



HEALTHY CITIES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

INTERVIEW



An interview with deputy Mayor of the Healthy City of České Budějovice Mrs. Ivana Popelová

Walking and car free city has its charm

The Mobility Week and Car Free Day international campaigns ended several weeks ago. Can you mention what caught your attention and surprised you personally this year?

Organising this event in the city has already become a tradition. The organiser is the Department of environment protection in collaboration with Cassiopea civic association. The event is, besides the NGO's associations, regularly participated in by the state and municipal police, Municipal Transport Company, BESIP and others. We gradually try to extend the closure of city centre for automobile transport and must note that the number of complaints is falling. This implies that citizens of the city have already become used to this event and I dare claim that the majority of them gradually find the charm of walking and car free city. This year the Rosa movement organised a survey, in the course of which passers-by could express themselves to traffic-related problems of our city and possibly propose suggestions for improvement. After its evaluation I would be pleased if this material could serve as a basis for planning of other traffic modification in the city.

The Healthy City of České Budějovice is well known for its measures in the area of traffic calming. What innovations in this field are currently being prepared by the city management?

České Budějovice have recently focused, besides cycling paths building, on improvement of safety measures and on making the municipal transportation more attractive. We have already prepared construction of dividing islands and new project of public transport (PT) preference, whose one part has already been realised this year. Another step is a substantial change in vehicle fleet of transport company that started this year and should continue until 2010, with an objective to improve passengers' comfort. We believe that utilisation of PT will thus become more attractive for those who currently prefer passenger cars.

Will you disclose to our readers, what other activities are being prepared as a part of the Healthy City Project?

Next year we prepare, among others, completion of basic cycling municipal framework and we would like to proceed to additional

network of cycling routes and paths. In the future we would also like to focus with greater emphasis on safety education. Currently we have been dealing systematically only with the "Going Biking? Don't forget your Helmet!" Campaign but we would like to realise other programmes of traffic education, e.g. at schools and kindergartens. I believe that in this respect we will gradually manage to create a systematic approach and integrate these programmes into regular school syllabus. We would also like to participate in the Safe Community Project and find inspiration in the Healthy City of Kroměříž. We want to focus on other target groups more, such as e.g. seniors.

TOPIC OF THE MONTH: "SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT"

Transport in its current form without exception influences lives of all inhabitants of cities, municipalities and regions of the Czech Republic. Besides undisputable advantages and improvement of life, traffic also brings serious risks related to safety of traffic participants and quality of environment. Passenger cars (PC), whose number in the Czech Republic has been growing continuously, play a significant role in both aspects. A passenger car is currently owned by 4 out of 10 Czechs. At the same time it is exactly these means of transport that participate in the amount of harmful emissions from traffic to the highest degree (7602 thousand tonnes of CO₂ per year) and at the same time pose a permanent threat to pedestrians and cyclists, as well as to the drivers and other passengers in cars as such. In 2004 more than 1300 people died on the roads of the Czech Republic, in the whole EU then over 43 000. Principles of safe and sustainable transport anticipate strengthening of importance of public transport and other considerate methods of transport – walking, cycling – provided that disproportional use of passenger cars would not grow.



The otherwise busy Smetanova Street in Vsetín changed for the Car Free Day into a promenade where city inhabitants could refresh themselves or read a book. An eventful programme has been also prepared for the smallest ones.

One of the high points of all-year activities leading towards the sustainable transport have become not only in the Healthy Cities, Municipalities and Regions the events organized on the occasion of the **European Mobility Week** and the **Car Free Day**. In the actual issue of HCCZ Bulletin we therefore bring bits and pieces from these campaigns, this year participated by the **record number of 29 HCCZ members**, along with another information related to the issue of safe and sustainable transport, which is also the **main HCCZ topic** for years 2006-2007.

