



Ministry of Transport and Post - Telecommunications

Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

Association of Municipalities of Kosovo

UN-HABITAT



Conferences on Transport and Spatial Planning in Kosovo

Invitation

Conference #1

Public Transport organisation, policy, planning

Wednesday, 31st October 2007

Pristina

General presentation

Transport and Spatial planning are intimately linked, like two sides of a coin. Even though transport and planning experts often have different priorities, concepts, tools and institutions, they share the responsibility for building a sustainable system where functions are accessible, transport is efficient and goods and people are mobile - locally, regionally and internationally - as to ensure a striving and productive social and economic life.

The general purpose of the cycle conferences on Transport and Spatial Planning is to facilitate the dialog between partners from different institutions, professional disciplines, organisational levels and sectors:

- Planning and transport professionals
- Central and municipal authorities
- Public and private actors

It would be impossible to cover the broad field of Transport and Spatial planning in a single conference, or even to exhaust a single theme. Therefore, the Conference on Public transport organisation, policy and planning, will be followed by a series of conferences.

The organising Ministries and their partners look forward to welcoming you to these interesting and stimulating conferences, which will help us to plan for and to develop a dynamic and sustainable transport system in Kosovo.



Conference Programme

31st October 2007, Grand Hotel, Pristina, Conference Room 1st floor

9:00–10:00

Welcome addresses

Qemajl Ahmeti, Minister of Transport, Post, Telecommunications
Ardian Gjini, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning

10:00–10:15

Coffee Break

10:15–12:00

Session A: Regulator, Organising authorities, Operators

Institutions of public/public and public/private cooperation

Case study:

The inter-urban coach network: successes and challenges

Qamil Feka – Head of Road transport department, MTPT
Fushe-Kosovë / Obilic / Pristina – Intermunicipal cooperation
Islam Shabani – Municipality of Fushe-Kosovë

Keynote:

Roles of operators and organising authorities in an efficient public transport system

Constantin Dellis – Regional manager, UITP (International Association of Public Transport)

Discussion:

Hasan Sehu – Secretary, Association of private transport companies
Muhamet Malsiu, Director of Department of Environment, MESP

12:00–13:30

Lunch

13:30–15:00

Session B: Public transport in the policy framework

Economic development, public health, social cohesion

Case study:

City centre improvement, urban development and public transport

Muhamet Morina – Department of public utilities, City of Pristina
Overview of public Public Transport policy studies in Kosovo
Ramadan Duraku, Head of Sector, MTPT

Luan Nushi - Director of The Institute of Spatial Planning, MESP

Keynote:

Evaluation of public transport investments - costs and benefits in a macro-economic perspective

Frédry Wittwer – Director, Institut International pour la Formation en Mobilité (Geneva, CH)

Discussion:

N.N. – Kosovo Chamber of Commerce
Tomor Maloku – Kosovo Consumer Protection NGO

15:00–15:15

Coffee Break

15:15–16:45

Session C: Public transport in spatial planning

Networks and nodes

Case study:

Ferizaj/Urosevac: City centre vitalisation based on public transport: the Mobility centre project

Mustafë Zariqi - Chief of Planning Section – Municipality of Ferizaj/ Urosevac

Peja/Pec: Plans for an urban transport network

Agron Sallova – Municipal and Urban Planning Advisor, UN-HABITAT

The rebirth of the Pristina - Peja/Pec Railway line

Xhevat Ramosaj – Managing Director, Kosovo Railways

Discussion:

Jozef Zuallaert - Road and Transport Adviser - CBEI
Agim Radoniqi – Director, Spatial Planning Department, MESP
Ilir Gjinolli – Professor of urbanism, University of Prishtina

16:45–17:15

Closing session

conclusions:

Ismet Beqiri, President of Association of Kosovo Municipalities
Elisabeth Belpaire – Chief technical advisor, UN-HABITAT Kosovo

Session A: Regulator, Organising authorities, Operators
Institutions of public/public and public/private cooperation

In a short period of time, Kosovo has known two totally different transport systems: the centrally planned and administered state monopoly transport network, followed by independent private operators, chasing for clients in a deregulated environment. Both systems had their strengths and weaknesses. The challenge of organising public transport in Kosovo, like anywhere else, is to mobilise the strengths of centralised coordination and of customer oriented, profit seeking enterprise and to avoid their weaknesses.

