

Employing Best Practice from the EU: Response from the NICHERS+ Project

Simon Edwards
Transport Operations Research Group
Newcastle University





Cities in a challenging environment





Reasons to innovate

- Citizens' needs
- Local economy's needs
- Local policy objectives
- EU directives





NICHES+ Mission

- To promote the most promising new concepts, initiatives and projects from their current 'niche' position to a mainstream urban transport policy application
- To stimulate a wide debate on innovative urban transport and mobility among relevant stakeholders from different sectors and disciplines





Innovation in NICHES+

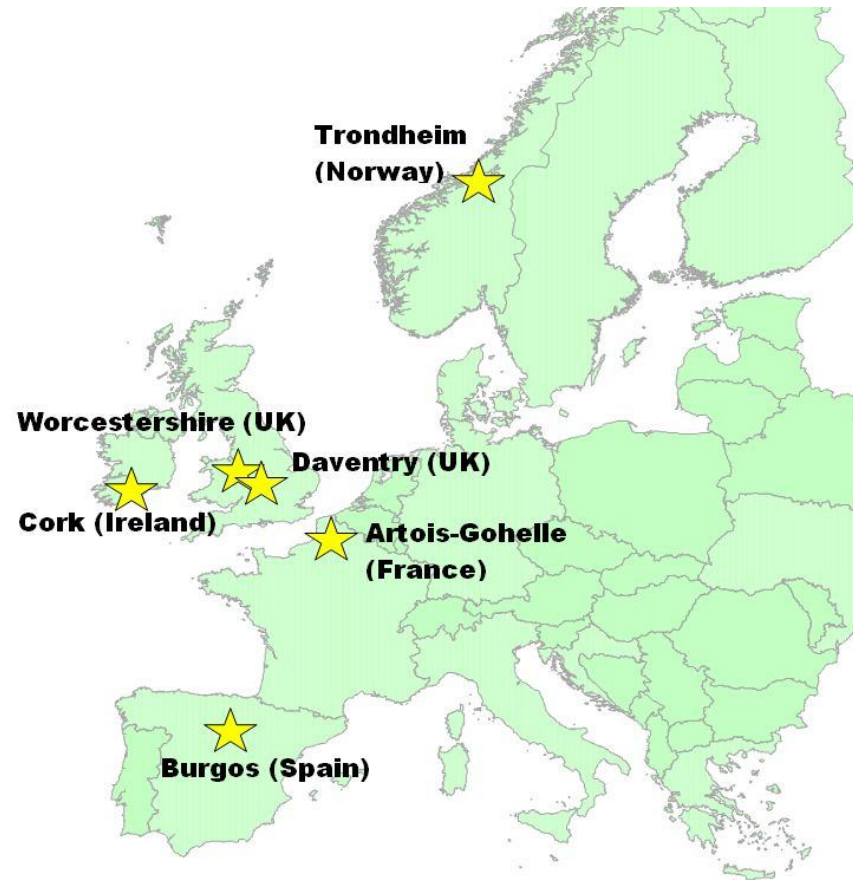
- 12 Innovative Concepts:
 - Technologies brought together into concrete measures
 - Service provision more important than hardware
 - Smart combinations of innovative concepts lead to strong, efficient local transport strategies
 - Shortening the implementation path by “transferring” innovation

