Kaunas City Municipality
Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)

Relay Race Workshop

Improvement of Sustainable Urban Mobility for Better Health and Environment
Move to improve

24–25 September 2014, Kaunas (Lithuania)

Venue: Grand Hall, Kaunas City Municipality, Laisvės al. 96.

Lithuania is famous for its reputation as a very green country where people have lived in concord with nature for many centuries; however, the effects of the economic growth and increasing population in urban areas set challenges to manage and prevent the pollution of city environment and create favourable health-friendly conditions for the citizens. European Commission also encourages the Member States and their regions and cities not to postpone decisions in this field taking proper measures under the basis and principles of sustainable urban mobility planning.

THE PEP Relay Race Workshop in Kaunas aims to foster a better vertical and horizontal cross-institutional and cross-sectorial cooperation among the policy makers, international organisations, NGOs, academic researchers and local authorities providing the platform of discussion for the specialists of transport, health and environment.

The objectives of Kaunas Workshop include sharing the knowledge from the latest research and best practices of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans and sustainable urban development to increase the competences of the specialists and to encourage the development of SUMPs in Lithuanian municipalities in the nearest future. Moreover, the workshop aims to share ideas and best practices in promotion of physical activity.
activity, awareness rising of the benefits of sustainable mobility among youth and local communities as well as empowering and including citizens into decision making and implementation of sustainable urban development.

The workshop is a part of THE PEP relay race, a series of capacity-building events to share best practices across different regions. The relay race was launched in January 2009 in Amsterdam, followed by workshops in Pruhonice – Prague, Czech Republic (September 2009), Skopje, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (June 2010), Batumi, Georgia (September 2010), Kiev, Ukraine (June 2011), Moscow, Russian Federation (June 2012) and, Almaty, Kazakhstan (September 2013). In April 2014 the Lithuanian delegation of the three Ministries of Transport and Communications, Health and Environment and a representative from Kaunas City welcomed THE PEP baton during the Fourth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment in Paris.

Programme

ARRIVAL DAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2014 (TUESDAY)

Arrival of international experts and guests.
Check-in at the hotel Daniela, Kaunas, Best Western Santaka.
19.00 Dinner (at the hotel restaurant Kaunas “55”) on behalf of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania

DAY 1, 24 SEPTEMBER 2014 (WEDNESDAY)

9.00–10.00 Registration of participants and coffee

10:00 – 10:30. OPENING SESSION

Moderators: Dr. Habil. Prof. Vilius Jonas Grabauskas, Chancellor of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Medical Professor, Member of the Executive Board of World Health Organisation and Ingrida Zurlytė, Head of World Health Organisation Country Office in Lithuania

10.00–10.05 Welcome by the Mayor of Kaunas City Municipality Andrius Kupčinskas
10.05–10.10 Welcome by the Chair of THE PEP Mihail Kochubovski
10.10–10.15 Welcome by the Minister of Health Rimantė Šalaševičiūtė
10.15–10.20 Welcome by the Vice-Minister of Transport and Communication Vladislav Kondratovič
10.20–10.25 Welcome by the Vice-Minister of Environment Daiva Matonienė
10.25–10.30 A representative from the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan passes the baton of the workshop to Kaunas. Family photo.
10.30–11.00  **Press Conference** (high level representatives: the Minister, Vice-Ministers, Kaunas Mayor, Dr. Habil. Prof. Vilius Jonas Grabauskas, Ingrida Zurlytė (World Health Organisation Country Office in Lithuania), Ivonne Higuero (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) and Christian Schweizer (World Health Organisation). Moderator: Jolanta Šaltenienė, e-mail: jolanta.salteniene@smlpe.lt (Center for Health Education and Disease Prevention).

