
National best practice compilations for CEURES project

‘Urban Transit Lab for Voices of Sustainable Mobility’



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urban transit lab

Title of Best Practice: Urban Transit Lab

Pillar: Climate change

Category: Mobility Behaviors

Place of best practice: Warsaw, Poland



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Our mission

Urban Transit Lab is a **participatory media, communication and research project** designed to raise awareness about the benefits of sustainable modes of mobility, focusing on walking and public transport as a vital dimension of a walkable city and core feature of sustainable urban development.

The project also focuses on issues of **accessibility** and the **lifestyle** of individuals relying on these modes as their primary mode of mobility via the **participation** of city inhabitants themselves.

The logo for Urban Transit Lab, featuring the text "urban transit lab" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The text is white and set against a yellow square background with a faint, light-colored map grid pattern.

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WHAT?

A participatory media, research and communication initiative and an emergent best practice.

WHO?

Founded by Annika Lundkvist & Alan Lacey Raposo, the program is shaped to meet the needs of diverse partners, whilst involving community in media & action research

WHEN?

Founded in March 2023

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● ●



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Our vision

The sustainable **mobility shift** requires extensive and inclusive **participation** from all areas of society in a **holistic approach** to more sustainable modes of daily mobility. UTL focuses on highlighting the stories of inhabitants in their daily commutes as well as engaging the public in awareness on

Mobility decisions

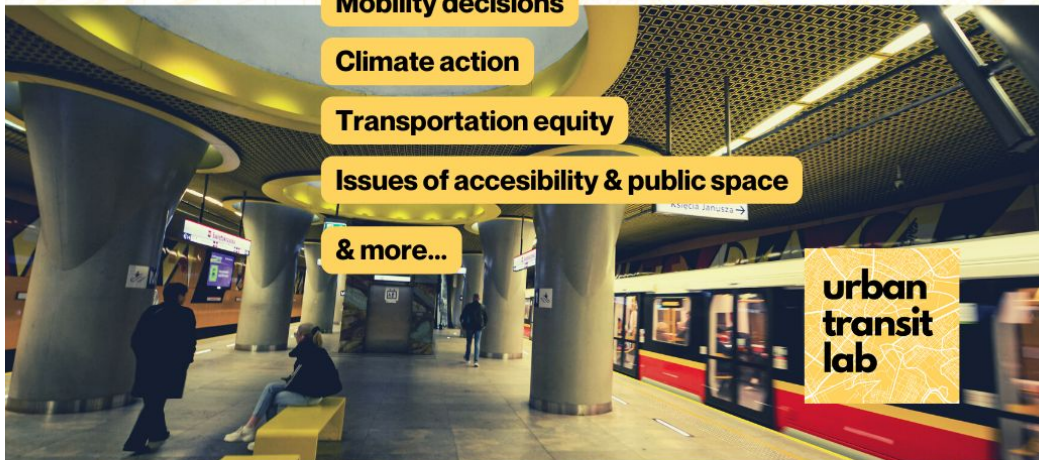
Climate action

Transportation equity

Issues of accesibility & public space

& more...

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WHY?

Media is itself a form of action, helping to shape individual and societal awareness. We **access the power of media** while involving partners and the community in experiences and **storytelling around mobility** and experiences with sustainable modes.



