Dear Reader!

CIVITAS PORTIS is now at its midpoint, and is taking a look back at its achievements: We are proud to see two years of sustainable, innovative and exciting activities in our five European port cities. We are a big step closer to achieving all of the CIVITAS PORTIS goals, with some having already been delivered.

Read on to learn more about the progress in our living labs, the “Action Plan for a key transport corridor in the North East of Scotland” and the “Bicycle bus” in Antwerp. You’ll also find out about Klaipeda’s “green wave”, along with the “Bovedo intermodal car park” and the enhancement of the Old Port area in Trieste.

CIVITAS PORTIS is not going to wait until the end of the project to inform other cities about their achievements. A selection of innovative measures forms the basis for take-up activities that CIVITAS PORTIS will roll-out over the next two years. Stay tuned to learn about our offers and get connected for direct cooperation and capacity-building support in your city.

Aside from that, the CIVITAS PORTIS Innovation Exchange Activities are already underway. Read about the study visits for an active exchange amongst the CIVITAS PORTIS cities, and don’t forget to download the CIVITAS PORTIS Innovation E-brochure No. 2 at the following link: PORTIS Innovation E-brochure No. 2.

We hope you will enjoy the newsletter.

For further project’s info please visit: www.civitas.eu/portis

At this year’s CIVITAS Forum in Umeå, 19th – 21st of September 2018, our Chinese cooperation partner from Ningbo, Prof. Dr. Pengjun Zheng, presented the needs, challenges and opportunities for innovative and sustainable transport development taking the case of five cities.

A survey was conducted in the five most economically dynamic cities in China: Shanghai, Tianjin, Dalian, Ningbo and Xiamen, to assess objectives, challenges, and solutions regarding sustainable transport development. This survey was structured around five main themes:

- Meeting social needs
- Resource efficiency and greening of transportation
- Efficiency of cross border e-commerce
- Smart technologies in transportation
- Coordinating transport development

The surveyed cities showcase innovation and sustainability in transport development. For example, Ningbo has seen the first release of super capacitor energy storage busses on a bus line of 11 kilometres covering 24 stops. The vehicles are fully electric and allow charging along the road. Busses need about 15-30 seconds charging time to cover a distance of 5 km. To safeguard functionality, the busses provide a back-up power unit complemented by small charging cars for on-the-road charging if necessary. The core components of the super capacitor vehicles can be charged and discharged a million times, for an expected life span of more than 10 years. Ningbo is implementing 82 bus lines operating with super capacitor energy storage busses, of which 16 are new lines added to the public transport network.
ABERDEEN – EFFORTS TOWARDS A MORE SUSTAINABLE CITY

Becoming a more sustainable and attractive city is a priority for Aberdeen, and PORTIS plays a big part in furthering that ambition. Within PORTIS, Aberdeen is making continued efforts to promote and achieve wider take-up of active and sustainable transport.

As part of this, the Council recently undertook a Self Assessment using the European Commission’s Guidelines on Developing a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) 2014. This has established key linked objectives and key delivery projects linked to the SUMP, such as the new harbour expansion and City Centre Masterplan. The Council is also developing an Action Plan for the A96, a key transport corridor in the northeast of Scotland, with key stakeholders. The Council carried out an Origin and Destination Survey and will use the data from this to inform a study of journeys of 10km or less for all modes of transports with an origin or destination in the city centre. This will help increase the Officer’s understanding of journeys and target areas for improvement in active travel infrastructure.

One of the key measures for achieving behavioural change and encouraging a modal shift is the development of a smart journey planning app which, longer-term, could develop into Mobility as a Service (MaaS). Aberdeen City Council wrote a written evidence submission to the UK Parliament on MaaS and a Council representative was invited to provide oral evidence to the Transport Committee on our written submission.

Another achievement was the development of a Joint Control Room Strategy and Cost Benefit Analysis. This workstream examined the operation of existing CCTV cameras with a view to the creation of an integrated network for more effective management of the traffic network.

Our local partner, NESTRANS, continues to work on the freight aspects of PORTIS and in early 2018 gathered responses and data from freight companies in the city region, which will help shape the freight work going forward. They are also drafting a distribution strategy for the city region and working closely with the Council to help develop a smart system for freight as well as a pilot for hydrogen vehicles within the private sector.

