What do European urban mobility projects offer to cities?

City of Krakow experiences on EU mobility projects

Tomasz Zwolinski, City of Krakow
1st European conference on SUMP, Sopot, 12-13 June 2014
EU mobility projects in Krakow

- CiViTAS CARAVEL
- CiViTAS CATALIST
- SIFORAGE
- VIA REGIA PLUS
- AENEAS
- TRANSPORT LEARNING
- STARS
- CH4LLENGE
- PUSH & PULL
- VELOCITTA

1st European conference on SUMP, Sopot, 12-13 June 2014
Strategies

• Selection of projects which are:
  • in line with existing policy documents and plans
  • in line with current mobility issues/problems of the city
  • really contributing to local situation and quality of life
  • implementation is realistic
  • gather variety of stakeholders (possibly new ones)
  • address different (new) target groups

• Creation of the special unit in the department (3 persons)

• Hiring new people (short term contracts) if needed

• Inclusion of new existing staff of the department (according to the topic of the project)

• Cooperation with Technical University (including master thesis contributing to the projects)
Experiences – organisational issues

- Possibility to learn in practice project management skills needed not only for EU co-financed projects

- Projects trigger involvement of local politicians, other departments, stakeholders, etc.

- More targeted actions (i.e. children, older persons, PRM’s, etc.)

- Better project implementation, including proper monitoring and evaluation, coordination among actors

- More time for planning, implementation and evaluation of the actions (these phases are formally parts of the projects)

- Detailed roles and responsibilities of the project partners

- Better dissemination of activities, promotion of the city through events
Experiences – content related

• Possibility to learn from more experienced experts/cities/organisations

• Possibility to benchmark your city performance (comparison to other cities)

• Quick and easier accessibility of „know-how“

• Innovative and sometimes risky actions/measures

• Learning through conferences, workshops, trainings, etc.

• Contact with new ideas, possibly to be implemented in local situation

• More structured and comprehensive approach, creating packages of measures instead of isolated actions

• Detailed planning of the actions

• Help and guidance from coordinators and WP-leaders

• Better cooperation with local partners, importance of involving universities

• Excellent opportunity to test new solutions (in a smaller scale)

1st European conference on SUMP, Sopot, 12-13 June 2014
Experiences – financial issues

- Majority of non-infrastructural projects wouldn’t be considered and implemented without external financial sources
- Creation of new jobs at the municipality
- Possibility to co-finance existing staff
- Wide range of budget lines
Experiences – personal issues/staff development

- Contact with foreign language, learning through work, practical use of the language
- New skills, development of financial, legal, organisational staff within organisation
- Site visits to other EU cities, practical issues, possibility to see measures „in action”
- Possibility to gain a broader and wider „look” at local issues and problems
Experiences – other issues

- High level of bureaucracy
- Too complicated evaluation of the (simple) actions
- Cash-flow problems
- Delays by some partners can stop you in your local actions
- Problems to work with some partners
Thank you!

Tomasz Zwoliński
City of Krakow
tomasz.zwolinski@um.krakow.pl