



COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION ACTIVITY REPORT OCTOBER 2011 – SEPTEMBER 2013

• BIKE TO SCHOOL GRANT COMPETITION 2011

In October 2011 the Commission on Transportation announced the results of the grant competition entitled "Bike to School" that was addressed to junior secondary schools, secondary schools or non-governmental organisations. The applying organisations had to prepare a project/programme concerning promotion of cycling on the way to school for young people aged 13-18. The project was to be realized within the school year 2011/2012. The Commission intended to award the best projects which:

- promote bicycle as a means of transport and encourage young people to cycle to school
- introduce healthy lifestyle into the daily routine of young people
- promote sustainable urban mobility
- reduce speed in the school area
- reduce parking problems around schools

The results of the competition were announced in November 2012.

There have been submitted 13 grant applications from Johvi, Tallinn, Tartu, Voru (Estonia), Jurmala (Latvia), Kaunas, Panevezys, Siauliai (Lithuania) and Elbląg, Gdynia, Koszalin, Pruszcz Gdański, Ustka (Poland). From the submitted application forms the jury has chosen two best projects, each of them received 1000 euro grant.

The winning cities were:

1. Tallinn (Estonia) - Tallinn Rahumae Basic School

Tallinn Rahumae Basic School is a junior secondary school situated in the district Nomme. Many students live in small and quiet streets and for them it is safe to come to school independently on foot or by bicycle. The main problem was lack of sheltered places to lock the bikes. A dedicated shelter was needed to protect bikes from spring and autumn rains. Within the "Bike to school" project the school planned to build a bicycle shelter to the school yard together with students. It should store bikes, but also sledges and skis during the winter, cameras in school territory minimize the risk of theft.

Project activities include also other events, like for example, bike trips to nature, freestyle cycling competitions, lectures by the police about traffic safety and bicycle use. Each student will create a personal home-school itinerary using a special website during the geography lessons. Students will map dangerous places on their way to school and spot those on the map. The ways to school and dangerous places in traffic will be discussed in open discussion with teachers. "Mapping dangerous spots on your school way" is an interactive map that integrates traffic education and map using skills. The school promotes safe cycling and this interactive tool is meant to raise student awareness. Another project activity is improving (tuning) bicycle safety equipment, this creative activity aims at making safety equipment e.g. helmets more attractive to use. On 18th of May the bike shelter opening ceremony is planned connected with many accompanying events.

2. Koszalin (Poland) - Association Sustainable Development Institute

The Polish applicant noticed that there is lack of widespread use of bicycles in travelling to schools by pupils of Koszalin. The reason for this seems to be lack of proper cycling infrastructure (paths

and bicycle parks), fear about the safety of children in urban traffic as well as lack of tradition and positive role models in surroundings. The lack of marked out, developed, tested, regulated and supervised bicycle routes leading to schools in Koszalin the applicant perceives as a major problem in the current conditions limiting the number of student travelling by bicycle to school. The main objective of the project was to answer this need. As a result of the project RODOS (acronym that stands for “ROwerem DO Szkół” = Bike to School) such cycling routes (not to be confused with paths) will be created that will allow students to travel to school more securely than now. This is a temporary solution that will work until proper bike routes will be created in Koszalin. The essence of this project is to develop access routes for cyclists to the school in Koszalin and thereby increase the safety of students commuting to school. The number of pupils involved in the project will be around 650. Association Sustainable Development Institute has proposed cooperation in the implementation of the project to one of the best secondary schools in Poland – I LO Stanisław Dubois, located in the very centre of Koszalin, so students come here from all directions.

The project includes promotional campaign, survey on identification in which parts of the city live mainly secondary school pupils and indication of key access directions. In the next phase the proposed runs of bicycle access routes to school are to be collected. Next stage includes consultation and verification process of the run of cycling routes with the police, Municipal Road Management, the association “Roweria” and housing committees. In the final stage the maps of access routes to school will be prepared. The project results will be presented on the final conference.

