

Save the Date for the Final
Conference!
13 November 2025



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DRIVING DRT INTO THE DREAM_PACE PROJECT FINAL YEAR

This fifth edition of the DREAM_PACE biannual newsletter marks the midpoint of our fifth semester, and the halfway point of our final year of activities.

In early 2025, all Project Partners convened in East Tyrol (Austria) for the fifth Transnational Partner Meeting. There, we refined our integrated strategy for DRT governance, planning, digitalization, and operations. We also launched further steps of the EU-wide consultation process, engaging both internal stakeholders and external decision-makers, and paved the way for full pilot roll-out. The fifth Steering Committee reviewed progress against our Central Europe Programme commitments and confirmed the project next steps towards the development of the DREAM_PACE solutions.

Throughout the first semester of 2025, the fifth of the project, the DREAM_PACE team is translating co-design workplans into the final versions of the Action Plans for each of our six pilot regions.

Looking ahead, the sixth and final semester (September 2025-February 2026) will focus on reporting Living Lab results and finalizing co-designed pilot solutions, together forming the core of our upcoming "Topic Guide: DRT 3.0 in Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs)."

Even more a good reason to join us for our Final Event on 13 November in Berlin: see you there!

FINAL EVENT IN BERLIN ON 13 NOVEMBER 2025

The DREAM_PACE Final Event aims to present and to discuss the project's results. Over the past years, DREAM_PACE has addressed sustainable urban mobility planning, fostering innovative strategies that enhance accessibility, inclusivity, and environmental responsibility across Central Europe.

Join us in Berlin as we bring together policymakers, urban planners, mobility experts, and stakeholders to review and debate the project's achievements, share key learnings, and present the future of smart and sustainable mobility.

Meet us at Room HBS 005 at [Technische Universität Berlin, Hardenbergstraße 16-18, 10623 Berlin](#)

Follow us to stay updated!



FINAL EVENT AGENDA

9:15	<i>Welcome coffee</i>
10:00	Opening Giuseppe Liguori (SRM, Project Coordinator) and DAMIR FAK (CENTRAL EUROPE JS, Project Officer)
10:20	STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE Wolfgang Backhaus (Rupprecht)
10:40	Keynote speech "WHY WE WANT MORE DRT" Lukas Foljanty (Deutsche Bahn)
11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:20	Roundtable "DRT Experiences from Europe: How to scale up" Lukas Foljanty (Deutsche Bahn); Tjalle Groen (Mpact); Denis Grasso (ITL); Francesca Costa (Politecnico di Milano)
12:40	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30	It si time to scale up! - Presenting the DREAM_PACE Solutions
13:40	"HOW TO BETTER INTEGRATE DRT AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT" Representative from SRM; Monica Marconi (Autoguidovie); Representative from BKK Chair: Gabriele Grea (Redmint)
14:25	"HOW TO BETTER COORDINATE EXISTING DRT" Jakob Britz (RMO); Martin Schlecht (nexus) Chair: Florian Kressler (ATE)
14:55	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:15	"HOW TO EXPERIMENT NEW DRT" Sasa Bart (Dyvolve) Chair: Andras Ekes (Mobilissimus)
15:35	Roundtable "DRT4EUROPE: WHAT IS NEXT FOR DRT?" Lidia Signor (UITP); Tummy Tran (ICLEI); Clarisse De Cerjat (EUROCITIES)
16:50	Final Remarks Giuseppe Liguori (SRM, Project Coordinator)

ESTEEMED GUEST SPEAKERS AT THE FINAL EVENT

KEY NOTE SPEAKER - LUKAS FOLJANTY

Lukas Foljanty is a German Urban and Regional Planning Engineer from TU Berlin who has built a career specializing in demand-responsive and shared mobility. He began as a consultant for public transport authorities and Deutsche Bahn before joining moovel (later REACH NOW) in 2017 to roll out digital, on-demand transit services. He then led business development for other major mobility ventures including MOIA (Volkswagen), Swvl (as Head of Business Expansion Europe), and The Routing Company—where he became Director of Business Development Europe in 2023—bringing over a decade of experience in MaaS and DRT coupled with thought leadership through reports like the quarterly On-Demand Transit Market Report and the Global Ridepooling Map.

In 2024, Lukas returned to Deutsche Bahn, spearheading the evolution of the DB Navigator into an end-to-end MaaS platform—showcasing his knack for integrating innovative tech into public transit systems. He's a regular speaker at events like UITP Summit Hamburg 2025 and recipient of the Circulaze Summit mobility award, cementing his role as a public transit thought leader. Based in Berlin with his family, Lukas remains at the forefront of sustainable urban mobility through strategic leadership and advocacy for smarter, demand-driven transport solutions.



