**COVER STORY**

The Stuttgart Services project – Intelligently networked (electro) mobility combined with urban services in your pocket

Nicolas Leyva, City of Stuttgart

Germany’s contribution to modern day’s mobility has been incontrovertibly high. The first motor-based vehicles were already rolling on German ground by the end of the 19th century. Some 125 years later after the car was invented, the German government is making great efforts to maintain the pioneering role of the country by encouraging the introduction and development of more sustainable forms of transport. Its objective is to have 1 million electric vehicles on German streets by 2020.

However, achieving this ambitious objective has proven to be much more difficult than originally expected. Nevertheless, and in spite of the fact that today there are only a few thousand registered electric cars in Germany, the government has decided to stick to this goal. The strategy is to involve and link all actors dealing with electro mobility, to include strong monetary encouragement for the private sector and research institutions, as well as the establishment of an organizational framework for the canalization of grants.

In 2012, the Government selected four so-called Showcase Regions for Electric Mobility, providing €180 million in funding for demonstration and research projects. Stuttgart Services is one of these funded projects. It envisions a service card supported by an internet-based platform to offer the citizens standardised, easy access to all means of public transport and other mobility services such as (electric) car-sharing and bike rental. Yet one of the most innovative aspects of the project is the extension of the offered features to other urban services (including libraries, public pools, parking facilities and local city offices) as well as the provision of a payment function and a loyalty program which enables users to pay at shops with the same card.

The first cards for the general public will be issued by the beginning of 2015. These will be valid as a ticket for public transport and sharing services, in addition to opening the door to many other services, making it a real ‘citizen’s card’.

The project goes hand in hand with the action plan ‘Moving sustainably in Stuttgart’ initiated by the Mayor of Stuttgart, Fritz Kuhn, in order to considerably reduce the number of conventional motor vehicles driving in and out of the inner city every day. Today, Stuttgart can be considered one of the forerunners of electro mobility in Germany, thanks to its extensive network of public charging stations and to the proportionally high number of electric vehicles registered here. Additionally, no city in the world has a higher number of car-sharing vehicles per citizen, including the 520 electric cars from the provider car2go. In this way, Stuttgart is contributing substantially to attaining the objective of increasing the number of electric vehicles on German streets.

For more information on the Stuttgart Services project please visit the website: www.stuttgart-services.de or contact: stuttgart-services@mail.ssb-ag.de

Stuttgart is the coordinator of the CIVITAS 2MOVE2 project
CITY NEWS

All parking spaces available to Malaga’s citizens

The ParkHelp project is a prime example of Malaga’s commitment to technological innovation in sustainable mobility

Malaga is introducing an exciting new system helping drivers on the road in finding parking. This system transfers the underground parking guidance concept to the road, informing drivers about the nearest available parking place.

The associated infrastructure involves detection and data transmission via wireless sensors installed in parking places, as well as several panels to be placed on key urban traffic spots providing drivers with information on parking availability.

The system will be implemented in regulated parking zones, so the software associated will not only enable traffic authorities to receive parking occupancy data in real time, but also to identify possible payment fraud, optimising management of parking areas involved in the scheme.

Among other features, the service enables users to pay via mobile platform. It envisions a free smartphone app and a website that complement information showed on boards about the number and location of available parking places. By doing this, the time for finding parking places is reduced, as well as congestion and pollution generated by motorised traffic, with an overall improvement of Malaga’s citizens quality of life.

For any information contact Filippo Maria Contenti, programaseuropeos8@malaga.eu

Malaga is member of the CIVITAS 2MOVE2 project

REGIONAL NEWS

Baltic Sea Region Competence Centre on sustainable urban mobility launched

Within the CIVITAS DYNO MO project, the Baltic Sea Region Competence Centre on Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs) was established and aims at bringing together the knowledge and best practice on sustainable urban mobility planning in the Baltic Sea Region. The aim of the competence centre is to assist cities in developing their SUMPs by:

■ providing information and support
■ supporting the exchange of knowledge and experiences
■ offering training on the SUMP process

The Good Examples database, documents containing SUMP-related cases from the region, is one of the key services provided by the competence centre. The services are targeted at cities already familiar with SUMPs and willing to improve and adjust them to the changing requirements, as well as at cities only starting with SUMP preparation. As part of the online platform, a separate section in Polish has been dedicated to Polish cities who wish to evolve from traditional transport plans toward SUMPs. The competence centre is led by the University of Gdansk, supported by the UBC Commissions on Environment and Transport and the City of Gdynia.