The European Mobility Week and the Car Free Day called attention to the relationship of transport and climate protection

In the traditional period of 16.-22. August in The Healthy Cities, Municipalities and Regions there has been the European Mobility Week Campaign (EMW) whose part is the Car Free Day (CFD). In the course of this week the HCCZ members organised a rich mixture of awareness raising and accompanying events related to the subject of sustainable development. The EMW and CFD also this year took place under the auspices of the Ministry of Environment and the national coordinator Eva Veverková and they have been a part of wider consumer's campaign by the European Committee "You Control the Climate" (more information at <http://www.climatechange.eu.com>).



The following Healthy Cities and Municipalities participated in or supported the European Mobility Week and Car Free Day Campaigns: **Bolatice, Boskovice, Brno, České Budějovice, Hodonín, Hradec Králové, Chrudim, Jilemnice, Karviná, Kopřivnice, Kostelec n. Orlicí, Kroměříž, Letovice, Litomyšl, Mladá Boleslav, Moravská Třebová, Orlová, Pelhřimov, Prostějov, Příbram, Říčany, Telč, Třebíč, Třeboň, Uherské Hradiště, Uherský Brod, Ústí nad Labem, Velké Meziříčí, Vsetín.**

TOPIC HOME AND ABROAD

Sustainable and safe transport will become an increasingly essential topic in development of cities and municipalities

Sustainable development of transport becomes the key issue, which has been proven among others by the record participation of Czech and Moravian cities in the European Mobility Week and Car Free Day (EMW). In the not so distant future the transport of passengers and cargo will become one of the greatest global issues of mankind – in

this area we will probably consume the greatest share of energy and consume the greatest share of non-renewable resources, it produces the greatest amount of greenhouse gases and according to WHO transport would become the most frequent cause of death within 20-25 years.

For this reason it can be hardly surprising that a number of programmes and conceptions arise that deal with development of transport on the national and global level. The main strategic document in the field of transport on the CR level is the **Transportation Policy for 2005-2013** (available for download at http://www.mdcr.cz/cs/Strategie/Dopravni_politika/). Support of traffic in regions also belong among its priorities – in particular the development of integrated transport systems on the level of cities and regions, support of unmotorized transport and regulation and road pricing in cities. The independent **Strategy of Territorial Transport Service Development** (available for download at <http://www.mdcr.cz/cs/Verejna-doprava/Vnitrostatni-osobni-doprava>). The **National Strategy for Development of Cycling**, accepted in 2004, also belongs among the important and long-awaited concepts. According to this conception, cycling should become an equal means of transport service, it should support tourist trade and contribute to improvement of living environment and public health (<http://www.cyklostrategie.cz>).

Revision of the White Paper of the European Union Transport Policy

The European Commission (EC) evaluated at the end of June 2006 the fulfilment of requirements of the **White Paper** European Transport Policy for 2010, basic developing document in the field of EU transport. In its evaluation titled "**Keep Europe Moving – Sustainable Mobility for our Continent**" it emphasised the basic target – respecting of sustainable development in transport. Sustainable transport can be imagined as such that *"fulfils the natural and ever growing human need of mobility of persons and transport of goods in a way that respects the rights of all those directly involved in as well as of others affected by this process and not threatening their lives and health. It is friendly to the environment it goes through and it does not constitute problems for the generations to come. Sustainable development is a harmonic concord between human needs, respect to other people and respect to nature."* Dr. Josef Mikulík, director of Transport Research Centre). The European Union also notes that the main problem is the imbalance of development of individual transport types and high share of non-renewable resource consumption (oil, petrol) and emissions of harmful substances originating in this process. This is why among others the EC tries to transfer the orientation to intelligent traffic systems (**Galileo, ERTMS, Intelligent Car Initiative, SESAR** and others) and requires a more consistent measures for mobility change, in particular in the European urban areas. The Committee will open the discussion about traffic policy in 2007 by means of the **Green Paper** (http://www.dnoviny.cz/en/?page=7&id_news=2806, <http://evropska-unie.cz/cz/article.asp?id=4180>).