SPEAKER FOR ROUND TABLE “HOW TO SCALE UP DRT?” - TJALLE GROEN

Tjalle Groen is the Project Director of Mpact, a Belgian non-profit organization with a mission to achieve more with less. Tjalle has dedicated recent years to a specialization in interoperability within shared mobility, making notable contributions to the field. Notably, he serves as the co-chair of the TOMP working group, developing and disseminating the TOMP-API.

His expertise in this area has been cultivated through active involvement in various European projects, providing him with a comprehensive understanding of the international shared mobility landscape. Additionally, Tjalle plays a key role in running innovative shared mobility services for Mpact.



SPEAKER FOR ROUND TABLE “HOW TO SCALE UP DRT?” - DENIS GRASSO

Denis Grasso is a seasoned Project Manager at the Institute for Transport and Logistics (ITL) in Bologna since January 2018, where he leads European and national initiatives in transport planning, smart mobility, urban logistics, spatial planning, and climate adaptation. He holds a Master in Environmental Planning and Policies from IUAV Venice, a specialized degree in renewable energy and sustainable mobility from Politecnico di Milano, and is currently pursuing a PhD in Architecture, City, and Design focused on Hydro-Logic Design.

Before joining ITL, Denis spent five years (2013-2017) as a Research Fellow at IEFE, Bocconi University, where he coordinated R&D proposals for Horizon 2020, LIFE+, INTERREG, Intelligent Energy Europe, and UIA projects. He conducted scientific research with Bocconi's Green Economy Observatory and Smart City working group, analysing climate policies, circular economy, and resource efficiency, and co-authored several IEFE research reports.



SPEAKER FOR ROUND TABLE “HOW TO SCALE UP DRT?” - FRANCESCA COSTA

Francesca Costa is a Senior Project Manager and Civil Engineer at Consorzio Poliedra - Politecnico di Milano, where she has led European mobility, urban infrastructure, and territorial planning projects since 2018. Her work leverages strong technical and managerial skills, coordinating multidisciplinary teams and stakeholder engagement to deliver on smart mobility, logistic systems, and infrastructure initiatives.

Prior to joining Poliedra, Francesca spent five years as a civil engineer and freelance consultant in Milan (2013-2017), where she managed regional sustainable mobility projects, and two years (2011-2012) as a Project Manager at ALOT—focusing on road safety, collective taxi services, and major trans-European initiatives like SOL (“Save Our Lives”) and TRANSITECTS.



SPEAKER FOR ROUND TABLE - DRT4EUROPE - TUMY TRAN

Tu-My Tran is Head of Sustainable Mobility at ICLEI's World Secretariat in Bonn, overseeing global strategies that integrate walking, cycling, public transport, shared and zero-emission mobility for people and goods. In this capacity, she co-leads landmark initiatives such as the Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) E-Bus Mission – a global learning network supporting cities, especially in the Global South, in scaling electric bus fleets – and played a pivotal role in championing the Hamburg Charter for Inclusive and Just Mobility at ICLEI's 2024 Hamburg Sustainability Conference. Fluent in multiple languages, she brings strong skills in partnership-building, project management, fundraising, and policy advocacy to advance sustainable mobility transitions worldwide.

With a decade-long career at ICLEI, Tu-My has held progressive roles—from managing eco-mobility programs and city congresses to coordinating resilience and capacity-building efforts—in both Bonn and Freiburg. Her earlier international experience includes collaborating with civil society and government-led development programs in Peru and contributing to sustainable urban mobility planning in Europe and Africa. Her leadership continues to shape equitable, inclusive, and low-carbon transport systems, reinforcing ICLEI's mission to empower local and regional governments toward resilient, zero-emission urban futures.



SPEAKER FOR ROUND TABLE - DRT4EUROPE - CLARISSE DE CERJAT

Clarisse de Cerjat brings a strong background in EU mobility policy, digital transport, and clean mobility solutions. As Project Coordinator at Eurocities since 2022, she works closely with European cities on sustainable urban mobility initiatives. Her experience spans key roles including policy consulting on intelligent transport systems, emissions, and vehicle regulations at Logos, and supporting mobility-as-a-service (MaaS) strategy development at Avertim for a leading Belgian public transport operator.

Earlier in her career, Clarisse worked with the 5G Automotive Association on C-V2X certification and piloting, and with Cycling Industries Europe in public affairs. Her professional journey reflects a clear passion for integrating innovation, public policy, and multimodal transport across Europe.



