

**Innovations  
with a beneficial economic (financial) impact  
by cities and municipalities  
on sport and movement  
following COVID 19**

**Interactive learning session  
among 27 national networks of cities and municipalities  
involved with sport and movement**

**Community of Practice  
November - December 2020**



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## **Annotations made during the sessions - combined**

### **Similarities and differences - 1**

There are great similarities in what cities and municipalities in the EU experience, during this pandemic, related to sport and physical activity. The opportunities that cities and municipalities offer, sometimes are the same, sometimes are different. The differences lay in the context in which the cities and municipalities find themselves: urban / rural, socio-political context, socio-economic context, climate, etc. But often, the answers offered by cities and municipalities just come forward from proper creative thinking. This is why cities and municipalities, as well as their national associations, are eager on: ***“We want to hear from others what they do, so that we can pick up what inspire us, to apply it in our city and municipality”***.

### **Involvement of the local authorities in the decision making on pandemic rulings - 2**

In all EU member states, the cities and municipalities only have freedom of action, related to COVID19, within the rules and regulations set out by the national (and regional) governments.

In most EU member states is found that, during the first lockdown, the rules and regulations of the national authorities were dominant. Ever sense, in most EU member states, the national associations of cities and municipalities consider that there is a reasonable to good interplay between themselves and the national and regional authorities, in relation to the COVID19 rules and initiatives. The national associations feel that overall their voice is being heard and respected by the national and regional authorities. I.e. that there is cross fertilisation between the different authority levels. Not always, but in many cases, they feel that the subsidiarity is respected of the responsibilities from resp. the national and the local authorities on sport and movement opportunities for the citizens, incurred due to COVID19.

In many EU member states, the national associations for cities and municipalities even are member of advisory councils to the national COVID19 decision makers, also on sport and movement related matters. E.g. in France, ANDES is member of a steering group which is led by both the Ministry of Sport and the Ministry of Health. Similarly in The Netherlands and in Belgium. But is not the case in Italy, where the Olympic Committee takes on this role.

In general, whereas the national and regional authority levels rather set out the limitations, the cities and municipalities are rather creators of opportunities. Cities and municipalities have a good view on the particularities of their local situation and are therefore best placed to stimulate their citizens to be active: in support of the clubs and schools, the non-organised sport, facilitating the use of the outdoor opportunities, etc. Cities and municipalities hereby promote sport and physical activity among their citizens, within the regulations set out by the national and regional governments, with much concern to keep their citizens healthy and safe.

In all EU member states, the cities and municipalities find that, the more severe the restrictive COVID19 measures are, the lesser the cities and municipalities can provide opportunities for citizens to be active.

### **The role of cities and municipalities, on sport and movement, during a pandemic - 3**

Cities and municipalities have - related to COVID19 - two main tasks. One is to help the national authorities by defining what is feasible / desired at the local level. Two is to translate, implement and control what has been decided at the national level, within the boundaries of the local setting. These tasks are also valid on the offer of sport and movement to their citizens.

Further opportunities and duties, that cities and municipalities have on sport and movement during a pandemic, include:

- To clearly communicate with diverse tools to all citizens what is possible at the local level, within the restrictions set out by the national / regional authorities.
- To connect with sports clubs, schools and associations providing movement opportunities. To agree with them on what is possible and to discuss how clubs, schools and associations can be supported by the city / municipality to stimulate their members / pupils to stay active. Overall, cities and municipalities find the collaboration with the stakeholders, on pandemic related issues, is sometimes challenging but merely reasonably good.
- To enhance opportunities themselves (creating cycling lanes, open up outdoor space for walking, fitness instruments in the parks, online challenges, online videos for in-house activity, and so many more).

During a pandemic, local authorities seem to rather be the 'motivators' for citizens to be active, whereas the national authorities seem to rather be 'restrictors' of movability. The local authorities have much better knowledge on the opportunities in the specific local context. They also are far much closer to the citizens and their associations, so that agreements can be made on what can and what cannot be done, in a safe way.

The fiercer the measures to combat the infection rate are, the lesser cities and municipalities have opportunities for action. Autumn 2020 sees all over Europe a second peak of the pandemic, with consequent restrictive measures. Whereas cities and municipalities deployed plenty of initiatives in the summer of 2020, to be safely active, these initiatives are much more scaled down late 2020.

Most EU member state national associations of cities and municipalities, organize knowledge exchange and information sessions, on sport and movement during a pandemic, between their members. The idea being that cities and municipalities can learn from each other. Similar exchange sessions are sometimes set up between the local authorities and other stakeholders (federations, clubs, societal organisations, work places, educational sector).

Sport clubs struggle due to the pandemic. They have loss of income. Because sponsors sometimes withdraw from sponsoring. Also because recurrent revenues fell to zero: member fees, spectators spending in the canteen, funding activities such as e.g. spaghetti evenings. This is both the case for rather competitive and recreational sports clubs. The severity of the financial problems for sports clubs will probably only become fully clear once the pandemic is over, that is what cities and municipalities estimate. Many cities and municipalities have developed, mostly together with or even rather steered by the regional and national authorities, initiatives or at least plans to financially help the sports clubs.

