



PRESS INFORMATION CAPRICE – MAY 2011

EUROPEAN METROPOLITAN REGIONS IMPROVING PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Representatives from European Metropolitan Transport Associations and the European Institutions gathered in Paris on last 17th March to discuss ways of organising public transport while reducing pollution, limiting traffic congestion and energy consumption, and improving the services for the citizens.

Representatives from five European Capital Regions cooperated for three years within the INTERREG IVC project CAPRICE in order to exchange experiences on how authorities from metropolitan regions can improve the quality of public transport for the citizens and the environment. The results of this co-operation were presented and discussed on 17th March 2011 with transport representatives from the European Commission, Parliament and other transport experts at a European Conference in Paris.

Mr. Keir FITCH, Deputy Head of Cabinet of the Transport Commissioner Siim KALLAS as well as Mrs. Silvia-Adriana ȚICĂU and Mr. Michael CRAMER, Members of the European Parliament gave an overview about the European Transport Policy with special regard to the White Paper on the future of transport and urban mobility. Then, the representatives of the CAPRICE project discussed with the speakers how to make public transport more sustainable and how to organise and finance sustainable mobility.

8 good practices were presented during the conference and put together in a guide as a contribution to develop and describe common strategies and steps towards the implementation of an integrated and sustainable transport management in the participating capital regions. CAPRICE partners also provided policy recommendations towards **legal framework, financing, road transport authorities on integrated seamless passenger information services to stimulate the use of public transport and non-motorised modes of transport and thus encourage their effective integration into urban mobility management schemes.**

The Good Practice Guide can be downloaded at www.caprice-project.info or requested as paper version.

About CAPRICE

CAPRICE stands for *Capital Regions Integrating Collective Transport for Increased Energy Efficiency*. The objective of the project was to exchange experiences between public transport authorities, to identify and promote good practices, to carry out pilot implementations in the regions where the setting up of new public transport authorities or similar solutions integrating public transport services is planned and to draw recommendations to the European Union to improve the framework in which public transport can be operated. CAPRICE (www.caprice-project.info) has been realised between 2008 and 2011 and has a budget of EUR 1,1 million. Partners of the CAPRICE project are as follows:

- Berlin: VBB - Verkehrsverbund Berlin-Brandenburg GmbH (Lead partner)
- Bucharest: PMB - Primaria Municipiului Bucuresti
- Vilnius: MESP - Savivaldybes Imone 'Susisiekimo Paslaugos'
- Warsaw: ZTM Warsaw – Zarząd Transportu Miejskiego w Warszawie
- Paris Ile-de-France: STIF – Syndicat des transports d'Ile-de-France

About the INTERREG IVC Programme

The European Union co-funded INTERREG IVC programme provides co-funding for interregional co-operation. Its aim is to promote exchange and transfer of knowledge and best practices across Europe. It is implemented under the European Community's territorial co-operation objective and financed through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The overall objective of the INTERREG IVC Programme is to improve the effectiveness of regional policies and instruments. A project builds on the exchange of experiences among partners who are ideally responsible for the development of their local and regional policies. The areas of support are innovation and the knowledge economy, environment and risk prevention. Thus, the programme aims at contributing to the economic modernisation and competitiveness of Europe. INTERREG IVC is linked to the objectives of Lisbon and Gothenburg agendas. Typical tools for exchange of experience are networking activities such as thematic workshops, seminars, conferences, surveys, and study visits. Project partners cooperate to identify and transfer good practices. Possible project outcomes include for example case study collections, policy recommendations, strategic guidelines or action plans.

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European Union

European Regional Development Fund