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NATIONAL POLICIES TO PROMOTE CYCLING

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EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT

- ❖ Forum for policy discussion and debate among transport ministries**
- ❖ 43 Member Countries from all regions of Europe**
- ❖ 7 Associate Members (Australia, Canada, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, United States)**
- ❖ 1 Observer (Morocco)**

ECMT's work on Implementing Sustainable Urban Travel Policies

Why is implementation so
difficult?

What can the national level do?

**Implementing Sustainable Urban Travel Policies: Moving Ahead
National Policies to Promote Cycling**

OBJECTIVES OF THE REPORT

- ✓ **Describe the current situation in national cycling policy planning;**
- ✓ **Identify key cycling policy issues for national governments – including barriers to effective implementation of cycling policies;**
- ✓ **Point out ways Transport Ministries can contribute to more effective cycling policy-making and implementation.**

Implementing Sustainable Urban Travel Policies: Moving Ahead
National Policies to Promote Cycling
DECISION-MAKING AT DIFFERENT LEVELS

⇒ **Cycling policies most-efficiently designed, overseen, and implemented by local and regional authorities;**

BUT

□ **Local implementation needs well-integrated policy, legal, regulatory, financial framework at national level; co-ordination among different Ministerial branches; input from cycling stakeholders (associations, industry).**

Implementing Sustainable Urban Travel Policies: Moving Ahead
National Policies to Promote Cycling

**CHALLENGES TO EFFECTIVE NATIONAL
POLICY-MAKING**

- ➡ **Financial constraints;**
- ➡ **Lack of national-level commitment and co-ordination;**
- ➡ **Safety concerns (real and perceived);**
- ➡ **Insufficient understanding of technical issues, poor engineering, lack of technical guidance;**
- ➡ **Scarcity of road space;**
- ➡ **Lack of public awareness.**

How Can National Initiative Help?

Implementing Sustainable Urban Travel Policies: Moving Ahead National Policies to Promote Cycling

WHAT CAN THE NATIONAL LEVEL DO?

- ⇒ articulate common objectives, co-ordinated actions among the different national Ministries and agencies (horizontally), as well as among national, regional and local authorities (vertically), and in partnership with industry, cycling associations and other stakeholders;
- ⇒ demonstrate political will, commitment at the national level, thereby pushing cycling policies higher up on the policy agenda;
- ⇒ raise awareness and “de-marginalise” cycling as a sustainable mode of transport;
- ⇒ provide a basis for the monitoring and evaluation of cycling policy implementation by national, regional and local authorities.

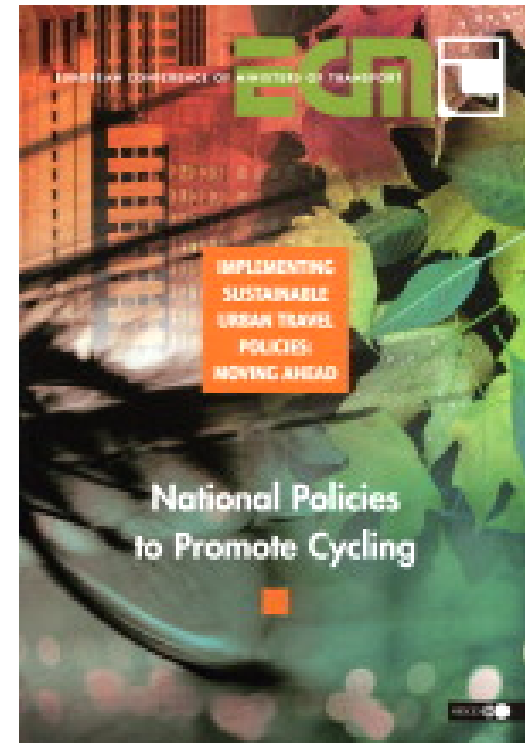
ECMT Ministerial Declaration on

National Cycling Policies for Sustainable Urban Travel

2004

IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE URBAN TRAVEL POLICIES: MOVING AHEAD

“A national cycling policy approach – be it a separate document or elements of a more general transport policy plan – can be a powerful tool for national governments to encourage cycling in urban areas”



**NATIONAL POLICIES TO
PROMOTE CYCLING**