

‘LOW-CARB’ DECLARATION

Towards low-carbon mobility planning and
services for functional urban areas

Version 3
01 2020





Pre-amble

The EU's transport sector is predicted to increase its emissions in the future and urban passenger transport already accounts for about 8.5 percent of the total CO₂ emissions due to transport (the whole transport sector accounts for about 25 percent of total CO₂ emissions). Low-carbon public transport systems account for only 10 percent of CO₂ emissions while private motorized modes account for 90 percent. Thus, planning an attractive integrated low-carbon mobility system - based on public transport and complemented by low-carbon mobility offers - for functional urban areas, home to 72 percent of the EU's population, is a key factor in realising sustainable transport. And even though emissions from transport per capita are still lowest in the EU's new Member States, CO₂ emissions in the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE programme area (Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia) will continuously rise in the coming years, as demand for transport and vehicle size grow.

About LOW-CARB

LOW-CARB is one of the nine cooperation projects currently funded by the Interreg CE Programme that encourages cooperation on low-carbon strategies in functional urban areas to lower CO₂ emissions. The goal of the project is to increase investment in low-carbon mass transit.

Its main objective is to reduce transport related greenhouse gas emissions in central Europe's functional urban areas. This shall be reached by building capacity for low-carbon mobility planning, undertaking pilot actions and developing sustainable regional mobility plans, action plans, tools and strategies.

Eleven partners support seven towns and cities who take part as demonstration sites over three years. This means the project has high potential to contribute to the EU's 'White Paper' goals to cut transport emissions by 60 percent by 2050 and to halve the use of 'conventionally fuelled' cars in urban transport by 2030.¹

The Declaration

LOW-CARB's stakeholders and interest groups, namely local authorities, public transport companies, city associations, NGOs, low-carb consultancies, the media, and related low-carb and planning projects, are hereby invited to sign the 'LOW-CARB' Declaration, thereby signalling a commitment to embrace its objectives by:

1. Introducing and advocating low-carbon mobility planning for functional urban areas through:
 - ✓ fostering integrated approaches to mobility planning;
 - ✓ developing and sharing strategies, tools and action plans to strengthen competencies of transport authorities, public transport operators and other relevant stakeholders;
 - ✓ accommodating current trends such as integrated coordination, joint financing and open-data based mobility planning; and
 - ✓ encouraging the development of concrete action plans for low-carbon mobility in pilot areas.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/strategies/2011_white_paper_en



2. Organising or participating in respective capacity building through:

- ✓ preparing and delivering training sessions to stakeholders in charge of mobility planning in functional urban areas; and
- ✓ participating in the project's training sessions, policy and/or exploitation workshops at national level or at relevant multi-country level.

3. Initiating or following LOW-CARB's pilot actions through:

- ✓ introducing new low-carbon multimodal mobility services to contribute to realising seamless low-carbon mobility systems in functional urban areas;
- ✓ studying and sharing strategies and action plans developed by LOW CARB;
- ✓ closely monitoring the project's pilots (e.g. its multimodal mobility platform, combined public transport and bike sharing concept or electric public transport feeder services) and advocating multimodal low-carbon travelling and commuting (in collaboration with local service providers); and
- ✓ contributing to LOW-CARB's aim to shift the focus away from individual car usage towards multimodal low-carbon mobility and thus reducing CO₂ emissions in functional urban areas.

Signed at

On

By (Ms / Mr / Mx Forename / Surname; Official Position; City / Organisation / Project)

Signature

N.B. To be added to the LOW-CARB 'Hall of Fame,' featured on our Interreg Central Europe website, please send your scanned Declaration to LOW-CARB's Communications Manager: Saydrina Govender (s.govender@rupprecht-consult.eu), courtesy of the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe