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CIVITAS ONLINE

www.civitas.eu is your portal to the CIVITAS Initiative. Visit the CIVITAS website to learn more about the CIVITAS Forum City Network, the ambitious policies and innovative measures many of its members have implemented, and how you can learn more about these at the annual CIVITAS Forum Conference. With regularly updated news and events sections, the site is your one stop-shop for sustainable urban mobility!

Simply go to our website,
<http://www.civitas.eu>.

COVER STORY

Follow the CIVITAS Plus lead cities towards 20-20-20

Ivo Cré, POLIS

The EU has committed to using 20 percent of renewable fuels in energy consumption and saving 20 percent in energy use by 2020. The transport sector has a key role to play in reaching these targets. CIVITAS Plus cities lead the way in showing how local authorities can contribute to this.

A substantial part of the CIVITAS Plus programme activities focus on the energy aspects of local transport. Almost all CIVITAS Plus cities are active in this field and are not only putting the latest market technologies to use, but are also involved in research activities. These include prototyping vehicles and experimenting with new high-end fuel blends.

All these and more can be explored in the CIVITAS website's measure database. Cities that have already explored the possibilities of clean fuels and vehicles in previous phases of CIVITAS have formed a thematic group on the subject to share the information and lessons they have learned. See p. 4 for more information.



The many sustainable modes of transport in Ljubljana

In total, between 2008 and 2012, CIVITAS Plus will put at least 880 clean vehicles on the roads. Gent, Belgium, will be introducing clean vehicles into its car-sharing fleet, while Ljubljana, Slovenia, seeks to achieve a 10 percent share of hybrid vehicles in its public vehicles. Utrecht, Netherlands, will be restructuring its parking policy to stimulate the increase of clean vehicles in private ownership. Buses will be given a biofuel boost in Aalborg, Denmark; Craiova, Romania; and Donostia-San Sebastian, Spain.

The market introduction of clean vehicles is not an isolated activity, but is embedded in local transport strategies, having synergies with measures related to parking policy, branding, eco-driving and vehicle sharing. The cities are monitoring different parameters of vehicle operations: technical aspects (emissions, reliability, running costs and fuel use), but also issues related to customer satisfaction, awareness and acceptance.



Electric vehicles have become a familiar sight



An increasing number of cars and buses run on clean fuels

In CIVITAS's first Bulgarian demonstration city, Gorna Oryahovitsa, five of the city's buses will be retrofitted to run on LPG/biofuel. Zagreb, Croatia, will be cleaning up its act by deploying new dumpsters and sweepers running on biodiesel. In addition to examining technological aspects, the complicated issue of new vehicle procurement will be explored by Tallinn, Estonia and Ljubljana, Slovenia, to name but a few.

Cities choose smart marketing channels to get citizens acquainted with clean vehicles, for example using them as tourist buses and for car sharing. All clean vehicle deployment schemes foresee an intense process of engaging a wide spectrum of stakeholders, such as vehicle manufacturers, fuel providers, garage owners and freight distributors.

The goal is to generate knowledge that can contribute to both national and EU policy. This will hopefully lead to reduced dependency on fossil fuels, without compromising environmental targets, such as air quality. CIVITAS Plus cities are proving that this is possible. We invite you to follow their lead.

For more information, please visit <http://www.civitas.eu> or contact the CIVITAS Secretariat [secretariat@civitas.eu]



CITY NEWS

Bus stop banter in Brighton & Hove

Brighton & Hove City Council, UK, introduced over 20 'talking bus stops' for the blind and partially sighted in 2007. CIVITAS is helping to fund an additional 12.



The initiative gives users more independence and the confidence to travel by bus and is believed to be the first of its kind in the UK.

Those who sign up receive a battery-operated key fob that alerts them when they are near one of the talking bus stops. When the fob is pressed, the bus stop will talk, giving the details of the services due and their destinations. Promotional leaflets will be distributed to the blind and partially sighted community once the new units are ready to use.

The bus stops have won several national awards for innovation and the promotion of accessibility. When the new bus stop technology was introduced, the Brighton & Hove City Council worked with key stakeholders, including members of the blind and partially sighted community, to identify priority bus routes for the project.

For more information, contact Debbie Reed [Debbie.Reed@brighton-hove.gov.uk] Brighton & Hove is a member of the CIVITAS ARCHIMEDES consortium.

First car-sharing service launched in Brescia

In February 2010, Brescia, Italy, launched a car-sharing service as part of its CIVITAS activities. The new scheme gives citizens access to a car at any time of the day.



The only costs incurred by users will be the annual subscription to the service and the charges for the actual driving. The main objective of the service is to reduce the number of private cars accessing the city.

Discounts are in place for the first 100 subscribers, as well as for various groups, including the over 60s, families, students, private companies and public administrations. There are currently eight cars, all of which run on clean fuels, available from four access points in the city.

The system works with smart cards and users must either book online or over the phone at least 15 minutes before using the car. The Brescia system is linked to the Italian car-sharing network, so users can use the car-sharing facility when in other Italian cities. Users also benefit from free parking in assigned areas, 24 hour break down assistance and the use of designated car parks.