Examples of interventions are as follows: providing payment to volunteers to support the working of the sports club (meanwhile combatting unemployment), withdrawal of the obligation to pay rent for the due to COVID19 measures non-used sport infrastructure, subsidies for infrastructural improvement of the sports venues, straight forward cash interventions.

## **Research that helps to work out initiatives - 4**

Studies on the impact of COVID19, on the degree of sport and movement by the citizens, were made in different EU member states: Finland, Denmark, Sweden, The Netherlands, ... The findings are diverse. In Denmark, during the Spring lockdown, the activities of sport club members dropped with up to 40%; whilst the activity grade of those who preliminary were not active, rose with 10%. In Finland, a study demonstrated that the overall activity grade during the 1<sup>st</sup> lockdown, of those who preliminary already were active, rose with 10%. The reason for these differences has not been scientifically researched, yet. However, it is possible that activation measures can play a role. In Finland e.g., the sports infrastructures for specific sports were opened up for other activities. Yoga and tai-chi was in some places for instance organised on what traditionally is a football field. Another possible reason is if and how sport federations motivated their uni-sport clubs to be active. In some cases, unisport was found not to be too much a stimulator of other than their proper discipline activities. In other cases, the sport federations promoted their member to go running, cycling, participate at physical activity challenges on media forums, etc.

Overall, the studies in the varied EU member states demonstrate that, during this pandemic, the citizens who already were not so much active, were even less active during the 1<sup>st</sup> lockdown. Whereas people who were already active before the pandemic, seem to drop less in degree of activity than those who pre-pandemic were little active.

People who used to be much active before the pandemic, also seem to find more easily other ways of being active, in ways which are allowed within the restrictive measures.

An important finding on physical activity during the pandemic, and the consequent homework of many, is that a significant number of citizens no longer are active in their daily mobility. This is especially the case for the already pre-pandemic inactive people. This is to be taken into account for the future, since homework will probably remain much more applied after the pandemic.

## **A pandemic kills people living in poverty - leading an inactive lifestyle - 5**

Numerous studies of the past decades, demonstrate that there is a positive correlation between being active and health. This is both physical health and mental health, plus social well-being. Numerous studies of the past decades also demonstrate that a sedentary life style negatively impacts health and well-being and can provoke early death. This pandemic demonstrates the impact of a sedentary lifestyle on a direct death. People with sedentary lifestyle health deficiencies, die much more from COVID19. This includes physical aspects (obesity is an enhancing death factor for COVID19) but also social elements (loneliness leading to late medical intervention on combatting people having COVID19).

Numerous studies of the past decades, demonstrate that there is a correlation between the socio-economic situation and the rate of activity of the citizens. The higher the education and financial resources a citizen has, the more likely he or she will be active. Research undertaken since March 2020, demonstrates that the pandemic has enlarged this discrepancy. As an example. People who used to play badminton indoor, can switch to buying a mountain bike to ride outdoor, or buy an indoor roller bike; if

they have the financial means to afford it. People with little means and / or living in a small apartment 10 levels high, do not have these opportunities.

Many cities and municipalities realize, through the lockdowns, how important a city / municipal offer on sport and movement opportunities is for a) the well-being and health of the individual citizens, and b) the social cohesion. They even more become aware of and act on having more citizens leading an active lifestyle, especially those who currently are inactive and / or the vulnerable citizens. Many cities and municipalities are searching a new balance in the city / municipality policy between 'directing people to the sport infrastructures' and 'bringing opportunities for an active lifestyle closer to where the citizens live'.

## **Communication towards the citizens - 6**

All national associations of cities and municipalities, and the vast majority of cities and municipalities themselves, have invested a major amount of time, energy, creativity, etc., to work out guidance for the citizens on the use of sport infrastructure and public space for sport and movement, during the pandemic. For especially the indoor sport infrastructures, it very often includes the pre-determination in coloured (or figures) coding on what is allowed depending on the rate of infections. Although these coding systems are often worked out along with the national levels, cities and municipalities have hereby the absolute key role, since in the EU member states the vast majority of the sports infrastructures are owned / managed / maintained by the local authorities. In France, over 80% of the sport infrastructures is owned by the local authorities. In Italy, research has demonstrated this is even over 95%.

It is to be notified that cities and municipalities are key messengers to the citizens on opportunities to be active. Citizens firstly live in their street / neighbourhood / city-municipality and the messages for being active fit best and are most trusted when communicated at the local level. Especially if the messages and opportunities are deliberated or even co-driven with the local actors (schools, sports clubs, workplaces).