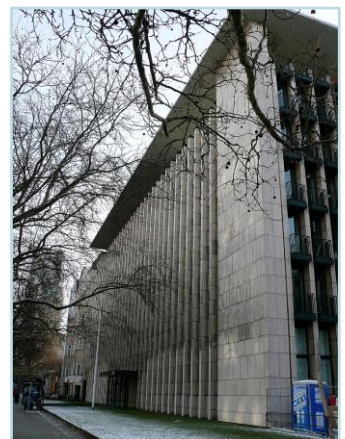
VENUE OF THE FINAL EVENT

The closing event of DREAM_PACE will take place on Thursday, 13 November 2025, at the Hardenbergstraße 16-18 Building in the prestigious Technische Universität Berlin Campus. Situated on TU Berlin's Charlottenburg campus in the vibrant heart of the city, the venue features flexible breakout spaces and seamless access via major public transport links.

As Germany's top technical university, TU Berlin supports over 41,000 students and researchers and is internationally recognized for its excellence in science and engineering. This dynamic academic setting ensures an inspiring environment for showcasing DREAM_PACE's outcomes, fostering expert dialogue, and strengthening collaboration across Europe.

[Location of the Event on Google Maps](#)

Get ready for an inspiring and motivating Final Conference of DREAM_PACE, marking the end of an insightful project for DRT in Central EU!



[Book your tickets now!](#)



DRT IS GAINING MOMENTUM: NEW RELEASE OF REPORTS

SPOTLIGHT ON THE INTERREG EUROPE DRT POLICY BRIEF

In July 2024, the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform published a comprehensive 18-page policy brief on Demand-Responsive Transport (DRT), examining its potential to bridge mobility gaps—particularly in rural and peri-urban areas—by adapting routes and schedules to actual user demand. The brief defines DRT as a highly flexible service, often using minibuses or shared taxis, which can operate door-to-door or via set stops, and be booked through apps, websites, or phone calls to maximize cost-efficiency and convenience

Key insights include:

- **Benefits & Challenges:** DRT can substantially improve social inclusion and reduce empty-vehicle mileage in low-density regions, but requires robust ICT tools, ongoing performance monitoring, and strategies to bridge the digital divide
- **Policy Framework & Support:** The brief highlights alignment with the EU's Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy and TEN-T guidelines, and outlines funding opportunities via Interreg Europe, the Cohesion Fund, and Horizon Europe for pilot schemes and innovative DRT deployments
- **Good Practices Showcase:** Seven exemplary projects—from Austria's DefMobil hailed-taxi in East Tyrol to Catalonia's Clic.Cat network and Portugal's electric minibuses in Viseu—demonstrate how tailored governance, community engagement, and integrated ticketing can drive ridership and efficiency
- **Policy Recommendations:** Authorities are urged to establish multi-level governance frameworks, fund pilot actions, integrate DRT into existing transport networks, and maintain continuous monitoring and communication campaigns to build trust and ensure long-term sustainability



This policy brief offers a rich source of evidence-based guidance for public authorities and project partners as they refine the DREAM_PACE pilots and prepare to scale up DRT solutions across Central Europe.

The Report can be found [here](#).

KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE UITP DRT KNOWLEDGE BRIEF

The June 2025 UITP Knowledge Brief sheds new light on how Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) can address diverse public transport challenges and offers a roadmap for successful planning, operation, and scaling of DRT services:

- **Defining DRT's Value-Proposition:** DRT sits between traditional bus services and taxi/ride-hail offerings, delivering dynamically routed, pooled trips that reduce waiting and travel times—thereby boosting accessibility in underserved areas and during off-peak periods.
- **Tailored Service Models:** There is no one-size-fits-all: DRT roles range from first-/last-mile connections in dense urban cores to providing primary PT in rural “transit deserts.” Services can be zonal, route-based, or fully on-demand, with vehicle types spanning from shared taxis to minibuses
- **Planning & Implementation Steps:** Success hinges on clear objectives (e.g., social inclusion, emission reduction), precise service-zone design, robust quality-of-service metrics (utilisation, wait times, emissions), integrated payment systems, and selection of experienced technology partners.
- **Integration with Existing Networks:** Deep integration—ranging from shared branding and ticketing to app interoperability—ensures DRT complements rather than competes with fixed-route services, as exemplified by Hanover's sprinti and Île-de-France's Navigo-enabled schemes.
- **Emerging Trends:** The sector is moving towards regional platforms unifying multiple local schemes, co-mingling DRT with paratransit and NEMT services on single technological backbones, and exploring MaaS and autonomous-vehicle integrations to future-proof offerings.



These insights will directly inform the refinement of our DREAM_PACE pilot strategies, ensuring alignment with best practices and positioning us to deliver scalable, sustainable DRT solutions across Central Europe.

The Report can be found [here](#).

SPLIT & BUDAPEST AS DRT PACESETTERS: NEWS FROM LIVING LABS

SPLIT-DALMATIA-COUNTY, CROATIA:

The DREAM_PACE Living Lab in Split-Dalmatia County has officially entered its implementation phase, with Nemi selected as the technology provider for the pilot service in Trilj and Dugopolje.