• EUROPEAN ROAD SAFETY CHARTER

Since 2009 the UBC has been a signatory of the European Road Safety Charter. The Commission on Transportation has been fulfilling 3-years’ commitments resulting from the membership in this Charter. One of these commitments is to write articles on road safety in the Baltic Cities Bulletin. As a consequence, the following articles were published:

- Baltic Cities Bulletin 2/2009 – article: European Road Safety Charter – road safety prevention measures taken by UBC cities
- Baltic Cities Bulletin 1/2010 – article: Road safety for vulnerable road users
- Baltic Cities Bulletin 2/2010 – article: Safe route to and from school
- Baltic Cities Bulletin 1/2011 – article: ERSC: Road safety in Sweden
- Baltic Cities Bulletin 2/2011 – article: Traffic Safety in the TRISTAR System
- Baltic Cities Bulletin 1/2012 – article: Road Safety Measures in Aalborg

• SUPPORT FOR SEGMENT PROJECT – SEGMENTED MARKETING FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT TRANSPORT

The UBC Commission on Transportation supported the project: *SEGMENT – Segmented Marketing for Energy Efficient Transport*. SEGMENT was a 3 year IEE STEER funded project which tested the use of consumer market segmentation techniques in persuading people to change their travel behaviour and adopt more energy efficient forms of transport. SEGMENT helped build capacity in local authorities across Europe to implement resource-efficient and effective behaviour change campaigns increasing the uptake of sustainable transport methods. The Commission on Transportation assisted in dissemination of project activities on UBC TransCom website. SEGMENT project ended in April of 2012 but due to success of activities undertaken during its implementation it was decided to continue the “Odprawdzam sam” and “Pieszy autobus” programs (programs regarding assistance for children on their way to school without car).

● **SUPPORT FOR ABC.MULTIMODAL PROJECT**

The UBC Commission on Transportation is the associated partner in the abc.multimodal project. Five partners in the South Baltic Region cooperate in this project until 2014 to integrate cycling into multimodal transport system and mobility culture. Cycling connects people at different places by moving from A to B by cycling. ABC-project partners are connected by the common goal to promote cycling: the Hanseatic City of Rostock, the ADFC Rostock (German Cycling Association Rostock), the Kalmar Municipality, the City of Gdańsk and PSWE (Pomeranian Association Common Europe). There are also two associated organisations involved that help to disseminate the project outputs within the South Baltic Region: the UBC Commission on Transportation and MV Bike (the network of cycling friendly towns in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania).

The representative of the Commission on Transportation took part in the 2nd project meeting in Gdańsk on 28th February. The newsletters of the abc.multimodal project are published on the website of the Commission on Transportation.

● **SUPPORT FOR ELMOS PROJECT**

Union of the Baltic Cities is an associated organisation within the ELMOS project: Introducing electric mobility as intermodal transport mean in small and medium sized cities in the South Baltic Area. ELMOS promotes the invention of electric mobility in the small & medium sized towns & cities of the South Baltic Area. In this way it contributes to reduce CO₂ emissions and improve urban living conditions. The overall idea of the project is to develop and partly introduce electric mobility in the five participating municipalities. Karlskrona, Malbork, Rostock, Trabki Wielkie and Växjö want to become forerunners but are therefore also newcomers in the field. Electric mobility will be integrated into their existing urban transport networks. Electric mobility offers new opportunities for everyday transport. Urban areas are predestined to become catalysts for its invention and are on the forefront of the development. Here, charging infrastructure could be provided at short notice and travel distances comfortably coped with the present electric vehicles, which allow only limited operating ranges.

● **SUPPORT FOR CIVITAS DYN@MO PROJECT**

Within the CIVITAS DYN@MO project Gdynia has worked to extend its activities in important fields of sustainable urban transport and focus on three themes: Sustainable urban mobility planning, clean and energy efficient vehicles, intelligent transport systems and Information and Communication Technologies and Intelligent Transport Systems (ICT & ITS).

● **”REVITALIZE THE CITY FOR SUSTAINABILITY” - JOINT SEMINAR OF THE UBC COMMISSIONS ON URBAN PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND TRANSPORT**

The UBC Commission on Transportation co-financed the joint seminar “Revitalize the city for sustainability” that was organized in Halmstad (Sweden) between 8 and 11th May 2012. The seminar focused on practical group work as well as discussions and interesting presentations on this interdisciplinary topic.

● **WALK TO SCHOOL GRANT COMPETITION 2012**

In September 2012 UBC Commission on Transportation has organised the Walk to School Grant Competition. Within the competition 7 grant applications were submitted (Rakvere, Estonia; Voru,

Estonia; Kemi, Finland; Chojnice, Poland; Gdynia, Poland; Kaliningrad, Russia; Soederhamn, Sweden).

