

PRESS RELEASE



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Ricardo-AEA to lead major European study on the future of sustainable urban transport

The European Commission has selected Ricardo-AEA to lead a project to help cities across Europe take action to improve the performance of their transport systems

The new four-year project will be carried out on behalf of the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE). It aims to develop a web-based policy support tool to help city authorities across the EU to identify and implement the most cost effective strategies for addressing major urban transport challenges. These include traffic congestion, urban air quality, carbon dioxide emissions and accidents. Ricardo-AEA will lead the work in partnership with international cities network, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, and Italian transport consultants TRT Trasporti e Territorio.

The policy support tool will be designed to enable city authorities to assess a wide range of transport policies. It will also provide users with quantified estimates of the impacts and costs of individual policy measures. In addition, the project will develop five different illustrative policy scenarios for urban transport in the EU to 2030. These will identify the actions required at the EU, national and local levels to achieve overarching EU policy objectives for cities. These objectives include those set out in the 2011 Transport White Paper such as significantly reducing CO₂ and air pollutant emissions from urban transport.

Extensive engagement with representatives from city authorities and experts will be an important feature of the study. This will help to ensure that the web-based tool is designed to meet users' needs for guidance on the development of cost-effective policy roadmaps.

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“This ambitious and exciting project aims to help cities take action to tackle Europe’s most pressing urban mobility challenges,” said Ricardo-AEA’s practice director for Sustainable Transport, Sujith Kollamthodi. “The guidance, tools and roadmaps that we will develop will be freely available to all European cities to help achieve outcomes which will last well beyond the lifetime of the project.”

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For more information on the project, email enquiry@ricardo-aea.com

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Ricardo-AEA is a new operating division of Ricardo plc comprising the former business of AEA Europe. The consultancy has an exceptional breadth of capability in energy and climate change, air quality, sustainable transport, waste management, resource efficiency and chemical risk. With around 400 staff based in the UK, the company's capabilities are underpinned by the experience gained from supporting governments and business-leaders around the world for over 40 years.

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