



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

ECE/AC.21/2003/3  
EUR/03/5040828/3  
5 February 2003

Original: ENGLISH

---

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION**  
Regional Office for Europe

**HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH**  
**THE PEP Steering Committee**  
(First session, 10 and 11 April 2003)

**ELABORATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF URBAN PLANS FOR  
TRANSPORT SUSTAINABLE FOR HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

Project proposal by the UNECE and WHO/Euro secretariats

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The present document has been prepared by the UNECE and WHO/Euro secretariats for discussion and approval by THE PEP Steering Committee at its first session (10-11 April 2003).
2. The document presents a project proposal for the elaboration and implementation of urban plans for transport sustainable for health and the environment. It contributes thereby to the implementation of the THE PEP work plan, as adopted by the second High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health<sup>1</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> Activity III.1. under "urban areas" (ECE/AC.21/2002/9- EUR/02/5040828/9)

3. The project aims at defining a strategic approach as well as a coherent framework to integrating urban transport management with land-use planning, environmental and health policies, involving ultimately the preparation of guidelines on sustainable and healthy urban planning for use by both central and local Governments.
4. The proposal builds on the work already carried out under the follow-up to the UNECE Workshop on Encouraging Local Initiatives Towards Sustainable Consumption Patterns<sup>2</sup> and implies taking stock of and finding synergies with the major international initiatives of relevance, notably, the WHO publication “Healthy Urban Planning – A WHO guide to planning for people”<sup>3</sup>.
5. The Steering Committee may wish to nominate experts for a Task Force to prepare the guidelines, according to the work plan and within the timeframe described below.

## **II. BACKGROUND**

6. There is strong evidence of the interrelation between means of transport and land-use patterns. Decisions on new transport infrastructure have a crucial impact on future demand for travel and land. The creation of new transport networks around cities stimulates notably the decentralization of services and retail trade and has a considerable impact on suburban land use. In their turn, land-use practices influence travel modes and demand. Higher densities can reduce the separation of a city's functions and activities and stimulate public transport demand; certain threshold densities are required for viable public transport systems. Other factors, such as income, car ownership and the degree of public transport development, also determine travel behaviour.
7. The quality of the urban environment has fundamental effects on human health and well-being. Transport and land-use patterns in urban areas have health consequences in particular through their impact on the air quality and noise, the possibilities for healthy exercise in the form of walking and cycling, the level and severity of road accidents, social cohesion, etc.
8. There is a growing recognition in many countries of the need to consider the environmental and health implications of land-use and transport patterns in an integrated manner when drafting and implementing policies to facilitate consumer choices in support of sustainable

---

<sup>2</sup> Further information on the joint initiative of the UNECE Committees on Environmental Policy and Human Settlements can be found at: <http://www.unece.org/env/europe/li.htm>

<sup>3</sup> More information on the WHO Healthy Cities and urban governance at <http://www.who.dk/eprise/main/WHO/Progs/HCP/Home>

development. There is also value to pursuing health and environmental objectives as a central part of urban planning work.

9. Integrating land-use and local transport policies, strategies and plans means more than just making sure that they complement each other, although that is also important. This approach should provide the basis for concerted action across all policy areas and at all levels of decision-making. Land-use and local transport policies are linked to policies on health, education, economy, environment and social welfare, as well as national and regional policies. Both public and private sector interests have to be taken into account. Local authorities have a key role to play, but national Governments should set up a supportive framework for local initiatives encouraging citizens towards sustainable consumption patterns.

### **III. THE PROJECT**

#### **A. Objective**

10. The proposed project strives for the preparation of guidelines to Governments on a strategic approach to integrating urban transport management with land-use planning, environmental and health policies. The guidelines are intended for use by both central and local Governments as support for decision-making.

#### **B. Work plan**

11. The project involves:

(i) **Preparation of a review of the relevant initiatives as well as discussion papers and country case studies as background material for an international workshop (between May - September 2003)**

12. In order to take full advantage of the synergies offered by the relevant initiatives that already exist on sustainable and healthy urban planning, it is particularly important to review the guidance currently available to the member States (see annex for a provisional list of relevant initiatives). A review of these relevant initiatives will be prepared with the assistance of a consultant to the UNECE and WHO/Euro secretariats.