Visit the BSR Competence centre on SUMP online platform at www.bsr-sump.eu / http://polska.bsr-sump.eu/

For any information contact: Rusanen Maija, maija.rusanen@ubc.net
Gdynia: Intelligent Transportation Systems help introduce mobility management measures

The use of modern transport-related technologies can improve traffic management, support planning and design of transport systems solutions, enhance current traffic organisation and offer tools for dialogue with inhabitants. Implementation of the Traffic Management System TRISTAR in Gdynia is ongoing, including the basic layout of the Tricity streets with about 160 intersections and pedestrian crossings equipped with traffic signals and stations measuring traffic parameters. The network also features communication infrastructure (including optical fibre cables) with a length of about 150 km, installation of 60 video surveillance cameras (CCTV), 60 cameras for vehicle identification (ANPR), about 70 variable message signs at public transport stops, and more than 25 variable message signs for drivers and equipment. Some 700 public transport vehicles will boast transmitters and on-board computers to manage the vehicles and assign priorities in traffic signals.

The CIVITAS DYN@MO project, which the City of Gdynia is a part of together with Aachen, Koprivnica and Palma de Mallorca, is also developing a multi-level transport systems model of the city. The model will be fed with data from detection systems located in the architecture and infrastructure of the TRISTAR system using localisation devices in vehicles, mobile phones and navigation devices (Bluetooth, Wi-Fi).

The results of detailed analyses and simulations carried out on the model will be presented to residents through the CIVITAS DYN@MO Internet platform Mobility 2.0 (www.mobility-dyn@mo.pl) so they deepen their knowledge in the field of mobility management and transport sustainability. The model will also help to estimate and verify effects on mobility management initiated by Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) proposals and measures. Suggestions and comments published on the platform by inhabitants will inspire further analysis and influence the approval of the SUMP.

Implementation of new technologies in transport provides access to data which can power transport models. These models will help reduce expenses and time related to transport research and data collection, in addition to increasing the accuracy of modelling and improving the quality of transport models.

For information contact: Jacek Oskarbski, joskar@pg.gda.pl

Gdynia is member of the CIVITAS DYN@MO project.

CITY NEWS

CIVITAS WEBINAR - GREEN VEHICLES FOR URBAN FREIGHT DELIVERY

Next CIVITAS webinar on Green vehicles for urban freight delivery to be held on Thursday 24th July, at 15.00. Register here!

Most of our city centres are often overrun by freight delivery vehicles causing severe congestion problems and pollution. Urban Freight Logistic has to be re-thinked by introducing on one hand some restrictive measures for a more efficient freight distribution and, on the other, new “green” vehicles more suitable for historical city centres and humanised areas.

Organised by the CIVITAS Thematic Group on Urban Freight Logistics with the support of CIVITAS WIKI, the webinar will present 3 case studies and discuss more in detail of cargo bikes for last mile delivery as well as of regulatory measures and incentives for zero emission city logistics.

More information are available here.
The 2MOVE2 Consortium successfully concluded its second Consortium Meeting at the City Hall of Tel Aviv-Yafo, which was held jointly with two workshops on integrated transport services (ITS) and sustainable urban mobility (SUMPs). The project also organised a meeting with the European Commission between 31st March and 3rd April 2014. Stakeholders as well as political representatives from the 2MOVE2 demonstration cities gathered to discuss the progress related to the project’s measures and to exchange practical experiences in the fields of ITS and SUMPs.

In particular, a workshop on ITS was organised on the morning of the 1st April, bringing together 2MOVE2 measure leaders with about 30 stakeholders from all over Israel.

In the afternoon of the same day, the City of Tel Aviv-Yafo offered exciting site visits that show the strong commitment and the achievement in urban mobility of the municipality. The technical visit started with a visit of the city’s Traffic Control Centre where the audience got an overview of the different tools used to improve traffic flow and to ensure priority to public transport. Following some presentations about the strategy and the achievements of the Traffic Control Centre, the group enjoyed a tour with bikes of the rental system Tel-o-Fun through the so called “green corridor”, consisting of a well-connected ring of bike lanes that are segregated from pedestrians and motorised traffic.

The site visits concluded with a guided walk along the ‘White City’—a famous district in Tel Aviv-Yafo which was proclaimed a World Cultural Heritage site by UNESCO, being ‘an outstanding example of new town planning and architecture in the early 20th century’.

Eventually, the workshop on SUMPs rounded the consortium meeting up. After an introduction about the EC Guidelines for Developing and Implementing a SUMP, the 2MOVE2 demonstration cities presented their current activities related to SUMPs by showing a broad variety of approaches towards sustainable urban mobility.

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Stuttgart is the coordinator of the CIVITAS 2MOVE2 project

AN UPDATE FROM THE THEMATIC GROUPS

Interactive mobility information applications: is it worth the effort?
The Thematic Group on Mobility Management is discussing good and bad examples of interactive travel information applications, and the barriers for cities to invest in them.
Join the discussion >

Is your city opening up its data?
The webinar on public involvement through social applications prompted some questions about open data which might be interesting for the CIVITAS Community. How does your city feel about this issue?
Join the discussion >
Welcome to Galatina, a new member of the CIVITAS Forum cities member!