A whole range of other interesting information related to activities, projects and institutions dealing with various connections of traffic can be found in **HCCZ Bulletin no. 6** from June this year, dedicated in particular to safety in traffic. More at <http://www.nszm.cz/bulletin>.

HCCZ Partners

Traffic belongs among the areas with significant share of expert partners both on the level of central state authorities and non-profit organizations or private sector. The **Ministry of Transport (MT)**, especially the **BESIP** department that deals with safety of road transport and realises the new

Safe Municipality project belong among the main partners. From other departments we should mention especially the **Ministry of Environment** and **Ministry of the Interior**. NSZM in the long run also collaborates with **Transport Research Centre**, which is among others guarantor of



the Safe Route to School Project. Because transport is also significantly related to impacts on the living environment, HCCZ collaborates with company **Porseanna o.p.s.** that deals with the issue of renewable and alternative energies and creation of indicators. Not only within the EMW, HCCZ collaborates with **Czech Radar** company that performs velocity measurements in cities and municipalities within the framework of **Safe Cities** Project and helps thus to increase the safety of traffic. Among the long-term expert partners of the Healthy Cities, Municipalities and Regions can be also classified the **Partnership Foundation**, especially its programme Transport for the 21. Century. Information about other collaborating organisations in the field of transport can be also found in June issue of HCCZ Bulletin no.6.

GOOD PRACTICE

The Healthy cities and municipalities direct their activities towards safe and sustainable transport

“Leave Your Car at Home” could be the wording of a slogan through which representatives of some Healthy Cities invited officials and their colleagues to the Car Free Day, such as Mayor of Ústí nad



In Ústí nad Labem there has been the Little Cyclist competition realised within the framework of the EMW, participated in by 16 kindergartens. In the photograph you can also see the reflective jackets that all kindergartens of Ústí n.L. and other Healthy Cities and municipalities have been equipped with.

Labem, deputy Mayor of České Budějovice or secretary of the City of Kopřivnice. A number of cities also contributed by realising the so called permanent measures in traffic – built pavements, cycling tracks, public transport has been improved.

The European Mobility Week and Car Free Day campaigns represent a suitable opportunity for presentation and support of environment harmless and safe methods of transport. Also this year the inhabitants of the Healthy Cities and Municipalities had a chance to use public transport free of charge or try what it was like when some streets or squares remain closed for cars. The Mayor of the Healthy City of **Ústí nad Labem** Jan Kubata decided to serve as an example to its inhabitants. He officially asked the municipal authority and urban district workers to leave their cars at home and utilise other, more considerate means of transport for journey to work on the occasion of CFD on 22. August. The Healthy City of **České Budějovice** which has been realising traffic calming measures in the city centre by constructing a network of cycling tracks, designation of lanes for public transport buses or reducing the speed to 30 km/h, on the 22. September completely closed for cars its largest square of Přemysl Otakar II. Roads and streets in the Healthy Cities and Municipalities came alive with various awareness-raising and entertaining events for both the children and adults.

Involvement of children in awareness-raising events contributes to improved safety on the roads

The aim of the traffic-related events for children is to prepare the youngest inhabitants for real-life situations they may face in real traffic. In the Healthy City of **Kroměříž** the city hall distributed clothing



Representatives of the local Student Parliament helped to organise a number of events in Třebíč. The funny slogan “Healthy Spirit in a Healthy City” also helped to draw the attention of passengers and other participant of traffic to the rich programme.

accessories and other objects of reflective materials to all local schoolchildren. The city thus started with realisation of the “**Can You See Me?**” project, whose objective is to improve safety of children on the roads and that should become the pilot event within the Kroměříž Safe Community Project. The Healthy City of **Prostějov** invested in 200 new reflective jackets for children of pre-school and younger school age. As soon as on the 4. August during the first school day, the children who guarded the pedestrian crossing in Palackého Street with an officer of municipal police could try their jackets out in practice. The children who attended the traffic-educational seminar in the Healthy City of **Letovice** also received reflective tabs. To eliminate all traffic from the area in front of kindergarten of Dr. J. Malík and in front of

Víta Nejedlého kindergarten have tried in the Healthy City of **Chrudim** as a part of the “**Children Live Here**” event. A traffic competition, connected with training of kindergarten children by the Police of the CR in the issue of safe movement on the roads, have been organised by the Healthy City of **Litomyšl** in the area of Zámecká kindergarten.

