

Greece: practices for sustainable urban mobility and electromobility

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The high share of transport sector's participation in energy consumption and the fact that it has the greatest potential for energy saving, make necessary the coordination of interventions and actions for sustainable urban mobility based on European directives and national guidelines, as mentioned in the new European Regional Development Fund (NSRF).

The transport sector is the fastest growing one in reference to the energy use and emissions production, as it is responsible for:

- 1/3 of the total energy consumption in the European Economic Community member countries,
- more than 1/5 of greenhouse gas emissions, since in 2012 it held the second position in reference to the CO₂ emissions percentage in EU (Figure 1),
- a high amount of urban centers' air pollution and noise.

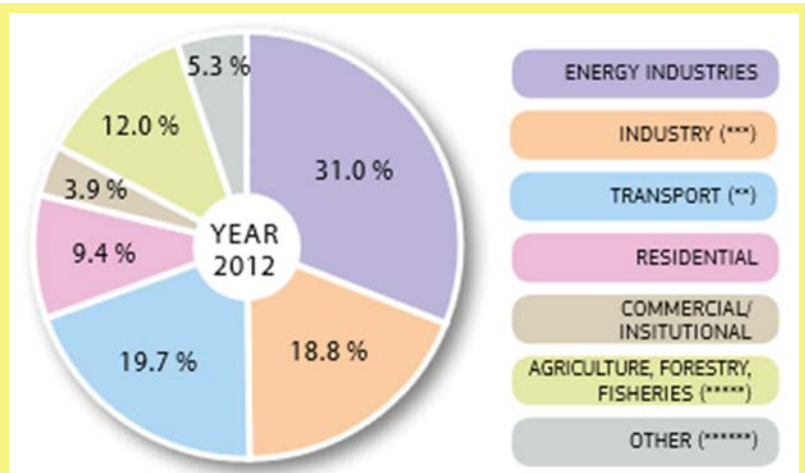


Figure 1: CO₂ emissions percentage per sector, among the 28 members of European Union. (Ref: Eurostat, 20122, EU TRANSPORT in figures - Statistical pocketbook 2014).

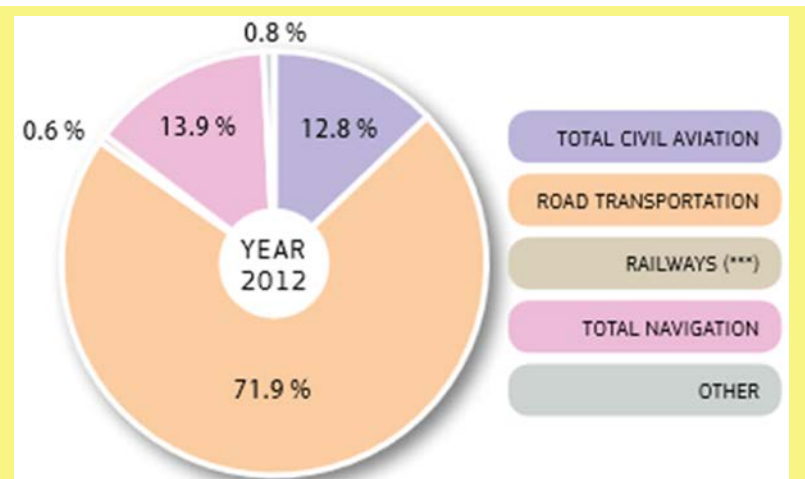


Figure 2: CO₂ emissions percentage per transport sector, among the 28 members of European Union. (Ref: Eurostat, 20122, EU TRANSPORT in figures - Statistical pocketbook 2014).

The introduction of electromobility, as a friendly environmental and economical way of mobility in a society such as in Greece, where the traditional mode of transportation was the use of conventional means of transport, can be achieved only via systematic small and realistic but essential steps. For example, the supply of a fleet of electric scooters or cars at that particular time would not lead to any significant change in the way that our society thinks and functions, as there are neither the financial nor the appropriate human resources and infrastructures, in order to utilize this opportunity.

The municipality needs to implement a series of actions in order to gradually achieve small steps in reference to state-of-the-art data gathering, funding pursuit, projects' implementation and public awareness towards electromobility.

In particular, the municipality in cooperation with the Departments of Technical Service and Development and Planning (NSRF and European

programs) should make use of any opportunity in order to achieve sustainable urban mobility.

Studies

For the elaboration of studies, the municipality may use:

- volunteers;
 - municipal department of technical services;
 - local environmental associations;
 - university teams.
- as the studies should emphasize on:
- establishment of goals for energy saving and gas emissions reduction;
 - recording of the existing situation (total consumption, recording of vehicles - needs - route);
 - cost – benefit studies;
 - infrastructure studies for the installation of charging stations and their interconnection with metro and other public transports;
 - urban mobility studies for addressing the problems (not only for transport, but also for garbage trucks route optimization for example).



Management Committee of Energy Topics

This unit / committee can be:

- a sub-section of the municipal Department of Technical Services;
- a committee of elected or municipal employees;
- a working group of residents or operators (on the basis of Kallikratis).

Among their most important responsibilities will be the:

- collection and data processing (mainly primary energy data);
- communication with residents / local businesses for energy-environmental issues;
- communication with vehicles / chargers suppliers, etc.;
- actions in reference to energy & environment sectors;
- coordination of dissemination / awareness actions.



Alternative Solutions

- Cooperation with gas stations, supermarkets, sports facilities, hotels;
- Utilization in existing building infrastructures;
- Configuration of specific municipal areas that already have power sockets;
- Installation of PV panels in existing parking areas;
- Cost-sharing solutions for charging infrastructures and use of scooters.

Active promotion of national and European directions

- Communication and cooperation with relevant institutions in order to promote the use of electric vehicles;
- Cooperation with other key players and existing networks – projects via Memorandums of Understanding and Cooperation;
- Exploitation of Covenant of Mayors.

Citizens awareness

- Information campaigns in schools - local bodies - municipal enterprises;
- Organization of exhibitions - festivals - workshops - seminars;
- Competitions of Energy Neighborhoods.

Funding

Funded projects (studies, preliminary research, needs assessment, etc.), through:

- NSRF - Green Fund
- NSRF - Digital Convergence
- EEA - Department of Climate Change and Renewable Energy
- LIFE 2014 – 2020 Action Grants
- URBACT
- MED – INTERREG
- Horizon 2020 – Smart, green and integrated transport
- Horizon 2020 – Secure, clean and efficient energy

