

## Challenge 5: Moving around the city – green transport and mobility patterns for community development

Despite the fact that more and more activities, especially related to work, can be done at home, it is hard to imagine a significant decrease in demand for transport around the city. The growing number of urban inhabitants will make us rethink our transportation habits, whether we like it or not. Individual motorized transport is highly inefficient in urban areas, both from the economic and environmental perspective; alternatives can be sought in public transport and non-motorized movement around the city.

New, environmentally friendly, modes of transport are needed, taking advantage of new technologies and better fuels. In addition, the redesign of the urban space may allow the necessary facilities such as shops, schools and greenery within walking/cycling range so as to reduce motorized transport. The latter produces noise and air pollution, increases energy consumption and contributes to the emission of air pollutants and greenhouse gases.

It is important to note that revitalizing neighborhoods has positive environmental and social effects. Yet, it also has a positive mobility dimension, as the relocation of people mainly to the city center is avoided and traffic is thus controlled.

Keywords: transport, mobility, spatial planning, air pollution, non-motorized transport, pedestrians, biking, public transit

### Proposed discussion points:

- How do you move around your city?
- Do you think it is easy to visit a friend of yours living in a different neighborhood or a place of high environmental significance (such as National Park) in the metropolitan area?
- Which are the connections between dominant transport modes and other aspects of urban life, such as spatial planning?
- What inconveniences of current mobility patterns in your area can you point out?
- What types of air pollution resulting from transport do you see?
- Are there any new transport technologies or new types of fuels which can support a green shift of transport?
- What barriers exist in your area for non-motorized transport (e.g. biking)?
- What changes in local policies would – in your opinion – help in promoting more green transport and mobility in the place where you live?



## Exemplar Science Team's projects:

Green moving around the city. How to improve our mobility patterns to help the community flourish? – Science Teams investigate how people move around the city (and in the metropolitan area) and what is the impact of specific means of transportation on environment (pollution, use of nonrenewable sources, etc.) and humans (health, daily routine – time they spent moving around the city etc.). Afterwards, Science Teams look for solutions to improve transportation in the city as well as to convert it to green.

Let's ride! How to make a bicycle-friendly city? Science Teams are looking for places and routes where cycling can be promoted. . Students' base their work on their own experience, observations, discussions with experts and surveys with residents. The result of the project is a cycling map that will be forwarded to the city hall.

## Resources to find out more about this Challenge:

- Urban Agenda for the EU <https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/urban-agenda-eu/what-urban-agenda-eu>;
- A European Strategy for Low-Emission Mobility <https://www.eea.europa.eu/policy-documents/a-european-strategy-for-low>; full document <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52016DC0501> (available in 23 European languages).

## Linked to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