In the Healthy City of **Orlová** there has been the “**Armadillo**” campaign realised, with a focus on use of infant carriers. Children received small Armadillo figures so that it would remind them of the importance of having seat belts fastened correctly and to remind the parents that use of infant carriers saves lives. Children of the Healthy basic school Prameny in the Healthy City of **Karviná**, on the 22. August together with policemen rewarded the disciplined or on the contrary indisciplined drivers within the event called “Orange or Lemon”. The Students’ Parliament of the Healthy City of **Třebíč** realised the project called “Children’s Police in Action” whose aim was to find out what it was like to travel by public transport in Třebíč and in particular whether bus drivers respect traffic regulations and conditions of safe passenger transport. In the course of the event, **150 questionnaires** have been evaluated, finding out that 34% of drives were absolutely flawless, in case 31% a non-continuous ride or delayed departure from the main stops occurred and other defects were ascertained in case of the remaining 35%. The Healthy City of **Brno** organised in collaboration with AWAMET Junior Centre Brno and NS Spectre for Children an event called “Points for the Safety of Children”, focused on the repetition of traffic rules on the occasion of school year beginning. Organising the event “Safely on the Playground and Street” has already become a tradition in Brno. The event is focused on prevention of accidents and children’s injuries in traffic. On the August 22 in the area of car park by the brewery in the Healthy City of **Jilemnice**, there were prepared games and competitions with traffic subject matter; children could also test their abilities in a skill ride. Children in the Healthy City of **Bolatice** took the advantage of the opportunity and created canvas out of local car park. The area also served as a place for practising correct drive through intersection.

Accompanying events related to the European Mobility Week and Car Free Day campaigns offered a freestyle exhibition and exhibition of historical means of transport.

Cycling rides present a traditional part of traffic campaigns. Less traditional means of transport can be also used for moving in a city, as the inhabitants of the Healthy City of **Mladá Boleslav** had a chance to make sure in the night city skating. The Healthy City of **Hodonín** prepared a freestyle bikes competition and a consecutive exhibition intended in particular for the young inhabitants. The Family Centre also organised physical activities, slalom and competitions for children. The city council of the Healthy City of **Vsetín** regularly organises trip with a resolution “each year one village further”, this year directed to the Huslenky village. Celebrations of the Car Free Day in Vsetín itself took place in particular in the closed section of Smetanova Street, transformed into a place full of entertainment with exterior café, reading room and social games. Its objective was to show the inhabitants what a pleasant place street without cars can become. Employees of the municipal authorities and Company for Community Work Vsetín moved in the Smetanova Street in stylish period costume in order to sketch in the atmosphere. The musicians from basic art school in Vsetín provided musical support, flower stand was yet another part of the promenade. The Healthy City of **Pelhřimov** prepared, besides the children’s games and competitions, in collaboration with local Good Day Agency an introduction of a wooden riding bike. Means of transport of past and

future years were to be seen by the visitors of Car Free Day Campaign on Masarykovo Square in the Healthy City of **Uherský Brod**. On public display there was also horse-cart and electric-bus with barrier-free



A part of the EMW in Vsetín were also “Days of Barriers Inside and Around Us” attended by the Mayor of Vsetín and HCCZ Chairman, Jiří Čunek as a wheelchair invalid. Mr. Čunek on a wheelchair personally tested the barrier-free access to the post office that Czech Post promised to build last year. The post office will be barrier-free until the end of this year.