Cities and municipalities predominantly use the new media, during this pandemic, to stimulate their citizens to be active. Local authority activity enhancing campaigns include:

- Promotion by the local authorities of national / regional TV campaigns to be active. Or promotion of campaigns via the new media. E.g. the promotion of sportive 'together apart' challenges on Strava and other apps. E.g. 'living room' in-house possibilities to be active.
- Promotion of the initiatives from the local associations, clubs, schools, workplaces or other actors; or even individual people. Such as contests which can be followed online (e.g. 'running the distance to the moon' with a group of neighbours, sport club members, colleagues). I.e. thus 'together apart' sport events.
- Information on the access to public grounds (parks, woods, etc.) and the possibilities these offer (e.g. walking paths, fitness banks, etc.).
- Information on streets or part of the streets which are (temporarily) turned into cycling lanes or walking paths.

Target adapted communication also is often applied or supported by local authorities. E.g. the elderly via leaflets. Difficult to be reached people via a peer to peer approach, i.e. passing by. Youngsters via specific new media channels (TikTok and other).

In rural areas, it is often seen that a more personalized promotion is made, by the elected people from the local authorities. This works well in smaller municipalities, where everybody knows everybody. A mayor e.g. hereby can use her / his own Facebook, etc.

## **Good examples - 7**

Good examples, on how cities and municipalities can stimulate their citizens to be active, can differ depending on external circumstances. Such as: whether a city or municipality is rural or urban, the climate (promoting cycling in winter is hardly possible in cold areas), the available open space in the urban area, etc. Even within a city, what is possible as stimulation, can differ from one neighbourhood to another neighbourhood (city centre versus suburban area). And much also depends on the 'culture' of the country / region. In France e.g. the state plays a much more active role in the organisation of sport than in the Scandinavian countries. Plus, much depends on the socio-economic situation of the citizens. One set of good examples fitting all, it does not exist.

The above divergencies, and many more other divergencies, lead to cities and municipalities applying

- sometimes very similar approaches
- sometimes very specific approaches

Good examples can be the following:

- Open up space in parks which normally is not accessible for sport and movement.
- Install fitness instruments in the parks.
- Organize online maintained challenges which need to be practised individually by the citizens.
- Close streets in parks for car traffic, to allow these to be used for play, walking and cycling.
- Create so-called 'cycle streets', where cars are not allowed to pass cyclists.
- Turn parking spaces beside the streets into walking areas.
- Transform cycling lanes into walking and running tracks, the streets themselves become 'cycling streets'.
- Launch impact campaigns, such as "move in the park", "move week", etc.
- Inform the citizens where they can be active outdoor, spread charts via the (new) media.
- Extend existing programs such as the 'Stockholm Open Gym', the 'car free Sundays'.
- Close the streets in front of the schools after schooltime for an hour or two.
- Create temporarily car-free roads for an hour or two after school all over the city.
- Promote national / regional TV campaigns to be active.
- Provide video examples on how to be active at home.
- Enforce sport clubs to open up a few hours a day for other than their proper unisport activities.
- Enforce schools to open up their playgrounds for neighbourhood movement activities.
- Ensure safer cycling / walking from and to school, shopping areas, etc.
- Spread traditional city sport events over several days (e.g. Corrida for 5.000 persons over 5 days).
- Create corridors in-town for people to actively get to surrounding open area (not by crowded bus).
- Peer to peer initiatives to motivate citizens to be active, supported by cities and municipalities.
- And much more examples, some of which can be found in the other 8 chapters of this document.

## **Never waste a good crisis, lessons learned are transmitted in plans for the future - 8**

Cities and municipalities are challenged, during this pandemic, to approach physical activity in a different way than they did before, making differentiations between organised / independent - indoor / outdoor - group / individual - competitive sport / recreational activities. The traditional criteria of topsport / recreational sport / non-organised physical activity have changed to the criteria: what is safe and how to organise in principle unsafe activities in a safe way.

Cities and municipalities also are challenged, consequent to this pandemic, to find a balance between environmental care and a much more extensive use by citizens of the open space (parks).

The pandemic accelerates, in many EU member states, the offer of closer to the citizens opportunities to be active, that are free of cost, and that are in principle accessible to any citizen. This is what often is called a strategic change from primarily 'invest in people to go to sport infrastructures' towards primarily 'invest in creating opportunities for citizens to be active close to home and / or in their daily mobility'. It includes initiatives to enable outdoor sport and activities: safer walking infrastructure, new cycling lanes, closing car lanes in parks and other lieu in the city, implement activity and fitness infrastructures in the open air, place artificial turf in parks, etc. One of the reasons being that this neighbourhood / mobility activity opportunities, address a wider range of the population, is cheaper for the citizens, is often cheaper for the local authorities, renders the neighbourhoods more enjoyable to live in, creates opportunities for encounter and socialization. Links between the sport services and the city planners are strengthened, to deploy these opportunities. Stakeholders involvement hereby often is boosted in city / municipality policy planning (clubs, schools, associations, neighbourhood committees). But it is too early to state that this tendency will be enforced by to be developed strategic planning by the local authorities, supported by the consequent local authority budgets. However, where elections have taken place during or since the first lockdown, this change is often visible in a) the new policy plan, and b) the budget of the newly elected local governments. Rethinking the global urban design and city development, for the benefit of sport and movement, seems thus to be boosted since the start of COVID19.