For more information please contact:
Amye Robinson at Aberdeen City Council

FACTS
Land area in km²: 185.7 km²
Population density: 1,240 people per km² (4th highest in Scotland)
Because of the Scheldt River, not all areas of the Antwerp port area are currently accessible by bike. Therefore, one of the PORTIS measures focuses on developing sustainable solutions for cycling commuters to overcome land and water barriers. In this context, on 3rd April 2018 the Antwerp Port Authority launched an entirely new concept in the mobility world: the bicycle bus.

This free, hop-on, hop-off articulated bus with built-in bicycle racks offers space for 30 cyclists to commute between the left and right banks of the Scheldt River. The bus operates seven days a week, with four buses per hour during peak hours. The first results show an average of 400 passengers on working days in May, which makes this a successful and promising project. “The Bike Bus is the result of out-of-the-box thinking to find ways of raising mobility around the port,” says Jacques Vandermeiren, CEO of the Antwerp Port Authority. “In the past it was impossible for cycling commuters in the port to cross over the Scheldt. That situation will now change.”

In the area of collective transport, several tram lines have been extended and a new collective transport hub has been installed to improve connections between the city centre and the city outskirts, which has resulted in more passengers.

Smart Ways to Antwerp continues to support Antwerp companies with drawing up and improving their sustainable mobility plans. Currently, 88 companies are included in the programme. A mobility scan was performed, showing the current mobility behaviour situation and its potential. At the end of September, an evaluation survey was sent out to participating employers and employees. This data is used to gain insight into the results of this programme and to optimise further work.

The city of Antwerp and the local PORTIS partners are actively working on other PORTIS measures as well, such as expanding the Park-and-Ride facilities; coordinating integrated collective transport in the port area; further improving bike conditions and infrastructure; and developing a dynamic traffic management and truck guiding system in the port to optimize freight transport.

For more information please contact:
Marijke De Roeck at City of Antwerp

FACTS

Population:
- City: 520,000
- Province: 1.8 million

Land area in km²: 204.5 km²

Population density: 2,500 people per km²
CONSTANTA – PUSHING INNOVATIVE MOBILITY SOLUTIONS DRIVEN BY DIALOGUE

Constanta’s Mobility Forum was the focal point of mobility development in the second year of the CIVITAS PORTIS project. It provides a consistent and reliable platform to gather public institutions and authorities, universities, businesses and representatives of civil society around one table to discuss future projects. Here, topical local mobility problems are put on the agenda and turned into innovative sustainable policies and solutions for immediate and visible improvement of the city’s mobility.

This year, four of Constanta’s PORTIS technical measures have been kicked-off, and they have already brought mutual benefits to the Municipality and the city’s port:
A pilot research project aiming to prove the benefits of cycling as compared to private car use has been initiated. It promotes the take up of alternative mobility solutions to reduce car dependency.
A new parking strategy regulating access in the Constanta peninsula has been designed and is now subject to formal approval by the local council to come into force. Constanta’s peninsula is home to the old town centre and is next to the city’s port area.
Constanta’s port and the local public transport authority have endorsed a cooperation agreement putting a tourist bus line into service to connect the city with the old and touristic part of the port during summer time. A further analysis clarifies if the new tourist bus line can be turned to an all year regular bus line servicing the entire port area. This extension would provide sustainable transportation for the port’s companies and their employees.

Moreover, the Municipality of Constanta launched some major studies regarding the reallocation of road space on its main boulevards to walking and cycling. These studies include the identification of areas suitable for exclusive access for pedestrians and other alternatives to conventional motorised means of transport.
At the midpoint of the implementation period for CIVITAS PORTIS, Constanta is well on track, addressing local mobility problems by identifying and implementing innovative sustainable mobility policies and solutions, thanks to its successful local participatory approach.

For more information please contact:
Adrian Craciun at Constanta Metropolitan Area Association

FACTS
Population:
- City: 317,832
- Agglomeration: 491,498
Land area in km²: 124.89 km²
Population density: 2,273 people per km²
One of Klaipėda’s latest initiatives focuses on modernising the traffic management system and giving priority to public transport.

