



Investing in your future

PROJECT „INTEGRATED URBAN TRANSPORT IN BURGAS”

Operational Programme Regional Development 2007-2013
invests in integrated urban transport projects



Bulgaria, 1202 Sofia
17-19 Kiril i Metodi, str.
(inside the MRDPW building)

tel.: +359 2 9405 439
fax: +359 2 987 74 50

e-mail: opr@mrdb.government.bg



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Within Priority axis 1: „Sustainable and Integrated Urban Development”, Operation 1.5 „Sustainable Urban Transport Systems” under OPRD are provided for grants to the amount of BGN411 million for development of integrated urban transport in the major cities of the country – Sofia, Plovdiv, Varna, Burgas, Pleven, Russe and Stara Zagora. The operation will focus mainly on creating more effective and speedy urban transport with less energy consumption, construction of more accessible secondary infrastructure of public transport networks and introduction of environmentally friendly modes of public transport.

The development of sustainable and environmentally friendly urban transport systems is of significant importance. This means that major cities should aim at increasing the number of passengers using public urban transport, as well as to elaborate programmes for construction of bicycle lanes, bicycle parking areas, etc. This will be only possible if public transport and intermodal systems are well developed, efficient and attractive. The emphasis on the advantages of public transport systems may contribute to geographic and social integration of regions and cities and provide equal access to the labour market and social services.



Project „Integrated Urban Transport in Burgas,,

Among the seven major cities, Burgas demonstrated the highest degree of readiness for implementation of a project within Operation 1.5 ‘Sustainable Urban Transport Systems’. The project proposal of Burgas Municipality, submitted in September, 2010 was approved by OPRD Managing Authority in November, 2010. The project is based on an integrated approach for improving the urban transport systems in Burgas, as the objective is public transport in the city to become:

- attractive
- accessible
- comfortable
- safe
- environmentally friendly
- speedy



The total amount of project is BGN 131 million, of which BGN 110 million are grants.

The project provides a set of measures for modernization of public transport and encouraging transportation in alternative ways (on foot or by bicycle), as well as studies for further investments to build on the results achieved.



The activities for the modernization of public transport include:

- Updating the bus stock: 28 diesel and 39 methane low-emission buses will be purchased.
- Introduction of a new optimized and attractive bus route network and a system for speedy bus transport (BRT): the project envisages optimization of public transport routes and reduction of journey time. Special BRT corridor will be constructed with marked and segregated bus lanes.
- Updating the bus depot, including a diesel and methane station for servicing busses.
- Renovation of bus terminals and construction of a central bus station with attractive design, connecting the BRT route with the city downtown.
- The project envisages also introduction of integrated electronic ticket system and a system informing the passengers in real time at stops and on buses. A single unit for traffic management and control will be created, supported by surveillance and control of public transport systems. A specially constructed traffic lights system will give priority to urban transport buses.

Alternative modes – components of sustainable mobility:

To encourage use of alternative forms of transportation, the project provides for improving the accessibility of public transport, construction of safe facilities for crossing of four key locations within the city,

as well as an integrated system of bike lanes. A specially organized campaign will promote the use of public transport and bicycles as an alternative to private cars.

Studies for future investments:

Within the project will be elaborated a concept for further upgrade of the BRT system after its successful introduction, as well as a



concept for implementation of an integrated system for traffic management. To achieve an integrated effect, further possibilities will be explored to construct buffer parking areas in key zones of the city, as well as a bus terminal for inter-settlement transport. Thus, it will be ensured building on the project results, as well as development of sustainable urban transport system in Burgas.