Living Lab Highlights:

- The pilot is running through September 2025, funded by the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE DREAM_PACE project and backed by the County of Split-Dalmatia.
- Services operate on weekdays from 6:00 to 22:00, offering free, on-demand rides along two dynamic routes to enhance connectivity in rural zones.
- This “greenfield” model in Split-Dalmatia marks a significant innovation in regional transport planning—a new blueprint for future service design.

This real-world implementation in Croatia’s peripheral areas is enabling our partners to test critical aspects such as service reliability, user engagement, and operational flexibility. Preliminary results and user feedback will be shared in upcoming newsletters as the pilot progresses.



BUDAPEST, HUNGARY: TESTING & IMPLEMENTING A NEW DRT SYSTEM

Budapest’s Living Lab continues to move rapidly from planning to action, with key partners BKK (Centre for Budapest Transport), Mobilissimus, and BME collaborating intensively on the next-phase pilot designed to integrate Demand-Responsive Transport into the broader public network.

Key Developments:

- Collaborative workshops mapped out pilot scenarios, identifying optimal service zones, stop reduction strategies, legal and signage standards, and potential expansion to the south, including weekend operations.
- The project will deploy a 19-seat minibus as Route 274, featuring flexible, on-demand routing paired with fixed interchange connections to HÉV and bus services.
- An online booking interface is in development via the BKK “Telebus” platform and integration into the BudapestGO app to streamline access.
- Mobilissimus-led public surveys continue to gather resident input, reinforcing a user-centered approach and supporting future expansions.



This initiative builds on BKK’s existing framework of 11 demand-responsive lines in Budapest’s peripheral zones and is part of a broader strategy to bolster flexibility, operational efficiency, and inclusivity within the city’s mobility ecosystem. As the pilot progresses, we expect insights on usage patterns, stakeholder engagement, and service optimization, which will inform scaling strategies across Central Europe.

PROJECT PARTNER'S CONSORTIUM MEETING IN LIENZ, EAST TYROL

On 13 & 14 May 2025, the DREAM_PACE consortium gathered in **Lienz, East Tyrol**, warmly hosted by **RegionsManagement Osttirol (RMO)**, for our fifth transnational meeting. The event marked a crucial moment to assess progress and align strategies across all six Living Lab regions, each facing unique mobility challenges:

- **Urban integration:** Bologna & Pavia (IT), Budapest (HU) - embedding DRT within dense transit systems.
- **Bottom-up coordination:** East Tyrol (AT), Baden-Württemberg (DE) - unifying local operators and communities.
- **Greenfield innovation:** Split-Dalmatia County (HR) - digitizing and launching a fresh DRT initiative.

In Lienz, partners advanced operational blueprints and governance frameworks, focusing cross-regionally on three key themes:

1. **Governance & planning** - sharing structures that facilitate streamlined DRT adoption.
2. **User needs & engagement** - mapping demand and planning stakeholder involvement.
3. **Pilot blueprint co-design** - fine-tuning data-driven scheduling and on-demand routing tools.

The meeting confirmed that these regional insights and collaborative approaches will form the backbone of a **Europe-wide DRT integration strategy** as we enter the project's final year. A heartfelt thanks to RMO for hosting and to all partners for their strong commitment to embedding DRT across Central Europe!



WHAT'S NEXT?

As DREAM_PACE enters its final phase, the project is now focused on consolidating the insights gathered across six Living Labs into a unified strategy for integrating Demand-Responsive Transport (DRT) into Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs). The next steps include:

- 📊 Monitoring and evaluating pilot performance, with special attention to user feedback, operational efficiency, and policy fit.
- 📄 Drafting the "Topic Guide: DRT 3.0 in SUMPs", synthesizing real-world lessons and technical recommendations for EU-wide adoption.
- 🤝 Running the final stakeholder consultations and knowledge transfer workshops, ensuring cross-regional learning and replication.

And most importantly...

📅 Save the Date: Final Conference in Berlin

📅 Thursday, 13 November 2025

📍 [TUBS GmbH - Technische Universität Berlin](#)

Join us in Berlin for the DREAM_PACE Final Conference, where project partners, policy-makers, and mobility innovators will present key findings, share pilot results, and unveil the final DRT integration roadmap.

✅ Registration is now open: [Click here to sign up](#)

Don't miss this opportunity to be part of shaping the future of DRT in Europe!





LEAD PARTNER



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SRM Networks and Mobility

PROJECT PARTNERS



Italy



Redmint Social Enterprise



AUTOGUIDOVIE SPA



Hungary



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BKK Centre for Budapest Transport



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Split-Dalmatia County



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