Out of these applications the international jury has chosen the winners as follows:

1. Võru (Estonia) – Võru Kreutzwald Gymnasium (1500€)
2. Rakvere (Estonia) – Rakvere Private Gymnasium (1000€)
3. Gdynia (Poland) – 26 Primary School in Gdynia (500€)

The idea of the contest was to promote walking to school as well as healthy lifestyle. Walking to school makes children not only getting acknowledged with the road safety but also creates ties with peers. The competition was addressed to the primary schools or NGO's from any UBC member city. The main point of the project from Voru was a city game which aimed to get children acknowledged with the safest tracks on particular routes, such as library - school, school- city park, city park-sport centre.

The project from Rakvere was based mainly on the competition among classes – pupils were supposed to gain the highest amount of points for walking to school or using ecologically sustainable ways of transport on the school-home route.

Gdynia project consisted of various activities – from “Car free day” which included photo relations and bus tickets collecting through best walking to school hits contest to “Step by Step” competition which challenged pupils to count their steps on the school-home route using pedometer.

• **CONFERENCE : TROLLEYBUS IN A MODERN CITY, 21-22 MARCH 2013**

The UBC Commission on Transportation actively supported organisation of the conference: *Trolleybus in a Modern City* organised within the TROLLEY project in Gdynia on 21-22 March 2013. The Project partners from Salzburg (lead partner), Brno, Eberwalde, University of Gdańsk, Gdynia, Leipzig, Parma and Szeged, representing the urban transport stakeholders of Central Europe, have agreed on cooperation in order to promote innovative clean urban transport solutions. This well-balanced partnership consisting of transport authorities, public transport operators, NGOs and academia is convinced that electricity-based mobility is the cleanest and most efficient mobility solution today and considers (electric) trolleybuses as the best and ready-to-use response to the urban mobility challenges in Central Europe. The meeting offered an efficient networking and disseminations opportunity for various partners to exchange experiences, learn from each other, discuss and promote project ideas and establish co-operation.

• **UBC JOINT COMMISSION MEETING IN THE CITY OF TALLINN 10-12 APRIL 2013**

The UBC Commission on Transportation co-financed the UBC Joint Commission Meeting (Energy, Environment and Transportation) organised in Tallin on 10-12 April 2013. The Commission on Transportation arranged two speakers for one part of the programme as well as elaborated the summary report from the Joint Commission Meeting.

• **UBC COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION WEBSITE**

The Commission's website is constantly updated. It contains all relevant information concerning transport issues. The website serves as a source of information which includes links to international organisations dealing with transport. The website provides its visitors with automatically updated EU transport news from EurActiv portal.

Andrzej Bień
Chairman
UBC Commission on Transportation

ACTION PLAN 2014-2015

In 2014-2015 Commission on Transportation will deal with transport-related issues connected with public transport, cycling, mobility management as well as with road safety. The planned activities include:

- presenting articles on road safety and sustainable urban transport in the Baltic Cities Bulletin,
- Annual Meetings of the Commission on Transportation organised within the Joint Commission meetings (Commissions on Urban Planning and Local Safety as well as Commissions on Environment and Energy),
- support for the abc.multimodal project whose aim is to integrate cycling into multimodal transport system and mobility culture (Commission on Transportation is an associated partner in the project) – dissemination activities,
- support for ELMOS project – Union of the Baltic Cities is an associated organisation within the ELMOS project: Introducing electric mobility as intermodal transport mean in small and medium sized cities in the South Baltic Area – dissemination activities,
- support for the project CIVITAS DYN@MO: within the project Gdynia will work to extend its activities in important fields of sustainable urban transport and focus on three themes: Sustainable urban mobility planning, clean and energy efficient vehicles, intelligent transport systems and Information and Communication Technologies and Intelligent Transport Systems (ICT & ITS) – dissemination activities,
- establishing cooperation with new partners, like Polish Union of Active Mobility (PUMA),
- assistance with preparation and realisation of transport projects, which will ask for support in 2014-2015,
- updating the website of the TransCom as an information source for the Commission members.

Andrzej Bień
Chairman
UBC Commission on Transportation