This session's case studies describe the successes and difficulties that Kosovo's central and local public authorities have in applying the law on road transport, while the keynote speech provides examples from foreign organisational models that launch the discussion on how the institutional set-up of public transport in Kosovo can be further improved and developed, by introducing the concept of « organising authority ».

Session B: Public transport in the policy framework
Economic development, public health, social cohesion

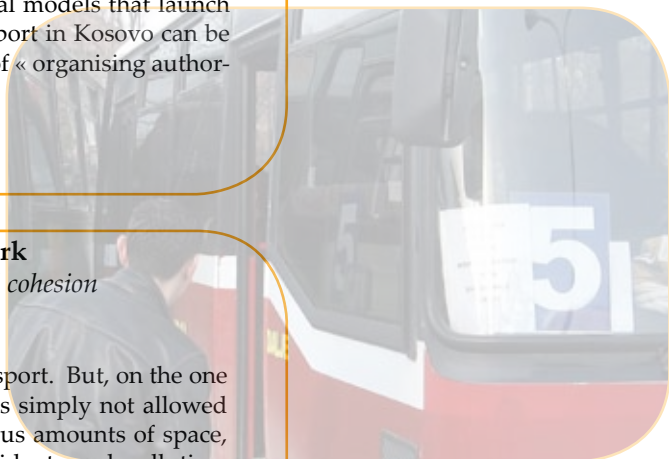
Many households are prepared to pay high prices for car transport. But, on the one hand, the majority of the population can not afford a car or is simply not allowed to drive. And, on the other hand, car traffic requires enormous amounts of space, infrastructure and policing, while generating damaging accidents and pollution. Public transport can help to provide mobility for more people, at lower public and private cost.

This session's case studies show how public transport is beginning to play a strategic role in the urban development policy of Pristina and give an overview of public transport policy studies at central level, in MTPT and MESP. The keynote speech points out how macro-economic cost-benefit analysis makes the case for consequent public investment in public transport infrastructure and operations and opens the discussion about the development of a coherent and balanced transport policy that provides the effective and efficient mobility the country's people and businesses in order to develop.

Session C: Public transport in spatial planning
Networks and nodes

The previous sessions have explored the institutional and the macro-economic aspects of public transport and spatial planning. The final session looks at the physical aspect of public transport planning, which is a complex multi-dimensional task: networks at different scales and with different functions need to be designed as to serve their respective objectives. These networks also need to be interconnected, in space and time as to form a coherent system. Infrastructure needs to be allocated in a way to allow for efficient and thus attractive and inexpensive service. And, most importantly, transport networks and urban structures need to evolve in harmony.

This session's case studies present the plans of two cities for the inclusion of public transport in the urban fabric. The case of Ferizaj/ Urosevac focusses on the railway station which is strategically located on the Pristina-Skopje axis, whereas Peja/ Pec plans to start with the implementation of a carefully designed citybus network. Kosovo Railway will present first experiences with the newly reopened railway link Pristina - Peja/Pec.



City bus in Pristina



Express train to Skopje, stopping in Ferizaj/Urosevac

Future events:

Academic session “**Urbanism and Public Transport in Modern Oriental and Western Cities**” with Pierre Laconte, President of ISOCARP, honorary Secretary General of UITP , 23rd November 2007

Second Conference on Transport and Spatial Planning in Kosovo
“**Backbone infrastructures and the environment**” (February 2008)

Kosovo is situated in the centre of the Western Balkan. The economic and social development of Kosovo depends on its capacity to translate this favorable situation into a dynamic network of cities that is effectively connected to all neighboring countries and distant markets, namely via the transeuropean corridors. These connections must make the best use of limited resources: budgets, space and good quality environment. This conference will provide the opportunity to assess the present and future needs for backbone infrastructures in Kosovo and to discuss options for their most adequate development.

Third Conference on Transport and Spatial Planning in Kosovo
“**Traffic safety and non-motorized transport**” (April 2008)

Road accidents are a growing concern in Kosovo. Fatalities are increasing at an average of 7% per annum and annual pedestrian fatalities increased by over 103% in the period 2002 -2006. Notwithstanding these dramatic figures, non motorised transport is highly favourable to a transport system that saves energy, reduces emissions and improves public health and conviviality. The Conference will dig into the challenge of improving road safety, while promoting lifestyle and policies that strengthen non-motorized transport modes.




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