For more information, contact Moris Urari [dissemination.brescia@gmail.com] Brescia is a member of the CIVITAS MODERN consortium.

Walking weekends in downtown Craiova

Downtown Craiova, Romania, is being pedestrianised at weekends as part of an initiative introduced by the municipality in January 2009.



Since then the city centre has been transformed into a recreation area at weekends. People of all ages can be seen walking, running, roller-skating and cycling on streets full of traffic during the week.

Within CIVITAS MODERN two measures are being implemented to deal with vehicle access restrictions as part of plans to make the city centre a permanent pedestrian area. An automatic barrier will be installed on one of the access ways to control vehicle access. A differential access scheme in the restricted area will then be introduced, which will take the degrees of vehicle pollution into account.

These measures will help to transform Craiova's busy streets into a walking area and playground for children. Craiova City Hall also recently launched the "We Get People Moving" campaign, with street-ball courts for basketball and football constructed in the city centre.

For more information, contact Dorel Popa [ppdoru@yahoo.com] Craiova is a member of the CIVITAS MODERN consortium.

EU NEWS

One becomes two as Commission creates DG ENER and DG MOVE

The Directorate-General for Transport and Energy has been split into two separate Directorate-Generals: the Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) and the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE).

The Energy DG consists of the departments in the former Transport and Energy DG dealing with energy issues and of the Task Force Energy, which will be transferred from the External Relations DG. Günther Oettinger, became the

Commissioner for Energy in February 2010. The departments responsible for transport policy will remain in the renamed Mobility and Transport DG (MOVE).

Siiim Kallas is the new Commissioner for Transport and Vice President of the European Commission. He has vowed to promote transport services that truly benefit Europeans.

DGENER will work with European Union Member States and European industry to develop energy sectors, which best meets the needs of citizens and our economy, whilst minimising damage to the environment. DG MOVE will tackle issues and challenges connected to transport and mobility, which no single national government can successfully address alone.

For more information, please visit: <http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/transport>

Stay informed!

Subscribe to the electronic version of the MOVE newsletter and stay up to date on CIVITAS activities in the field of sustainable urban mobility. Simply go to our website, <http://www.civitas.eu>, and click on News.

CITY NEWS

Hybrid bus trials in Ljubljana

At the end of 2009, the city of Ljubljana, Slovenia, ran a three-week trial of the MAN hybrid bus prototype to determine whether the bus is suitable for Ljubljana.



Public transport company LPP ran the trial examining performance in terms of economy and pollution. Both LPP and MAN, along with the CIVITAS ELAN group, presented the bus to the public. Mayor of Ljubljana, Zoran Jankovič, expressed his support for the initiative and its contribution to the development of sustainable transport in the city.

One of Ljubljana's CIVITAS measures foresees the purchase of several hybrid buses, but different types must be tried first. LPP has already tested the Van Hool and Solaris hybrid buses and is currently analysing the driving style and other characteristics of MAN Lyon's city hybrid. Later in the year there are plans to test Volvo's hybrid bus.

The evaluation is taking place on test roads and on city streets, with citizens being offered a free trip on the buses during the testing period. The city expects a 20 percent reduction of fuel consumption on hybrid buses.

For more information, contact Vita Kotic [vita.kotic@ljubljanasi.si]
Ljubljana is a member of the CIVITAS ELAN consortium.

Gorna Oryahovitsa builds traffic model

When CIVITAS Plus kicked off in 2008, Gorna Oryahovitsa, Bulgaria, carried out several traffic counts and surveys on households and the city's main industries.



The data collected was used to analyse the public urban transport demand and supply, travel behaviour, requirements and the expectations of the population.

This data was also used to build a city traffic model, which is a combination of supply and demand models. Using the model a new optimised public urban transport route scheme was developed. This was discussed with the main stakeholders in late 2009, and the city council is expected to make the final decision on the proposed amendments shortly.

The expected result of the introduction of the new routes is shorter and faster bus transport between the main traffic zones, leading to increased usage. The proposed amendments include the enlargement of the existing pedestrian zone, an idea supported by 57 per cent of citizens interviewed in 2008.

For more information, contact Polina Kirova [polinakirova@abv.bg]
Gorna Oryahovitsa is a member of the CIVITAS RENAISSANCE consortium.

Bologna on top in sustainability report

The city of Bologna, Italy, has been recognised as the most eco-friendly of the 50 largest Italian cities when rated on urban mobility.



The city came out on top in the periodical report, *Sustainable Mobility in Italy: An examination of the 50 principal cities*, published by Euromobility and Kyotoclub and supported by the Italian Department of Natural Resources.

As part of the CIVITAS Initiative, Bologna has introduced a number of measures, including the promotion of public transport, car sharing and the use of bicycles in the city centre. Bologna was chosen for its progressive urban mobility management practices and for the reduction in the number of high-emission vehicles on the city's roads.

