Policy integration of transport, health and environment

Miodrag Pešut, UNECE
What is THE PEP?

- Tri-partite policy framework: integration of environment and health concerns into transport policy
- Focus areas: policy integration, urban transport and demand management

The framework:
- Annual steering committee: 3 sectors
- THE PEP bureau: guides process
- High-level meeting: maps future
Transport, Health and Environment at a glance

Physical inactivity

Air pollution

Climate change

Psychosocial effects

Noise

Injuries

Nature and landscape effects
THE PEP Third high-level meeting

Amsterdam Declaration
four priority goals:

1. sustainable economic development, job creation, investment in environment and health-friendly transport
2. manage sustainable mobility, promote efficient transport systems
3. reduce emissions of transport-related GHGs, air pollutants and noise
4. promote policies and actions conducive to healthy and safe transport
THE PEP: progress made

integrated policy approach

- awareness-raising, public campaigns, communication, capacity-building;
- brochure and workshops on supportive conditions for integrated policymaking;

demand management & modal shift

- investment in clean public transport;
- modal shift (from road to rail and light-rail);
- eco-driving techniques to reduce emissions and congestion;

sustainable urban transport/good practices

- mobility management schemes: Austria, Switzerland
- bicycle-friendly: Denmark, France, Holland
- accessibility for reduced mobility: UK
- investment in public transport infrastructure;
- traffic management and control systems (ITS);
Guidance on Supportive Institutional Conditions for Policy Integration of Transport, Health and Environment

- sustainability - a guiding principle of environmental policy;
- conservation of the natural environment important;
- cross-sectoral task involving all stakeholders: civil society, businesses and governments;
- can only be addressed through cooperation between institutions, specialists and other stakeholders;
- need to reduce institutional barriers;
- it also pre-supposes institutional change.
Why policy integration?

- policy integration - management of cross-cutting issues in policymaking
- includes management of policy responsibility within a single organization or sector
- integrated policymaking - both horizontal integration and vertical/intergovernmental integration, or combination of both.
Barriers to policy integration (1)

- Many barriers to policy integration are common to most countries;
- Some barriers are more common in transition countries; Administrations work in an independent and fragmented way;

Most common barriers:

(a) Administrations function in hierarchical way; innovative changes often considered to be disturbing; distribution of responsibilities in cross-sectoral processes is frequently unclear;

(b) Incentive and promotion systems are adapted to this hierarchy;

(c) Transport is often considered economically more important than health and environmental;

(d) Professionals are often trained in a specialized, sectoral way.
Barriers to policy integration (2)

(e) Multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral means are not yet so advanced;

(f) Data and information systems are poorly developed in some countries; their usefulness for cross-sectoral decision-making and implementation processes is limited;

(g) The legal framework is often a hindrance for policy integration; national or EU laws on different but related topics often are inconsistent.

(h) Motorized transport still regarded as the “backbone” of European economies; it dominates political decisions to a large extent, in particular at the national level;

(i) The “psychology of the car” is still an important factor; especially true in the case of transition countries where private cars are a symbol of freedom and prosperity;
Challenges of policy integration and way forward

Several mechanisms to promote horizontal and vertical cooperation:

• Setting up organizational arrangements can help to overcome differences and barriers;

• A central steering role; it is essential that such a body does not dominate the process, but acts as mediator and monitor;

• Intersectoral strategies, programmes and policy aims, can embed collaboration in the “professional culture” of administrative bodies.
The policy integration spectrum

Integrated policy

Overall governmental strategy to determine inter-departmental goals, targets, policies and funding allocation.

Establishing government priorities by laying down main lines of policy and priorities.

Setting parameters for organizations (by an inter-organizational body) that define what organizations must not do, rather than prescribing what they should do.

Arbitration of inter-organizational differences if other means cannot resolve differences of views.

Search for consensus by inter-organizational cooperation through, for example, joint committees and project teams.

Avoiding divergences among ministries and departments by ensuring that a government speaks with one voice.

Consultation with other ministries and departments in the process of formulating its own policies or positions.

Communication to other ministries and departments about issues arising and proposals for action.

Independent decision-making by ministries and departments.

Fragmented policy
Capacity-building and awareness-raising

• Exchange of good practice, (training workshops) to build intersectoral capacity and overcome barriers; international exchange of experience can also support this perception;

• Regular workshops and training activities to build intersectoral capacity, including instruments and tools already at hand to foster integrative decision-making.

• Job rotation can to promote vertical and horizontal working relationships;

Other tools and instruments related to administrative structures and processes:

• Management structures responsible for monitoring and assessment of cross-cutting issues;

• Good practice benchmarking and competition;

• Monitoring and reporting;
Benchmarking, monitoring and reporting

Evaluation of the integration process is essential;

Availability of reliable, up-to-date data combined with effective information systems;

Benchmarking enables organizations to evaluate their processes in relation to best practice;

Essential steps:
• Identification of problem areas;
• Identification of organizations that are leaders in the identified area;
• Definition of indicators for performance in the specific field;
• Identification and analysis of performance gaps;
• Definition of objectives and strategies to close gaps and enhance performance;
• Development of an action plan;
• Evaluation of progress and results.
The role of the public

Public debates and public participation are essential:

• To develop and deliver programmes effectively and efficiently;
• To build public confidence and trust in decisions;
• To generate a greater understanding;
• To build broader support;
• To increase mutual learning;
• To ensure that decisions and policies incorporate relevant knowledge;
• To reflect a wider range of public concerns and values in decision-making;
• To identify possible controversial aspects, bring together different points of view, to achieve consensus in a collaborative manner.
Recommendations

- Policy integration should not be seen as an end in itself;
- Plans and policies should result in practical action;
- Institutional conditions and practices can help to promote policy integration;
- Binding obligations and governmental strategies can stimulate policy integration;
- Political will is as important as the mechanisms, institutional conditions or practices themselves;
- Best practices and lessons from elsewhere provide new ideas;
- The key to success is the process of transfer and adaptation.
thank you for your attention!

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