In the same context, many cities and municipalities go for a changed attitude vis-à-vis the traditional unisport clubs. Cities and municipalities want traditional unisport clubs to play an enhanced societal role. It is not for the local authorities to organize the unisport themselves. At least over 80% of the sports infrastructures are paid by the local citizens, paying taxes, which the local authorities invest in the sport and movement infrastructures. Many cities and municipalities urge the unisport clubs, who benefit from this local funding, to focus much more on the health aspects of being active (physically, mentally and enhancing social cohesion). Being able to do sport is a universal right. Associations are the key players for enhancing citizenship for 'all' citizens. Studies in many EU member states have demonstrated that, during the pandemic, the most vulnerable people have been much less active, whereas the people who are better off have been relatively equally active. As numerous studies from the past decades have demonstrated, there is a correlation between health and being active. This is why cities and municipalities have learned during this pandemic, to dare to ask from the unisport clubs which they fund, to invest more in their health, educational and societal tasks.

Half of the 27 EU member states have a population that is less than 2% of the total EU population. The possibility that you find an inspiring example, that is interesting to apply in your city or municipality, is much higher outside your own country. Thanks to the EU funding, Active Local Europe has been able to compose a list of representatives on sport and movement, from cities and municipalities, in all 27 EU members states. You have received this list. Many of them are looking to learn from you and share with you. Just go for it. And chase us up: tell Active Local Europe what we must do, to improve the possibilities for you to connect with your fellows in other EU member states.

## **Participating networks**

### **Group 7 - Tuesday 24 November from 09:00 till 10:00**

#### **Estonia**

Eesti Linnade Ja Valdade Liit - Association of Estonian Cities and Municipalities

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.elvl.ee>

#### **Cyprus**

Union of Cyprus Municipalities - Union of Cyprus Municipalities

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.ucm.org.cy>

#### **Luxemburg**

Syndicat des Villes and Communes Luxembourgeoises - Association of Luxembourg Cities and Municipalities

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.syvicol.lu>

#### **Malta**

Assocjazzjoni Kunsilli Lokali - Local Councils' Association

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.lca.org.mt>

### **Group 6 - Wednesday 25 November from 10:00 till 11:00**

#### **Croatia**

Udruga gradova u Republici Hrvatskoj - Association of cities in the Republic of Croatia -

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.udruga-gradova.hr>

#### **Lithuania**

Lietuvos savivaldybių asociacija - Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.lsa.lt>

#### **Slovenia**

Skupnost občin Slovenije - Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia

<https://skupnostobcin.si/english/>

#### **Latvia**

Latvijas Pašvaldību Savienība - Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.lps.lv>

### **Group 5 - Thursday 26 November from 09:00 till 10:00**

#### **Bulgaria**

НАЦИОНАЛНО СДРУЖЕНИЕ НА ОБЩИНИТЕ В РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ - National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.namrb.org>

## **Ireland**

Local Government Management Agency - Local Government Management Agency

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.lgma.ie>

## **Slovakia**

Združenie miest a obcí Slovenska - Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.zmos.sk>

## **Group 4 - Tuesday 1 December from 09:00 till 10:00**

## **Austria**

Österreichischer Städtebund - Austrian Association of Cities and Towns

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=https://www.staedtebund.gv.at/ausschuess/e/sportangelegenheiten/organisation/>

## **Czech Republic**

Svaz měst a obcí České republiky - Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.smocr.cz>

## **Sweden**

Sveriges Kommuner och Regioner - Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.skr.se>

## **Greece**

Κεντρική Ένωση Δήμων Ελλάδος - Central Union of Municipalities of Greece

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.kedke.gr>

## **Group 3 - Thursday 3 December from 10:00 till 11:00**

## **Austria**

Österreichischer Gemeindebund - Austrian Association of Municipalities -

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.gemeindebund.at>

## **Finland**

Kuntaliitto - Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities -

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.localfinland.fi>

## **Hungary**

Települési Önkormányzatok Országos Szövetsége - Hungarian National Association of Local Authorities -

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.toosz.hu>

## **Romania**

Asociația Municipiilor din România (AMR) - Romanian Municipalities Association

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.amr.ro>

## **Denmark**

KL - Local Government Denmark

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=https://www.kl.dk/kommunale-opgaver/kultur-og-fritid/idraets-og-fritidsfaciliteter/>

## **Portugal**

Associação Nacional de Municípios Portugueses - National Association of Portuguese Municipalities -

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.anmp.pt>

## **Group 2 - Tuesday 8 December from 09:00 till 10:00**

## **France**

Association Nationale des Elus en charge du Sport - National Association of the Elected in charge of Sport

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.andes.fr>

## **Germany**

Deutscher Städtetag - Association of German Cities

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.staedtetag.de>

## **Poland**

Związek Miast Polskich - Association of Polish Cities

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.zmp.poznan.pl>

## **The Netherlands**

Vereniging Sport en Gemeenten - Association Sport and Municipalities

<https://sportengemeenten.nl/association-of-sports-and-municipalities/>

## **Belgium**

Instituut voor Sportbeheer en Recreatiebeleid - Institute for Sports Management and Recreational Policy