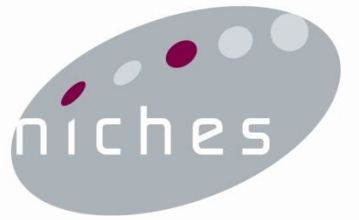




NICHES+ Champion Cities

- Artois-Gohelle
- Burgos
- Cork
- Daventry
- Worcestershire
- Trondheim

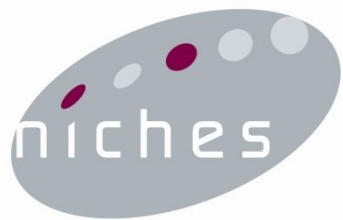




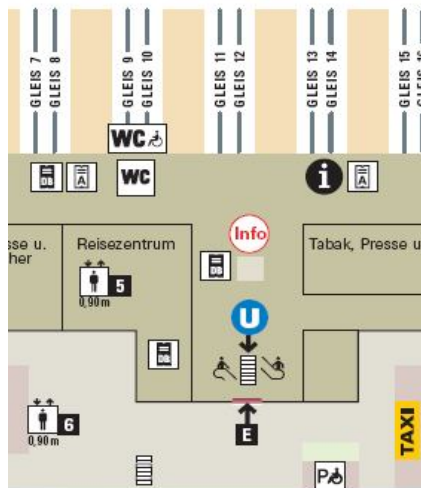
Principal Aims

- **Networking opportunities:** stimulate exchange between a wide range of urban transport stakeholders from all over Europe
- **Publishing effective guidance for cities:** brochures including key information on how to successfully implement the selected urban transport innovations
- **Spreading the word:** European and national events to effectively disseminate the project results and to encourage uptake of the twelve innovative concepts
- **Working with cities on the ground:** resources and support for 6 champion cities, helping them to develop concrete implementation plans for NICHE+ concepts





WG1: Enhanced accessibility



Internet info: travelling without barriers



Salzburg: Training for older passengers



Munich: Neighbourhood accessibility planning with citizen participation





WG2: Efficient infrastructure and interchanges



Public bicycles at interchanges



Short interchange distance and time



Nantes BusWay system





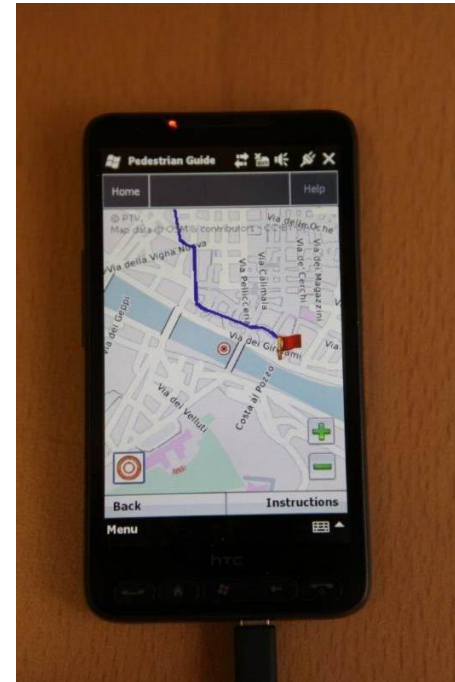
WG3: Traffic Management Centres



Environmental info in Leicester (DfT)



**Inter-agency cooperation for
intermodal
traffic management**



Delivery to Mobile Devices





WG4: Automated and space efficient transport systems



The ULTRA test track



Parkshuttle Rotterdam



Making shared vehicles smarter





Concrete outcomes of **NICHES+**

- 6 local implementation scenarios
- “Urban Transport Innovation Box”
 - 12 Guidelines for Implementers on innovative concepts
 - Study tour catalogue
- 6 national events in champion cities and a national seminar in Warsaw
- E-learning modules
- 7 newsletters
- Research and Policy Recommendations





