THE PEP Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme

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THE PEP Clearing House

The portal for user-friendly access to information on transport, health and environment in the pan-European region

THE integration   Urban transport   Demand management   Cross-cutting issues

The Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)

Ministers and high-level representatives of the transport, environment and health sectors adopted THE PEP on 5 July 2002 to effectively promote transport that is sustainable for health and the environment at the pan-European level. THE PEP provides a policy framework for implementing specific activities in selected priority areas.

The web-based THE PEP Clearing House, jointly managed by the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, promotes the collection and dissemination of information and data related to transport, health and environment, especially in the countries of eastern Europe, the Caucasus, central Asia and south-eastern Europe.

Environmental and Health effects of transport

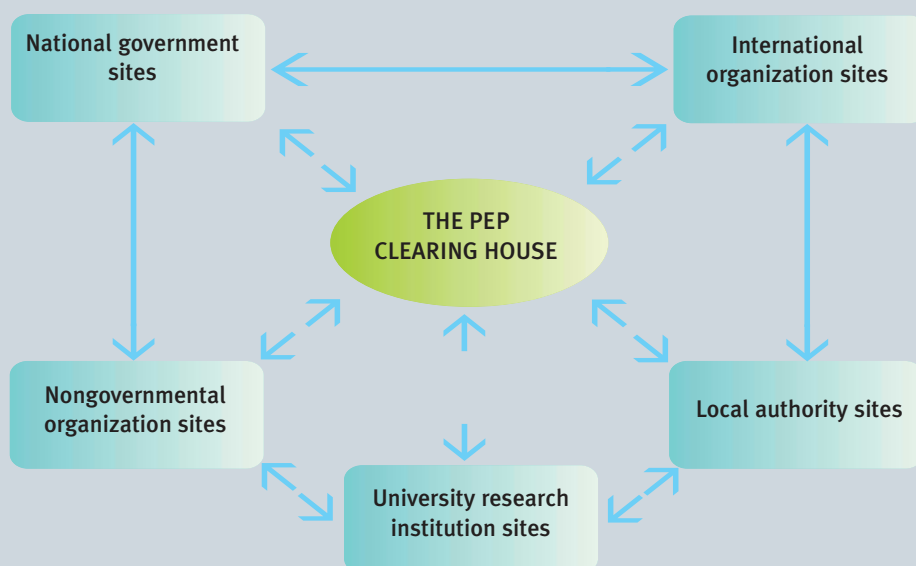| Physical inactivity	Pollution and noise	Landscapes and nature	Injuries
Obesity and cardiovascular- Diabetes - Strategies ...	Greenhouse gases - Ground-level ozone - Acidification and eutrophication ...	Habitat fragmentation - Species - Natural heritage	Causes - Figures and costs - Vulnerable groups ...

ADDED VALUE

The Clearing House aims to facilitate the flow of expert knowledge and the dissemination of information across the pan-European region. Its unique intersectoral approach fills an important information gap because:

- it covers the links and interrelationships between the three sectors of transport, environment and health; and
- it addresses the pan-European region, including eastern Europe, the Caucasus, central Asia and south-eastern Europe, offering information and advice for users in all Member States and providing information in Russian as well.

What is a clearing house?

A clearing house is an organized network of networks that uses the decentralized capabilities of the Internet. It works as a virtual centre that collects, classifies and distributes information held by recognized (authorized) sources dealing with issues relevant to the clearing house. A clearing house provides its users with search tools to access relevant information and data that are largely kept and maintained by the original sources. These may include governments, intergovernmental, regional and local authorities, national organizations, nongovernmental organizations and scientific and research institutions.

THE PEP CLEARING HOUSE: SOURCES OF INFORMATION

National government sites

International organization sites

THE PEP CLEARING HOUSE

Nongovernmental organization sites

Local authority sites

University research institution sites

INFORMATION AND SERVICES OFFERED

The Clearing House provides user-friendly and structured access to information on transport, environment and health and their integration provided by national, regional and international sources across Europe. Its search mechanisms enable users to easily identify and download information on policies, legislation, scientific developments, case studies, good practices and statistics.

The goals of the Clearing House are:

- to serve as a client-oriented information broker (one-stop shop) showcasing links, search mechanisms and interactive facilities;
- to provide opportunities for networking and the exchange of expertise and practices among policy-makers, scientists and professionals across the pan-European region;
- to maximize synergy with existing ongoing initiatives; and
- to promote the intersectoral approach of THE PEP, facilitating its effective implementation, both at the national and international levels.

As part of its further development, the Clearing House could provide additional services such as links to online databases, sources of funding at the international level and capacity-building resources, as well as electronic forums and a roster of experts.

TARGET USERS

The Clearing House seeks to meet
the specific information needs of
policy-makers, administrators,
professionals, scientists and other
stakeholders at the local, national
and regional levels.

SEARCHING FOR INFORMATION

The information in the Clearing House is organized and can be searched according to the key
priority areas of THE PEP:

- integration of environment and health considerations into transport decision-making and
  policy-making;
- urban transport;
- shifting transport demand towards more sustainable mobility; and
- cross-cutting issues: specific needs of countries in eastern Europe, the Caucasus, central
  Asia and south-eastern Europe and ecologically particularly sensitive areas of the
  pan-European region.

Sample screen

Sample screen

Sample screen

Users can also find information relating to the health and environment effects of transport,
such as injuries, physical inactivity, noise, air pollution, degradation of nature and
landscapes, and climate change.

Developing the Clearing House through a participatory and consultative process

The Clearing House has been developed under the overall supervision of THE PEP Steering Committee and the guidance of a task force comprising experts from Member States.

The needs and preferences of target users related to the content of the Clearing House were taken into account through a questionnaire survey to ensure that the expectations of the intended audiences are met.

The Clearing House is being implemented and operated on a pilot basis under the guidance of an Advisory Board in charge of developing criteria for the quality and selection of the content to be included in the Clearing House, facilitating cooperative arrangements with national nodes and developing a language policy.

FURTHER DEVELOPING AND IMPROVING THE CLEARING HOUSE

The relevance and usefulness of the Clearing House depends on its capacity to be a dynamic source of information, remain up to date and establish new links with relevant providers of information.

Users can play a very important role in improving content, relevance and quality.
Examples of contributions to the content of the Clearing House include:

- submission of news, documents, reports and publications;
- information about forthcoming meetings and events; and
- feedback with suggestions on further improvements and services that users would recommend be implemented in the Clearing House.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PEP CLEARING HOUSE, PLEASE CONTACT:

WHO Regional Office for Europe and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe secretariat: CHfeedback@thepep.org
THE PEP web site: http://unece.unog.ch/the-pep

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