



"Sustainable Mobility and Tourism in Sensitive Areas of the Alps and the Carpathians"

ACCESS 2 MOUNTAIN

Midterm Conference in Košice, Slovakia

16 - 18 October 2012

Background

Sustainable tourism represents a major challenge for today's rural and urban environments - particularly in mountain regions of the Alps and the Carpathians.

Underdeveloped and insufficient sustainable transport facilities, paired with growing motorization, create significant negative ecological impacts.

The growing number of privately owned cars introduces dependency on this mode of transport. Cars fill our streets, green areas, newly developed suburban shopping districts, as well as rural and recreational areas.

Objective

The SEE project ACCESS 2 MOUNTAIN aims to achieve durable, environmentally friendly tourism, as well as to ensure accessibility and connection to, between and in sensitive regions of the Alps and the Carpathians. It should benefit all (potential) users. With the long-term perspective of increasing sustainable tourist mobility, railway and multimodal connections will be improved and attractive offers created via pre-investment measures, pilot activities, and investments.

It is central to the project, to transfer experiences made and knowledge gained in the Alps to the Southeast European region. In this regard, the transnational cooperation in the field of sustainable regional development plays an important role. Touristic infrastructures are to be created or improved in a sustainable manner. This paves the way for achieving international environment aims and yield competitive advantages.

Find further details on expected outputs, ongoing pilot activities as well as other project-related events on www.access2mountain.eu

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Day 1 Tuesday, 16 October 2012

- 14:45 Registration and Refreshments
- 15:15 **Welcome**
Józef Janusz Mroccka, General Director Rzeszow Regional Development (PL)
President of the Kosice Self-Governing Region
- 15:45 **Introduction to Sustainable Mobility and Tourism:**
- General introduction**
Harald Egerer, UNEP Vienna - Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
Representative of the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention - tbc
- Introduction of Access2Mountain**
Robert Thaler, Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Water Management (AT)
Günther Lichtblau, Environment Agency Austria (Lead Partner)
- Introductory note “sustainable mobility and tourism”**
Romain Molitor, komobile w7, project management ACCESS2MOUNTAIN
- 17:00 Coffee break
- 17:15 **Railway in Tourism:**
- Vinschgau line - Best practice in South Tyrol**
Michael Prader, STA South Tyrol railways, facility design (IT)
- Narrow Gauge Railway Borzhavska Vuzkokoliyka - Best Practice in Ukraine**
Denis Dobra, NGO “Borzhavska inicyatyva” (UA)
- Tatra railway – Best practice in High Tatras/Slovakia**
Ladislav Olexa, Kosice self-governing region (SK)
- Guidelines and factors of success for regional and narrow gauge railways**
Ernst Lung, Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (AT)
- 18:30 **Conclusions and discussion**
- 19:30 Dinner

Day 2 **Wednesday, 17 October 2012**

09:00 **Multimodal Transport:**

Guidelines and factors of success for multimodal transport in tourism

Miriam Weiß, European Academy of Bolzano (IT)

Multimodal aspects of Bike-Tourism

Hans Peter Kreidl, hpkreidl and Heribert Entacher, Hohe Tauern aktiv (AT)

“AlpenTaxi” - closing the last mile in public transport services

Patrick Jaeger, mountain wilderness (CH)

Eco-Mobility management in a national park

Alois Lang, National Park Lake Neusiedl, public relations (AT)

11:00 Coffee break

11:15 **Preconditions and characteristics of the ACCESS 2 MOUNTAIN regions**

National Park Gesäuse region (AT)

Mostviertel region (AT)

North Hungary (HU)

South Tyrol (IT)

Maramures (RO)

Kosice region (SK)

Rzeszow region (PL)

Eastern Serbia/Timok Krajina region (RS)

Western Ukraine (UA)

13:25 **Supporting sustainable mobility planning and decision making in mountain regions: the Access2Mountain environmental-landscape model**

Renato De Leone, University of Camerino (IT)

Massimo Sargolini, University of Camerino (IT)

13:45 Lunch break

14:45 **World Café**

Questions examination

Final presentation

17:30 **Panel Discussion: political framework for sustainable mobility in tourism**

Joint Technical Secretariat of the South East Europe (SEE) programme

European Federation of Museum and Tourist Railways, Belgium (OP 8)

Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea, Italy (ASP 2)

Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic (OP 15) n/a

Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention (ASP 1) n/a

Office for Sustainable Development, Montenegro (OP 5) n/a

Serbian Chamber of Commerce, Dpt. for Tourism (OP 7) n/a

Ukrainian Environmental Academy of Science Centre

18:30 Dinner in the restaurant “Villa Regia” and guided walk through the city center (optional)

Day 3 Thursday, 18 October 2012

07:45 Meeting in the Dalia hotel lobby

08:07 Train ride to Poprad

Study Visit Tatra Railway

Meeting and exchange with local stakeholders – part I

Mr. Smotek, Slovak Railways

10:31 Ride on the Tatra Railway to Starý Smokovec

Meeting and exchange with local stakeholders - part II

Representative of the Tatra National Park – tbc

Representative of the Municipality of High Tatras, Department of Regional development and Tourism

Lessons learned and Conference Closing

12:00 Lunch in Grandhotel Starý Smokovec, Vysoké Tatry

12:57 Departure by train from Starý Smokovec to Poprad (arrival 13:20)

Common return by train from Poprad to Kosice (arrival 14:35)

Departure from Poprad (optional for those who are leaving from Poprad)

ARRIVAL AND VENUE

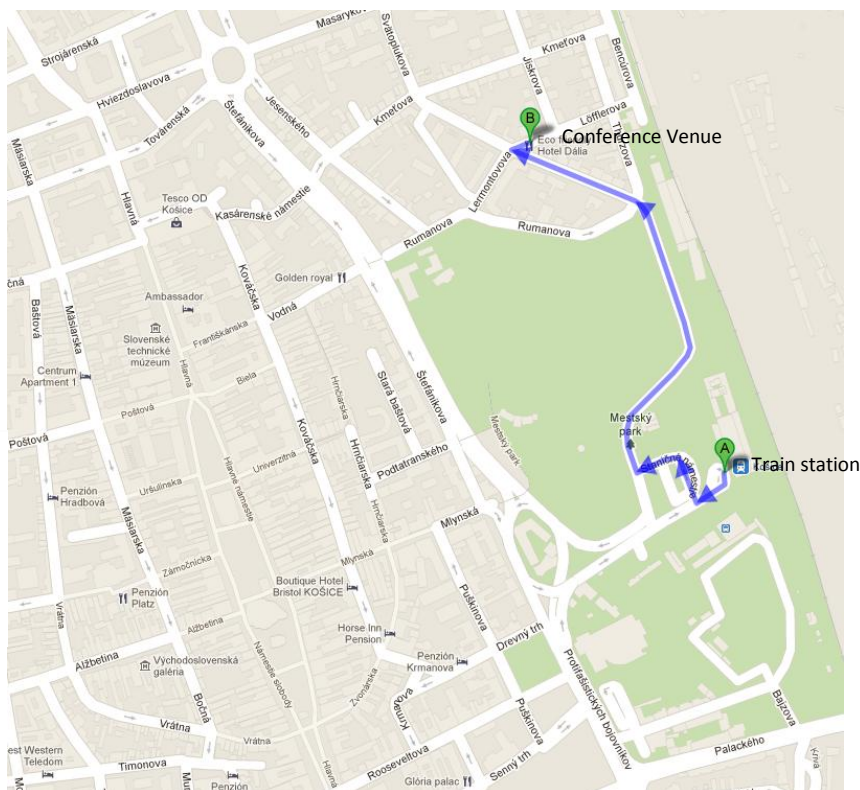
The Midterm Conference (16-18 October 2012) will take place in:



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The hotel is located in the center of Kosice in 10 min walking distance from the Kosice train station.



It is primarily recommended to arrive by train from (via) Bratislava:

Bratislava hl.st.	07:57		09:34
Kosice	13:53		14:35

or from (via) Budapest :

Budapest-Keleti pu	06:30
Kosice	09:58

<http://www.zsr.sk/>

Participants arriving from a longer distance might use air connections. Access to city center approximately within 30 minutes by public transport. <http://www.airportkosice.sk/en>

Late arriving participants have the possibility to store their luggage right at the seminar-hotel.

FURTHER HINTS

The official language of the conference is English.

We offer catering to all participants during the conference including dinner.

Transfers in the frame of the study visit on the third conference day (from Kosice to Poprad/Stary Smokovec and back to Kosice) are included. For some directions however it recommends to leave directly from the Poprad-Tatry train station.

If you contribute to the conference with a Power point-presentation, please send it in advance to aziemiakowicz@rarr.rzeszow.pl by Friday, 12 October.