entry. Barrier-free buses have been also introduced in the course of the campaign in the Healthy City of **Uherské Hradiště** that among others organised the event called “In the City without My Car” – the closed Nádražní Street was transformed into a rest zone with rich programme for children and adults. The Healthy City of **Říčany** also prepared rich programme as a part of Happening on Masarykovo Náměstí, to which access of motor vehicles on August 22 was restricted. Among others the new hybrid Lexus automobile was introduced here. The car is equipped with two engines – combustion and electric – thus increasing the efficiency of energy utilisation and reducing the emissions of harmful substances.

From Earth climate exhibitions to realisation of particular permanent measures in traffic

This year’s campaigns of the European Mobility Week and the Car Free Day put emphasis on the connection between transport and climate changes. The Healthy City of **Kopřivnice** organised a **Debating League** to the subject of climate protection. Its participants from the ranks of 7th-9th grade students prepared questions to experts, related



to measurement of emissions in Kopřivnice, extensive parking areas by supermarkets or possibilities of cycling track construction. In Kopřivnice there was an interactive exhibition dedicated to cycling



Nádražní Street in Uherské Hradiště was closed to motorized transport for the whole day of 22.9. Everyone could try there, what it would be like to transform this street into a pedestrian zone and everyone could also express his/her opinion in a small survey.

tracks, where citizens could throw letters with their opinions into a box and vote. An exhibition titled "Let's Protect the Global Climate" also took place in Municipal Library of Ladislav z Boskovic in the Healthy City of **Moravská Třebová**. On August 19th at the building of municipal office there were public talks about weak spots of the city from the point of view of traffic. The Healthy City of **Třeboň** carried out in the course of the EMW measurement of emissions at Klášterní Courtyard, for comparative purposes this was repeated in the course of the CFD. In Třeboň they have been realising measures for improvement of conditions of pedestrians and cyclists, e.g. in a form of bike stands, for a long period. The planned purchase of laser speed camera will help to improve the traffic situation in the Healthy City of **Kostelec nad Ohří**. The commenced construction of cycling track Kostelec nad Orlicí- Doudleby nad Orlicí will also help to ensure safety of traffic. The Healthy City of **Boskovice** plans, as a part of permanent measures, construction of park-and-ride-yard and modification of Hradní Street to a rest zone, which would help the overall traffic calming in the historical city centre.

Support to campaigns for sustainable mobility was expressed on the Car Free Day in a number of cities by providing free public transport, arranged in a collaboration with its providers, as was the case e.g. in **Hodonín, Vsetín, Mladá Boleslav, Brno, Litomyšl, Strakonice, Prostějov** and others. Ever growing number of cities and municipalities are trying to show their inhabitants at least once a year, how the streets or squares could look like in the event these were closed to motorized transport. This is why some city parts are closed to traffic on the Car Free Day and these streets are transformed into rest zones, such as in **České Budějovice, Uherský Brod, Říčany** or **Letovice**.

The Healthy City of Chrudim organised within the framework of the European Mobility Week Campaign a conference on the subject of "Safe Route to School"

Representatives of the Ministry of Transport and BESIP have met with pedagogues of Chrudim's kindergartens and basic schools and other guests at the conference that took place under the auspices of the Transport Research Centre. The meeting participants exchanged experience and searched for suggestions from traffic education, suitable for inclusion in the Framework Educational Programme.

