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Contact & Activities

PARTICIPATING CITY

Participant:

Skopje 

Website:

www.skopje.gov.mk

Population:

506 926 inhabitants

LOCAL CONTACT

Department:

Department of environment protection

Position:

Deputy head

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PARTICIPATION IN 2014

The participant is committed to:

- Organising a week of activities, taking into account the focal theme.
- Implementing one or more new permanent measure(s), which contribute(s) to modal transfer from private car to environmentally sound means of transport. Where possible, at least one of these measures should be a permanent reallocation of road space in favour of walking, cycling or public transport (e.g. road closure, wider pavement, new cycle or bus lane, new traffic calming scheme, lower speed limit).
- Organising the «In Town Without My Car!» event, i.e. setting aside one or several areas that are reserved solely for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport for at least one whole day (from at least 1 hour before to 1 hour after normal working hours). «In Town Without My Car!» event should preferably be held on 22 September.

Actions relative to the theme:

Educational bike tour to the Skopje Aqueduct
Preserving bicycles trails
Electro-mobile tourists
To Matka with a bike for a world more human
Skill and safety when riding a bike
We have a new skate park
On bike to work
Come to see and ride and electro-bicycle
Locality of Gazi Baba: park forest in the city core
Street picnic
Learning to drive as kids
I ride a bike, but where to park?
Night bike tour to the Old Bazaar
To feel safe in traffic

Permanent measures implemented this year:

- Improvement of bicycle network (creation of new lanes, extension, renovation, signposting etc)
- Develop public bicycle hiring and sharing systems
- Create or enlarge pedestrian streets
- Improvement of infrastructure (new foot bridges, pavements, road crossings, zebra crossings etc)
- Create park and ride stations
- Create wheelchair ramps
- Enlargement of pavements
- Removal of architectonic barriers
- Use of ecological vehicles for public transport fleets
- Launch of an innovative new app—The Skopje Green Routes planner (android app.)
- Launch of awareness-raising campaigns

Zone restricted to the private car:

Порта Македонија –Димитрие Чуповски - бул. ВМРО -бул. Партизански одреди- бул.Илинден – Школка, Градски Парк - 8,2 км

Main Activities:

European Mobility Week 2014 – Skopje
„Our streets, our choice“

- Printing and placing posters for EMW on public transport buses, bike renting stations, parking lots, cultural and educational institutions, etc.
- Printing flyers for EMW 2014, which will serve as tickets for a free ride during the EMW and will be collected at the end of the week as lottery tickets, distributed on parking spaces, crossroads...

Day 1: 16 September (Tuesday)

Motto: "Protecting the ozone"

1. Opening of EMW in the Great Hall of the Council of the City of Skopje

- Opening speech on the meaning of the EMW and the planned activities for 2014,
- The Mayor of the City of Skopje signs the charter for the participation of the City of Skopje in the EMW

2. A day dedicated to the protection of the ozone layer

- Address by the Minister of Environment and Physical Planning
- The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning allocates Freon extraction equipment to 30 companies

3. Promoting activities of the City of Skopje for reducing climate changes and protecting the environment

- Promoting the activities of the City of Skopje within the RESEETies project for sustainable management of natural resources
- Promoting the Study on possibilities for using renewable sources of energy on the area of the City of Skopje
- Promoting the activities for preparing an Inventory of greenhouse gases for the City of Skopje, a project aided by the UNDP

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4. Opening the competition "Photography for EMW 2014 – Skopje"

- Photographing all the activities at the events during the EMW and their posting on Facebook, with the winner being the one with the most number of "likes"

5. Presenting the activities of the Energy Efficiency Office of the City of Skopje

- Presenting all the realized activities of the Office and the Energy Efficiency Department, as well as all the planned activities for the future.

Day 2: 17 September (Wednesday)

Motto: "Turn off the car – turn on the brain"

1. Platform "Good traffic practices"

- The platform will take place in the EU Office, attended by home and foreign experts (organized by the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning and the City of Skopje)

2. "Traffic management and control"

- Promoting the activities of the Traffic Management and Control Center (TMCC)

3. Visiting the Bus Museum

- Visiting the PTE Bus Museum, educating students, presenting the high school project for old buses

4. "Learning to drive as kids"

- Bike riding lessons in kindergartens, in the Municipality of Kisela Voda, with the help of Civic Association "Na Točak" ("On Bike")

5. "I ride a bike, but where to park?"

