Peja, cycling city in Kosova

Peja Municipality intends to upgrade the awareness of citizens in using bicycles as suitable and active mean of mobility. Our long term intention is that until 2025 to have 20 % of people using cycling in Peja.

To upgrade the awareness of citizens on cycling

The municipality of Peja has established the policy on concentrating in rapid development of cycling as part of recommendation of Urban Development Plan as well as more efficient alternative for active mobility of Peja inhabitants. Some concrete steps are launched in this regard such is analyzing cross roads at urban area, number of bicycle users, analysis of possible bicycle network, access restriction to the center for vehicle traffic, promotion of cycling in Peja through organizing events, designation of bicycle parking sites. All activities are organized closely with various interest groups, supported by NGO, Kosovo Police, Private Sector and the most important one is the support by MOBKOS.

The intension is that until 2025 to have 20 % of bicycle users

With such actions Peja Municipality intends to upgrade the awareness of citizens to use bicycles as more active and suitable mean of transport. Our long term intension is that until 2025 in Peja to have 20 % of people using bicycles. This will be a good way to change the image of the town to be the center of tourism, recreation and which promotes healthy life without environment pollution. We will use best examples and will consult wide range of partners.

So far achievements in Peja

The Peja city has gained some achievements through its efforts to establish an image of cycling in Kosova. Following are some positive results of Peja Municipality so far achieved:

- Restriction of vehicle traffic in the center and increase of safety of bicycle users in the center and in particular at urban cross roads.
- Decrease of environment pollution and of noise produced by vehicles.
- Citizens’ awareness in using bicycles.
- Interface between walking, cycling and public transport.
- First local campaign sponsored on urban cycling in Kosovo
Cycling tradition in Peja

Peja as developed city in the west of Kosova in its history of urban development in the past and in using the land in decades, the particular emphasize has put in protection of public zones and green. Its geographic position does not enable development in the west and north part but only in the east and south ones, which present the possibility for controlled development in line with recommendations of urban development plan and municipal development plan. The tradition of Peja is linked to cycling. The best indicators of this are Sport clubs which have won cycling competition in national and regional level, use of bicycle as efficient alternative in the past and existence of bicycle factory in Peja.

Peja as green and vital city thanks to its position is very much suitable for development of urban cycling, urban and hilly terrain combining use of bicycles also to promote healthy transport, protection of environment from car pollution, cheap way of transport and use of space for vehicle parking was not a case before in Peja.

Results expected

Following are results which we expect:

- Creation of bicycle trail,
- Increase of safety,
- Set up of lights to give priority to pedestrians and cyclists,
- Organization of urban cycling,
- Organization of economic cycling,
- Organization of cultural and touristic cycling,
- Provision of bicycle renting,
- Signature of Memorandum of Understanding with private sector (hotels) to organize touristic tours with bicycle,
- organization of shared spaces,
- continue to restrict access of vehicles to the city center,
- Research and analyzing gained achievements.

Date: 27. 04. 2011
Author: Gazmend Muhaxheri

E-mail: gazmenmuhaxheri@yahoo.com

www.mobkos.eu

Call for 50 Contributions

MOBKOS stands for urban mobility in Kosovo project and is a project granted from the Flemish Government, Belgium to Kosovo and implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Transport. The municipality of Peja is selected as the DEMO on urban mobility planning.