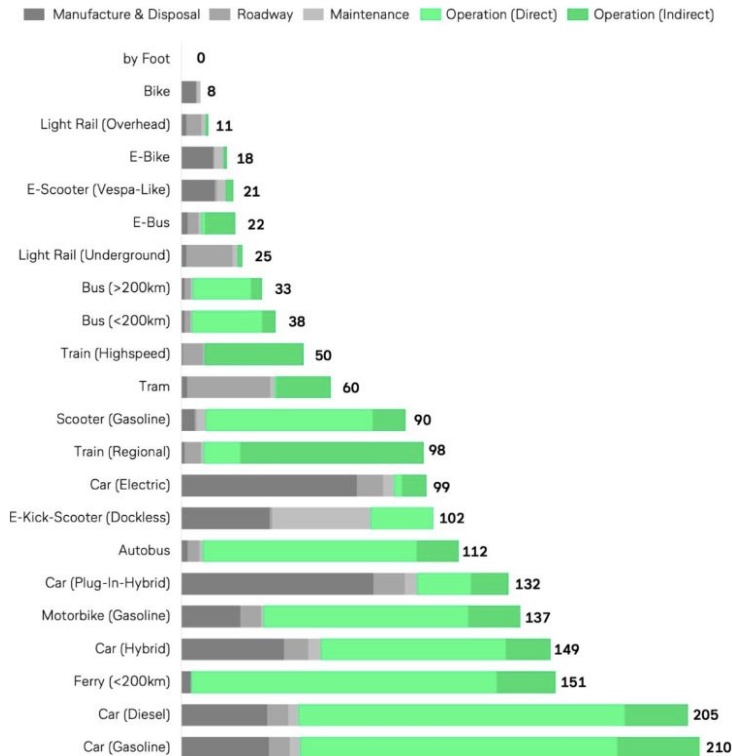
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TNMT

Ranking urban transport modes

Average carbon emissions by transport type (in gram per pkm)



sources: Lufthansa Innovation Hub Analysis, TNMT.com, press and various research studies – see extra Airtable

Shifting towards sustainable urban mobility is imperative for:

- Environmental health
- Improving livability of cities
- Improving quality of public space for inhabitants
- Achieving climate-related targets (incl. reduction of carbon emissions)
- Reducing car dependence
- Reducing myriad damaging effects of traffic congestion
- Transport equity and ensuring inhabitants have access to quality sustainable modes of transport
- Ensuring marginalized groups have safe, quality access to sustainable modes of transport
- Promoting sustainable mobility culture
- And more....

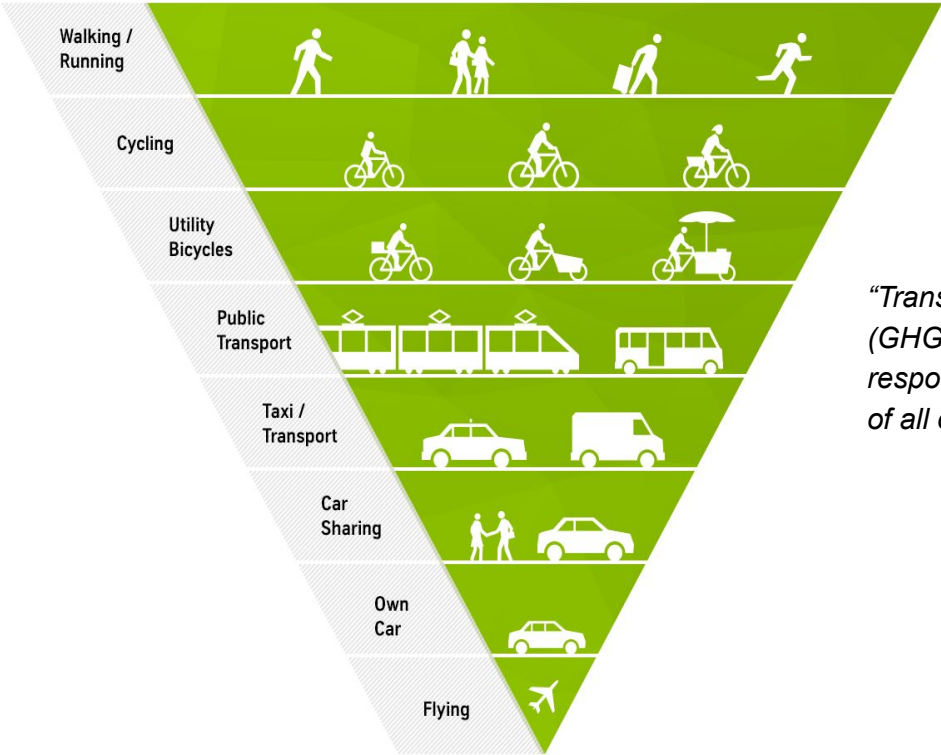
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“Transportation represents around a quarter of all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Europe. Within this, urban mobility is responsible for 40% of CO2 emissions, as well as 70% of all other pollutants from road transport.” (Interreg, 2018)