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.isbvzw.be>

## **Group 1 - Wednesday 9 December from 09:00 till 10:00**

## **France**

Association Nationale des Directeurs et Intervenants d'Installations et des Services des Sports - National Association of Directors and Stakeholders of the Sport Departments and Facilities

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.andiiss.org>

## **Germany**

Deutscher Städte- und Gemeindebundes - Federation of German Cities and Municipalities

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.dstgb.de>

## **Italy**

Associazione Nazionale Comuni Italiani - National Association of Italian Municipalities

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.anci.it>

**Spain**

Federación Española de Municipios y Provincias - Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.femp.es>

**Belgium**

Instituut voor Sportbeheer en Recreatiebeleid - Institute for Sports Management and Recreational Policy

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=&sl=auto&tl=en&u=www.isbvzw.be>

## **Annotation made during the sessions - from each of the 7 groups separately**

### **Group 7 annotations**

1. Social media as format to inform their citizens on the possibilities to be active (sport and movement) was predominantly used by cities and municipalities in most countries.
2. Rethinking the global urban design and city development, for the benefit of sport and movement, has been boosted since the start of COVID19.
3. Outdoor activity opportunities have been boosted in cities and municipalities: play streets, streets which are closed for car traffic, cycling streets where bicycles may not be overtaken by cars, etc.
4. Cities and municipalities implant more outdoor fitness facilities in parks.
5. Sport city events are being re-thought.
6. Cities and municipalities learned how to go on with differences on being active between: organised / independent - indoor / outdoor - group / individual - competitive sport / recreational activities.
7. Stakeholders involvement was boosted in city / municipality policy planning (clubs, schools, associations, neighbourhood committees). It is a nice experience on citizens involvement in local policy making and implementation.
8. Finding a balance between environmental care and a more extensive use by citizens of the open space (parks).
9. Searching a new balance in the city / municipality between 'directing people to the sport infrastructures' and 'bringing opportunities for an active lifestyle closer to where the citizens live'. Especially under the pressure of reduced city / municipality finances. And even more to have more citizens leading an active lifestyle, especially those who currently are inactive or the vulnerable citizens.
10. Many cities and municipalities realize through the lockdowns how important a city / municipality offer on sport and movement opportunities is for a) the well-being and health of the individual citizens, and b) the social cohesion.

### **Group 6 annotations**

1. Cities and municipalities promote sport and physical activity among their citizens, within the regulations set out by the national and regional governments, with much concern to keep their citizens healthy and safe. Cities and municipalities have a good view on the particularities of their local situation and are therefore best placed to stimulate their citizens to be active: in support of the clubs and schools, the non-organised sport, facilitating the use of the outdoor opportunities, etc. Whereas the national level rather sets out the limitations, the cities and municipalities are rather creators of opportunities.

2. In most countries, the cities and municipalities have good contacts with the national level and feel there is a symbiosis between the national and local level.
3. Cities and municipalities mainly use the new media to stimulate their citizens to be active. Some also launch platforms on which specific actions are set up. Such as online followed challenges, 'together apart' sport events, healthy weeks with concrete proposals to be active outdoor in the city / municipality, providing information on opportunities in parks, woods in the environment, ...
4. In rural areas, it is often seen that a more personalized promotion is made by the elected people from the local authorities. This works well in smaller municipalities, where everybody knows everybody. A mayor e.g. hereby can use her / his own Facebook, etc.
5. Cities and municipalities connect with sports clubs and schools to agree on what is possible and to discuss how they can help the clubs and the schools to stimulate their members / pupils to stay active. The mutual understanding is almost always good.
6. Very important - but not easy - is that cities and municipalities have to change their policies on the promotion of doing sport and being active.
  - Such as the promotion of outdoor sport and activities: walking, Nordic walking, opening cycling lanes, closing car lanes in parks and other lieu in the city, implement activity and fitness infrastructures in the open air, place artificial turf in parks, etc.
  - The traditional criteria of topsport / recreational sport / non-organised physical activity has changed to the criteria: what is safe and how to organise in principle unsafe activities in a safe way.
  - The criteria of what is allowed and not allowed can be different all over the country, according to the number of people infected. The criteria also can change rapidly overtime. Cities and municipalities have to constantly and very quickly adapt and communicate their approach.
  - The traditional policy on supporting sport and being needs to be changed. Outdoor activity need to be more promoted. It means that the local authority policy needs to be changed, political agreement needs to be reached for doing so, especially when it involves investment cost, or when it can touch on the citizens (closing streets for card to benefit cycling for example).
  - Most countries see that the citizens in this second lockdown are less active than in the same period last year's and also less than during the first pandemic. It is presumed that the reason is that a transformation of attention to policy making and implementation in more outdoor recreational physical activity needs to be structurally worked out and financed. Which is not something that can be reached in a few months' time, which also is questionable because we might in a few months' time be back to normal, because it is a change in mindset, etc.