Located close to Lecce in Italy’s Apulia or Puglia region, Galatina is a town of 28000 inhabitants with a rather dynamic local economy based on small and medium-sized artisan business activities, mostly from the tourism and the construction sector.

Galatina bears witness to an ancient artistic splendour that had already reached great heights in the 14th century with works commissioned by the aristocratic family Orsini del Balzo. As a major administrative centre that serves 97 towns, Galatina and its local administration are developing a long-term strategy for improving city living conditions. This is being achieved through a number of urban regeneration projects, supporting as well the city’s accessibility and the attractiveness of its historic centre. The initiative aims to change citizens’ perception of the centre and present it as a safe and vibrant public space, accommodating as well the needs of the rising number of tourists visiting the city especially during summer.

Galatina is one of the few Apulian cities that has adapted and approved its master plan for sustainable urban transport in line with the new EU regional law on urban development and has taken steps to increase cycling and walking in the town.

A number of planned actions on road and cycling infrastructures (mostly on the southeast outer ring) have been introduced to support the first urban cycling network. This has also been achieved thanks to the CONTESTO MOBILE project, a participatory process that has already identified a number of possible actions to make Galatina more cycling friendly with the involvement of several stakeholders and students.

Galatina has also a railway station and a long established city bus network with 4 lines covering 46 km and connecting all the town’s suburbs. This represents all the typical sustainable mobility services of a bigger city and offers excellent opportunities for increasing public transport.

For more information contact: Guglielmo Stasi, guglielmostasi@comune.galatina.le.it

Second call of the CIVITAS Activity Fund

Since beginning 2014, CIVITAS has an Activity Fund to support the take-up of urban mobility measures. Four calls are foreseen. The first call was launched in February and resulted in the selection of 11 projects for a total amount of co-funding of around 55.000 EUR. The second call will launch on 19 September 2014.

That second call will cover the four CIVITAS thematic areas that have not been addressed so far i.e. Collective passenger transport, Mobility Management, Car-independent lifestyles and Public involvement. The procedure and conditions will be similar to those of the first call, except that private entities working for and owned by public authorities will also be eligible. It will also be clarified that donor cities will have travel and accommodation costs covered in addition to a standard daily rate.

The take-up levels will be identical as well i.e.:

1) Being inspired: Up to 50% co-funding for study tours, workshops or similar activities at the initial take-up phase;
2) Structural dialogue: Up to 50% co-funding for staff exchanges between take-up and donor cities;
3) Studies: Up to 50% co-funding for evaluation (long-term; impact and process), feasibility studies, etc.;
4) Systematic transfer: Up to 50% co-funding for feasibility studies leading towards pilot demonstration and implementation.

The call will be open for five weeks, with a deadline for electronic submission of applications on 31 October 2014. Applications may be submitted by individual or teamed-up organisations that have not been or are not involved in projects already funded by CIVITAS. They need to be established in an EU Member State or Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland or Turkey.

For more information, contact Hana Peters h.peters@rupprecht-consult.eu and browse www.civitas-initiative.eu/content/activity-fund

Call for Pioneer Cities

For the upcoming call for the Activity Fund, CIVITAS CAPITAL is specifically looking for pioneer cities experienced in the four thematic areas of focus. The pioneer cities will be mentioned in the catalogue of measures and pioneer cities that accompanies the Activity Fund calls. Pioneer cities will play an active role in sharing experiences and knowledge in the four levels of take-up foreseen in the Activity Fund. Expected tasks include organizing inbound site visits, providing expert advice after outbound site visits, and contributing to workshops. Pioneer cities are reimbursed for working time and travel. Activities are expected to be carried out in the first semester of 2015.

Potential pioneer cities are encouraged to submit thematic topics of interest with concrete implemented measures together with a short motivational letter (or e-mail) by 10 September to Ivo Cré, icre@polisnetwork.eu
Extension of Transport Information Centre in the city of Brno

Transport Information Centres in the Czech Republic’s larger cities are being used to provide the general public with transport data acquired through high-tech means, namely telematics. The latter represents an interdisciplinary field that brings together telecommunications, informatics, and satellite navigation.

Against this backdrop the city of Brno is planning on significantly expanding its Transport Information Centre along with the acquisition of new sources of telematics information, particularly by exploiting up-to-date technologies for data transfer to users. The data acquired through telematics or other sources will be evaluated together with data from public utilities owned by the public transport company and BKOM, a company maintaining the city’s roads. Exploiting this information is expected to have several benefits: reducing transport load, emptying the streets of cars, and promoting parking in designated parking lots and venues. Furthermore, it will be instrumental in increasing traffic safety and will help reduce environmental impacts.

