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Project Fact Sheet

Updated: July 2006

Advancing Sustainable Transport in Urban areas to promote Energy efficiency (ASTUTE)

Programme area: STEER, policy measures for an efficient use of energy in transport

Status: ongoing

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Studio Metropolitana Urban Research Centre Public Society, HU

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Organizzazione per la Ricerca, l'Occupazione e lo Sviluppo territoriale

nel Mediterraneo, IT University of Catania, IT

Website: www.astute-eu.org

Objective: To increase walking and cycling in cities by using 'soft measures' eq

education, training, publicity

Benefits: Structured identification of organisational barriers, develop and test a

toolkit with municipalities and employers

Keywords: Sustainable Transport, Municipalities, Employers, Walking & Cycling

Duration: 02/2006 – 01/2009

Budget: €1,874,787 (EU contribution: 49.65%)

Contract number: EIE-05-015 ASTUTE





Good and Bad Practice

Critical mass in Budapest (above) and an example of poor urban planning (below)

Picture (below) courtesy of Tim Cordy, Global to Local



Short description

Working in six urban areas (Budapest, Dublin, Granada, Graz, London and Siracusa) and focussing on behavioural change, ASTUTE will overcome the organisational barriers that prevent an increase in the use of walking and cycling in European urban centres. This will be achieved in a variety of different systems, in both the public and private sectors though the use of mobility management techniques such as Travel Awareness campaigns and Workplace Travel Plans.

ASTUTE will draw up a typology of barriers and analyse a range of best practice information from both partner and external organisations as a way in overcoming these barriers.

ASTUTE will then draft a toolkit for use by municipalities and employers that enable them to implement concrete measure to increase levels of walking and cycling.

ASTUTE partners will test the draft toolkit in a variety of situations and spread the final version on DVD in 10 EU languages.

Expected and/or achieved results

- Increase in the public acceptability of walking and cycling
- Improved coordination between all of the organisations responsible for walking and / or cycling on both a local and regional level
- Toolkit tested in 10 different 'laboratories' over 12-18 months and disseminated on project end via DVD in 10 languages
- 10% increase in the levels of walking and cycling across the partner cities and reduced emission of CO₂
- Private sector to realise extra benefits of Work Based Travel Plans through the adoption of travel plans in 100 businesses across all partners

Lessons learnt

ASTUTE project started in Feb-06. Our study of barriers and best practice typologises the variety of barriers and identifies 67 examples of best practice. We have consulted on this with stakeholders in the ASTUTE cities and new Member States; through the New Member State Forum we have already learnt about the wide variety of barriers that are transferable across not only our partner cities, but also across the whole of the EU25. This is a positive indication that the best practice examples we identify, and the subsequent toolkit we develop, will be accessible and appropriate to all member states.