CIVITAS FORUM 2019

CIVITAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE | 2-4 OCTOBER 2019 | GRAZ | AUSTRIA

THE CIVITAS INITIATIVE
IS CO-FINANCED BY THE
EUROPEAN UNION

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

CIVITAS Forum conference

2-4 October 2019

Graz, Austria

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About the CIVITAS Forum Conference

The CIVITAS Initiative, established in 2002 by the European Commission, supports cities with developing and implementing sustainable urban mobility measures. The CIVITAS Forum conference is its annual flagship event.

Photo credit: Erwin Wieser/Stadt Graz

Over 400 participants convene for three days to discuss key issues, share and learn from challenges, present state-of-the-art solutions, build partnerships, and witness sustainable urban mobility innovation in action. This year is the Forum's 17th edition and takes place in Graz, Austria, from 2-4 October 2019.

Call for contributions open – what is desired?

Speakers are invited to submit proposals for contributions according to the session topics outlined below, both for thematic sessions and for "take-up and transfer" sessions. Imaginative and interactive contributions are especially welcome for the latter.

All activities should be geared towards connecting people and informing all involved about the tried-and-tested procedures enacted by local governments and their partner stakeholders within and beyond CIVITAS.

This knowledge can be shared in a variety of ways, such as via presentations, workshops, tours, exhibition stands, and through structured exchange.

Four sets of parallel sessions are envisaged, consisting of two thematic and two "take-up and transfer" sessions. Contributions for both are hereby invited to be submitted online. Please note it is necessary to create a user account before submission.

Register and submit contributions

The deadline for all submissions is **31 May 2019**.

Session topics

Contributions are invited on the following topics:

- Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning
- Cycling
- Walking
- Urban freight
- E-mobility
- Alternative fuels and clean vehicles
- Parking
- Safety
- Urban Vehicle Access Regulations
- Automation
- Neighbourhood-level mobility planning
- Functional urban areas
- Accessibility in remote urban and rural areas
- Socio-demographic challenges, diversity and gender
- New mobility services and trends
- New business models
- Digitalisation
- Artificial Intelligence in transport
- Urban air mobility

Other topics may be suggested, especially for take-up and transfer sessions.

In addition, we invite contributions from previously funded Horizon 2020 projects or project partners on the topic "Deployment of Horizon 2020 results". This session will focus on successful examples of take-up and deployment, particularly following the end of a project.

Thematic sessions

Thematic sessions are fora to discuss outstanding, innovative examples of work across and beyond the CIVITAS Initiative. They represent opportunities for participants to deepen technical know-how on the topic discussed, as well as exchange on examples of good practice, successful business models, and proven technologies.

Sessions are 90 minutes long and should utilise the interactive formats best suited to their material. Potential formats include: traditional thematic sessions, workshops, debates, panel discussions, and roundtable discussions.

Submissions for individual presentations for traditional thematic sessions are welcome. Such presentations are typically 15 minutes long and build in time afterwards for audience questions.

In addition to individual presentations, representatives from CIVITAS projects working on similar topics may submit proposals for entire sessions. Involvement of non-CIVITAS projects/ organisations working on similar topics is welcome.

Before submitting an application for an entire session, applicants are encouraged to contact the CIVITAS Secretariat at forum2019@civitas.eu. Feedback will then be given on these initial ideas.

Please note that preference will be given to contributions from speakers involved in ongoing and completed CIVITAS projects and other EU-funded sustainable urban mobility projects.

Take-up and transfer sessions

As the Forum's most interactive programme elements, these let participants get hands-on with and experience urban mobility tools and methods in action. In the process, they can consider how a given tool or method can be applied practically in their own local context.

The possible activities are broad: organisers may run small-scale technical demonstrations, present new services, discuss business models, and pitch and promote innovative mobility products.

CIVITAS encourages creative presentation approaches. A tool or method can be presented in the interactive format that best showcases its capabilities and potential for implementation, be it training workshops for small groups, large demonstration Q&A sessions, "best practice" examples of its application, speed networking, study tours, or walkshops. See further information on session formats below.

In the programme, activities will be grouped in 90 minute time slots according to theme. Activities can be shorter or longer in duration – applicants do not need to define whole 90 minute sessions. This will be done by the CIVITAS Secretariat. However, applicants are very welcome to coordinate and propose entire 90 minute sessions amongst themselves, should they wish.

Applicants should indicate the length of their foreseen activity within their proposals and specify their desired setting for them. For instance, for some formats it will be more suitable that they take place in a meeting room, whilst others should take place at exhibition stands or outside the venue (or indeed any combination of these).

All demonstrators are encouraged to add their innovation to the [CIVITAS Tool Inventory](#) and to get involved as an exhibitor too (see the separate call). Exhibition stands may act as the starting point or the venue for demonstration activities!

Take-up and transfer: Ideas and inspiration

To kick-start the creative process, some activity suggestions are below (see [Annex 1](#) for further ideas):

- Starting somewhere inside, spend the first 15 minutes having participants download your app and giving them a brief presentation on your mobility solution. Then take the group out and about in Graz to show them the app in action. Finally, come back to the starting point and conclude with a short debriefing and Q&A.
- Join forces with projects working in similar thematic areas to give a series of presentations. These could take place in a meeting room, at various exhibitions stands, and/or outside the venue. The agenda could combine various 10-15 minute activities, with the group walking to different locations between them to keep things active.
- Should projects have a joint exhibition stand, they could organise a set of activities at/starting from there.
- Organise a 15-minute training workshop on your mobility solution at your exhibition stand. Such training workshops could also be offered several times over the course of the conference, appearing 2-3 times in the programme.
- Hold a 30-minute training workshop on your mobility solution in a meeting room.
- Give a 15-minute presentation on your mobility solution in a meeting room and then take the group to your exhibition stand or outside for a live demonstration.
- Host a PechaKucha presentation featuring your mobility solution. PechaKucha means 20 slides with no text and a limit of 20 seconds to present each one, with adequate time for questions and answers afterwards.