Useful information in this respect could be real-time data on occupancy of parking lots and parking buildings. This information will be available online and through a stand-alone mobile application which can be downloaded.

The city of Brno will use resources from the 2MOVE2 project for the completion of the data of public utilities and the building and evaluation of the system which will monitor the occupancy of parking places located in paid sectors.

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Brno is member of the CIVITAS 2MOVE2 project

Open Data Environment in Tel Aviv – Yafo: Towards Transparency and Information Sharing

As part of its agenda to promote urban accessibility and transparency of information to the public, the Municipality of Tel Aviv-Yafo continues to further develop urban databases that are open for public use. To put it simply, it is constantly looking for new ways to provide key data on urban transport to the public.

Within the 2MOVE2 project, the municipality is working on an open data platform by incorporating data regarding events that may affect mobility, such as road works and public events, into one system. Such a system, to be used as a decision support system by both travellers and traffic operators, will provide a unified picture of traffic conditions, facilitate pre-planning and help all parties respond to these events quickly, saving travel time and minimising traffic congestion. In addition, an open data platform facilitates the development of free software for public use.

In this vein the municipality decided to organise a competition open to anyone interested in developing a smart-phone app using the mobility open data. With such a policy of an open data environment, the Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality is set to make a significant contribution towards increasing public involvement, stimulating urban innovation and improving the urban environment.
First general assembly of the CIVINET Deutscher Sprachraum in combination with an event on tramways in Bielefeld, Germany

The CIVINET Deutscher Sprachraum met for its first general assembly in May 2014. To provide the members of the network, who are coming from Austria, Germany and Switzerland, with an added-value the General Assembly was organised to coincide with an open event on tramways. Representatives from the cities of Bielefeld and Graz, as well as the public transport provider of Bielefeld moBielt and Professor Huber from the University of Wuppertal discussed their experience on the topic with more than 50 participants. In addition Mr. Leiner from the European Commission gave an overview on the EU’s Urban Mobility Package to unveil Europe’s vision for smart, inclusive, and sustainable growth. As this approach was very successful, all further general assemblies shall be linked with an event dedicated to a special topic on sustainable urban mobility.

www.civitas.eu/civinet/civinet-german
civinet_deutschsprachig@civitas.eu

The launch of the new CIVINET Italia

On 19th March, Reggio Emilia hosted the launch event of CIVINET Italia. With the participation of over 50 attendees, including representatives from the Municipality of Reggio Emilia, the morning session was open to the general public, unveiling the network, outlining activities for members, and announcing the first CIVITAS calls for sustainable urban mobility.

The afternoon session was reserved to members of the network to discuss internal rules for the network’s management, to define the role of the Political Committee and to collect the cities’ members’ proposals. The event’s minutes and presentations are available on CIVINET Italia website.

5th local Forum for the CiViNET Spain and Portugal Network

On 27 and 28 May in the city of Alcobendas (Region of Madrid), the CiViNET Spain and Portugal Network organised its 5th local forum, general assembly and political meeting. Although the Forum was delayed slightly due to the European elections, more than 70 people from 25 different cities attended the meeting. The political meeting was organised along the general topic of the Forum, Intelligent Transport System, inviting 28 cities and the 2 associated partners to sign what has been dubbed as the Agreement of Alcobendas regarding the transport vision for Spanish cities. Some advanced cities such as Malaga and Rivas- Maciamadrid discussed their policies on the topic, while large companies or public transport operators explained as well some innovative actions. The CDTI (H2020 Spanish contact point) and the Spanish Public Administration Ministry representative talked about European funding opportunities.
This year’s theme will unveil brave new ideas and strategies on urban mobility, accessibility and social inclusion for more sustainable cities.

The CIVITAS Forum 2014 is inviting all participating cities in the CIVITAS network to register for the event and apply for CIVITAS Awards 2014, particularly those that have made great strides during the last year in furthering urban transport. It is also calling on all interested stakeholders to register, contribute to and learn from the Forum. Highlights of this year’s events include site visits across Casablanca to admire the city’s progress in sustainable urban mobility, as well as a brokerage event which will build on the CIVITAS 2020 calls for 2015 and offer stakeholders opportunities to develop new partnerships. Noteworthy as well are the sessions on open transport data and European structural investment funds (ESI) and European Investment Bank (EIB) how they can contribute to sustainable urban mobility strategies will also be beneficial for stakeholders such as municipalities, towns and cities. Last but not least, there will be a session on the CIVITAS Plus results, unveiling important lessons learned from the previous CIVITAS edition. This year’s Forum promises to be a trendsetting event not only for Europe, but for the Mediterranean basin and North Africa as well.

For any information please contact: secretariat@civitas.eu