Klaipėda has decided to modernise the traffic management system on the main transport corridor closest to the port. There is good reason for the choice of this road: traffic in the corridor is extremely heavy, not only in terms of car volumes but also with regard to freight. The new traffic management system allows both cars and freight vehicles to connect faster from the port to the city.

The corridor will see a “green wave” approach based on real-time traffic flows and volumes, thanks to its modernised traffic management. Cameras and radars will monitor real-time traffic conditions and new traffic lights will dynamically adapt green interval times according to this real-time information. All monitoring, processing and signalling will be managed by a new traffic control centre. Up to now, traffic lights have worked on a fixed programmed signalling cycle in Klaipeda. Another improvement of the new traffic management system will be the prioritisation of public transport, which will help buses run on schedule.

Overall, the new system will contribute to the smooth performance of all transport modes, be they pedestrians, public transport or private motorised vehicles; it will increase permeability at crossroads by reducing traffic jams and wait times at traffic lights. Furthermore, improving road safety conditions in the area will be one of the main priorities when installing the new traffic management system.

Klaipeda will be the first city in Lithuania to implement both the prioritisation of public transport and a “green wave” in traffic management. Right now, the planning process is in its final phase.

For more information please contact: Milda Milbutaitė at Klaipėda City Municipality Administration

KLAIPEDA – PLANNING A MORE MODERN TRAFFIC SYSTEM

FACTS

Population:
- city: 154,326
- agglomeration: 329,146

Land area in km²: 98 km²

Population density: 1,575 people per km²
This year saw the creation of the “Urban Planning, Old Port Area Enhancement, Mobility and Traffic” technical office for Trieste.

The office operates with a multi-governance approach, co-ordinates the city’s urban planning, and directly approaches the upgrading of the Old Port Area in close cooperation with all connected stakeholders. The Municipality of Trieste and the Port Authority System are working together to integrate the Old Port Area into the fabric of the urban mobility strategy.

One of the office’s tasks is communication; at the end of June, it held the event “Integrating the old port and the city: ongoing challenges and sustainable development”, which gathered engineers, architects, industrial experts and surveyors to discuss the development of the Old Port of Trieste. The focus was on the new assets of the Old Port areas and how to exploit these in the context of CIVITAS PORTIS. This event was just the first element of an information campaign launched the previous day by the local administration, along with the PORTIS Ambassador for the City of Trieste: the actor Lino Guanciale.

Trieste has continued to develop mobility solutions connected to the Port Area in 2018. Its latest activities have focused on the creation of the Bovedo intermodal car park. Located in a strategic position between the city centre and the coastline, it is served by two bus lines and is within walking distance of the dock of the “Delfino Verde” sea transport line. It will have a bike sharing station connected to two additional bike sharing locations close to Delfino Verde and the Old Port Area. Cycling connections via Bovedo allow easy access to the city centre and the coastline, too.

Once completed, the car park will be close to both the city centre and the coastline, which will enable people to comfortably continue the journey without using a private car. The Bovedo car park is expected to attract commuters and visitors by providing its users with the advantages of a quick way to park the car, free parking, and easy access to popular destinations.

Finally, Trieste continues to deploy the bike sharing system and develops options for pedestrian and cycling network extensions to offer new access solutions to the waterfront and the Old Port area.

For more information please contact:
Giulio Bernetti at Municipality of Trieste

FACTS
Population: 203,825
Land area in km²: 84.49 km²
Population density: 2,412 people per km²
Alongside the introduction of an Innovation Process to enhance the measure planning process (see Issue 1 of the Innovation E-Brochure), our Innovation workstream is actively promoting exchange among the PORTIS cities, as well as with other EU projects.

Highlights from the past few months have included two study visits. On 16-17 May, representatives from Aberdeen and Trieste visited Antwerp and learned about the city authority’s approach to implementing Mobility as a Service (MaaS), as well as how congestion models could be applied to predict travel times for freight movements and provide optimised route planning to the port, taking environmental factors and suitability of routes into account. Delegates from Antwerp and Klaipeda travelled to Aberdeen for a series of meetings and site visits on 6-7 June. The City of Aberdeen’s approach to engaging citizens regarding important projects, such as the harbour extension, left a lasting impression on the delegates. Representatives from Klaipeda were impressed by the council’s visitor centre, which provides project information and a contact point with the city authority. They remarked that they hope to provide a similar facility in the future. Visitors also admired the Aberdeen hydrogen strategy and the progress made in introducing fuel-cell buses and cars.