The conference called "Safe Route to School" took place on August 19th in lecture hall of Chrudim Museum as a part of homonymous project, whose objective is to teach children how to behave in traffic safely and reduce thus the number of traffic accidents with involvement of children. The event took place under the support by the City of Chrudim, Pardubice Region and Ministry of Environment, Czech Radio Pardubice was the media partner. Representative of the Transport Research Centre introduced at the beginning of the conference the methodology of the Safe Route to School Project and at the same



In presence of expert HCCZ partners and representatives of kindergartens and basic schools in Chrudim there has taken place the Safe Route to School conference, intended in particular for pedagogues. The meeting dealt among others with possibilities of more effective interconnection of traffic education and educational programmes at schools.

time reminded current elements of traffic education in Framework Educational Programme. The present have been familiarised with practical realisation of the project in school and also with realisation of **Safe Routes** in Chrudim's **Healthy Kindergarten of Dr. J. Malík**. The representative of the Czech red Cross reminded the integration of first aid elements into the Safe Route to School project. The manager of criminality prevention and coordinator of the Healthy City Project and Local Agenda 21 then summarised realisation of the project in the Healthy City of **Chrudim**. Good practice examples from other cities have been also presented. Representative of the Children's Parliament Brno familiarised the present with competition to the subject of Safe Route to School, great interest from the part of those participating has been roused by the canvas game "Are We Going the Safe Way?". Outputs from conference and from the whole project will be further utilised for block and project teaching of traffic education at kindergartens and basic schools.

Database
BEST PRACTICE

Examples of good practice from other areas can be found in
Database of Good Practice Examples - <http://www.dobrapraxe.cz>.

In-depth information related to programmes of the campaign of Healthy Cities and municipalities can be found at <http://www.nszm.cz/etm>.

RESOURCES AND PROJECTS

Resources

Financial resources reserved for the segment of transport basically comprise two wide areas. These support construction of both the "classic" infrastructure, e.g. new roads and they can be also in large extent used for realisation of cycling tracks or elements of traffic calming.

Resources financing classic traffic solutions such as new roads or railways construction or extension of the existing ones.

From Czech resources we may take into consideration mostly the State Fund of Infrastructure Development (SFID, <http://www.sfdi.cz>). From the point of view of financing from EU, the Operational Programme Infrastructure has been used in ending programming period of 2004-6. This programme is replaced in the programming period 2007-13 by the Operational Programme Transport (OPT). The Operational Programme Transport should be from the point of view of target fulfilment in accordance with traffic interventions focused on regional level within the Regional Operation Programmes. It has been already decided that the ČR will receive from the EU in years 2007-13 a record breaking amount of **161 billions** crowns for transport infrastructure. EU will refund up to 85% of approved project costs. Documents are available at <http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz>. In particular on freight, logistics etc. is focused the MoT CR programme Marco Polo.

Resources financing traffic calming, traffic solutions in municipalities, road repairs, cycling tracks etc.

Many of these affairs will be also possibly financed from OPT or SFID. Individual Regional Operational Programmes definitely present interesting opportunities (ROP, also at <http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz>). Many ROP have a significant percentage of resources allocated to traffic solutions (e.g. NUTS II South-East). Municipalities under 200 inhabitants definitely should not omit the Programme of Rural Development CR 2007-13 (available e.g. here <http://forum.isu.cz>).



Financial support can be also found for **traffic-preventive events and campaigns** (The European Mobility Week, Car Free Day). For instance the grant programmes of the **Ministry of Environment of the CR** can be also considered. Another from possible interesting resources, in this case for research programmes, is the actually announced programme of **Science and Research of the Ministry of Transport of the CR** called "Support of Realisation of Sustainable Development of Transport". Find out more information at <http://www.mdcr-vyzkum.cz>.

The MoT of the CR announced in 2005 the **State Programme for Support of Energy Savings and Utilisation of Renewable Resources in the Branch of Transport for the year 2006** that should support realisations and measures leading to economic utilisation of energy and reduction of environmental strain in the whole CR. The programme should among others support implementation of energetic management in transport and support non-motorized transport (cycling, walking). It is intended in the first place for local

self-governments of cities and municipalities, budget and non-profit organisations; more at <http://www.mdcr.cz/cs/Programy+a+projekty/Uspora+energie>.

