval of a Plan that, besides the political consensus, required the coordination of technical areas that usually operate separately.



*Citizens of all ages helped shape the Sustainable Mobility and Public Space Plan.*

**How did you engage your citizens throughout the implementation of sustainable urban mobility measures/policies/strategies (i.e. what mechanisms were relied on)? (max. 150 words)**

For the implementation of the first measures of the SM&PSP, the City was supported by civic and social groups. Noteworthy in this regard is the social nature of the Plan, including, last year alone, over thirty briefings and participative workshops, as well as the unselfish collaboration of volunteers who provided support in the streets informing citizens about the extent, scope and operation of the measures to be implemented.

At the same time, the Agenda 21 educational programme for Schools has incorporated sustainable mobility in its curriculum, involving over 20,000 students from thirty schools during 2009.

An intense [communications and dissemination campaign](#) was also launched in order to share the aims of the Plan with the public.

[In 2009, more than 16,500 people took part](#) in the "European Mobility Week" which focused on raising public awareness of sustainable mobility, the actions of the Sustainable Mobility and Public Space Plan and the CIVITAS Initiative.

**Please explain, how your city administration has informed citizens and stakeholders throughout the monitoring and evaluation of sustainable urban transport measures/policies/strategies? (max. 150 words)**

They are regularly informed through a number of different forums (Sector Councils, Territorial Councils, Municipal Social Council) and support tools available ([Mobility Web Portal](#), Urban Ecology Classroom, Digital Bulletin, Technical Workshops, press conferences, institutional media campaigns, communication street campaigns, ...).

Since 1998, an [annual review and analysis of local sustainability indicators](#) has also been conducted and the results are reflected in a "newsletter" which also reflects the trends of the indicators for each sector analyzed, includes the main actions undertaken by the City Council for each of the subjects under evaluation. The newsletter is distributed on paper and in digital format.



**Sectorial Council for the Elderly is informed about the Sustainable Mobility and Public Space Plan.**

**Is there a legal basis for your administration involving citizens/stakeholders in your decision-making processes and if yes, please describe it? (max. 150 words)**

In September 2004 the Regulations for Citizen Participation in the City of Vitoria-Gasteiz came into force. The aim of these Regulations was to manage the rules concerning the ways, means and procedures for the information and participation of all the citizens of Vitoria-Gasteiz. These included defining and improving the channels of direct public participation in public affairs for which the municipality is responsible, encouraging public involvement and intervention in improving the municipality.

The regulation provides for three different advisory bodies of participation and defines the purpose, composition, functions and general operating rules of each of them stating that all bodies will write mandatory reports if necessary, and will make proposals and suggestions.

The organs of participation provided are: Sector Councils, Territorial Councils and the Social Council of the Municipality of Vitoria-Gasteiz.

**Please describe the impact the involvement of the public in the decision making process has had for the success of your sustainable urban transport measures/policies/strategies (max. 150 words)**

A wide range of stakeholders has participated in the SM&PSP design. An interdepartmental technical committee was set up to oversee the work developed and a "Citizens Forum for Sustainable Mobility" was created.

The approach to implementing the plan has been multidisciplinary and participatory, seeking the involvement, besides the different municipal departments, of as many citizens' organizations as

possible: transport professionals, reduced mobility groups, the Environment Council, Economic agents, Traders, Professional and Neighbourhood Associations, Council of the Agenda 21 for Schools...

The high level of public participation, leading to the Citizens' Pact for Sustainable Mobility, has been used to strengthen the collective sense of the public and enabled a common scenario to be drawn up to overcome conflicts of interest and adjust the Plan to the requirements of the public.

The Basque Country University has also been closely involved, putting all its efforts into conveying the philosophy of the SM&PSP towards the public.



*The City Council shares the Mobility and Public Space policies with stakeholders and the public.*

**Applications will be collected and forwarded to the CIVITAS Award Jury for evaluation and voting. A decision will be reached by 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2010. You will be informed accordingly, in order to begin preparing for the Award ceremony.**