



PARALLEL SESSION: ENSURING THE SAFETY OF ACTIVE ROAD USERS

Session Conclusions

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1. KEYWORDS

Walking, cycling, public transport

2. TITLE OF THE SESSION

Ensuring the safety of active road users

3. TOPIC OF THE SESSION

[Presentation of the issues that were presented, why they are important]

- How to address the safety of walkers and cyclists in a traffic centric culture where the responsibility for safety is put on the walkers and cyclists e.g. through teaching pedestrians how to be more visible to drivers.
- How public transport initiatives may be integrated in the management of safety for active road users

4. SHORT SUMMARY OF SESSION

Making pedestrians responsible for staying safe is an indication that the system is failing. When the system is made to ensure pedestrians are safe such as through lower speed limits, it becomes safe for everyone, not just pedestrians.

5. OVERALL MESSAGES

Make walking, cycling and public transport more attractive than personal car travel for multiple benefits in health, equity, climate change, efficiency and social cohesion.

6. OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS

Invest in pedestrian, cyclist and public transport infrastructure and lower speeds of motorised transport to make active transport safe and attractive.

7. IMPORTANT FINDINGS (EX. TECHNICAL OR OTHERS)

[This can include key findings that have been confirmed and can be shared, as well as emerging issues that have been identified and will require more analysis.]

Medellin example: A neighbourhood with a high number of pedestrian fatalities was audited and pedestrian voices including those from children were collected to lobby the government. As a result, pedestrian infrastructure was put in.

Buenos Aires example: While people were initially against cycle paths, government decisions were made through consultations with NGOs of victims to build cycle paths and to give priority to pedestrians in the city centre. The speed limit was reduced to 20km/h and free bicycles are available to promote the use of public transport. The city is now enjoying more walkers and cyclists with reductions in injuries. Increased public transport has also helped car travel to be slower benefiting pedestrians and cyclists.

UK example: Cyclists are active on twitter and there is a strong cyclist lobby. Cycling is seen as 'green' and the increasing cycling infrastructure is a demonstration of cultural change in the UK. Public transport is also seen as part of active transport and all forms of active transport is more attractive than personal driving in London. It is one of the slowest places to drive and has one of the strongest economy.

WHO example: Walking and cycling are promoted as part of health promotion and sustainable transport and WHO is focused on acting as a role model for governments. WHO also calls for government accountability through monitoring and evaluation based on agreed indicators and good data collection and reporting.

8. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS INCLUDING GOVERNMENTS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

[This can include recommendations for future studies or future collaborations.]

- Demand large sums of money for implementing public transport and ensuring the safety of walkers and cyclists.
- Improve connectivity between walking, cycling and public transport to make active travel more convenient than car travel.

- Promote the building of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure.
- Build pedestrian and cycling infrastructure to attract more walkers and cyclists.
- Make car travel slower and parking expensive so that people shift to cycling and walking.
- Consolidate all the benefits of active road use to demonstrate the large benefits of investing in active road transport

9. PREPARATION OF THE SESSION

[Mention here the persons and organisations that were involved in the preparation of the session]

Geert van Waeg, President, International Federation of Pedestrians prepared the session questions and moderated the panellist discussion. Kacem Iaych, Technical Officer, WHO coordinated the session.

10. SESSION PROGRAM

[Include actual the program of the session as it actually took place]

Chair & Moderator: Geert van Waeg, President, International Federation of Pedestrians

Plan and timing:

Approx. Time	Topic/Presentation title	Speaker (title, role/position, organisation)
5 min	Introduction	Geert van Waeg, President, International Federation of Pedestrians
5 min	Expert presentation	Bronwen Thornton, CEO, Walk21
5 min	Panellist presentation on the experiences in Medellin	Martha Giraldo, Director, FundaPeatón
5 min	Panellist presentation on the experiences in Buenos Aires	Paula Bisiau, Undersecretary, Buenos Aires City Government, Argentina
5 min	Panellist presentation on the experiences in the UK	David Davies, Executive Director, Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety
5 min	Panellist presentation on the experiences as the WHO	Fiona Bull, Head, Physical Activity Unit, WHO
15 min	Questions from the moderator and answers from panelists	Everyone
10 min	Questions from the audience and answers from panelists	Everyone
5 min	Summary of the panellist discussion	Bronwen Thornton, CEO, Walk21