© Bicycle Innovation Lab, Copenhagen, DK

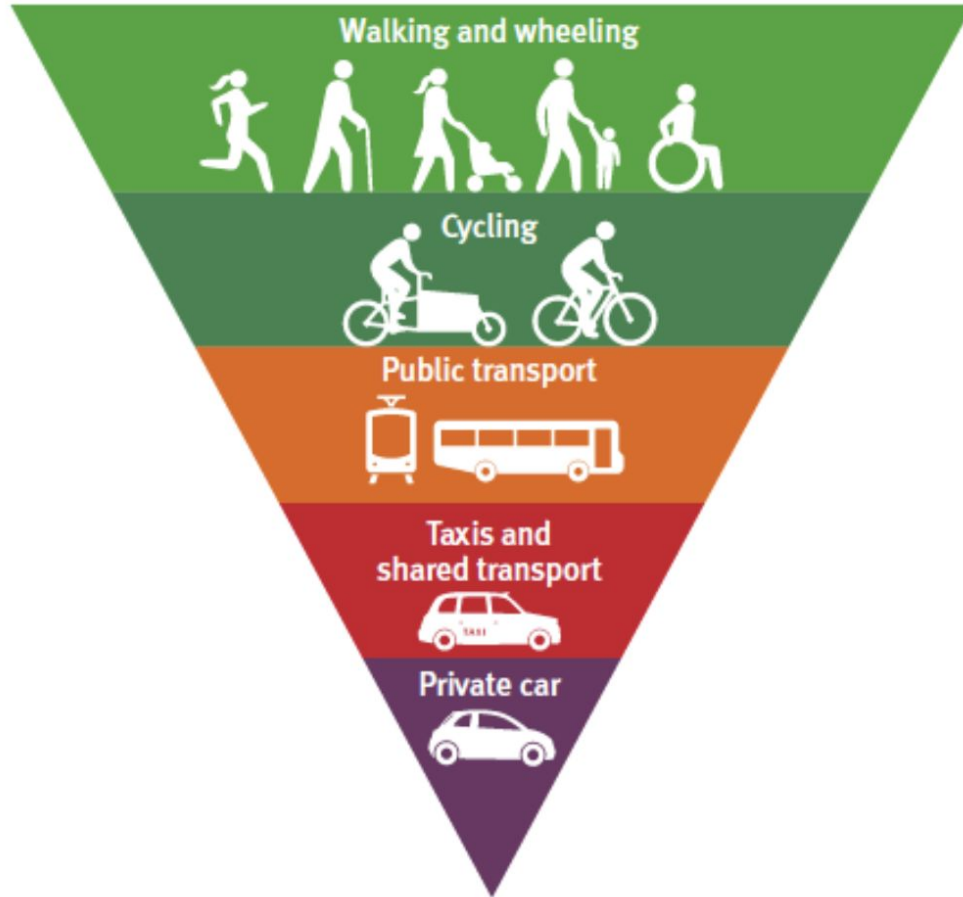


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The sustainable transport hierarchy

CEURES Project 2023 / 24, Annika Lundkvist



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NEW PARTNERSHIP
NEW COLLABORATION



Warsaw
Public
Transport

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Urban Transit Lab Warsaw 2023 was a **pilot project** and partnership with Warsaw Public Transport (WTP, Warszawski Transport Publiczny).

Through the partnership, WTP provided **8 free monthly passes** for program participants to use Warsaw's public transportation system during October 2023. As part of the program, participants then submitted **weekly batches of media content** reflecting on aspects of their commutes.

NEW PARTNERSHIP
NEW COLLABORATION



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do you live
in Warsaw?

APPLICATIONS
NOW OPENING

1 MONTH OF
FREE PUBLIC
TRANSPORT



interested?

FILL OUT
OUR FORM



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Warsaw's **public transportation** system is **diverse and dynamic**, with buses, trams, metro and an urban rapid rail system.

