

Workplan for 2021-2025

Draft presented at the meeting of THE PEP Bureau on 23 June 2022

Summary

The Workplan for 2021-2025 presents the activities under the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) for the period until the Sixth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment.

The Workplan was adopted at the Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (Vienna, 17-18 May 2021)¹. The High-level Meeting also agreed to develop further and monitor the workplan's implementation through the Steering Committee at its annual sessions.

The Steering Committee discussed a way forward to implement the mandate from the Declaration at its nineteenth session (Geneva, 27–28 October 2021) and invited member States to provide replies by the end of January 2022 to questions prepared by the secretariat. It further decided that the Workplan should be completed by the twentieth session of the Steering Committee and presented in the three official ECE languages.

The secretariat prepared a revised version based on the discussions at the session of the Steering Committee and on the replies received from member States. The Bureau adopted the updates at its thirty-ninth meeting (online, 1 March 2022) and requested the secretariat to submit it to the Steering Committee at its twentieth session in the three UNECE official languages.

The document is presented for information, before its submission as official document.

¹ Please refer to Annex VI in the the Addendum to the report of the Fifth Session of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (ECE/AC.21/2021/2/Add.1–EUCHP2018924/4.3.2/Add.1)

I. Background

1. Since its establishment in 2002, the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP), has served as a unique policy platform that aims to develop and promote sustainable and healthy transport patterns at the pan-European level. THE PEP operates under the mandate of the High-level Meetings on Transport, Health and Environment convened approximately every five years.

2. This document sets out a draft workplan comprising programme areas for activities under THE PEP for the period 2021–2025. The draft workplan is the operational tool of the Vienna Declaration and provides a road map for activities and projects to work towards the implementation of THE PEP vision.

3. The document was prepared by the Bureau of the Steering Committee with the support of the secretariat. It was discussed, amended and endorsed by: the thirty-fifth meeting of the Bureau (Valletta, 2 and 3 May 2019), meeting in an extended format; the thirty-sixth meeting of the Bureau (Bonn, Germany, 1 and 2 July 2019); the seventeenth meeting of the Steering Committee (Geneva, 21–23 October 2019); the thirty-seventh meeting of the Bureau (online, 29 June 2020); a preparatory meeting (online, 30 June 2020); the eighteenth session of the Steering Committee (online, 25-27 November 2020); and a further preparatory meeting to the High-level Meeting (online, 25 January 2021).

II. Relevance to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global commitments

4. In adopting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, States Members of the United Nations undertook to mobilize efforts to end poverty and inequality, protect the planet and ensure well-being and prosperity for all. The 2030 Agenda includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals: each Goal has specific targets and Member States are expected to establish national frameworks for their achievement.

5. THE PEP is linked to several of the Sustainable Development Goals and can support national efforts to achieve them. It is particularly relevant to the following Goals:

- (a) 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages);
- (b) 7 (Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all);
- (c) 8 (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all);
- (d) 9 (Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation);
- (e) 11 (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable);
- (f) 12 (Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns);
- (g) 13 (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts).

6. The linkages between THE PEP and these and other Sustainable Development Goals are analysed in the recent publication *Making THE (Transport, Health and Environment) Link: Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme*.²

7. The 2030 Agenda identifies the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change as the main forum for negotiations on Sustainable Development Goal 13. Three months after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the States Members of the United Nations adopted the Paris Agreement.

² Arseni, O. and others (Copenhagen, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, 2018).

8. Transport is one of the sectors where member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) need to take actions to support mitigation of climate change. With its emphasis on integrated transport and urban planning policies and the promotion of active mobility, public transport and non-fossil-fuel-powered mobility, THE PEP is well placed to support member States' efforts to implement the Paris Agreement.

