

Towards Low Carbon Tourism through Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans

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Abstract:

Low Carbon Sustainable Development leads to the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG). Low Carbon Urban Development creates sustainable urban energy structures through integrated planning at all levels with the aim to mitigate climate change. Considering the fact that second biggest energy consumers in the cities is identified in the transport sector which certainly represents one of the largest polluters in the urban spaces, we are asking how transport could lead low carbon and carbon neutral urban development? While we consider as the biggest energy consumers in the cities, especially those with tourism expansion, existing buildings, we make direct interrelation of the energy renovated buildings with the sustainable transport options, which lead towards low carbon tourism. The reason is simple: When we are coming to the integrated urban planning, in the tourism and the transport sector we are facing with the huge energy consumption and an emission of GHG just because a sustainable urban mobility lacks in touristic cities. Working on Polycentric Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (PolySUMP) for four Montenegrin' cities we are challenging at the one side with the integration of innovative modern technologies and respecting of the UNESCO protected city area, and at the other side with everyday needs of inhabitants and tourists. Through developing this Polycentric Plan for pilot area for four touristic cities we are showing how integrated urban planning can directly contribute to the Low Carbon Urban Development.

PolySUMP will be the key document that defines the way in which the plans, priorities and programs of the users, concerning the transformation of the transport system, lead to changes over time and affect a number of different policy objectives. It is way of creative urban thinking and the best use of innovation and technology. PolySUMP will make it easier to reach a transportation system accessible to all, connecting communities by improving access to jobs and services, offering access to all residents and visitors making the main touristic locations accessible through the sustainable urban mobility transport. At the one side plan will contribute to improving the attractiveness and quality of the urban environment in local centres and the key transport corridors, and at the other side it will decrease energy consumption and reduce GHG emissions, with emphases at tourism sector.