

UITP Press Office

PRESS RELEASE NO PASSENGER LEFT BEHIND: TRIPS PROJECT REACHES THE LAST STOP ON THE JOURNEY TO ACCESSIBLE MOBILITY FOR ALL



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PLEDGING TO PROVIDE SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY FOR ALL

Partner organisations from the TRIPS project have joined forces one last time to mark the conclusion of this ground-breaking research project.

TRIPS (**TR**ansport Innovation for **P**ersons with disabilities needs **S**atisfaction), was an EU-funded H2020 research project focusing on making public transport and shared services more accessible for persons with disabilities, elderly passengers and those with reduced mobility.

UITP has been honoured to have played an important role in the project for the past four years.

Today, 87 million European citizens face long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairment – that's one in four adults.

By ratifying the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the EU and all Member States have committed to respect the rights of people with disabilities, including the right to mobility and independent living.

In practice however, these rights have not yet been implemented in large parts of the EU and many of today's transport systems remain inaccessible.

A NEW APPROACH TO DESIGNING SYSTEMS FREE OF MOBILITY BARRIERS

Over the space of four years, the project partners collaboratively designed and demonstrated practical steps to empower people with mobility challenges, and for such users to play a central role in the design of inclusive digital mobility solutions.

This was done through a co-design process, empowers all actors in the process – most notably users - to participate, based on shared knowledge and equal partnerships. Unfortunately, this is not yet a commonly adopted practice in many industries including public transport.

Building on the partners' expertise, TRIPS developed a 'co-design-for-all methodology', which was piloted in seven European cities – Lisbon, Zagreb, Bologna, Cagliari, Brussels, Sofia and Stockholm.

"It is pivotal for public transport and shared services to remain a feasible option for everyone in society. I am incredibly proud of the work from TRIPS, utilising co-creation as a tool for inclusive transport. Operators, authorities and mobility providers want to ensure they are funding mobility projects that work for all, and to develop long-lasting frameworks and standards that work in everyone's interests. The project may be ending but this is only the beginning."

Hilia Boris Iglesia, Head of Service Excellence Unit at UITP

POLICY AND INDUSTRY RECOMMENDATIONS...

Based on the project's research findings, a roadmap was developed which outlines the industry and policy recommendations for adopting citizen-driven mobility innovations as standard industry practice.

UITP has published a summary of the extensive roadmap and offers details on key actionable recommendations:

- 1. Adopt a participatory innovation approach
- 2. Adopt user-centric KPIs on accessibility
- 3. Set inclusive innovation priorities
- 4. Commit to a new set of organisational values

Only by working with users can the public transport authorities, operators and service providers truly identify the key barriers, prioritise innovation opportunities and design the systems that can provide mobility for all.

As part of the TRIPS project, UITP signed the "<u>Lecco declaration of Accessible and Inclusive Public Transport</u>" and we are proud to see more members getting on board.

The declaration provides a framework for aligning key principles that organisations can use to improve implementation of accessibility to achieve genuinely accessible public transport.

Accessible mobility is key to creating and maintaining a public transport sector for all.

Read the final TRIPS Project Brief

FOR EDITORS

(UITP) The International Association of Public Transport works to enhance quality of life and economic well-being by supporting and promoting sustainable transport in urban areas worldwide. As a passionate champion of sustainable



urban mobility, UITP is internationally recognised for its work to advance the development of this critical policy agenda. With more than **1900 members** in **100 countries**, UITP has a long history to its name, and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. Visit the <u>newsroom</u> and follow us on <u>Twitter</u>.

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