Here are examples of take-up and transfer sessions from the CIVITAS Forum 2018 in Umeå:

Session outline	Session description
ISAAC AND POLIS ROAD SAFETY WORKING GROUP – HOW EFFECTIVE ARE WALKING AND CYCLING MEASURES? Three 5 minute presentations - Demonstration of the ISAAC tool by example of a city - How effective are bike streets? - How effective are pedestrian crossings? followed by a speed dating: conversations in small groups about	The ISAAC tool identifies the best suitable walking and cycling measures. It identifies the most suitable walking and cycling measures for your city. Participants who bring a laptop or portable device that connects to the internet can test the tool live during the session. This 60-minute session will also look into research findings on the effectiveness of interventions and their impact on road safety, a key concern for walking and cycling in our cities.

the ISAAC tool and the effectiveness of walking and cycling measures	
INNOVATIVE MODELLING APPROACHES FOR THE FORMULATION OF SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY POLICIES – LESSONS FROM THE FLOW AND COEXIST PROJECTS Two 10 minute presentations • Transport modelling for policy development (and non-modellers) • Introduction to the modelling tools used in CoEXist and FLOW Followed by Case Study Group Exercise on application of modelling tools in cities Due to the format of this session, the number of participants is restricted to 30 people. Please arrive on time to secure your place!	The role of transport modelling is becoming more important as a decision support tool to help formulate, assess and evaluate sustainable urban transport policies. However, most transport modelling is still focused on cars and many aspects such as walking and cycling and new innovative developments like connected and automated vehicles are not considered in most transport models. One reason why transport modelling is not used to its fullest potential is because many of those responsible for commissioning modelling activities or dealing with modelling results see modelling a daunting area of responsibility. Generally, many transport professionals have misconceptions about the strategic role modelling can play in the policy development process and are not able to sense-check modelling outputs. This 90 minute session targets those with limited experience in transport modelling seeking to gain a broader view as to how it can be used to devise transport policy to encourage walking and cycling, based on results from the FLOW project, and for connected and automated vehicles, based on the results of the CoEXist project.
COLLECTING BICYCLE TRAFFIC DATA WITH DIGITAL APPLICATIONS • Bike Citizens Analytics • PING if you care!	This 30-minute session will set out how cycling data can be analysed in order to support an improved cycling policy in cities. The "PING if you care!" campaign gives cyclists the opportunity to communicate and engage directly with the city-government by pushing the PING button to point out issues right away. This crowdsourcing citizens' engagement campaign supports cities to make cycling more comfortable and safer – and an even greater experience! At the end of the campaign, the Bike Citizens Analytics Tool allows the analysis, simulation and evaluation of the received cycling data and makes it available to municipalities, inter alia, to enhance the cycling policy in the long-term.

Timeline

31 May 2019	Deadline to submit your proposed contribution
28 June 2019	Applicants informed of selection
Around mid-September 2019	Telephone conferences to brief those organising and those involved in a session or activity (these will be organised by SATELLITE); at the end everyone confirms their contributions to the Forum programme.
2-4 October 2019	CIVITAS Forum conference

Annex 1: Examples of take-up and transfer session types

Large demonstration Q&A sessions

In this activity format, one or several presenters demonstrate the tool/method and facilitate a structured question and answer session that helps participants envision its application in their specific contexts.

Examples of best practice application

This format includes a demonstration of a tool/method combined with practical examples and accounts from cities/people who have applied it. This can easily be combined with other formats like Q&As and speed networking.

Speed networking

This meeting format should encourage the take-up of tools and methods by accelerating contact with potential customers through the quick exchange of information. Generally, participants greet each other in a series of brief exchanges during a set period of time. During an interaction, attendees share their professional backgrounds and interests and the tool/method presented at the exhibition stand.

Study tours

This would involve taking a group of people on a walk around Graz to visit points of interest on a predetermined route. Whilst doing so, activity leaders should demonstrate the application of their tool/ method. Study tours can also start and/or end with a series of short (PechaKucha) presentations. They are typically longer than walkshops (see below).

Those wanting to organise a study tour should contact the CIVITAS Secretariat, who will then liaise with representatives from Graz to discuss what can be shown during a study tour. The aim should be to address and discuss local urban mobility challenges in a constructive way.

Walkshops

Like study tours, this involves taking a group of people around Graz to visit points of interest on a predetermined route. Whilst doing so, activity leaders should demonstrate the application of their tool/method.

A walkshop should be more interactive than a study tour. Participants may be asked to observe and document what they see using pictures and/or videos and report about it on social media. The walking component can be followed by a workshop component. During this workshop, participants' observations could be pooled and discussed. Walkshops are typically shorter than study tours.

Those wanting to organise a walkshop are encouraged to contact the CIVITAS Secretariat in advance who will liaise with representatives from Graz to discuss what can be shown during a walkshop. The aim should be to address and discuss local urban mobility challenges in a constructive way.

PechaKucha

A PechaKucha presentation consists of 20 slides shown for 20 seconds each – each presentation is 6 minutes and 40 seconds long! The slides typically consist solely of pictures (with no or very limited text) and slides change automatically.