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PRAGUE 2023 - TOGETHER ON THE ROAD AGAIN

XXVII[™] WORLD ROAD CONGRESS 2023

PRAGUE CONGRESS CENTRE, PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

Cycling

Transport plays a key role in sustainable development and economic growth on a global scale. Active modes of transport, such as cycling, are indispensable in achieving our climate goals. In accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals, cycling is an affordable mode of transport that provides access to education, jobs and community activities. It eases the financial burden of transportation costs, allowing households to allocate resources to other critical needs, fostering economic independence and resilience. It also improves people's health and well-being. The COVID-19 pandemic changed people's behaviour and perception of the cycling, especially in urban areas. More and more cities and towns are developing cycling infrastructure, giving more space to cyclists by creating dedicated lanes or more parking places for bikes. The investment in better cycling conditions is evident, with an increasing number of e-bikes or shared bicycles on the streets. Reflecting on the goal Sustainable cities and communities, increased cycling makes cities and human settlements more inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable as cycling is affordable, safe, nonpolluting, healthy, and promotes a sustainable economy. On the one hand it is largely independent from complex high-tech technology and therefore an extremely resilient mode of transport. On the other hand modern communication and e-cycling technologies integrate cycling into Intelligent Transportation Systems of cities. The higher the modal share of walking, cycling and public transport the more sustainable the transport system is.

We would like to hear from the delegations about the actions they are taking to promote cycling and how to ensure synergies within the concept or micromobility and with other modes of transport. Bikes have also become an integral part of logistic supply chains, contributing to more sustainable freight transport. In this regard, delegations can elaborate on how to create conditions for the use of cycling freight transport.

Cycling and Sustainable Development Goals. Available at <u>Sustainable Development Goals & Cycling - United Nations</u> Western Europe (unric.org).