

ACCESS 2 MOUNTAIN

Midterm Conference in Košice, Slovakia

16 - 18 October 2012

The Rzeszow Regional Development Agency together with the Environment Agency Austria as Lead Partner would like to invite you to the midterm conference for the ACCESS 2 MOUNTAIN project (www.access2mountain.eu). The draft programme is attached.

Welcome to the ACCESS 2 MOUNTAIN midterm conference from 16-18 October in Košice, Slovakia!

After one year and a half of in-depth analyses and first pilot activities the midterm-conference will provide an opportunity for an interim conclusion. Not only will the project partners present their first outputs and results, but external experts and stakeholders in the field of transport and tourism as well as related disciplines will also be invited to present their views on the project and the concerned questions.

Please register your participation as soon as possible but latest until 30th September 2012 by sending the enclosed registration form to aziemiakowicz@rarr.rzeszow.pl. You will find further information on the venue and hotel suggestions later in this invitation.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Košice!

Sincerely,



Karl Kienzl,
Deputy Managing Director,
Environment Agency Austria

PREZES ZARZĄDU

Krzysztof Klak

Krzysztof Klak,
President of the Board,
Rzeszow Regional Development Agency



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

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 project Access2Mountain 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

ARRIVAL AND VENUE

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

Eco friendly Hotel Dália****

Löfflerova 1

040 01 Košice, Slovakia

tel.: 421 (0) 55 799 43 21 - 22

fax: 421 (0) 55 63317 17

hoteldalia@hoteldalia.sk

www.hoteldalia.sk



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. There will be time to check-in at your hotel later, between the closing of conference day 1 and the common dinner.

The three day conference will be divided in five sections, whereas the first part will deal with political views, the second and third part will present best-practice examples in the field of railway operations as well as multimodal transport. A fourth session focuses on the involved model-regions, and last but not least a common study visit of the popular Tatra-railway is on the agenda. Please refer in your registration to the single sections you intend to participate in.

We offer catering to all participants during the conference.

In terms of accommodation, please note that each participant is responsible to make and pay his/her own travel and accommodation arrangement. Find our recommendations later in this invitation.

DRAFT AGENDA (changes possible)

Day 1 Tuesday, 16 October 2012

14:45 Registration and Refreshments

15:15 Welcome

Krzysztof Klak, President of the Rzeszow Regional Development Agency (host)
Representative of the Ministry of the environment of Poland
President of the Kosice Self-Governing Region

15:45 Introduction to Sustainable Mobility and Tourism

○ **General introduction**

Representative of the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS)
Harald Egerer, UNEP Vienna - Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
Representative of the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention - tbc

○ **Introduction of Access2Mountain**

Günther Lichtblau, Environment Agency Austria (Lead Partner)
Robert Thaler, Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Water Management (AT)

○ **Introductory note “sustainable mobility and tourism”**

Romain Molitor, project management ACCESS2MOUNTAIN

17:00 Coffee break

17:15 Railway in Tourism

○ **Best practice Vinschgau line (IT)**

Michael Prader, STA South Tyrol railways, facility design

○ **Best practice Greentrain (UA)**

Lyubomyr Yackiv, Greentrain

○ **Guidelines, factors of success**

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, factors of success**

Miriam Weiß, Thomas Streifeneder, EURAC (IT)

- **Eco-Mobility management in a national park**
Alois Lang, National Park Lake Neusiedl, public relations (AT)
- **Multimodal aspects of Bike-Tourism**
Hans Peter Kreidl, hpkreidl and Heribert Entacher, Hohe Tauern aktiv (AT)

11:00 Coffee break

11:15 Preconditions and characteristics of the Access2Mountain-Regions

- National Park Gesäuse region
- Mostviertel region
- North Hungary
- South Tyrol
- Maramures
- Kosice region
- Eastern Serbia/Timok Krajina region
- Western Ukraine

13:25 **Environmental impacts of traffic flows**
Luca Cetera, University of Camerino (IT) - tbc

13:45 Lunch break

14:45 World Café

- Questions examination
- Final presentation

17:30 Panel Discussion
Observing Partners in Access2Mountain

18:30 Dinner
Evening Event

Day 3 Thursday, 18 October 2012

09:00 Excursion with Tatra-railway
Presentation and Exchange with local stakeholders and experts

12:00 Lunch

13:00 Lessons Learned

14:00 Closing Speech

Departure from Poprad

ACCOMODATION

The conference takes place in **Eco friendly Hotel Dália**, which is located in the center of Košice.

Löfflerova 1, 040 01 Košice, Slovakia

Phone +421 (0) 55 799 43 21

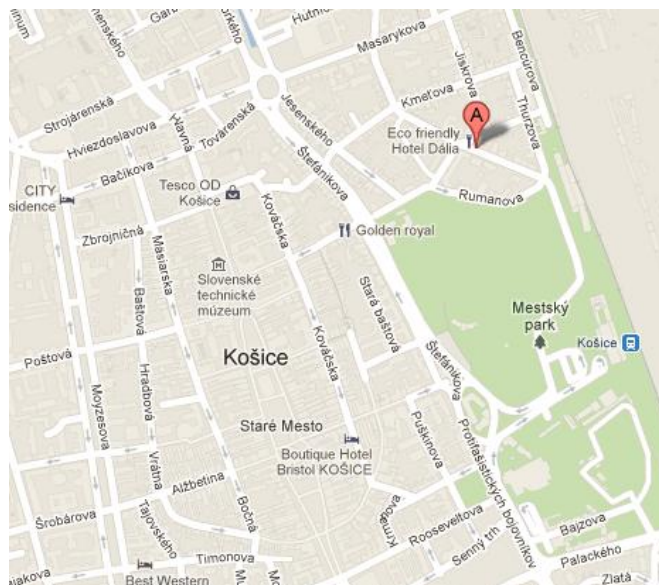
Mobile: +421 (0) 911 650 807

Fax: +421 (0) 55 633 17 17

E-mail: hoteldalia@hoteldalia.sk

Website: www.hoteldalia.sk

For your accommodation, apart from the conference hotel following hotels in the near distance of the conference venue can be recommended:



<https://maps.google.com/>

Hotel Zlatý Dukat ****

Hlavná 16 Košice

Phone +421 557 279 333

E-mail: info@hotelzlatydukat.kosice.sk

Website: www.zlatydukat.sk

Directions: <http://goo.gl/maps/nWIA>

GOLDEN ROYAL Boutique hotel & SPA ****

Vodná 8, 040 01 Košice

Phone: + 421 / 55 / 720 10 11 or + 421 / 911 / 565 227

E-mail: hotel@goldenroyal.sk, reception@goldenroyal.sk

Directions: <http://goo.gl/maps/zbxE>

Hotel Ambassador ****

Hlavná 101040 01 Košice

Phone: +421 55 720 3 720

Fax: +421 55 720 3 727

Website: www.ambassador.sk Directions: <http://www.ambassador.sk/mapa/>

Boutique Hotel Bristol****

Orlia 3, 040 01 Košice

tel: + 421 55 729 00 77, 78

fax: + 421 55 729 00 79

E-mail: info@hotelbristol.sk

Directions: <http://goo.gl/maps/pOco>