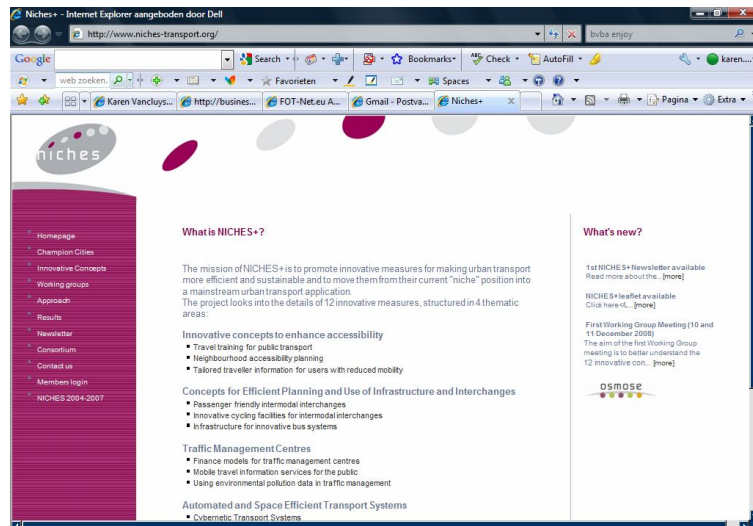
Concluding Remarks

- “Mobility Management”: an innovative combination of technology, design and “soft” solutions is usually desirable, with things like travel training, workplace travel planning, cycling and walking, promotion and education even more appropriate at the current time
- Solutions can be optimised in terms of organisation, co-operation, and stakeholder engagement
- Implement achievable targets or impacts
- The right project team with the right partners, a “Champion”, and clear contracts or agreements
- Citizen engagement
- Monitoring and evaluation with user feedback
- Joined up policy approach e.g. mobility with land use, environment, health, etc.

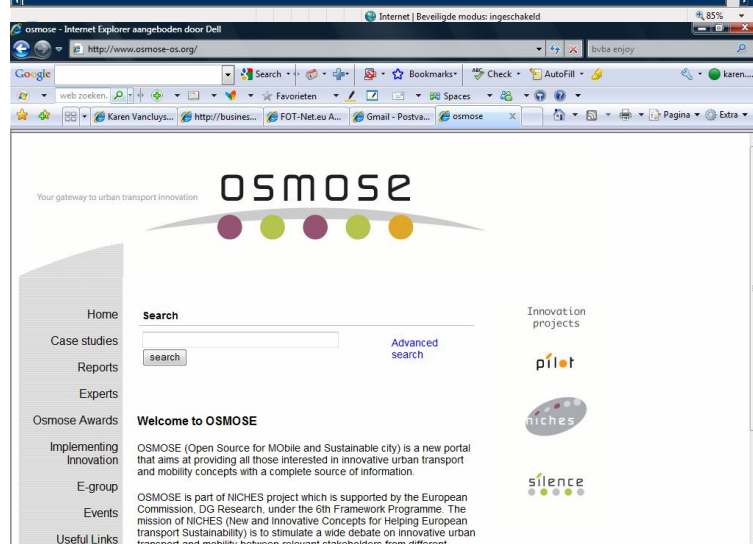




Project Websites

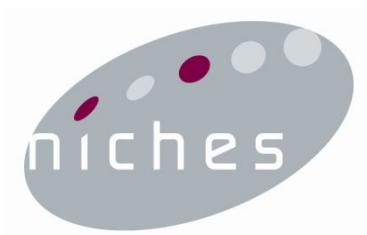


www.niches-transport.org



www.osmose-os.org



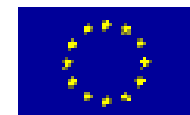


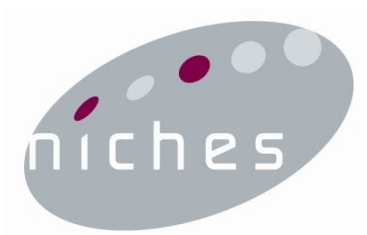
NICHES+ Facts

- Coordination Action funded under the 7th Framework Programme – DG Research
- 3 years (2008-2011)
- Coordinator: Polis
- 6 partners: Rupprecht Consult, Eurocities, Newcastle University, Transman, University of Southampton



- 6 Champion cities





Contact Info

Newcastle University

Simon Edwards

- Email: simon.edwards@ncl.ac.uk
- Phone: 0191 222 8117

POLIS

Ivo Cré

- Email: icre@polisnetwork.eu
- Phone: +32 (0)2 500 5676

Karen Vancluysen

- Email: kvanclyusen@polisnetwork.eu
- Phone: +32 (0)2 500 5675