13. Furthermore, as part of the preparatory work for the international workshop, a series of discussion papers and case studies, drawing on the national experience of the UNECE and WHO/Euro member States, will be commissioned on the following topics:

- The driving forces behind prevailing traffic patterns, including economic, demographic, environmental, public health, labour and social policies, spatial and technological developments, and urban lifestyles;
- Land-use and development strategies which help central and local Governments, jointly or in cooperation, to mitigate excessive demand for urban transport, to widen travellers' choices and to shift demand towards environmentally sound and healthier transport modes;
- Organizational and institutional issues to promote the integration of urban transport, land-use planning with public health and environmental policies and the development of multisectoral strategies;
- Information, communication and participation requirements and opportunities to support integration, including capacity building;
- The role of targets and indicators for sustainable and healthy urban transport.

14. Account is taken of the contributions already provided under the follow-up to the UNECE workshop on sustainable consumption patterns.

**(ii) Organization of a Workshop (September/October 2003) in Cyprus**

15. An international workshop will be held in Cyprus in September/ October 2003 to review the relevant initiatives as well as to examine best practices at national, regional and local levels in the promotion of environmentally sound and healthy local transport integrated with sustainable land-use planning, on the basis of the background material produced. The workshop will provide guidance on the elements needed for the draft guidelines.

16. The workshop will last for 2.5 days. It is expected to be attended by some 60 participants representing central Governments (Ministries of Transport, Health, Environment and Physical Planning) and local authorities, representatives of international organizations, as well as of the academic community, the private sector and NGOs. Participation of mayors will be strongly encouraged from cities that will prepare case studies.

17. The working languages will be English and Russian. Host authorities may wish to organize a one-day study tour on the subject of the workshop prior to it.

**(iii) Preparation of draft guidelines by the Task Force (between November – February 2004) to be submitted to THE PEP Steering Committee (April 2004)**

18. Based on the feedback received from the workshop, the Task Force will provide a first draft of the guidelines for submission to THE PEP Steering Committee at its second session, preliminarily scheduled for 1-2 April 2004 for discussion and amendments as well as for providing guidance on their finalization.

**(iv) Finalization of the draft guidelines by the Task Force (May 2004 – February 2005)**

19. On the basis of the decisions of the Steering Committee, the Task Force will hold two meetings (e.g. in June 2004 and December 2004) to amend and to finalize the draft guidelines. The Bureau to the Steering Committee meeting in autumn 2004 may also wish to discuss and provide guidance for the work of the Task Force.

**(v) Adoption of the guidelines by THE PEP Steering Committee at its third session (April 2005)**

20. The draft guidelines prepared by the Task Force will be submitted to THE PEP Steering Committee for adoption at its third session. It will be widely disseminated, including through THE PEP Clearing House and in publication.

**C. Estimated costs**

21. The review of the relevant initiatives and preparation of a discussion paper for the International Workshop in September/October will be carried out with the assistance of a consultant to the UNECE and WHO/Euro secretariats (Estimated costs: 2 months x US\$ 5,100 = US\$ 10,200)

22. The Task Force meetings should be organized either in the premises of the WHO or UNECE or hosted by a member country. The costs to cover the expenses of some 6 representatives from the countries in transition should be provided for, at ca. US\$ 2,000 per participant (Estimated costs: US\$ 12,000)

23. The costs of the workshop will be covered partly by the host country, partly drawn from the extra budgetary funds (EB) made available for the implementation of THE PEP as well as from the regular budgets (RB) of the UNECE and WHO/Euro, e.g. according to the resource sharing arrangement proposed in the table below.

