



PROSeSC

Producer Services for European
Sustainability & Competitiveness



Shaping the Mobility of the Future: Slovenia

PROSeSC (Producer Services for European Sustainability and Competitiveness) project successfully organised its mid-term conference on the 10th of May.

The conference location was Ljubljana, the capital city of the dynamic Slovenian economy, and home to the Government Office of Climate Change, a partner of PROSeSC project. The event focused on motto "Green Power Trains for the Future" and all the presentations added up knowledge regarding

this most interesting matter. Nearly 80 participants, many of them Slovenian government representatives but also PROSeSC project partners' representatives and European stakeholders attended the meeting.

The highlight of the event was the keynote speech given by Mr. Borut Pahor, Prime Minister of Slovenia. Mr. Pahor pointed at the objective of Slovenia to become a leader in sustainable development in Europe and therefore in the social state of its

population. He explained how this requires the European Automotive industry to achieve a fast adaptation to new thinking in crucial areas such as technologies, and furthermore, highly innovative approaches, to be able to respond to future environmental challenges and to maintain its leading technological position in the world. He mentioned that the electrification of road transport could hold one of the keys to the implementation



of a competitive low-carbon society by 2050. The agenda of the event had very enriching inputs from high-level Slovenian stakeholders and policymakers, such as Mr Milos Sturm (President of ERTRAC Slovenia), Mr Bojan Zlender (Slovenian Ministry of Transportation) and Mr Jernej Stritih (Director of Slovenian Government of Office of Climate Change), among others.

Another highlight of the conference, the talk given by Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Staiger (President of ERTRAC) provided the participants with a broader view on the European context for sustainable mobility.

The event also included a presentation of PROSESC project's progress so far by Reha Tözün, Project Coordinator (Stuttgart Region Economic Development Corporation). The main emphasis was the fact that the competitiveness of producing industries depends more on knowledge and knowledge-creating relations than materials and machines alone. To this end, the knowledge-intensive producer services carry out an enabler function that accelerates the creation and absorption of innovation in mobility clusters. The public actors have to develop ways to support the intake and diffusion of state-of-the-art know-how into their region by means of strengthening services enterprises.

The representatives of the PROSEC project



from East of England and Stuttgart presented activities on e-infrastructure as well as e-mobility. Also, the Slovenian Automotive Cluster and the Hungarian Vehicle Engineering Cluster (HVEC) gave real life insights on how cluster organizations add value to the regions where they operate.

The closing of the event was framed by the HyRaMP partnership, which supports the development of hydrogen, fuel-cell and battery electrical mobility in Europe. Marieke Reijalt, the Executive Director of HyRaMP, explained how this initiative supports the EU Strategy Development by setting up of

professional data monitoring / data sharing structure, as well as serving as an input to EU, national, regional policy and financial planning and aligning overall communication activities on Electric Mobility. This project also brings this technology closer to the people by facilitating large demo projects with hydrogen as storage medium, such as public buses.

Following the very positive feedback from participants, PROSESC will continue to open-up its activities for other networks and projects to enable multiplication effects.



Alpine Space call awarded ALPSTAR

Slovenian Government Office of Climate Change is a leading partner in project CARBON NEUTRAL ALPS 2050! MAKE BEST PRACTICE MINIMUM STANDARD! (ALPSTAR) In project is involved 11 partners from Alpine regions and it is a first project lead by Slovenian partner.

The ALPSTAR project focuses on implementation of policies in managing climate change on regional and local level through capitalization of existing know-how, methods and measures. Transnational approach is needed to gather relevant good practice measures, to establish common transfer method, a transfer platform and common approach in capacity building, to encourage further transfer of measures in the Alpine region and to prepare recommendations for national and transnational policies.

The aim of this project is to provide political and operational support to encourage implementation of proven good practice measures in managing climate change through preparation of strategies and action plans toward carbon neutrality on regional and local level.

Specific objectives:

- To create good practice transfer platform and network of regions for exchange of know-how in preparation and implementation of strategies and good practice measures toward carbon neutrality.
- To ensure reproducibility of good practice measures.
- To improve transboundary, cross-sectoral and inter-policy-level cooperation in coping with climate change.
- To empower local and regional administrative and planning capacities to become facilitators and actors of change.
- To promote integrative and participatory approach to development of strategies for good practice implementation.
- To encourage pooling and transfer of innovative and efficient good practices from and to other Alpine regions and beyond.



Editorial

Transition to sustainable transportation in Slovenia

Lowering emissions from transportation sector in Slovenia is one of the biggest challenges in transition to low carbon society. Emissions of GHG are growing since the year 2000 (in average 1,3 % per year). In year 2008 the growth of GHG emissions was even higher of 3,5 % which was 6,2 % over the limit that Slovenia has accounting the sinks. High growth of emissions from transport in 2008 is a result of traffic growth and lower prices of transport fuels compared to neighbouring countries. Price of transport fuels was in neighbouring countries lower for between 8,8 % to 30 %.

Sustainability is a key issue for Slovenian transport systems in the future; in order to achieve that, we have established clear priorities, including:

- new concepts of passenger mobility and availability to all
- intelligent systems of mobility and multimodal interfaces
- innovative strategies for a cleaner city transport
- systems for freight delivery in the cities
- vehicles using pure battery electric and plug in hybrid technology
- new concepts of freight delivery vehicles.

Government of Slovenia is aware that air quality in several Slovenian cities is very bad. Result of this is also penalty judgment from the European Court. At the moment several initiatives are being carried out to improve the state of the air quality.

Government of Slovenia confirmed program of measure for battery electric vehicles which include subsidies for purchasing of new vehicles, implementation of infrastructure for recharging and demonstration projects.

Addition to this, Ministry for the environment is preparing Program for improvement of air quality in problematic cities. Its focus is to implement measures that will be in line with EU directives for air quality and judgment of the EU court.

Last but not least, on the 1st of March 2010 came in place new CO₂ tax for vehicles. New tax replaced existing progression taxation based on the motor capacity; new taxation is based on the CO₂ emissions from the vehicles. The lowest tax will be for the vehicles with 110 g/km using petrol or LPG, the highest tax for group of vehicles emitting 250 g/km or more with diesel engine. For hybrid and electric vehicles is applied scale as for petrol vehicles. Base for tax calculation is sale price of the vehicle. Scale is formed in a way to support environmental friendly vehicles and the government is planning to collect in 2011 27, 8 million euros.

Sincerely,

By **MsC Jure Leben**

Undersecretary

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