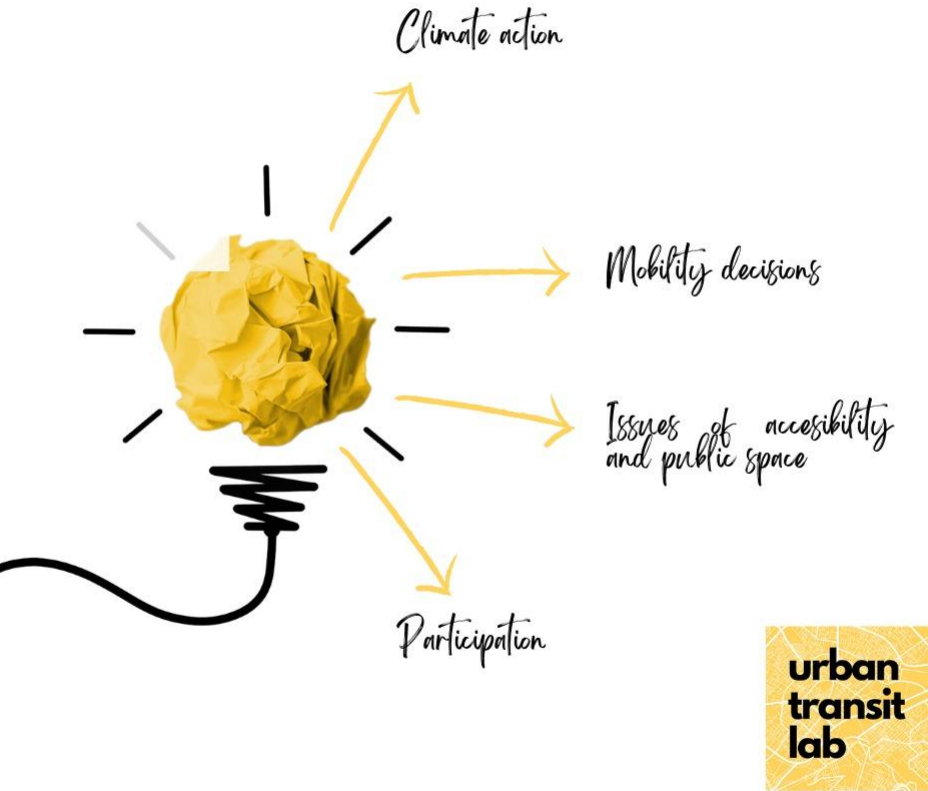
The media output of the program participants reflected this and was also diverse in the form of **writing**, **photography**, **graphics** and more.



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Innovative/Excellent elements of the best practice:

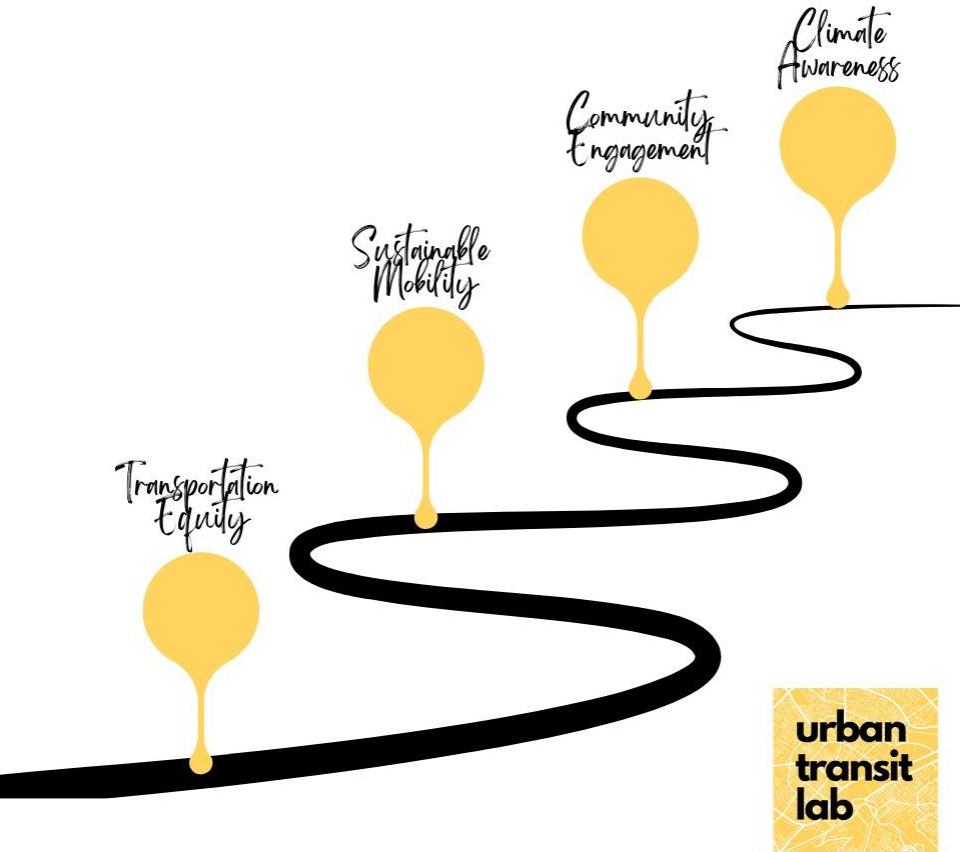
- Bottom up, involving community members
- Civic engagement
- Incorporation of arts and media in mobility space
- Illuminating narrations on mobility and commuting, a topic that in the mainstream might be considered mundane but really connects us all
- Spotlights how mobility affects our quality of life
- Offers stakeholders lesser used techniques to connect with the public and elicit feedback on mobility experiences