III. Achieving the vision set out in the Vienna Declaration

9. To implement the vision set out in the Vienna Declaration, THE PEP Steering Committee needs to undertake a number of activities, including the following:

(a) Developing a comprehensive pan-European strategy to achieve the vision and guide the implementation of THE PEP;

(b) Developing proposals for possible legal instruments in line with the vision, for consideration by the Sixth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment;

(c) Developing a communications strategy to disseminate the results of THE PEP in order to raise awareness among stakeholders and citizens;

(d) Supporting the establishment of coordination mechanisms at the national level between the transport, health and environment sectors, including subnational and local authorities and involving other relevant stakeholders;

(e) Exploring the possibilities of incorporating the perspectives of future generations into the work of THE PEP;

(f) Monitoring the implementation of THE PEP;

(g) Holding its annual meetings, as well as biannual meetings of its Bureau;

(h) Requesting ECE and the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe to continue to provide secretariat services and to continue supporting them in this endeavour.

10. In the first months of 2020, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic struck the ECE region, with member States introducing national and international travel restrictions that affected the economy.

11. When planning reopening measures, it became clear to ECE member States that relaunching the economy would not be sustainable unless transport systems were restarted taking into consideration lessons learned during the pandemic. Taking this into account, member States joined forces to begin drafting a set of green and healthy sustainable transport principles, for adoption at the Fifth High-level Meeting.

12. THE PEP vision needs to consider that the rebuilding of transport requires a holistic approach, with an emphasis on inclusiveness, fairness and other social aspects, while keeping in mind health and the environment.

IV. Implementing the workplan

13. In accordance with its Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure, THE PEP Steering Committee is the main decision-making body for the implementation of THE PEP. It operates under the authority of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health to promote, coordinate and monitor the implementation of THE PEP workplan and is responsible for giving guidance and strategic directions to THE PEP.

14. The Steering Committee is assisted by a Bureau consisting of 9 to 15 members elected by the Steering Committee. The members of the Bureau represent the transport, environment and health sectors. The Bureau is responsible for preparing the meetings of the Steering Committee and for following up on its decisions.

15. The High-level Meetings have, in the past, set Priority Goals to be achieved to implement THE PEP. To support achievement of the Priority Goals, member States have also adopted implementation mechanisms. The current implementation mechanisms are:

(a) A series of national, subregional and regional workshops on sustainable transport policies (THE PEP relay race);

(b) Preparation and implementation of national action plans on transport, health and environment, supported by methodological guidance developed within the framework of THE PEP;

(c) Partnerships to support implementation of THE PEP workplan, with a focus on specific technical implementation aspects of the Priority Goals;

(d) THE PEP Academy, a platform linking science, policy and practice in order to strengthen capacities for integrated policymaking, supported by THE PEP Clearing House.

16. THE PEP implementation mechanisms are an important element in the implementation of the workplan. They are supported by tools used within THE PEP.

17. Lead countries or organizations facilitate, with the assistance of THE PEP secretariat, the implementation of the activities outlined in THE PEP workplan and act as coordinator and/or rapporteur. Lead countries or organizations report to THE PEP Steering Committee on progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of these activities.

18. THE PEP workplan for the period 2021–2025 will be implemented in close cooperation with national and international governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, including local and municipal authorities, youth organizations, research organizations and academia.

19. Implementation of the proposed activities will be conditional on the mobilization of the necessary resources.

V. Structure of the workplan

20. The workplan is organized into nine programme areas (see table below). Programme area 1 corresponds to the overall implementation of THE PEP vision expressed in the Vienna Declaration. Programme areas 2–9 correspond to each of the focus areas identified in paragraph 2 (a)–(h) of the Declaration.

21. Each programme area includes overall activities that lead to its implementation. As implementation of activities depends on the availability of resources and leadership by stakeholders, the lead country or organization is indicated next to each programme area.