- Setting up equipment for docking bicycles on several locations in the city

6. "Let's go to the ZOO"

- Promotional bus caravan for visiting the ZOO, meant for students of the primary schools in the Municipality of Butel and MESSAGE, association of people with intellectual disabilities. Educational class and fun with drawing predicted.

7. "Night bike tour to the Old Bazaar"

- Night bicycle tour through Skopje, visiting the city landmarks and stopping at the Old Bazaar; refreshments in a café, followed by historical videos on the bicycle use in Skopje.

Day 3: 18 September (Thursday)

Motto: "Alternative mobility"

1. Conference: project ELEKTRA

- International conference that takes place within the ELEKTRA project for the development of electro mobility, with the City of Skopje as active participant.

2. "Plan for a sustainable transport system"

- Presenting the activities predicted in the Plan, prepared within the RENAISSANCE project and adopted by the Council of the City of Skopje in 2011, overview of the realization of the activities and planned projects.

3. "I don't have to own a bike to ride one"

- Presenting the project of the City of Skopje for renting bicycles and overview of the past activities for the realization of the project – educating high school students

4. "To feel safe in traffic"

- Education students from primary school in the Municipality of Center about traffic safety, done by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, with the help of the EU Office

5. "Skill and safety when riding a bike"

- Training and competitions for riding bicycles in City High School (Traffic Center) "Panche Arsovski", presenting the measurements of exhaust fumes etc., presenting electro-mopeds and electro-bicycles; meant for the high school youth

6. "Preserving bicycle trails"

- Promoting the project of the City of Skopje for marking and partial reconstruction of the bicycle trails, introducing the project and field activities

7. "Electro-mobile tourists"

- Promoting electro-mobiles and electro-mopeds of the City of Skopje, meant for touring the city with an organized visit of the tourist attractions.

8. "To Matka with a bike for a world more human"

- An afternoon bicycle tour alongside the quay of River Vardar, up to Matka, a protected natural locality and tourist destination in the suburban area of the city of Skopje

9. "We have a new skate park"

- Promoting the new skate park in the city center, organizing an evening performance by skaters, rollerbladers and BMX cyclists, with a presentation and explanation of skills, DJ and an all-night fun program

Day 4: 19 September (Friday)

Motto: "Go green"

1. "Go green"

- Promoting the project for creating an interactive tool that is an application for searching the fastest transport route to a chosen destination, including information on the duration, total costs and pollution, depending on the transport means (car, bus, bicycle). The application provides real-time information on traffic jams and its causes. At the same time, the concentration of CO2 is being monitored on 4 crossroads in the city. The project is supported by UNDP.

2. "On bike to work"

- THE PEP (Transport, Health and Environmental - Pan-European Programme) and HEAT (Health Economic Assessment Tool) for Walking and Cycling
- Recognition for the employees in the City of Skopje who use a bicycle as a means of transport to work
- Promoting the City of Skopje Award that will be awarded starting next year to companies that extend benefits to their employees who come to work on bicycle.

3. Photo exhibition

- Exhibition of photographs on the topic of bicycles, at the EU Office, aided by photo club Elektra.

4. "Come to see and ride and electro-bicycle"

- Possibility for primary school students in the municipality of Karposh to learn about electro mobility, to see and ride and electro-scooter and electro-bike. The organizer of this activity, which will take place at the Faculty of Engineering and Information technology, is the NGO Electromobility.

5. Educational bike tour to the Skopje Aqueduct

- Educational bike tours from the renting stations in the Municipality of Karposh to the archaeological site of the Skopje Aqueduct.

6. "Mobile seniors"

- Presenting the City of Skopje project for providing free public transport to senior persons, with an organized bus tour to Mount Vodno, ride on the rope railway to the mountain top. Cultural and educational program prepared by the children folk group of Karposh Children's Cultural Center.

7. Balkan bike festival

- Opening of the Balkan bike festival with a presentation of the participants and teams, suitable activities, acrobatic ride and all-night fun program.

