

The European Union's CIVITAS initiative helps cities to achieve a more sustainable, clean and energy efficient urban transport system by implementing and evaluating an ambitious integrated mix of technology and policy-based measures. After CIVITAS I with 19 cities, CIVITAS II with 17 cities, and CIVITAS PLUS with 25 cities, the Initiative has now gathered a group of 8 cities under CIVITAS PLUS II. Altogether, CIVITAS cities comprise a community of leading innovators in clean and sustainable urban transport in Europe.

## CIVITAS PLUS II

The word CIVITAS was coined by joining three key components of a modern European society, namely City, Vitality and Sustainability. More than 10 years after its inception, the CIVITAS Initiative has made spectacular progress in extending cleaner and better transport across the continent, from Cork in Ireland and Tallinn in Estonia to Coimbra in Portugal and Nicosia in Cyprus. It has established 69 demonstration cities where it introduced new technologies and helped adopt new eco-friendly transport initiatives. This involved testing over 700 measures and building a larger network of over 220 cities to further green transport, representing a drive that has been supported by an EU-funded budget of EUR 200 million. With road transport producing 40% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and 70% of other pollutants from urban traffic in Europe, CIVITAS couldn't have come any sooner.

The fourth phase of the CIVITAS Initiative, CIVITAS Plus II, includes two collaborative projects involving the exchange of best practices, consultation with political stakeholders and inclusion of new knowledge on achieving clean urban transport. The following cities cooperate within the two projects:

- 2MOVE2: Stuttgart (Germany), Brno (Czech Republic), Malaga (Spain), Tel Aviv-Yafo (Israel)
- DYN@MO: Aachen (Germany), Gdynia (Poland), Koprivnica (Croatia), Palma (Spain)

Measures under 2MOVE2 include introducing electric minibuses in Brno, streamlining the use of heavy goods vehicles in Malaga, improving traffic management in Stuttgart, and increasing the use of bicycles in Tel Aviv-Yafo. DYN@MO holds several exciting surprises up its sleeve, measures from strengthening the use of hybrid and electric vehicles in Aachen and Palma to installing intelligent transport systems in Gdynia and introducing public transport in the small town of Koprivnica. The support actions in CIVITAS Plus II distinct themselves from previous phases of CIVITAS by their strong emphasis on further opening up existing CIVITAS knowledge to a larger audience than the core (active) part of the CIVITAS Community alone.

## Objectives

The objectives of the CIVITAS Initiative are:

- To promote and implement sustainable, clean and (energy) efficient urban transport measures
- To implement integrated packages of technology and policy measures in the field of energy and transport in eight categories of measures
- To build up critical mass and markets for innovation
- To overcome barriers for implementing innovative and ambitious measures and policies through experimental testing and targeted research
- To change transport behaviour and implement innovative technologies on a wider scale by:
  - **Exchanging good practices** by triggering the 'how did you do it' questions) and stimulating good examples to be implemented elsewhere.
  - **Convincing politicians** who pave the way for paradigm shifts in urban transport (triggering the 'how did you dare' questions).
  - **Testing new innovative measures** in so-called 'living laboratories' to tackle the problems cities are facing.



## **CIVITAS PLUS II**

### **8 CITIES**

### **2 PROJECTS**

### **≈ €21 MILLION EU FUNDING**

### **CLEANER & BETTER**

### **TRANSPORT IN CITIES**

## **Mission**

More than 75% of Europe's population live in cities and more than 80% of the EU's GDP is generated there. For urban areas to function properly and offer a high quality of life to their citizens, they have to provide effective transport systems which meet the needs of people and businesses. In many cities, however, it has become very difficult to meet the different mobility demands of the users. At the same time, cities are struggling to reduce the negative impacts of mobility and transport, such as poor air quality, congestion, and traffic accidents.

In 2000, the European Commission recognised the need for action and launched the CIVITAS Initiative, designed as a programme “of cities for cities.” CIVITAS promotes and implements sustainable, clean and (energy) efficient urban mobility. In order to achieve their objectives, the CIVITAS demonstration cities test a coherent set of measures that are specifically selected to match both local circumstances and the European dimension. These measures indeed promise to generate knowledge that is transferable, and thus of benefit to cities all across Europe. The activities in the demonstration cities aim to provide a better quality of life for all citizens.

CIVITAS cities implement integrated packages of technology and policy measures in the field of energy and transport along eight categories, which have been identified as building blocks for an integrated urban transport strategy. Examples include less car intensive lifestyles, pricing measures, clean fuels and vehicles, collective passenger transport, etc.

## **Key elements of CIVITAS**

- CIVITAS projects are based on partnerships and enable cities to have peer-to-peer exchange of best practice knowledge in how to implement sustainable urban mobility measures.
- CIVITAS involvement gives cities the chance to gain public support for their work. It helps European municipalities to develop the knowledge base needed for informed policymaking.
- CIVITAS fosters close cooperation between authorities at EU level and in the Member States providing a platform for exchange among regional, local and European authorities.
- Political commitment to CIVITAS's objectives is a basic requirement for success.
- In CIVITAS Plus II, best practice exchange, political front runners and inclusion of new knowledge on achieving clean urban transport is still important.
- Cities are living 'laboratories' for learning and evaluating.
- CIVITAS helps to build up critical mass and markets for innovation.
- 220 cities are members of the CIVITAS Forum Network, having all signed a declaration committing themselves to ambitious policies.
- Altogether, 69 demonstration cities have benefitted from EU funding of EUR 200 million, leveraging a total investment estimated at EUR 370 million to facilitate the implementation of cleaner urban transport projects.

## **Examples of Measures**

- Hybrid buses (Aachen)
- A bike-rental system (Malaga)
- Transport solutions for high density employment areas (Tel Aviv-Yafo)
- Electrical car-sharing scheme (Koprivnica)
- Alternative fuels, energy efficient vehicles (Tallin)
- Clean bus fleet (Toulouse)
- Car-sharing programme (Bremen)
- Innovative telematics systems (Zagreb)
- New concepts for goods distribution (Utrecht)

## Want to join us?

If you would like to improve the IMAGE of your city, develop KNOWLEDGE exchange with other cities, obtain SUPPORT for future projects, influence POLICYMAKING at EU level, contact the CIVITAS Secretariat: [secretariat@civitas.eu](mailto:secretariat@civitas.eu)

The public website [www.civitas.eu](http://www.civitas.eu) offers full information, factsheets, news, reports, and event updates to assist transport and energy specialists, citizens, scholars and the media. It contains details of more than 600 people working within CIVITAS, showcasing more than 700 examples of the implementation of innovative sustainable transport measures from CIVITAS demonstration cities.

For more inquiries about the CIVITAS Initiative, your contact persons at the CIVITAS Secretariat are:

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