24. The costs of publishing and disseminating the guidelines will amount to c.a. US\$ 7, 500.

Total: US\$ 29, 700

**Possible resource sharing arrangement for the international workshop on Urban planning**

<u>Items</u>	<i>Contributors</i>	
	<i>Host authorities</i>	<i>UNECE/WHO, THE PEP trust fund</i>
Coordination of documents' preparation		<b>X (RB)</b>
Consultancy funds for the review of relevant initiatives and the discussion paper		<b>X (EB), US\$ 10,200</b>
Preparation of the Workshop programme, agenda		<b>X (RB)</b>
Communication with, and preparation of the list of, participants		<b>X (RB)</b>
Posting of the relevant documentation on THE PEP web site		<b>X (RB)</b>
Assisting the Workshop Chair during the discussions		<b>X (RB)</b>
Preparation, translation and circulation of the Workshop report		<b>X (RB)</b>
Travel and accommodation of experts from countries in transition (15 persons)	<b>x</b>	
Workshop Chair (2.5 work days)	<b>x</b>	
Conference rooms and equipment	<b>x</b>	
Interpretation	<b>x</b>	
Liaison officer	<b>x</b>	
Conference personnel (2-3 persons X 2.5 days)	<b>x</b>	
Registration of participants, hotel reservation	<b>x</b>	
Reception for some 60 persons	<b>x</b>	
Bus and guide for a study tour	<b>x</b>	
Travel and subsistence of UNECE/ WHO staff (3-4 persons)	<b>x</b>	

Annex

**MAJOR INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES OF RELEVANCE TO THE PROJECT**

1. The World Health Organization “Healthy Cities Project”  
<http://www.who.dk/healthy-cities>
2. Within the European Union:
  - (a) The Sustainable Cities Project, consisting of:
    - i. The Sustainable Cities Report aimed at accruing knowledge about the development of sustainable cities through the Policy Report and Good Practice Guidance
    - ii. The European Sustainable Cities & Towns Campaign.  
[http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/urban/home\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/urban/home_en.htm)
  - (b) LIFE (Financial Instrument for the Environment) demonstration projects on urban policy and mobility. [http://europa.eu.int/comm/life/cgi/life\\_frame.pl?prog=ENV](http://europa.eu.int/comm/life/cgi/life_frame.pl?prog=ENV)
  - (c) Research and Development Projects:
    - (i) DANTE - Designs to avoid the need to travel in Europe  
<http://www.cordis.lu/transport/src/dante.htm>
    - (ii) LEDA - Legal/regulatory measures to influence the use of the transport system. <http://europa.eu.int/comm/transport/extra/profiles/leda.html>
    - (iii) LUTRA - Land Use and Transportation: Policies for the City of Tomorrow  
<http://www.ess.co.at/LUTR/>
    - (iv) OPTIMA - Optimisation of Policies for Transport Integration in Metropolitan Areas <http://www.its.leeds.ac.uk/projects/optima/>
    - (v) SESAME - Derivation of the relationship between land use, behaviour patterns and travel demand for political and investment decisions  
<http://www.arttic.com/projects/sesame/>
    - (v) SPECTRA – Sustainability, Development and Spatial Planning  
<http://www.uwe.ac.uk/fbe/spectra/start.htm>
    - (vi) TRANSLAND - Integration of transport and land-use planning  
<http://www.inro.tno.nl/transland/>
  - (d) COST (European Co-operation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research) projects:
    - (i) 332: Innovative methods of coordination between transport actions and regional and local planning. <http://www.belspo.be/cost/>
    - (ii) 342: Parking policy measures and their effects on mobility and the economy <http://www.belspo.be/cost/>
  - (e) POLIS (European Cities and Regions Networking for New Transport Solutions) - an association of European cities and regions working together on transport and environmental problems using innovative transport solutions. <http://www.edc.eu.int/polis/>

(f) The Car Free Cities Network established in 1994 by Eurocities, the association of European metropolitan cities. The Network includes some 70 member cities which committed themselves to developing, exchanging and putting in place techniques and management methods for the reduction of the volume of urban traffic by actively encouraging the use of more environmentally friendly modes of transport than the car. <http://www.eurocities.org/cfc/>

(g) The European Local Transport Information Service (ELTIS) jointly funded by the European Commission and the International Association of Public Transport (UITP). <http://www.eltis.org/en/about.htm>

3. The Task Force on Sustainable Urban Transport Indicators under the ECE Inland Transport Committee. <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp6/wp6.html>
  4. The ECMT-OECD Project on Sustainable Urban Travel involving a series of workshops, a survey of cities and a series of national urban travel policy reviews. <http://193.51.65.78/cem/UrbTrav/index.htm>
  5. Urban Statistics: Millennium Cities – project of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP). <http://www.uitp.com/>
-