

**UNECE**

# Recommendations for Green and Healthy Sustainable Transport – “Building Forward Better”

## THE PEP

Transport, Health  
and Environment  
Pan-European Programme



**UNECE**



**World Health  
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR  
**Europe**



**UNITED NATIONS**

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

# **Recommendations for Green and Healthy Sustainable Transport – “Building Forward Better”**



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The “Recommendations for Green and Healthy Sustainable Transport – Building Forward Better” were developed thanks to the hard work of members of task force between April 2020 and January 2021. Experts from around the world dedicated a significant amount of their time to discussing, analysing and identifying the challenges and outcomes of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic for the transport sector. Their deliberations led to the formulation of the recommendations proposed within the present publication.

THE PEP secretariat was able to compile this publication thanks to the contributions and dedication of the following task force members, who authored parts of the document:

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THE PEP Bureau and Steering Committee commented on an advanced draft of the publication.

## CONTENTS

<b>I.</b>	<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
A.	Background.....	1
B.	Current situation of the transport sector and outlook.....	2
1.	The transport sector pre-2020.....	2
2.	Impacts of transport on environment and health .....	3
3.	The impact of COVID-19 on transport .....	7
4.	Air pollution during COVID-19 restrictions .....	11
<b>II.</b>	<b>Actions for green and healthy sustainable transport</b> .....	<b>12</b>
A.	A new future for transport – a call for action.....	12
B.	The development of key recommendations .....	13
C.	Theme 1 “Consideration of public space allocation for all modes of movement in the urban, peri-urban and rural environments, with emphasis on the opportunities offered through spatial planning and infrastructure investment” .....	15
D.	Theme 2 “Increasing investment in public transport to meet current and future needs, as well as to ensure that it is safe (and attractive to use) for users and workers” .....	21
E.	Theme 3 “Encourage the adoption of e-mobility solutions as a fundamental part of powering public transport and active mobility” .....	27
F.	Theme 4 “Introduce mobility management solutions to manage transport demand in an environment-friendly and healthy way, taking into account the user-perspective and raising awareness of transport users, to facilitate the switch to greener modes of transport and to make the transport system more efficient in the urban, suburban and rural environments”.....	32
G.	Theme 5 “Facilitate the adoption of innovation and technology in transport to increase accessibility and safety and to reduce emissions and environmental impacts, leading to increased health benefits” .....	37
H.	Theme 6 “Supporting active mobility as a sustainable and healthy mode of transport.”.....	39
I.	Theme 7 “Rebuilding the transport system in a fair and inclusive way, while avoiding social disparities and particularly taking into account the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in society. Taking into account the social dimension of pandemics, as well as the need for a just transition towards a green and healthy transport system”.....	43
<b>III.</b>	<b>Key recommendations</b> .....	<b>47</b>
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Next steps</b> .....	<b>52</b>
	<b>Bibliography</b> .....	<b>54</b>

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure I	Pollutant emissions from transport (composite index of nitrogen oxides (NO <sub>x</sub> ), non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs) and particulate matter (PM <sub>10</sub> )) in European Union-28, 1990–2017 (index 2000 = 100).....	4
Figure II	Percentage of the urban population of the European Union exposed to air pollution concentrations above European Union and World Health Organization reference values during the period 2016–2018.....	5
Figure III	Deaths and injuries per 100,000 passenger cars, ECE region, 2009–2018.....	6
Figure IV	Weekly vehicle miles travelled in Berlin, London, New York and Paris, as a percentage of pre-COVID-19 level, 2 March–22 June 2020 .....	7
Figure V	Use of public transport in selected cities, 15 January 2020–9 January 2021....	8
Figure VI	Use of bus and underground railway in London, 16 March–17 April 2020.....	9
Figure VII	Use of public transport in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 1–3 May 2020 to 8–10 January 2021 .....	10
Figure VIII	Avoid-Shift-Improve instruments.....	14
Figure IX	Proposed micromobility definition and classification.....	28



# I. INTRODUCTION

## A. BACKGROUND

The pan-European region has been at the forefront in the development of sustainable mobility solutions focusing on health, environment and prosperity. The Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) brings the countries of the region together, unites three core sectors of the economy – transport, health and environment – and provides countries with the opportunity to share best practice and develop new policies. It therefore provides a platform for accelerating transformation in the transport sector and making this transformation irreversible. The recommendations, developed by a task force under THE PEP, will allow member States to lock in sustainable transport solutions for the future, given the changes to the sector brought on by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

At the meeting of the Bureau of the Steering Committee of THE PEP in April 2020, member States discussed the COVID-19 situation, its impact on transport, environment and health in their countries and the need to take action. Participants agreed to establish a THE PEP Task Force on “The Development of Green and Healthy Sustainable Transport Recommendations” to facilitate the transition to a new normal with sustainable and healthy transport solutions at the heart of decision-making and “building forward better”.

The objective of the Task Force was to make **a synthesis of the “main lessons” learned** from the COVID-19 crisis and to propose **a set of recommendations** in order to support countries in making the transition to green and healthy sustainable transport:<sup>1</sup> a transition in line with the goals of THE PEP,<sup>2</sup> the Vienna Declaration of the Fifth High-Level Meeting of the Ministers of Transport, Health and Environment, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement,<sup>3</sup> to name the key processes and instruments.

The Task Force was composed of over 50 experts from national ministries, international organizations, city authorities, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia and industry. The Task Force was chaired by the Chair of THE PEP Steering Committee, Mr. Robert Thaler (Austria).

The Task Force held eight monthly virtual meetings and, based on agreed terms of reference:

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