

Press release 7th July 2016

LAST MILE project: Interregional exchange meeting and study tour 28-30 June 2016 in Lienz (East-Tyrol, Austria)

Which successful sustainable and flexible solutions to travel the last mile to a tourist's destination do already exist? This was what LAST MILE project partners wanted to experience during a three-day study tour to East Tyrol.

From 28-30 June, LAST MILE's first study visit and interregional workshop was organized in the region of East Tyrol (Austria), hosted by the Regional Management East Tyrol.

After having discussed main issues affecting local policies on regional public transport system and particularly flexible systems at the kick-off meeting in Vienna (27 th June), the meeting started with a visit of good practice projects in Austria.



The first one to go to was the 'Alpine Pearl' Werfenweng, where the participants experienced a sustainable mobility concept offering tourists a variety of transport systems ranging from mobility services for leisure time purposes as well as functional mobility. 'Alpine Pearls' destinations guarantee to tourists stress-free sustainable arrivals and departures as well as car-free areas on destination.

Photo 1.



The second day comprised a visit of the defMobil –a hailed shared taxi- (in St. Jakob in the Deferegggen valley), where participants got to know the development and background of the project (talk with the chairman and the mayor of St. Veit Mr. Vitus Monitzer and book keeper of the municipality of St. Veit Erik Engel).

Photo 2

This flexible transport system was established in 2010 and, since then, offers local residents and tourists the possibility to partly cover their mobility needs in the Deferegggen valley apart from the use of a private car.



Another interesting visit took the partners to FLUGS E-Carsharing - an E-Carsharing concept for East Tyrol and to an exchange with Michael Hohenwarter, director of the Regional Management East Tyrol, and Manfred Gaschnig, administrator of FLUGS about terms of use, facts, barriers, vision and outlook of FLUGS.

Photo 3.



An interregional partner workshop, comprising a World-Café-setting on the improvement of demand-responsive-transport systems in East Tyrol and a feedback session completed the three-day event.

Photo 4.

Besides the hard work, the meeting was characterized by the region's generous hospitality. The participants also took the opportunity to test the quality, comfort and timing of public and flexible transports and enjoyed the ride back by train to Vienna to reach, from there, their final home destination.

Project Details:

LAST MILE aims to find sustainable flexible solutions for regional mobility systems. It will make sure that visitors travel the 'last mile' of their travel chain sustainably, and provide alternatives to car use for residents and their daily trips as well. LAST MILE will support regions in creating tailor made solutions for multiple users, interlacing with main public transport lines and hubs and introducing low emission and energy efficient vehicles, that shall lead to sustainable and financeable regional mobility options.

Financed under the INTERREG EUROPE Programme, LAST MILE is a European wide interregional project with 7 partners from 6 countries comprising a group of about 50 regional stakeholders.

First steps of the project will be to analyse the regional institutional framework, to identify the barriers in each region, to analyse the technical state-of-the-art of regional public transport systems and particularly flexible systems, as well as to visit best practice projects in the partner regions. All these joint analyses and regular exchanges will be taken in the development of regional action plans that will be implemented and monitored in a second phase.

Overall project budget: 1.607.720 €

ERDF contribution (INTERREG EUROPE): 1.346.442€

Project duration: Phase 1 2016-04 to 2018-09, Phase 2 2018-10 to 2020-09

Project Partners:

Environment Agency Austria. (Austria)

Regional Management East Tyrol (Austria)

Agency for the Support of Regional Development Kosice (Slovakia)

Club 'Sustainable Development of Civil Society' (Bulgaria)

Mobility and Transport Direction. Ministry of Territory and Sustainability. Government of Catalonia (Spain)

Upper Sûre Nature Park (Luxembourg)

Westpomeranian Voivodeship - Regional Office for Spatial Planning of Westpomeranian Voivodeship (Poland)

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Photo Legends:

Photo 1: The 'Alpine Pearl' Werfenweng offers tourists a variety of transport systems ranging from mobility services for leisure time purposes as well as functional mobility.

Photo 2: Group photo of the project partners in front of the hailed shared taxi 'defMobil' at the ski station of St. Jakob in the Defereggen valley.

Photo3: FLUGS E-Carsharing concept in Lienz (East Tyrol)

Photo 4: Interregional partner workshop in Lienz (East Tyrol), comprising a World-Café-setting on the improvement of demand-responsive-transport.