IMPLEMENTING THE WHITE PAPER ON TRANSPORT

PERMANENT STUDY GROUP – 19/6/2013
A bit of history

- March 2011: EC publishes the White Paper on Transport “Roadmap to a Single European Transport Area”

- October 2011: EESC adopts its opinion “Roadmap to a Single European Transport Area (White Paper)” (TEN/454). Rapporteurs: Mr. Coulon and Mr. Back


- December 2012: EESC organises the conference “Achieving the goals of the White Paper on Transport: how civil society can help with delivery”

- April 2013: EESC creates the PSG “Implementing the White Paper on Transport”
The EESC should initiate an open and transparent exchange of views on the implementation of the White Paper between civil society, the Commission and other relevant players such as authorities at different levels. Involvement of youth is an important element in a dialogue;

A dialogue should largely be based on internet communication;

Conferences or other arrangements could complement the internet dialogue and provide a forum to discuss two or three subjects;

The many local initiatives that take place here and there in Europe have an uncoordinated and unstructured character that is not commensurate with the size of the challenges ahead;

Infrastructure projects should be developed in such a way as to enable citizens, civil society and relevant authorities to "gain ownership/identification" with the projects concerned.
GOALS OF THE PSG

• To increase the quality and effectiveness of specific White Paper policies by providing civil society inputs

• To promote a high level of civil society participation and involvement on transport related decision-making processes
WORKING METHODS

• Scope

• **Priority areas** for the PSG should primarily concern policy areas:

  • To be tackled by the EC in one or two years' timeframe, either legislative or non-legislative (thus targeting the **early stages of policy development**, before acts are issued):

  • Where civil society input is most likely to provide an **added value**; and

  • Where the EC has, so far, not deployed enough means to get civil society involved.

  • The PSG should not be entrusted the draft of Opinions except if they relate to improving civil society involvement in transport related decision-making processes.
WORKING METHODS

• Means of action
  • Organisation of events and dialogues with civil society organisations, stakeholders, European institutions, Member States, social and economic committees, and local authorities (in partnership with the CoR);
  • A dialogue platform on the internet;
  • Whenever deemed necessary, preparation of policy briefings or recommendations adopted by the PSG.

• Reference documents
  • Annual work programme and activity report
WORK PROGRAMME 2013-2015

• Two main interconnected pillars

Content of EU transport policy

Participatory process
Select priority White Paper actions where civil society input is most needed and impactful

- 1st meeting
- Preliminary discussion about the debate about criteria to select PSG priorities and targeted measures, and possible examples.
CONTENT OF EU TRANSPORT POLICY

- Workshop / 2nd meeting
- Identification of a set of 2 or 3 activities to be supported by the PSG

Set up a work plan to deliver a constructive civil society input regarding each of the priority White Paper actions.
What could be done about each of the selected topics? Here’s a quick brainstorm...

1. New forms of dialogues with civil society organisations in different Member States (“Going Local” type) and at the EESC
2. Internet consultations and webinars
3. PSG Members reporting on experiences from their respective countries / regions (1/2 pages documents)
4. If appropriate, policy briefings and recommendations issued by the EESC (as a final product)
PARTICIPATORY PROCESS

Identify good practice in improving transport policies through effective participatory approaches

1st meeting
- Preliminary discussion about the terms of reference of the referred study, which will:
  - Critically assess experiences and methods on constructing cooperative decision-making processes with the aim of identifying good practice
  - Propose a toolbox with a limited set of effective approaches for the EESC to bring added value in the EU policy-making process in the transport area

2nd meeting
- Discussion about the preliminary results of the study.
PARTICIPATORY PROCESS

Launch a dialogue platform on the internet

1st meeting
• Preliminary discussion about type of tool and its specifications
• Further details will be proposed by a study proposing a concept for a specific internet platform the EESC could use in order to stimulate the dialogue and cooperative decision-making for relevant pieces of transport legislation
• The platform should be adapted to the capacities of the EESC (budget, human resources, etc.)
• A limited maintenance role for the EESC

2nd meeting
• Continuation of the discussion about specificities of the dialogue framework on the internet
PARTICIPATORY PROCESS

• How the platform could look like, and which purpose could it have? Here’s a quick brainstorm...

A normal forum where participants chat with each other around certain topics

A repository of relevant documents, perhaps accepting general comments from users

A platform where documents under discussion are open for debate and improvement

[Study to present other ideas and what works better in which circumstances]
PARTICIPATORY PROCESS

Prepare draft Guidelines on the citizen and civil society involvement in transport policies and projects

1st meeting
• Preliminary discussion about the salient points of Guidelines that will serve as concrete guidance for authorities at different levels to engage citizens and civil society on transport policies and projects
• The document could detail minimum participation requirements for typical transport projects and initiatives
• Drafting should be carried out through a participatory process involving authorities (particularly municipalities), civil society organisations and stakeholders
• The process is, in this case, as important as the result. Drafting will take time
• The guidelines could be followed by a Charter available for signature by authorities
• The study already mentioned will propose a concept paper to stimulate debate and detail the drafting process

2nd meeting
• Continuation of the discussion and examination of the concept paper about the Guidelines, if already available
PARTICIPATORY PROCESS

Participation in the project “TRANSFORuM”

1st meeting

• Description
  • 24 months, 11 stakeholder meetings, 260 organisations to be involved
  • The project will initiate a forum of relevant actors and organise meetings and thematic groups
  • TRANSFORuM will produce implementation-oriented outputs, including recommendations and roadmaps of joint actions as required by the stakeholders.
  • EESC involvement
TASKS UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING

• Feedback on the White Paper actions with the highest potential for EESC intervention
  • PSG Members are welcome to send their proposals by 13 September
  • Mr. Back will sum-up and prepare a draft proposal that will be sent to PSG Members by the 1st week of October
  • Workshop and second PSG meeting to take place on November (date tbc)
• Specific ideas for the terms of reference of the study by 27 June