10.40–13.00  **SESSION I. SETTING THE SCENE: CURRENT CHALLENGES AND EMERGING TRENDS TO ADDRESS THEM**

*Moderators: Vitalijus Auglys, Director of Pollution Prevention Department, Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania and Matthias Rinderknecht, Advisor International affairs, Federal Office of Transport, Switzerland*

10.40–11.00 Strategic Aims of Transport Sector in Promotion of Sustainable Mobility. (Gražvydas Jakubauskas, Director of Road Transport and Civil Aviation Policy Department, Ministry of Transport and Communication of the Republic of Lithuania)

11.00–11.20 Strategic Goals of Health Sector in Pursuit for Improvement. (Dr. Rita Sketerskienė, Head of Health Risk Management and Resorts Division of Health Promotion Department of Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania)


11.40–12.00 Sustainable Public Transport and Mobility. Results of the UNECE analysis on sustainable public transport and mobility. (Konstantinos Alexopoulos, Acting Chief of Sustainable Transport Section, Transport Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe)

12.00–12.20 Air quality in Lithuania, main problems and challenges. (Donatas Perkauskas, Head of Air Quality Evaluation Division of Environment Evaluation Department, Agency of Environment Protection)

12.20–12.40 Kaunas: Towards a Greener City. (Andrius Kupčinskas, Kaunas City Mayor)

12.40–13.00 Questions and discussion

13.00–14.00 Lunch
### 14:00–17:00 SESSION II. TOWARDS IMPROVED SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY: TOOLS TO SUPPORT POLICY INTERVENTIONS

**Moderators:** Gražvydas Jakubauskas, Director of Road Transport and Civil Aviation Policy Department, Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Lithuania and Mihail Kochubovski, Head of Sector of Environmental Health, Institute of Public Health, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

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<td>14.00–14.20</td>
<td>Regional Transport and Urban Design Concept of the Greater Berne. (Urs Gloor, Deputy Head of Mobility Planning, City of Berne, Switzerland)</td>
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<td>14.20–14.40</td>
<td>Support to Sustainable Transport in the City of Belgrade. (Miroslav Tadic, Portfolio Manager, UNDP Office Belgrade, Serbia)</td>
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<td>14.40–15.00</td>
<td>ForFITS. (Konstantinos Alexopoulos, Acting Chief of Sustainable Transport Section, Transport Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe)</td>
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<td>15.00–15.30</td>
<td>Coffee break. Stand presentations at the Small Hall</td>
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<td>15.30-15.45</td>
<td>Urban Planning Challenges in Lithuania. (Dr. Dalia Baraduskinë, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University)</td>
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<td>15.45–16.00</td>
<td>Towards Sustainable Urban mobility planning in Lithuania. Guidelines of SUMP. (Gintarė Zorskaitė, Ministry of Transport and Communication)</td>
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<td>16.00–16.15</td>
<td>Tourism Ring in Kaunas Region for Healthy Life. (Valerijus Makūnas, Mayor of Kaunas District Municipality)</td>
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<td>16.15–16.30</td>
<td>HEAT for Walking and Cycling: Unlocking the Value of Walking and Cycling. (Christian Schweizer, Technical Officer, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe)</td>
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<td>16.30–16.45</td>
<td>Questions and discussion.</td>
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### 17.00–18.30 Opening of a New Cycling Path Šilainiai – Old Town along the River Neris. Public Transport and Cycling Tour for 9 km and Awareness-Raising Rally

Start – Kuršių Street, finish – Rotušė (Town Hall) Square. Length of the tour – 9 km.

Please change your shoes into comfortable wear before this tour. City buses of public transport will take the participants from the main entrance of Kaunas City Municipality in Sapiegos Street). 50 bicycles will be available for this tour, so those who would like to cycle please mention this while registering for the conference. The rest can take the tour by city buses.

This year Kaunas City Municipality is finishing implementing the Project „Establishment of the Cycling Path the Neris River bank – Jotvingių Street“. The new cycling path laid during the Project is 5.5 km.
long. The overall goal of the Project aims to modernise the system of public transport services in systematic way in pursuit to reduce the pollution of the air and assure more effective communication for the citizens, to encourage the mobility of labour, reduce traffic jams, improve the safety on the roads and insure high quality of public transport services.

The new cycling path will take the riders along the bank of the beautiful River Neris, the picturesque park of the confluence of two rivers The Nemunas and Neris, Kaunas Castle and will finish in the Town Hall Square with some closing speeches and sharing of impressions on the cycling infrastructure with the participation of Kaunas Wind Instrument Orchestra “Ąžuolynas” and Media.

