Innovation for Change in Public Transport

This capacity building programme is focused on strengthening the capacity for innovation and development of actors operating in public transport systems at a local, regional or national level. The aim is to empower individuals representing the actors in public as well as private organisations, so that they can work together for a renewal of public transport systems and thereby also contribute to sustainable cities and communities. The programme is given by Lund University and is funded by the Swedish Institute within the framework of the Public Sector Innovation Programme.

BACKGROUND AND PROGRAMME CONTENT

Travel and transport are a basic prerequisite for development. How the transport system is designed and operates affects both individuals and companies, as well as the conditions for entire cities and regions for sustainable development.

In many parts of the world, developed public transport can help give people greater access to work, education, service and leisure. At the same time, it can help to reduce the many negative effects that travel creates today, not least in the world’s many and growing urban areas. It is primarily about the effects of growing car traffic on congestion, the environment and health. Developed public transports needs to be based on local conditions, in collaboration between different actors and from a user perspective that takes into account the needs and opportunities of different groups. Technological developments create new opportunities for sustainable travel, but can also lead to new challenges and problems.

Innovation is key for the continued development and attractiveness of public transport. To be successful, an openness to new forms of collaboration, partnership and exchange of experience between organisations and with academia is required. The development of public transport requires a broad approach from many perspectives with innovation both within our own organisation and collaboration across organisations, systems and national borders.

One of the core educational ideas in the programme is that there are no ready-made or “correct” solutions, instead the programme is about developing and testing new ways of doing things. The participants contribute with their own thoughts and experiences continuously, and their innovative ideas are tested and explored by using so-called test balloons. How can and should public transport be more innovative?

The programme’s focus is on global goals 9 and 11, and their associated sub-goals that have bearing on public transport and innovation. The hope is that a focus on these two goals will also have effects on the realisation of the global goals 3 and 12. Specifically, the programme addresses the objectives 11.2: Provide sustainable transport systems for all, and 9.1: Create sustainable, resilient and inclusive infrastructures. We aim to strengthen capacity for innovation and development within public transport systems at local, regional or national level to promote the renewal of public transport systems and thereby contribute to sustainable cities and communities.
PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The programme consists of five thematic modules; each module giving the participants knowledge about leadership, innovation, innovation work and its contexts. After finalising module five, the programme will have a one-week training part realised in Sweden and subsequently a project presentation in module six. The programme ends with a concluding examination assignment. The implementation of the programme will be online (apart from the visit in Sweden) through lectures, discussions, seminars, workshops, study visits and social activities.

The programme begins with a pre-module which gives the participants an understanding of the content and structure of the programme. In this part participants get an introduction to the digital learning platform Canvas as well as an introduction of the participants and teachers.

Module one and two aim to create the conditions for conducting successful innovation and working for change, partly in the sense of understanding what type of leadership is required and to gain knowledge of external analysis and link it to describe and understand the needs of the recipients and how they change.

The purpose of module three is to increase the knowledge of what a learning organisation is, how learning can take place and how learning can be improved through eg. internal valuation work and various forms of comparisons.

Module four aims to discuss and provide strategic tools for introducing and implementing innovations in public transport. In module five, the participants will discuss current theories of service development, service innovation and how these can be viewed from a sustainability perspective. In addition, they will also be introduced to methods and tools that are adapted to better understand what obstacles exist internally in the company as new service innovations are developed and e.g. capture the customer’s perceptions of how a service is perceived. Module six aims to link all parts of the programme together as a whole by discussing what has been achieved.

TIMELINE

Pre-module: (September – Oktober 2021)
Module 1: Transformative Leadership (November 2021)
Module 2: Market analysis (January 2022)
Module 3: Realisation of organisational learning for innovation (February 2022)
Module 4: Implementation of innovations in public transport (March 2022)
Module 5: Service Innovation (April 2022)
Sweden: (2-6 May 2022)
Module 6: Presentation of Project (May 2022)
Examination assignment: (May/June 2022)

All activities apart from the visit to Sweden will be held online.
TARGET GROUP
Civil servants and decision-makers at central, regional or local level, professionals in leading positions, working with transport planning and management, mobility, accessibility issues in the public sector. Applicants can be employed by public transport authorities, public transport administrations, operators, municipalities and other authorities. Our secondary target group is aimed at employees in senior positions within the private sector who are responsible for commercial public transport. Applicants should have a clear mandate and active support from management to initiate organizational changes within their organisation or within their own activities and initiatives. Applicants should have at least 2 years of professional experience in the relevant area of the programme and come from one of the following countries; Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda. Women are encouraged to apply to the programme since we strive to obtain an equal gender distribution.

TEACHING AND COORDINATING STAFF AT LUND UNIVERSITY
The programme is a collaboration between Lund University’s School of Economics and Management (LUSEM), Sweden’s National Center for Research and Education on Public Transport (K2) and Transport and Roads, Division of the Department of Technology and Society at the Faculty of Engineering (LTH). Responsible for the programme and its thematic modules at Lund University are teachers at (LUSEM).

The programme is to be delivered with the support of Lund University Commissioned Education (LUCE), the department at the university focusing on professional development and capacity building programmes.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION
Total period of the programme: October 2020 - June 2021
Number of participants: 20
Costs: Participation in this programme is free of charge. It includes international travel to and from Sweden, meals and accommodation during onsite modul in Sweden. The participant’s organisation is responsible for the costs for visas.

APPLICATION
Application period: 6 May - 10 June 2021
Apply: HERE

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO APPLY IF YOU
• are a mid-to-upper-level manager in leading position
• are between 30-55 years of age
• are from Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa or Uganda
• have a good command of English
• have the time to dedicate to the programme

CONTACT
If you have any questions about the programme and the application process:
innovationPT@education.lu.se