#### **Group 5 annotations**

1. In all countries, cities and municipalities only have the freedom of action within the rules and regulations set out by the national government. Hereby, the higher the level of infection is, the lesser the cities and municipalities can be flexible in providing opportunities for citizens to be active.

2. In most countries is found that during the first lockdown, the rules and regulations of the national authorities were dominant. Ever sense, most national associations of cities and municipalities have good to very good interaction with the national level. I.e. that there is cross fertilisation between the different authority levels: national, regional, local.
3. Some countries work, since a few months we pre-determined codes. E.g. from 1 till 5. Depending on the code, what is and what is not allowed is determined. These arrangements are being worked out in deliberation between the different levels of authorities. It provides some comfort to the cities and municipalities, who after all are the dominant factor for implementing and controlling these.
4. Cities have a triple function cc the Corona measures:
  - deliberation with the local associations, the national authorities and other actors on setting out the rules and regulations
  - explain these rules and regulations towards the local citizens / associations
  - set up campaigns to enable and motivate the citizens to be active
5. Communication on activating the citizens runs in most countries via a variety of channels. National TV. Social media. Target adapted communication (e.g. the elderly via leaflets and the youngsters much more via new media). In Ireland it was chosen to use the colour yellow for Corona related messages (the colour of hope). The overall by far most used channel of communication on being active during a pandemic runs via the new media. Also relevant is that cities and municipalities are very important messengers on opportunities to be active. After all, citizens firstly leave in their street / neighbourhood / city-municipality and the messages for being active fit best and are most trusted when communicated at the local level. Especially if the messages and opportunities are deliberated (at least) or co-driven with the local actors (schools, sports clubs, workplaces).
6. Local authority activity enhancing campaigns include: activities at home, organising contests which can be followed up online (running a 1.000 km with all collaborators in one week time e.g.), information on the access to public grounds, turning (temporarily or who know definitely) some of the streets or part of the streets into cycling lanes or walking paths, etc.
7. Cities and municipalities in this second lockdown have mixed feelings. Due to the severity of the infection rate, and the consequent movement restriction measure, have little possibilities to promote sport and movement. On the other hand, some / many have developed plans over the past months for a significant change in their strategic plans on activating citizens. In almost all countries, kind of a strategic change from primarily 'invest in people to go to sport infrastructures' towards a primarily 'investment in creating opportunities for citizens close to home and in their daily mobility'. Where elections have taken place during or since the first lockdown, this change is much visible in a) the new policy plan, and b) the budget of the newly elected local governments. One of the reasons being that this neighbourhood / mobility activity addresses a wider range of the population, is cheaper for the citizens, is often cheaper for the local authorities, renders the neighbourhoods more enjoyable to live in, creates opportunities for encounter and socialization.

#### **Group 4 annotations**

1. As a city or municipality, it is difficult to motivate citizens to do sport or move, when the infection rate is high = the restrictive measures from the national authorities are strict.
2. Free of costs and individual practicing sport or physical activity should always be allowed. I.e. local running, walking, biking, mountaineering. That is what cities and municipalities often are in favour off.

3. A city or municipality can facilitate sport and movement by opening up public space to be active. This includes space which normally is not open for sport and movement. Parking space aside the roads can be reduced for the benefit of walking / running / cycling lanes. Parks where cars can drive through can be closed for automotive transport (examples of this are found in many EU cities). Cities and municipalities can inform the citizens where they can be active outdoor = in the public space. They can also launch impact campaigns such as “move in the park”. Or an extension of exciting programs such as Stockholm Open Gym. They can also place extra fitness instruments in the parks. And they can organize online tools for challenging their citizens to ‘together apart’ compete with each other. And they can provide video examples how to be active at home.
4. Local authorities seem to rather be the ‘motivators’ for citizens to be active, whereas the national authorities seem to rather be ‘restrictors’ of movability. Which is rather normal. The local authorities have much better knowledge on the opportunities in the specific local context. They also are far much closer to the citizens and their associations, so that agreements can be made on what can and what cannot be done, in a safe way.
5. Sport clubs struggle. They have loss of income. The reason being that sponsors withdraw from sponsoring. And also because recurrent revenues fell to zero: member fees, spectators spending in the canteen, funding activities such as e.g. spaghetti evenings. This is both the case for rather competitive and recreational sports clubs. The severity of the financial problems for sports clubs will probably only become fully clear once the pandemic is over. Many countries undertake measures to fight possibly the financial problems of their sports clubs.
6. In many countries, there seems to be a rise in being physical active by those who were not active yet, a status quo by those who were active in a non-organized setting (not allied to a sports club), but a decrease of activity by sport club members. It can be questioned, is not scientifically researched that sports clubs seem to not play an important motivating role to have their sport club members being evenly active, but in another way. Especially team sport clubs seem to undertake little action for their members to go running, cycling, etc. beyond their traditional activities.
7. Sweden has published late November 2020 some scientific findings on the citizens activities during the Spring 2020 lockdown.
8. The pandemic seems to accelerate a tendency which already started over the past years: more attention for free and closer to the citizens opportunities to be active. Links with the city planners are strengthened to deploy these opportunities. But it is too early to state that this tendency will be enforced by to be developed strategic planning by the local authorities, supported by the consequent local authority budgets.
9. Local authorities play a fundamental role, in many countries, on sport and physical activities by school students. Especially in countries where the schools are owned / financed by the authorities. Local authorities can anyhow play an important role towards school, whether owned or not owned, by creating opportunities for the students to be active outdoor. Closing streets in front of the school, during the educational hours, is an example. Ensuring safe cycling / walking from adn to the school is another opportunity.
10. Cities and municipalities apply a variety of means to stimulate their citizens to be active. However, this is much depending on how severe the restrictive measures are. Local authorities seem to predominantly use the new media to transfer their messages to the citizens to be active and do sport. Other means are information on the website, monthly newsletters, specific information channels to targeted groups (leaflets for the older people using less the new media). Communication from the local authorities via the sports clubs to the sports clubs members is seldomly used.

