

13th UITP Sustainable Development Commission Meeting
13 – 14 October 2011, San Sebastián

Work Programme 2011 – 2013
Meeting doc # 4

Recommendation

The Sustainable Development Commission is asked to note and comment on the work programme 2011 – 2013.

Introduction

The Sustainable Development Commission's mission is to promote the positive contribution that public transport makes to sustainable development.

The Sustainable Development Commission's objectives are:

- To develop indicators for public transport organisations to enable them to report on their environmental, social and economic performance;
- To create a platform which allows a greater exchange of ideas, experience and best practice;
- To develop the Charter programme and increase the number of signatories; and
- To integrate best practices from Charter signatories into tools to help increase the understanding of public transport's contribution to sustainability.

Approach

The 2011 – 2013 work programme is centred on the following work streams:

- i. The UITP Sustainable Development Charter
- ii. Collation and exchange of best practice
- iii. Climate change and greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)
- iv. Social responsibility

The work programme aims to deliver the Sustainable Development Commission's objectives and make a positive contribution to UITP's PTx2 strategy.

Delivery

The work programme will be overseen by the Sustainable Development Commission.

The following Working Groups have been established to oversee delivery of work streams iii and iv respectively:

- Sustainable Development Working Group on carbon dioxide (CO₂) - focus on Europe
- ISO 26000 Working Group

Working Groups will be required to complete individual work plans for the forthcoming year. They will be used to determine whether proposed works are coherent with the Sustainable Development Commission's objectives and propose a clear and deliverable set of outputs. They will also be used to decide on the allocation of resources and whether Working Group's should continue.

Prior to year end, Working Group Leaders will be required to complete a Working Group report which will be used to assess performance in relation to their agreed work plans. The reports will also be used amongst other things to help decide whether Working Groups should continue.

Work Programme 2011 – 2013

i. UITP Sustainable Development Charter

- The primary objective of the work stream will be to increase the number of signatories to the Charter.
- Throughout the year, UITP and the Commission will raise awareness of the Charter through the media and events organised at the local, national and international level.
- Coaching and training sessions will be held with organisations when required to help them understand the benefits of the Charter process.
- Co-operation will be sought with those organisations which have shown growing interest in establishing closer ties with the Charter process with the objective to make them become either a Pledge or Full Signatory (e.g. bus manufacturers).
- Where appropriate, dialogue will be developed with other organisations with a view to increasing their familiarity with the Charter (e.g. Covenant of Mayor's, ICLEI etc). Co-operation between UITP regional organisations will also be developed where necessary.
- In pursuit of the above activities, UITP will remain mindful of the need to maintain current signatories of the Charter.

ii. Collation and exchange of best practice

- By end 2011, Full Signatories to the Charter are required to submit reports on their performance via the Reporting Framework. UITP will analyse returns with the aim of further developing the Reporting Framework and gathering examples of good performance. This information will be shared with Members and those outside of the public transport sector. A selected number will be used to demonstrate how the PTx2 strategy can be achieved.
- In cooperation with the organisations concerned, UITP will introduce other language versions of the reporting framework on its database.
- In corporation with Members, UITP will develop methodology sheets for the most significant sustainability indicators. This will ensure consistency of reporting in the future and help organisations identify what the Charter looks like within best practice organisations.
- UITP will look to develop a new sustainable development category as part of its annual PTx2 Awards ceremony. The awards will help identify further examples of best practice.
- UITP will trial a 'buddy system' whereby a Full Signatory will work in collaboration with Pledge Signatory for a limited time period. The objective will be to help build capacity within both organisations through the exchange of ideas, experiences and actions. At the trial's conclusion, an assessment of what works and what does not work in this form of partnership will be undertaken.

iii. Climate change and GHG emissions

- A Working Group on CO₂ (focusing on Europe) has been established following interest from Commission members. The Group will help UITP to better respond to climate issues at the EU level.

- The Working Group's primary responsibility will be to provide expertise for commenting, reacting and preparing opinions on any climate change and energy related EC-policy and advocacy.
- The Group's work will also complement the Bridging the Gap initiative's work at the international level and the Covenant of Mayor's at the local level. The Group's outputs could also be used to demonstrate how PTx2 can be delivered as well as help identify best practice initiatives.
- Until now the Group has been on hold but it will be convened at the earliest opportunity. A detailed work plan will be drawn up prior to work commencing.

iv. Social responsibility

- An ISO 26000 Working Group has been established to look to develop social responsibility standard guidelines that could be adopted by UITP internationally for the sector. The guidelines should look to clarify the standard so that Members can embed its requirements into contracts.
- The guidelines should be validated by the sector and recognised by ISO in some way. The guidelines should also align with UITP's reporting framework so as to avoid duplication.
- Until now the Group has been on hold but it will be convened at the earliest opportunity. A detailed work plan will be drawn up prior to work commencing.