The report rates cities in terms of urban mobility, traffic planning and management measures adopted. Bologna is supported by the Emilia-Romagna Region and public transport companies ATC and SRM. Bologna was followed in the ratings by Florence, Parma, Trento and Milan.

For more information, contact Mauro Borioni [Mauro.Borioni@comune.bologna.it]
Bologna is a member of the CIVITAS MIMOSA consortium.

Connecting cities with national networks

CIVINET is a three-year project, co-funded by the European Commission, to support the development of national networks promoting the CIVITAS concept. The project officially started in December 2009 and kicked-off in January 2010 in Burgos, Spain.

Many cities that could implement CIVITAS type activities are distanced from the Initiative because of language and contextual barriers. CIVINET will establish five national peer-to-peer networks in Spain, Portugal, UK & Ireland, France and other French-speaking European regions, Italy and Slovenia.

Cities in these countries and regions will be able to interact more easily with their most advanced counterparts, in their own languages, on integrated transport strategies and urban mobility plans.

To complement the learning process, site visits, workshops and training sessions will be organised by all national networks. This linguistic approach should further spread the CIVITAS concept in EU countries.

The francophone network was launched in Paris in February. The cities of Toulouse, Nantes, Lille, La Rochelle and Poitiers were on hand to lend their experience and stimulate debate. This network is open to French, Walloon, French-speaking Swiss and Luxemburgish cities.



By setting up national networks, CIVINET will help to bridge linguistic and cultural gaps in cities across Europe

For more information, contact [proyectos@burgosciudad21.org]

CITY IN PROFILE

Aalborg, Denmark

Home to 194,000 citizens, Aalborg is the primary city of northern Denmark. In recent years Aalborg has moved from being a traditional industrial city to becoming a progressive, energetic city, creating new forms of transport demands and travel patterns.



Aalborg is implementing 15 different measures with a common goal of cleaner and better transport in the city. The city has successfully implemented an environmental zone, has developed a city bike scheme as part of CIVITAS ARCHIMEDES and is putting a special focus on public transport information.

The city has developed tools and measures through various initiatives, such as the CIVITAS-VIVALDI and MIDAS projects, and is a "leading" city in CIVITAS Plus. Within ARCHIMEDES, Aalborg aims to build on this work, tackling innovative issues and taking on the experiences of other European cities. This enables Aalborg to share its own experiences with other "leading" and "learning" cities.

For more information about Aalborg's activities within the CIVITAS Initiative, contact Gustav Friis [guf-teknik@aalborg.dk]
Aalborg is a member of the CIVITAS ARCHIMEDES project consortium.

FUNDING AND OUTREACH

Clean vehicles and fuels in cities

The CIVITAS thematic group, Clean Fuels and Vehicles, is composed of a number of pioneering CIVITAS cities, such as Berlin and Bremen, Germany; Bucharest, Romania; Graz, Austria; Rome, Italy and Stockholm, Sweden, with different economical, geographical and organisational characteristics.

In recent years, these cities have been working on making vehicles, fuels and transport greener, while still being efficient in terms of resources. However, each of the cities mentioned above

EVENTS

CIVITAS Forum Conference 2010

The 2010 CIVITAS Forum Conference will be hosted by the Swedish city of Malmo, from 27-29 September. The annual conference will be the eighth such event in the series, which started in Graz in 2003. Malmo follows previous host cities, such as Krakow, Bologna and Burgos.

The CIVITAS Forum Network currently includes 168 cities from 28 European countries, that have formally committed to clean and sustainable urban transport. The city of Malmo is an ideal location for the Forum. Located in southern Sweden's Oresund region, Malmo is often referred to as "the world's smallest big city", as you can reach anywhere by bike in 15 minutes.

This philosophy underpins Malmo's involvement in CIVITAS SMILE, the achievements of which the city looks forward to sharing with visitors of the CIVITAS Forum 2010.

For more information, contact the CIVITAS Secretariat [secretariat@civitas.eu]

CIVITAS MODERN second Political Scientific Meeting

The Italian city of Brescia will host the second CIVITAS MODERN political scientific meeting.

The meeting, entitled *The role of public transport in the future of urban mobility: Innovation, financing and marketing*, takes place on May 11.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.modern.ipacv.ro>

has approached this in a variety of ways and, as a result, has learned a number of different lessons. In the spirit of CIVITAS, these cities are happy to share their experience with other cities.

Other cities in Europe considering deploying clean fuel and vehicle strategies are encouraged to contact the members of this thematic group and learn from some of Europe's pioneers in the field. Enquiries regarding site visits and study tours, support workshops, feasibility plans, transfer studies are welcome. Speakers can also be provided for conference contributions.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.civitas.eu/network>

About the MOVE newsletter

This quarterly newsletter serves to inform all those with an interest in sustainable urban mobility. It reports on developments in the field, including activities of pioneering CIVITAS cities and policy updates from the European Commission. Contributions are sourced from participating cities and organisations, as well as from the Directorate General for Transport and Energy. Free copies can be obtained from the CIVITAS Secretariat:

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