Projects

Safe cities are a significant contribution to sustainable transport

Within the framework of the European Mobility Week, velocity measurement has taken place in five Healthy Cities – Chrudim, Moravská Třebová, Orlová, Příbram and Vsetín – that was aimed at finding out in what way the tightening of the Highway Code reflected in real behaviour of drivers. The findings have shown that from the overall number of 5860 measured vehicles, 1622 exceeded the speed limit. A sad record is held by driver who drove through Orlová at 111 km/h.

Experience from many European cities shows that effective solution of the speeding problem is the installation of permanent measuring devices. These are in operation 24 hours a day and are able to record all driving offences committed. Their preventive effect is therefore higher than that of random driving speed checks. In connection to introduction of measuring devices, Czech cities usually deal with two basic problems: **financial expenses for provision of technical equipment** and the **ability to process technically** all offences that may be committed in great numbers.



Solution to both these aspects comes with the **Safe Cities** Project that offers the cities and municipalities the installation of permanent measuring devices for speed control and possibly also control of passage through intersection through a red light, in a form of lease. In addition to measuring devices the authorities of cities and municipalities within the project have information system for administration of driving offences (SDO) and administrative-legal support available. How to join the project and other information can be found at <http://www.bezpecnamesta.cz>.

RECAP

Transport and technology for sustainable development have been introduced for the ninth time

In Karlovy Vary in the period of 13th-15th August there was the **ninth year of international conference Transport and Technology for Sustainable Development, organised by the Community for Sustainable Life – Karlovy Vary in collaboration with Technology Centre of Academy of Science of the CR and the Healthy Cities of the Czech Republic.**

In the course of three days the participants could hear almost thirty lectures that dealt with actual issue of **sustainable transport** and **utilisation of alternative resources in energetics and transport** on the level of cities, municipalities and regions. Examples of good

practice in utilising renewable resources and alternative fuels, new technologies, current legislation and financial resources from the given area of the CR and EU have been introduced in four blocks. Information



Advantages of the so called multi-comfort house, characteristic by its low energy demand have been presented by Robert Schild of the Saint-Gobain company. The conference in Karlovy Vary has been attended by more than a hundred of participants.

about actual projects and programmes and practical experience have been presented by foreign guests and representatives of cities, municipalities and private sector of the CR.

The "Crowd-puller" of the first day was the presentation by Patrik Widerberg of Swedish **Malmö**, who spoke about selected measures for improvement of traffic situation in the city. Sweden belongs among the leaders in the field of introducing ecological technologies in transport and other so called traffic calming elements. How to reduce energy demand of buildings and save thus millions in heating or air-conditioning costs, was the topic of another foreign guest of French company **Saint Gobain**, **Mr. Robert Schild**. Mrs. **Jana Cicmanová** of French organisation **Energie Cités** spoke about utilisation of EU Structural Funds in the field of energetics and transport. Another lectures brought examples of particular solutions to traffic problems as well as possibilities of how to reduce energy dependence on traditional resources and save thus considerable financial means. A total of six Healthy Cities presented themselves at the conference.

Further information including photo documentation and presentations can be found at <http://www.nszm.cz/udrzitelnadoprava>.

IN BRIEF

City reflections

HCCZ

The first **Seminar of the Government Council for Sustainable Development**, focused on media promotion and communication of sustainable development in the CR, took place in the representative areas of Lichtenštejnský Palace at Na Kampě, Prague, on 2.10. The meeting was attended by representatives of resorts, journalist community and other experts who discussed the possibilities of how to spread awareness of this concept in journalist and public sphere. One of the outputs was an agreement on the fact that sustainable development must be always connected with particular event or topic so that its meaning is comprehensible for general public. More at <http://www.udrzitelnny-rozvoj.cz>.

The CR, Prague

In Prague on Friday August 8th there was meeting of the jury of the first year of open "**National Competition of GOLDEN DECIBEL 2006**", that awards projects and products in the field of noise strain reduction.