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Methods used to involve the community:

- Social media platforms (Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter)
- Application process (for the program)
- In-person meetings
- Community meetings
- Mid-program surveys
- Post-program surveys



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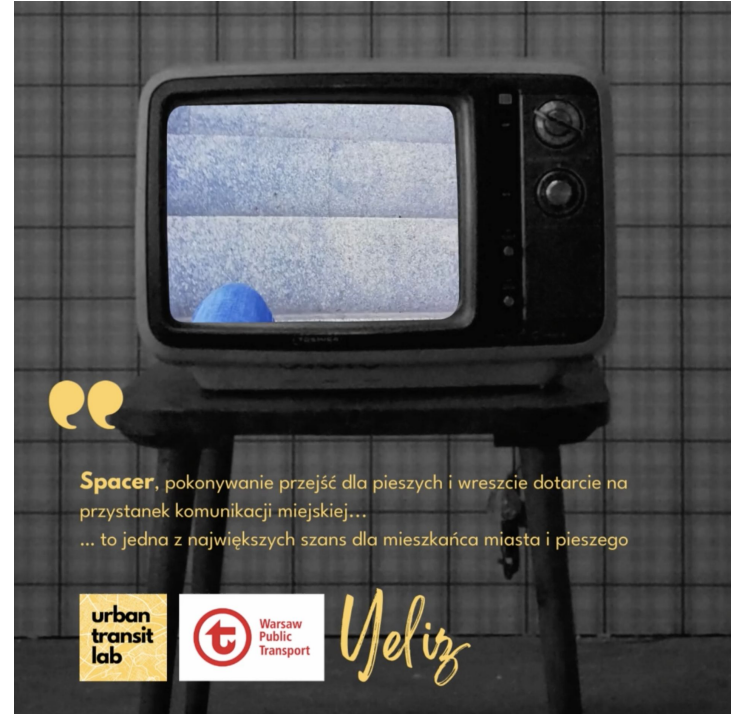




Being able to **cross pedestrian crossings** while walking and finally arriving at any public transportation stop... is one of the greatest **opportunities** for a city dweller and a pedestrian...



Yeliz



Spacer, pokonywanie przejść dla pieszych i wreszcie dotarcie na przystanek komunikacji miejskiej...
... to jedna z największych szans dla mieszkańca miasta i pieszego



Yeliz



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Discovering Warsaw by bus and metro

I set out on a quest to discover the dynamic metropolis of Warsaw on a crisp autumnal week

I set out to learn about the city's distinctive fusion of history, nature, and culture armed only with my transportation passes, a map, and a sense of adventure

Using the city's effective public transit system, I was able to explore Park Moczydo, the Vistula River, Lazienki Park, and Hala Mirowska, Arkadia

a mobility story by
Fiza

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OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN

In a post program survey with participants, we asked if they learned anything new about Warsaw's public transit modes that they did not know before. Their responses included the following:

- I learned that all public transport is strongly connected to each other and to pedestrian routes.
- I became familiar with statistics about WTP, ecological and financial aspects. **I wanted to learn some more theory and this programme inspired me to do so.**
- It was interesting to learn about special projects with the use of a vintage tram
- **I realized how having a monthly ticket can give a sense of freedom and motivation to use public transport.** It might not seem like a huge discovery but it gave me an idea for a way of promoting using WTP as the opposite of stress of owning a car.



