



New Mobility Services along the Danube

In the last 2,5 years the partnership of the EU project Transdanube.Pearls has set various measures to improve the possibilities to use sustainable means of transport. Thus, tourists can more easily travel sustainably between and within the destinations along the Danube.

Mobility services have been developed and tested in different partner regions following the guidelines developed in the project. They are meant to provide the visitors with more and better possibilities to travel between and within the pearls using sustainable means of transport.

By elaborating and partly implementing these mobility services, the partners are providing missing links and services which they have identified when elaborating their SRTMPs. The range of activities is covering studies for the implementation of bicycle networks, bicycle infrastructure, bike rental and bike parking systems, bike carriage systems on busses, flexible public transport systems. Joint testing demonstrated the feasibility of selected different mobility services. A transnational evaluation highlighted the benefits and secures transferability of the pilot activities.

Guidelines serve as a guidance for all other interested stakeholders from the tourism and the transport sector beyond project lifetime. By translating the guideline into the languages of the Danube regions, it is easy for other interested stakeholders to access and use this information in their daily business.



Mobility services on bike rental and bike carriage possibilities

Bike carriage possibilities guarantee the combination of public transport and cycling. Such offers are expected to serve as attractive services for both, local inhabitants and tourists which can now use public transport and carry their own bikes in order to travel within or between a destination. Moreover, local people and commuters have a wider variety of services offered.

Further services improving cycling conditions in the regions are bike rental possibilities for easily exploring the respective Danube.Pearl and the surrounding area and using bikes instead of cars. For the implementation of new bike services partners closely worked with local transport providers.

The following pages provide selected examples of mobility services developed and implemented in the course of the Transdanube.Pearls project.



Bike rental system in Vukovar, Croatia:

The city of Vukovar implemented a bike rental system with 4 bikes: 1 E-Bike and 3 regular bikes. Tourists can use those bikes for free and explore the city and neighboring regions. Thereby, the city encourages people with different physical conditions to use bikes instead of cars. Besides, bike carriages on bus lines in Vukovar are available for local inhabitants and tourists.

Bike carriage in Pomurje region, Slovenia:

Bike racks have been installed on busses in Pomurje region in October 2018. This service did not exist in the region before and is provided by the local bus service. It offers cyclists the possibility to easier explore the region, and for instance, to travel to Murska Sobota which is the starting point for many cycling routes and where a mobility information center has been recently established.



Cycling friendly bus line in Serbia:

Since August 2017, tourists can use the cycling friendly bus line for travelling from Belgrade to Kladovo and the Iron Gate region. This bus line offers bike carriage possibilities and thereby, allows tourists to travel safely and quicker from Belgrade to the Iron Gate without private car and to cross sections by using the bus.

Bike rental in Mosonmagyaróvár, Hungary

The newly established Mobility Information Center in Mosonmagyaróvár provides mobility information for tourists but also offers bike rental possibilities. Furthermore, tourists get information about cycling routes and points of interest through information tables. Additionally, the mobility center offers e-bike charger and a repair station. By providing this kind of cycling infrastructure, tourists travelling with their own bikes who are in need of a charge or a repair station can use of these services.



Mobility services on flexible transport systems

Tourists using sustainable means of transport for traveling to a destination often suffer from lacking services on the last mile from the transport hub where they arrive to their accommodation. Therefore, a guideline on flexible transport services was elaborated that addresses solutions for the last mile and serves as basis for the development of feasibility studies and the implementation of pilot actions in selected Danube.Pearls.

Shuttle-Bus in Burgenland region, Austria:

The bus-shuttle was tested as pilot activity connecting the railway station and the lake in the Danube.Pearl Lake Neusiedl (Burgenland/Austria) in Summer 2018. The bus was established for tourists arriving by train and locals without own car, for people with disabilities, families, children and elderly people travelling to the Lake Neusiedl. The bus was operating in the summer months, from June until September on weekends and holidays.



The first year evaluation showed that customers were satisfied and grateful for this new service. Besides, they requested to extend the operating times and to offer the shuttle service more frequently. Because of this great demand and success, the shuttle bus will also be operated in summer season 2019. An extension to the next municipality is planned.

Upcoming mobility services for the last mile:

Two further pilot actions will start in May 2019 in the region of Tutrakan, Bulgaria: An electric mini-train and a new e-bus shuttle service will connect the city center of Tutrakan with the fishermen neighborhood and historical sites in the region. These services will enhance the possibilities to explore the city and the surrounding area by using sustainable means of transport.

Furthermore, a taxi on demand service has been established which will connect the Iron Gate on the Serbian and Romanian side. This service will not only help tourists to get from e.g. Kladovo to Drobeta Turnu Severin without private car but will also provide an alternative to some more dangerous sections of the Danube Cycle route - by easily carrying their bikes on the taxi.