Day 5: 20 September (Saturday)

Motto: "Walk, have fun, do sports and enjoy"

1. Locality Park Forest Vodno: the lungs of the city

- Recreational-competitive bike marathon from the City Square to Mount Vodno
- Family bike competition
- Police competition in skillful speed driving
- Possibility for recreation on the trim trail under supervision by trainers
- Promoting the continuous annual activities of the City of Skopje for protecting and developing the park forest Vodno, and presenting the planned and ongoing activities for 2014

2. Locality of Gazi Baba: park forest in the city core

- Organized cross on the trim trail for children from the Municipality of Chair Promoting the continuous annual activities of the City of Skopje for preservation and development of the protected locality of Gazi Baba and presenting the planned and ongoing activities for 2014

3. The City Park, the oldest park on the Balkans: Tea and Medicinal Herbs festival

- An NGO project supported by the City of Skopje, with more than 20 participants, attended by ambassadors and embassies, education on the importance of teas and medicinal herbs, presenting tea ceremonies of different cultures

4. City Square: Balkan Bike Festival Градски плоштад

- competition for the most unique and beautiful bicycle,
- competition in slow bike riding,
- junior race,
- speed competition in the center of the city,
- exhibitions,
- open BMX championship for Macedonia,
- all-night fun program

Day 6: 21 September (Sunday)

Motto: "Our streets, our choice"

Closing of traffic on the main street, the most important traffic artery in the city center, during the afternoon hours.

1. "Street picnic"

- Cafes on the street: dislocation of the open terraces of bars and fast foods, temporary transformation of thoroughfares into places of socialization
- Individually organized picnic, possibility for citizens to bring their own equipment and refreshments
- Minor sports games for children from the primary schools of the Municipality of Center
- We also have a small Montmartre: drawing on the street
- The flower as the best decoration: a stall by the PE Parks and Greenery
- Tasting the promotional products of "Lazar Tanev" High School for Hospitality and Management: students pack their products in baskets and serve them to the citizens
- Dance on the street: possibility to dance with professional dancers, education, fun
- Program of "Street players"

2. "Streets look better with trees"

- Autumnal planting of trees alongside the city boulevards
- Planting autumn flowers

3. "Mobile laboratory"

- Presenting the possibilities of the mobile laboratory for atmospheric quality of the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, measuring and commenting on the results.

4. "Can you hear me?"

- Measuring the noise pollution in the central urban area during traffic, closed traffic and outdoor socialization of citizens

5. Balkan Bike festival

- Vodno:
- School for young bikers

- Junior race
 - Elite race U23
 - Official award ceremony
- City Square:
- All-night fun program

Day 7: 22 September (Monday)

Motto: "Downtown without my car"

1. Organizing a bike procession through the city

- Route:
- Length :
- Duration:

2. Accompanying events:

- Street bike service
- Advice
- Safe ride
- Bike tattooing

3. End of the procession: City Park

- Address by the Mayor of the City of Skopje, the Minister of Environment and the EU Ambassador in the Republic of Macedonia
- Award ceremony by picking out numbers of the participants in the procession
- Announcing the photograph that collected the most number of "likes" on the photography competition for the EMW 2014 – Skopje and presenting the award
- Fun program with famous singers

25 September: announcing and awarding the picked out flyers from the free public transport

29 September: awarding the winners.

Permanent measures implemented:

- Improvement of bicycle network (creation of new lanes, extension, renovation, signposting etc)
- Develop public bicycle hiring and sharing systems
- Improvement of bicycle facilities (parking, locks etc)
- Improvement of infrastructure (new foot bridges, pavements, road crossings, zebra crossings etc)
- Improvement and extension of the public transport network (creation of HOV lanes for public transport modes, new stops, new lines, reserved areas etc)
- Use of ecological vehicles for public transport fleets
- Development of new technologies to improve public transport
- The development of accessible transport services for all
- Create park and ride stations
- New traffic regulations: traffic circulation and parking
- Create wheelchair ramps
- Lowering of pavements
- Enlargement of pavements
- Elaboration of sound devices in traffic lights
- Removal of architectonic barriers
- Launch of accessibility plans
- Create useful tool for people with reduced mobility
- Responsible car-use (eco-driving etc)
- Launch of awareness-raising campaigns
- Elaboration of educational materials
- Provision of incentives and bonuses to employers
- Development of systems and equipment for measuring air quality in public places

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