16 Projects of the Czech Republic, Poland, Denmark and Germany applied, 9 projects fulfilling the competition criteria was evaluated. The awareness-raising acoustic treatment programme of the Healthy City of Brno called "**Killer Noise**" advanced due to its originality into the European finals in the category "Perception and Education". More at <http://www.zubarno.cz/showpage.php?name=programy>.

Kostelec nad Orlicí

The Healthy City of Kostelec nad Orlicí in Prague on 21.9. received an award in a form of third prize within the competition "**Traffic Calming in Cities and Municipalities of the CR 2006**" which is regularly announced by the Partnership Foundation. Mrs. Ivana Červinková received a symbolic cheque worth 35 thousand crowns for realisation of circular intersection.

HCCZ

The actual topic of preparation and drawing of resources from EU was the main subject of another **methodical HCCZ Seminar** intended for politicians and representatives of member municipalities that took place in the Healthy City of **Valašské Meziříčí** on 26.9. The seminar provided participants with **up-to-date information** about preparation of funds and programmes and about possibilities and conditions of their drawing. An **example procedure** on the regional level has been introduced by representatives of the Healthy **Vysočina** region. The discussants further presented their won experience with project drafting, pointed at some bureaucratic "catches" and showed interest in more examples of how to prepare for the programming period 2007-13. Other information including individual presentations and summary reports can be found at <http://www.nszm.cz/ms>.

HCCZ

In the period of 9.-13.10 there was another year of **Invox** and **Digitex** Fairs held in the area of Brno exhibition grounds. HCCZ also had its own stand from 9. until 11.10. as a part of the second year of the project called **Days of Regions, Cities and Municipalities (DRCM)**, that HCCZ is a partner to. The association has been also presented by its director Petr Švec at the ceremonial (DRCM) opening. More at <http://www.nszm.cz/invox>.

Calendar of events

23.10. - The expert seminar "**Profiles of Urban and Regional Health – Health Status Indicators**" organised in collaboration of the Healthy Cities of the Czech Republic and the Ministry of Health, is going to place at the State Health Institute in Prague.

31.10. - Already third year of **Sustainable Development Forum**, summoned by the Council for Sustainable Development, is going to take place in Lichtenštejnský Palace at Kampa, Prague. In addition to representatives of Finnish EU chairmanship, Finnish embassy in Prague and representatives of top domestic institutions, representatives of the Czech regions will also have a presentation.

1.-3.11. - **The Autumn HCCZ School 2006** – accredited education programme for coordinators and politicians from city halls of the Healthy Cities, Municipalities and Regions is going to take place in the Healthy City of Pelhřimov. This is a concluding block of the whole programme and those participants, who attended the previous HCCZ Schools, will receive the "grand" certificate. The last meeting will be focused on the issue of *How to manage and evaluate the Healthy City Project and Local Agenda 21*.

All website references are generally in Czech language.

OUR NEXT TOPIC

The topic for the month for October is going to be
"Planning for Health"



HEALTHY CITIES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC: Topic of the month

October 2006: Healthy Urban Planning












Awareness raising **campaigns** and **activities** in the widest scope (physical and psychological welfare)

Expert & community urban health planning

Health Days Campaign

Weeks of Mental Health Campaign

EVENTS:

4.-17.10.2006
Health Days
Community Campaign

23.10.2006
Healthy Urban Planning - Health Plans
Seminar of HCCZ and Ministry of Health of the CR

FURTHER INFORMATION:

27.10.2006
HCCZ Bulletin

<http://www.healthycities.cz>

CONTACTS



Healthy Cities CZ, Srobárova 48, 100 42 Prague 10, Czech Republic
T: +420 602 500 639 | E: info@nszm.cz | W: www.nszm.cz

Petr Svec, National Coordinator of the Healthy Cities Project
(The photographs were provided by the archives of HCCZ Office and member cities, municipalities and regions.)



This issue was supported by the European Social Fund and the Czech Ministry of Environment