18.45 A Reception of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania and Kaunas City Mayor at the historical Town Hall, Rotušės a. 15. (On behalf of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania)

## DAY 2, 25 SEPTEMBER 2014 (THURSDAY)


**Moderators:** Audrius Ščeponavičius, Director of Health Promotion Department, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania and Ivonne Higuero, Chief of Operational Activities and Review Section, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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<td>9.30–9.50</td>
<td>Promotion of Health-Enhancing Physical Activity – Recommendations for Decision-Makers. (Prof. Dr. Rasa Jankauskienė, Vaiva Balčiūnienė, Lithuanian Sports University)</td>
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<td>10.10–10.30</td>
<td>THE PEP Partnership on Cycling. (Robert Thaler, Head, Division of Transport, Mobility, Human Settlement and Noise, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria)</td>
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<td>10.30–11.00</td>
<td>Coffee break. Stand presentations at the Small Hall</td>
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| 11.00–11.20| Integration of Public Transport in Klaipėda. The Positive Affect of Feeder Route Public Transport System on Environment. (Gintaras Neniškis, Director of PI “Klaipėda Passenger Transport”)


11.20-11.40 Physical Activity of School-Aged Children in Lithuania. (Dr. Apolinaras Zaborskis, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences)

11.40-12.00 Involvement of the Cyclers’ Communities into the Decisions Making. Sharing Best Practice. (Linas Vainius, Lithuanian Cyclers’ Association)

12.00-12.20 Promotion of Physical Activity and Prevention of Road Traffic Injuries. (Dr. Asta Garmienė, Director of Kaunas Public Health Bureau, Member of Association of Municipal Public Health Bureaus)

12.20-13.00 Questions and discussion.

13.00–14.00 Lunch

14.00–16.00 Walking Workshop and Awareness-Raising Rally

Please change your shoes and maybe clothes into comfortable wear before this tour.

Physical activity is a very important issue in central Europe where 80 % of people go less than 1 km per day and 75 % feel pain in their back and joints. According to the data of Eurobarometre (2014), 59 % of Europeans are not physically active enough which leads to increasing risk to become ill with cardiovascular diseases, II type diabetes and obesity, intestine diseases, breast cancer, high blood pressure, lipid disorder, osteoporosis, anxiety and depression. Nordic Walking is a great form of physical activity preserving good health and suitable for people of various age and physical capacity. It enables to use 90 % of body muscles, trains physical and power endurance, balance of movement, helps to reduce body mass and improves metabolism, bloodstream and respiratory system.

Kaunas Public Health Bureau promotes and teaches Kaunas citizens Nordic Walking on regular basis and invites the participants of the workshop to an interesting guided and tutored Nordic Walking tour which starts at Kaunas City Municipality and goes along the central pedestrian avenue Laisvės alėja, up the Green Hill by the historical interwar funicular, along beautiful Green Hill streets to the natural Oak Grove Park included into the list of Natura 2000 – one of the most popular recreational and sports areas in Kaunas City and come to Žalgiris Arena for the final part of the conference. The Nordic Walking tour will take about 2 hours and will end near Žalgiris Arena.
16.00–17.30 SESSION IV: CONCLUSIONS AND FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

Venue: Amphitheatre of Kaunas Žalgiris Arena (Karaliaus Mindaugo pr. 50)

Moderators: Vygentas Grinis, Head of Investment and Strategic Management Division, Kaunas City Municipality and Robert Thaler, Head of the Division of Transport, Mobility, Human Settlement and Noise, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria.

16.00–16.20 Challenges and Opportunities in Switching to Healthy and Environmentally Friendly Transport. Experiences and Views of the Young. (Dovilė Adamonytė, European Environment and Health Youth Coalition)

16.20–17.00 Discussion

17:00 – 17:30 Adoption of the commitment document

17.30–19.00 Closing dinner on behalf of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Lithuania at the restaurant of Kaunas Žalgiris Arena “1410”.