

# Report from the Transport seminar 'Cities For People'

organised by CEKOR, Eco-sense and CEE Bankwatch Network

November 22-23, 2007, Belgrade, Serbia

## Overview of the seminar

This seminar was organised in order to bring together decision makers from cities and NGOs working on urban transport issues and share opinions, positive examples and future steps in the urban transport initiatives. The seminar targeted primarily NGOs and officials from Serbia and Macedonia, but NGOs from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia were invited and present.

The first day (22<sup>nd</sup> of November) was envisioned as an NGO day, where representatives from NGOs working on transport issues could hear various presentations focused on current urban transport problems and develop discussions. The second day (23<sup>rd</sup> of November) was intended to broaden discussions among NGOs and officials, and by hearing specific presentations with focus on solutions for urban transport problems, develop future steps.



## Agenda

The agenda of the meeting was the following:

Thursday, November 22

Venue: Hotel Trim

09:00-09.15	Registration of participants
09:15-09.30	Welcome by organisers
09:30-10:00	Introduction of participants- Go-round
10:00-10:30	Brainstorm on transport problems in our cities
10:30-11:30	Lessons learnt from EU New Member States in sustainable urban transport
11:30-12:00	<b>Refreshments break</b>
12:00-13:00	The project cycle for infrastructure projects and ways to influence it
13:00-13:30	The private sector and sustainable transport - what are the problems?
13:30-15:00	<b>Lunch</b>
15:00-15:30	Belgrade's transport issues
15:30-16:00	Campaign to stop city centre devastation in Zagreb
16:00-16:30	Positive examples for cycling - the European example
16:30-17:00	<b>Refreshments break</b>
17:00-17:30	Positive cycling initiatives in Sofia



17:30-18:00 Brainstorm and discussion on possible solutions  
 18:00-18:45 Open discussion on future ideas and plans and preparation for the next day  
 18:45-19:30 **Dinner**



Friday, November 23  
 Venue 'Sava Centar conference room'

10:00-10:30 Registration of participants  
 10:30-10:45 Welcome for participants  
 10:45-11:30 Introduction of participants  
 11:30-12:30 What kind of a city do we want? Discussion in groups  
 12:30-13:00 **Refreshments break**  
 13:00-14:00 Perceptions and image of public transport  
 14:00-14:30 Considering transport solutions for your town - A look at the pros and cons of transport and mobility management schemes in different cities.



14:30-16:00 **Lunch**  
 16:00-17:00 How do other cities get it right?  
 17:00-17:45 Mobility management in urban transport  
 17:45-18:15 **Refreshments break**  
 18:15-18:45 City of Skopje, Traffic & transportation review  
 18:45-19:15 Walking as a means of transport  
 19:15-20:00 Cycling in cities  
 20:00 Official closing of the seminar and dinner

## Speakers on the Seminar

### Day 1

- Wioletta Szymanska, Regional Environmental Centre, Szentendre, Hungary
- Ana Colovic, CEE Bankwatch Network/Eko-svest, Macedonia
- Pippa Gallop, CEE Bankwatch Network
- Zvezdan Kalmar, CEKOR, Serbia
- Ivan Gregov, Green Action, Croatia
- Bojan Rantasa, Makmontana - UNEP, National Committee Macedonia
- Teodor Vasilev, Bike Evolution, Bulgaria



### Day 2

- Doc. mr Ksenija Lalovic, asist. Tatjana Mrdjenovic, asist. mr Uros Radosavljevic, Faculty for Architecture University of Belgrade
- Justin Hyatt, World Carfree Network
- Bernard Ivcic, Green Action
- Anna Markovic and Pera Markovic, Centar za regionalna istrazivanja, Subotica

- Nenad Tonic, Skopje City Assembly
- Ana Colovic, Eko-svest, Macedonia/ CEE Bankwatch Network
- Michal Beim, The Association of City Cyclists' Poznań

## Evaluation of the seminar

The evaluation form was filled in by 30 participants. The conference was attended by 53 participants from NGOs and officials and 4 journalists.

<b>Question</b>	<b>Average rate</b>
<i>How much useful information you received from the workshop”,</i>	4,23
<i>Is the information likely to be useful in your future work</i>	4,13
<i>How do you rate the logistical organisation of the workshop</i>	4,26
<i>How was the location of the workshop</i>	4,35
<i>How were the speakers and presentations in general</i>	4,14

On the question “Which was the best presentation or discussion?” participants named the following presentations:

Nine participants named Justin Hyatt’s presentation “Considering transport solutions for your town”; Six participants chose Ivan Gregov’s presentation “Campaign to stop city centre devastation in Zagreb”; Six participants named the presentation “Perception and image of public transport by Ana Markovic and Pera Markovic as best;

“Belgrade’s transport issues” presentation by Zvezdan Kalmar was picked as best by 3 participants “Mobility management in urban transport” by professors from the Faculty of Architecture on Belgrade was graded as best by 3 participants.

The following presentations were also rated as best:

- Discussion what kind of cities we want
- Project cycle and how to influence it by Ana Colovic
- How do other cities get it right by Bernard Ivicic
- The private sector and sustainable transport- what are the problems by Pippa Gallop, and
- Cycling in cities by Michal Beim.

The participants outlined the following “best things” about the workshop:

- Exchange of experiences, knowledge, contacts and information
- Opportunities for discussions and conversations
- Representation of various topics on the workshop
- Diverse profile of participants with different experience, background etc.
- Learning about practical examples
- Generation of new ideas for solving transport problems
- Impressive responses from participants
- New ideas/energy
- Possibilities for networking.



The participants were also asked to provide information on *what needs to be improved in future*. Some participants replied this question in general terms, in the subject of transport in cities, others in the overall workshop event. The replies are summarised in the following way:



General remarks on the workshop:

- For next time, invite sociologists or psychologists to talk about people's behaviour concerning the use of cars- to better understand which approach to use in the Balkan.
  - The temperature of the conference room- too hot
  - Concrete solutions are missing
  - The schedule was too tight, including Saturday could help
  - More time for discussions and Q and A was needed
  - A new seminar!
  - The first session (discussions on what kind of cities we want) could be grouped by topics (cycling, walking etc).
  - Presentations should not double some topics
- Making sure that lectures are finished in time
  - Organised time in the city
  - Get a facilitator/moderator for the meetings
  - Clear focus on certain issues
  - Better time management

Transport related remarks on what should be improved:

- Better traffic culture and education
- EIA
- Improve our cities into green and sustainable in future
- Managing traffic lights on crossroads, video surveillance on cross roads