22. In addition, the workplan indicates the implementation mechanisms that could be used to support the activities. Furthermore, the relevant Sustainable Development Goals are indicated for each programme area, in line with the decision to align further THE PEP with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

VI. Workplan activities

<i>Programme area and activities</i>	<i>Lead country/organization</i>	<i>Implementation mechanisms</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Sustainable Development Goals</i>
1. Transforming to clean, safe, healthy and inclusive mobility and transport for the happiness and prosperity for all					3; 7; 8; 9; 11; 12; 13
Development of a comprehensive pan-European strategy on transport, health and environment, (taking into account the experiences of the COVID-19 crisis)	Steering Committee and lead country		By 2023	In-kind and financial contributions	
Development of proposals for a possible legal instrument in line with THE PEP vision and the Priority Goals, for consideration by the Sixth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment	Steering Committee and lead country		By 2025	In-kind and financial contributions	
Organize a meeting to take stock of progress 20 years after the establishment of THE PEP	France		2022	In-kind contribution	
Development of a communication strategy to raise awareness of opportunities for and benefits of sustainable and healthy transport and disseminate the results of THE PEP	Bureau		By 2023	In-kind and financial contributions	
Development of joint initiatives and actions at the international, regional, national and local levels to support member States in the transition towards more resilient, safe, equitable and sustainable transport and mobility systems	Bureau and Steering Committee	Relay races, Partnerships and National transport, health and environment action plans	2021–2025	In-kind and financial contributions	

<i>Programme area and activities</i>	<i>Lead country/organization</i>	<i>Implementation mechanisms</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Sustainable Development Goals</i>
Development of an online survey for the monitoring of the implementation of THE PEP	Bureau and Steering Committee		2022	Financial and in-kind contributions	
Monitoring the implementation of THE PEP (and identifying country needs and main challenges in the implementation process)	Bureau and Steering Committee		Biennial survey	Financial and in-kind contributions	
Organization of annual meetings of the Steering Committee and of biannual meetings of the Bureau	Bureau		Yearly	Financial and in-kind contributions	
Secretariat services			Yearly	Regular budget of the secretariat, plus financial contributions	
2. Ensuring the resilience of transport systems to climate change, pandemics and other disasters					3; 7; 8; 9; 11; 12
Implementation of the Recommendations on green and healthy sustainable transport and support to member States	Steering Committee/Task force	Partnerships and others	2021–2025	Financial and in-kind contributions	
3. Improved living conditions in cities and regions by integrating environmental and health policies and objectives into coordinated transport and spatial planning					3; 9; 11; 13
Activity to support coordination on the integration of sustainable transport, land-use planning, health and the environment (with a first relay race event in October 2021, in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, on integration of transport and urban planning)	Russian Federation and France	Relay races and Partnerships	2021–2025	In-kind contributions	

<i>Programme area and activities</i>	<i>Lead country/organization</i>	<i>Implementation mechanisms</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Sustainable Development Goals</i>
4. Clean, safe, low-noise and net-zero emission transport by implementing policies and actions for healthy, active and safer mobility					3; 7; 11; 12; 13
Activity to implement the Pan-European Master Plan for Cycling Promotion, including activity to promote measures to shift from motorized mobility to active mobility (and measures directly addressing COVID-19 and the role that cycling could play in making transport systems more resilient), including continuing the work on and the implementation of the infrastructure module and the development of the pan-European competence centre on active mobility	Austria and France, as leaders of the Partnership, ECF, CONEBI, ECE and other member States	Partnership on Cycling Promotion, extended to Partnership on Active Mobility	2021–2025	In-kind contributions	
Development of a pan-European master plan for active mobility	Austria, France and other member States	Partnership on Cycling Promotion, extended to Partnership on Active Mobility	By 2025	In-kind contributions	
Activity to further develop THE PEP tools and promote their application in decision-making process	Steering Committee	Partnership on Cycling Promotion, extended to Partnership on Active Mobility	2021–2025	In-kind contribution	
Activity under THE PEP Academy to transfer knowledge and best practices and reinforce capacities of member States for integrated policymaking	Steering Committee and lead country	Academy	2021–2025	Financial and in-kind contributions	
Activity for future updates and improvements of HEAT	WHO	Partnership on HEAT	2021–2025	Financial and in-kind contributions	
Activity to promote eco-driving	Austria	Partnership on Eco-Driving	2021–2025		