11. In most countries, the national associations of cities and municipalities feel that there is a reasonable to good interplay between themselves and the national authorities. And also with the national sports federations. They feel that the subsidiarity is respected of the responsibilities from resp. the national and the local authorities on sport and movement opportunities for the citizens. The national associations feel that overall their voice is being heard and respected by the national authorities and the sports federations. Not always, but in many cases.

### **Group 3 annotations**

1. Very many cities and municipalities have undertaken initiatives to motivate their citizens to be active during the pandemic lockdowns. Both the current lockdown and the lockdown(s) earlier this year.
2. The initiatives undertaken by cities and municipalities, to activate their citizens, differ by typology of the local entity. In smaller municipalities and rural areas, it is easier to stimulate citizens to be active in the woods or countryside. In large cities, not so much open space is available and other initiatives are promoted. These can be favouring cycling and walking by (temporarily) closing streets, close roads which cross parks for car traffic, open up sports fields (football, hockey, ...) for activities in smaller groups or for non-competitive activities such as yoga / tai chi / many more, city runs on individual bases but registered and exposed on a website or via new media, placement of activation tools (small fitness infrastructures) in the parks and other open space, and many more.
3. The initiatives undertaken by cities and municipalities differ by geographical areas. In areas where it can be very cold in winter, to propose to cycle is less evident than in warmer regions. Even to propose to walk is not evident, the roads may be slippery. Whilst suggesting to take public transport to out of the city outdoor areas, is not evident, it could lead to overcrowded public transport.
4. All cities and municipalities consider it much more difficult to undertake initiatives, to stimulate their citizens to be active, when the lockdown restrictions are severe.
5. Most cities and municipalities consider that they play a crucial role as motivators to be active, since they know well what can and could not work in their city / municipality.
6. Very many cities and municipalities have developed, mostly together with or even rather steered by the regional and national authorities, initiatives or at least plans to financially help the sports clubs. Sports clubs suffer financial losses (events, tournaments, canteen, funding events, sponsoring). This can be simple things like not having to pay rent since the sports facilities are not used to cash interventions. Up till cash interventions.
7. Studies on the impact of the COVID19 restrictive measures were made in different countries, such as in Finland and in Denmark. The findings are diverse. In Denmark, during the Spring lockdown, the activities of sport club members dropped with up to 40%; whilst the activity grade of those who preliminary were not active rose with 10%. In Finland, a study demonstrated that the overall activity grade, of those who preliminary already were active, rose with 10%.
8. Some cities and municipalities, among other stakeholders, have attempted to have the uni-sportclub members to be active in other ways than what they usually do. E.g. more running, cycling, fitness exercises, etc. for e.g. football players.
9. Cities and municipalities face the requirement to be flexible and to be innovative in providing opportunities for their citizens to be active during this pandemic. They learn from this differentiated

approach and many intend to take the lessons learned along in their next year's planning on creating opportunities for their citizen to do sport and be active. Especially the lessons learned on how to activate people who traditionally were not active.

10. There is a tendency in many cities and municipalities, on top of creating and maintaining sport facilities, to create more opportunities for their citizens to be active, without cost, close to where they live or work, and in their daily mobility. The COVID19 pandemic accelerates this tendency in many cities and municipalities.
11. An important negative impact of the by the pandemic caused need to work from home, is that a significant number of citizens no longer are active in their daily mobility. An opportunity could be to consider how to turn streets, seeing also less traffic due to homework, into space for recreational running / walking / etc.
12. Peer to peer initiatives to motivate citizens to be active, supported by cities and municipalities, are often used. I.e. stimulating people to get somebody in their environment to go outdoor as well. Especially towards people with special needs. Of course in case the restrictions are not too severe.
13. Initiatives from national TV stations, to activate people, are good. But when these are supported by local authorities and others, their impact is much more effective.
14. The national associations of cities and municipalities overall feel there is a good interaction between the national / regional authorities and the local authorities on the COVID19 measures, including those on sport and physical activity.