So that opportunities for sharing knowledge and ideas are not restricted to face-to-face meetings, a series of Innovation Exchange webinars have been held, covering topics including: tips for the successful introduction of bike-sharing schemes; parking management strategy development; approaches to the development of behavioural change strategies; and financial planning frameworks for measure implementation. Further insights from these exchanges are presented in the CIVITAS PORTIS Innovation E-brochure No. 2.

PORTIS isn’t waiting for the end of the project to inform other cities about its achievements. Past experience has shown that setting up active collaboration with interested partner cities and their stakeholders during the implementation of the measures leads to an increased take-up of measures. For this reason, in the spring of 2018, PORTIS conducted an EU market analysis to understand the challenges and needs of cities with strong port activities, gathered examples of best practices from around Europe and looked at opportunities for exchange. At the same time, the transferability potential of the PORTIS measures was analysed by looking at the learning curve for other cities and the likelihood of success considering the easiness of achieving the required level concerning finances, stakeholder involvement and technical development. Taking the findings from this work into account, focus group meetings were held with each of the PORTIS cities resulting in the selection of measures, or clusters of measures, with high potential for take-up by other cities.

This selection of measures, together with the innovation knowledge built up in PORTIS, is the basis for the take-up of activities that PORTIS will roll-out over the next two years:

- Interactive face-to-face training events
- Webinars
- Workshops for port cities

These sessions will cover the following themes:

- Integrated governance and SUMPs for cities and ports
- Smart use of big data for urban and freight transport
- Promoting and enabling cycling in ports and large industrial areas
- Optimising freight movements and routing for both long distance and last mile logistics

Additionally, direct cooperation and capacity building support for interested cities will be set up.

For more information please contact: portis@tmleuven.be
EVENTS IN THE CITIES OF CIVITAS PORTIS

PORTIS cities saw many events and meetings in 2018:

ABERDEEN

Aberdeen organised a series of Evening Talks on CIVITAS PORTIS themes in 2018 with Robert Gordon University and the University of Aberdeen. Currently another Talk Series for 2019 is being discussed. Aberdeen’s European Mobility Week saw a CIVITAS PORTIS element in the “In Town Without My Car Day” on the 16th of September.

ANTWERP

ANTWERP participated in many events in the last third of the year: there was a field trip on Urban Logistics with the University of Antwerp and a study visit by the Cologne-Bonn Region to Antwerp in August. September was a busy month, with a study visit by students from Lucerne, the annual European Mobility Week, and a car-free Sunday on 16th of September. Antwerp will also take part in the Green Cities Conference in Szczecin, Poland and the CIVITAS Forum in Umeå, Sweden. In November, Antwerp attended the POLIS Conference in Manchester and the Horizon 2020 Conference on Road Transport Research Results in Brussels. Back in Antwerp, the third CEO event on Smart Ways to Antwerp is scheduled for the end of the year.

CONSTANTA

This year’s European Mobility Week campaign saw several mobility actions organised by the Municipality of Constanta and the port. Looking ahead to 2019, local awareness-raising campaigns are planned to focus on specific thematic actions and stakeholders.

KLAIPEDA

KLAIPEDA showcased its PORTIS achievements and plans at the international conference on “Klaipėda regional and city urban transport – intermodal solutions”, which took place in Klaipeda on 12th–14th of September 2018.

TRIESTE

TRIESTE launched its awareness-raising campaign on e-mobility solutions at the European Mobility Week, aimed at involving young people and increasing knowledge among citizens. The campaign included an e-car race, a public conference for citizens and a technical meeting dedicated to sector experts.

For detailed information, exact dates and programmes please check the CIVITAS event calendar.

CIVITAS PORTIS DAY IN CONSTANTA

On the 7th of September, PORTIS Day took place in Constanta. It presented the project and the challenges that Constanta, as a port city, is facing in terms of urban mobility. Over the course of the day, info points presented Constanta’s integrated mobility strategies and innovative sustainable measures. Moreover, the long-standing and fundamental relationship between the city and the port was highlighted by guided tours for citizens and tourists to historical areas of the city and the port, topped off by an open art exhibition – “Port and City Life”.

IMPRINT

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