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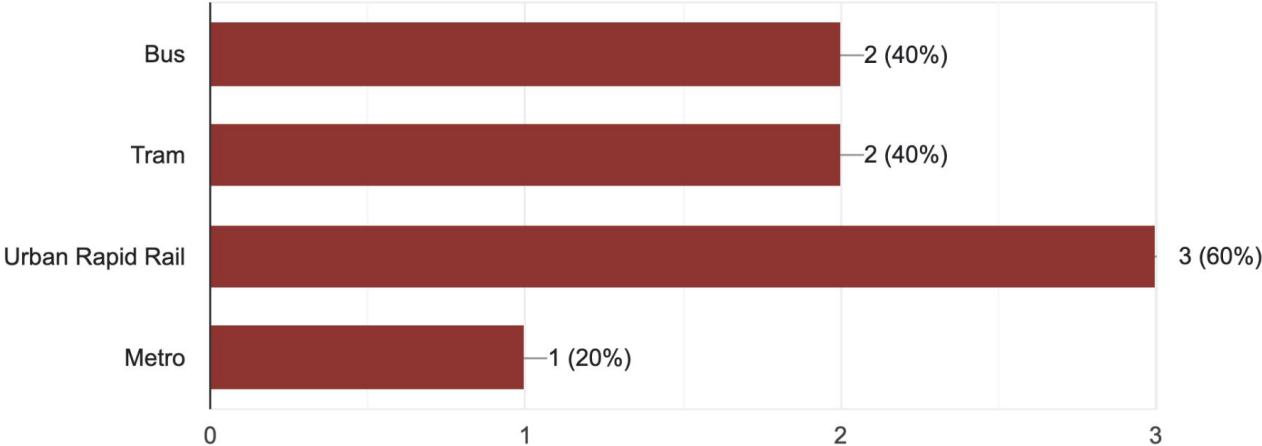
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Did you try any new modes? Which ones?

5 responses



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#UTLWARSAW2023

When asked how their overall experience in the program was, participants responded:

"I came to Warsaw to live for 3 months. Sometimes I explored the city on foot, and sometimes I traveled by public transportation. This program encouraged my travel by public transportation. It was also beneficial for my professional experience, as I am an urban planner. Seeing a new city, being a part of this city's public transportation system, and experiencing and examining this public transportation system are important for my professional development. This program and trip provided me with insight for both my private and professional life."

-Program Participant



Nurseli



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"As a result of my participation in the program and my observations, I saw that walkability is at the forefront in the city of Warsaw."

-Program Participant



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METRO INAUGURATION



The opening of the first section of the Warsaw metro took place on **7 April 1995** at **12:00 am** at **Wilanowska station**.

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Leon

THE PRETTIEST STATION



On **April 7, 2008**, at the **Metrorail** conference, **Plac Wilsona Station** was named the **prettiest station in the world**. Six years later, **CNN** ranked it among the **12 most beautiful metro stations in Europe**.

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Leon



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Day 2 - Metro to the Vistula River

The Vistula is a central element of Warsaw's landscape. I hopped on a metro that took me to the riverside



Fiza

Pride in Place
Local Perspectives
International Perspectives



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“
Rush hour in the transfer station
 between metro M1 and M2 line.
 You can choose - **run or go at
 your normal speed.**”