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Activity to accelerate development and introduction of low- and zero-emission vehicles, electromobility and related infrastructure through financial and other support programmes	Steering Committee	Relay races	2021–2025	In-kind contributions	
Activity for future updates and improvements of ForFITS	ECE		2021–2025	Financial and in-kind contributions	
5. The social inclusivity of access to mobility and transport					3; 7; 8; 9; 11; 12
Identify partners and stakeholders and create synergies with them so that all levels of society can be reached (how to involve them, how to benefit from them and how to make them benefit from us) (including custodians of Sustainable Development Goals and indicators)	Bureau and Steering Committee		2021–2025	In-kind contributions	
Develop a partnership on child- and youth-friendly mobility	Austria, and others	Partnerships	2021–2025	In-kind contributions	
Inclusion of gender-related work on transport, health and environment in annual Programmes of Work	Bureau and Steering Committee		2021–2025	Financial and in-kind contributions	
6. Directing investments, fiscal incentives and green finance initiatives towards sustainable transport to stimulate job creation and the economy					8; 9; 11; 12; 13
Green and healthy jobs in transport	France and other member States	Partnership on jobs in Green and Healthy Transport	2021–2025	Financial and in-kind contributions	
7. Making the best use of the benefits of the digitalization of transport and mobility services	Steering Committee		2021–2025	In-kind contributions	3; 8; 11; 12

<i>Programme area and activities</i>	<i>Lead country/organization</i>	<i>Implementation mechanisms</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Sustainable Development Goals</i>
8. Implementing sustainable mobility management and services, employing appropriate technologies for clean, efficient, healthy and safe transport systems					3; 7; 8; 9; 11; 12; 13
Provide ad hoc support and advice towards the creation of transport, health and environment action plans	Bureau and Steering Committee	National transport, health and environment action plans	2021–2025	Financial and in-kind contributions	
Compilation and sharing of good practices and innovations on green and healthy mobility and cooperation between relevant sectors, at the national and local levels	Bureau, Steering Committee and other stakeholders, for example EPOMM		2021–2025	In-kind contributions	
Promotion activities and sharing of good practices on mobility management and more studies on managed mobility	Bureau, Steering Committee, lead country, for example Austria, and stakeholders, for example EPOMM		2021–2025	In-kind contributions	
Establishment of THE PEP Partnership on Sustainable Tourism Mobility, with a view to sharing good practices and developing respective guidelines and tools	Austria	TRANSDANUBE Partnership, extended to Partnership on Sustainable Tourism Mobility	2021–2025	In-kind contributions	
Development and implementation of studies on the environmental and health impacts of new mobility options	Bureau and Steering Committee		2021–2025	Financial and in-kind contributions	
9. The promotion of solutions to implement sustainable urban mobility, including a wide range of electric urban public transport modes and cycling and walking, and consideration of these					3; 7; 9; 11; 12; 13

<i>Programme area and activities</i>	<i>Lead country/organization</i>	<i>Implementation mechanisms</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Sustainable Development Goals</i>
forms of mobility in transport and spatial planning					
See activities in programme areas 3 and 4 on supporting active mobility and integration of transport planning into urban planning	Bureau and Steering Committee	Partnerships	2021–2025		

Abbreviations: CONEBI, Confederation of the European Bicycle Industry; ECF, European Cyclists' Federation; EPOMM, European Platform on Mobility Management; ForFITS, For Future Inland Transport Systems model; HEAT, Health Economic Assessment Tools; TRANSDANUBE Partnership, THE PEP Partnership on Environmentally healthy mobility in leisure and tourism.