



Call for Follower Cities

*Is your city concerned about urban road congestion?
Do you want to improve your planning and modelling
practices while learning how to implement walking and
cycling measures to reduce congestion?*

The EU FLOW project is currently accepting applications from cities interested in becoming Follower Cities for learning and exchange on improving local planning and modelling practices to maximise the congestion reducing potential of walking and cycling measures.

FLOW's goal is to put walking and cycling on an equal footing with motorised modes as a solution to urban congestion. To do this, FLOW has brought together experts in the field of traffic modelling (PTV Group) with leading walking and cycling experts (Walk21 and the European Cyclists' Federation) to develop a user-friendly methodology to assess the ability of walking and cycling measures to reduce congestion. FLOW is supported by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 programme.

Follower City activities include:

- **Three 1.5-day in-person workshops** in FLOW partner cities where they will learn the latest on multi-modal transport modelling and receive site visits and networking opportunities. Cities will learn about the FLOW congestion assessment methodology and monitoring tools, hear about project findings and the latest research in the field and be introduced to walking and cycling measures that most effectively address urban congestion. The goal is to create a solid network of cities that can learn from one another on an ongoing basis.
 - Workshop 1: autumn 2016 in Gdynia (in conjunction with the annual CIVITAS Forum)
 - Workshop 2: spring 2017
 - Workshop 3: spring 2018
- **Three webinars** on walking and cycling as congestion reducing measures
- **Interactive online course** on integrating walking and cycling into transport modelling



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 635998

FLOW offers:

- Trainings (in-person and online) tailored to cities' needs and knowledge gaps on multi-modal modelling of walking and cycling in urban areas provided by leading experts (PTV Group, European Cyclists' Federation, Walk21)
- Cutting-edge information on multimodal transport modelling for congestion reduction
- Learning and exchange opportunities both face-to-face and online
- International networking opportunities
- Reimbursement of travel and accommodation costs for workshop participation



What we ask of you:

- Commit to active participation and sharing of experiences by signing an agreement
- Attendance at 3 workshops between autumn 2016 and spring 2018
- Timely completion of an online questionnaire prior to each workshop (to structure the workshop and provide a starting point for discussion)
- Preparation before each workshop (i.e. reading briefing documents, preparing a short presentation in English if requested)

Who is eligible:

- Any local or regional public authority responsible for urban transport issues, i.e. municipalities, regions, public transport authority or public agencies.
- Applicants from the EU28, Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia, FYROM, Turkey, Switzerland, Norway, Israel, Albania or Moldova.

Selection of the FLOW Follower Cities will be based on creating a good balance of cities – geographically and by city size – which are facing congestion problems and would like to use walking and cycling measures to solve them while improving their local planning and modelling practices. A basic understanding of traffic modelling practices and software is required.

All activities will take place in English.

*Please complete the application form here: <http://h2020-flow.eu/learning-exchange/apply/>
by 12 February 2016.*

25-30 cities will be selected. Successful applicants will be notified by 14 March 2016.

For more information about the FLOW project, please visit www.h2020-flow.eu

Please note: Parallel to this call for 25-30 Follower Cities, FLOW is also calling for a group of **nine Exchange Cities**, requiring a higher level of commitment and participation and offering a modest budget.

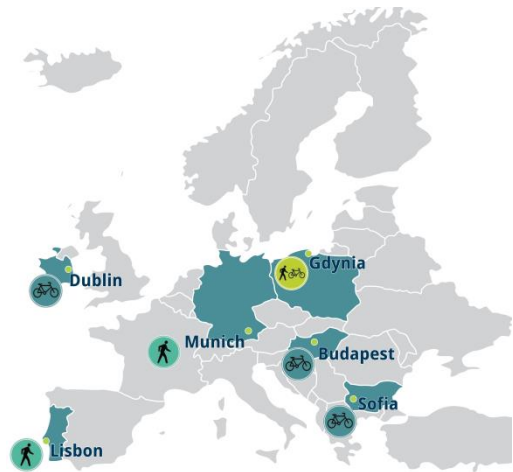
About the FLOW project

Why FLOW?

Despite the acknowledged benefits of walking and cycling in terms of health, travel-time reliability and cost effectiveness, the effects of walking and cycling measures on urban road congestion are still not clearly understood.

FLOW sees a need for:

- a methodological link between (currently poorly connected) walking and cycling and urban road congestion.
- a paradigm shift wherein non-motorised transport, often seen from a transport policy perspective simply as a nice “extra”, is placed on an equal footing with motorised modes.
- improving the understanding of walking and cycling measures that have the potential to reduce urban congestion.



FLOW MISSION:

The mission of the FLOW project is to place non-motorised transport on an equal footing with motorised modes with regard to urban road congestion. It will achieve this by developing a methodology and tools to assess the ability of walking and cycling measures to reduce congestion in European cities.

FLOW OBJECTIVES:

- Define the role of walking and cycling in congestion reduction
- Develop and apply tools for assessing the congestion reducing potential of various walking and cycling measures;
- Increase awareness of the congestion reduction potential of walking and cycling;
- Actively support take-up of congestion reducing walking and cycling measures by public administrations;
- Foster the market for new walking and cycling products and services for congestion reduction;
- Communicate congestion reduction facts of walking and cycling.

MODELLING

There is a long history of modelling motorised transport. Such models are widely accepted for what-if analyses of large-scale infrastructure projects as well as local operational traffic optimisation. Walking and cycling, however, have often played a very minor role in these models. With FLOW, we want to improve the methodologies and accuracy of modelling walking and cycling and raise awareness of the benefits of such integrated, fully multimodal micro- and macroscopic models.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Policy makers and investors want to know about the outputs and outcomes of (envisaged or implemented) policies and measures. Transport policies and measures often have to undergo ex ante impact assessments to prove value for money to receive funding. Impact assessment covers the estimation, analysis and evaluation of all kinds of interventions. Cost-benefit analysis (CBA) and multi-criteria analysis (MCA) are common methods to assess a variety of impacts (economic, social and environmental). FLOW is developing key performance indicators to assess the impact of walking and cycling measures on congestion and a set of outcome indicators to assess wider socio-economic costs and benefits.