Lukasz

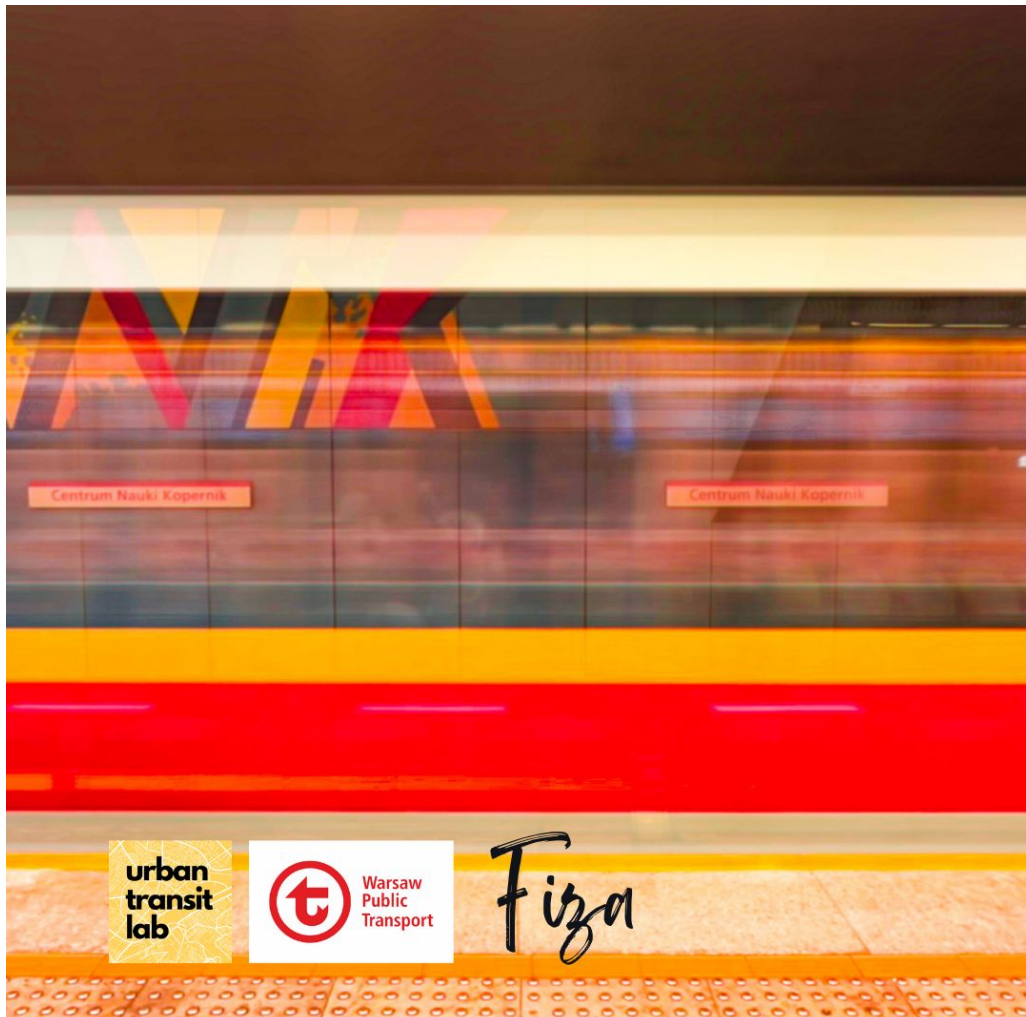
"In my opinion we should talk more about how public transport is a "normal thing" and show it to other people. Especially those in cars."

-Program Participant



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"It felt very motivating to know that there are other people who enjoy car-free travels around the city. I liked the visual and graphic aspect of the program. I am happy that we got the WTP tickets, it makes you feel like being part of an experience."

-Program Participant



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MOBILITY MOBILITY MOBILITY

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Adaptation possibilities for other settlements:

The Triple Mobility focus that Urban Transit Lab employs welcomes partnership and focus on walking, cycling and public transit to create diverse adaptation possibilities.

Programming is also designed to be flexible to diverse partnership needs, with a focus also on best practices and barriers in diverse settings. Adaptation possibility is high.

Programming can address needs and perspectives of:

- Specific generations and age groups
- Specific groups of inhabitants (i.e. university, parents, immigrant etc)
- Specific genders
- Groups with specific disabilities
- General public

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Urban Transit Lab

Shifting views of public transport





Limitations to the use of best practice in different locations (for example scale, culture, geography):

Urban Transit Lab is adaptable to any community as we focus on mobility, a common and shared need of humans across cultural and geographical contexts.

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