## **Group 2 annotations**

1. There are a lot of divergencies between what cities and municipalities (can) undertake to activate their citizens. This depends e.g. on how severe the rate of infections is, and the consequent degree of the restrictions on joint activities and being mobile. It also depends between the urban and the rural areas. And it depends on the public space available in a city or municipality. Plus it depends on the socio-economic situation of the citizens. And more divergencies. These are divergencies, not only between cities and municipalities, but also between different neighbourhoods within a city or municipality.
2. Research in The Netherlands and other EU member states have demonstrated that, during this pandemic, the citizens who already were not or not so much active, are now even less active. Whereas people who were already active, during the pandemic, remain reasonably active: sometimes a little less, sometimes equally, sometimes even more active. People who used to be much active before the pandemic, also seem to find more easily other ways of being active, in ways which are allowed within the restrictive measures.
3. Research done in pre-pandemic times, demonstrated that there is a correlation between the socio-economic situation and the rate of activity of our citizens. The higher the educational and financial resources a citizen has, the more likely they are active. Research undertaken since March 2020, demonstrates that the pandemic has enlarged this discrepancy. As an example. People who used to play badminton indoor, can switch to buying a mountain bike to ride outdoor, or buy an indoor roller bike; if they have the financial means to afford it. People with little means and / or living in a small

apartment 10 levels high, do not have these opportunities. This is something cities and municipalities need to be aware of and act on.

4. An impressive number of studies, pre-covid, demonstrate that there is a correlation between being active and health, this is both physical health and mental health, plus social well-being. These studies already demonstrated the indirect impact of a sedentary life style on the health of citizens and early death. This pandemic demonstrates the impact of a sedentary lifestyle on a direct death. People with sedentary lifestyle health deficiencies, die much more from Corona. This includes physical elements (such as obesity) but also social elements (loneliness leading to late medical intervention). Cities and municipalities need to consider this in their policies and initiatives on sport and movement.
5. The fiercer the measures to combat the infection rate are, the lesser cities and municipalities have opportunities for action. Autumn 2020 sees all over Europe a second peak of the pandemic, with consequent restrictive measures. Whereas cities and municipalities deployed plenty of initiatives in the summer of 2020, to be safely active, these initiatives are much more scaled down late 2020. In France at a certain moment, only individual mobility / movement / sport was allowed. In Germany, school sport was not allowed. Etc.
6. In most EU member states, the cities and municipalities are involved in the decision making on the rules and regulations on the Corona measures. Merely as members of advisory councils. I.e. that the national associations of cities and municipalities are members of these councils. Sport and movement then is one of the many themes these associations lay on the table. E.g. in France, ANDES is member of a steering group which is led by both the Ministry of Sport and the Ministry of Health. Similarly in The Netherlands and in Belgium.
7. The cities and municipalities have at least five roles to play on activating their citizens during a pandemic. First, to inform the federal state politicians what is feasible / advisable at the local level. Second, to implement the national measures at the local level. Third, to explain the citizens what is possible at the local level, within the restrictions set out by the national / regional authorities. Fourth, to connect with the local associations on sport and movement, promoting physical activity. Fifth, to enhance opportunities themselves (creating cycling lanes, open up outdoor space for walking, fitness instruments in the parks, online challenges, online videos for in-house activity, and so many more).
8. All national associations of cities and municipalities, and the vast majority of cities and municipalities themselves, have invested a horrendously amount of time, to work out guidance for the citizens on the use of sport infrastructure and public space for sport and movement, during the pandemic. It very often includes the pre-determination in coloured coding on what is allowed depending on the rate of infections. ANDES in France, VSG in The Netherlands, ISB in Belgium, etc. have e.g. developed such documents for the swimming pools and the sport halls. The cities and municipalities have hereby the absolute key role on this planning instruments, since in the EU member states the vast majority of the sports infrastructures are owned / managed / maintained by the local authorities. In France, over 80% of the sport infrastructures is owned by the local authorities. In Italy, research has demonstrated this is even over 95%.
9. The pandemic made clear, more than before, how important public space is for sport and movement.

10. The pandemic tickles cities and municipalities to think creatively on widening their initiatives in support of sport and movement.
11. The pandemic has set open new forms of collaboration between cities / municipalities and other stakeholders, in promoting sport and movement. E.g. cities and municipalities can promote daily in-house activities launched by national / regional TV stations. E.g. the promotion of sportive 'together apart' challenges on Strava and other apps.
12. Post COVID19 strategic planning. Many national associations of cities and municipalities are already thinking or have planned initiatives post Corona. France will launch a 'feel good by being active' campaign, the afterthought is to reach people who have little or less money than before the pandemic. The ISB in Belgium is thoroughly aware of the required specific attention for vulnerable people and groups, post Corona. The VSG in The Netherlands will connect its initiatives to the SDG's goals, such as the moto 'to leave no-one behind' through inclusive sport offers.

### **Group 1 annotations**

1. In many EU member states, the national associations for cities and municipalities are member of advisory councils to the national COVID19 decision makers, also on sport and movement related matters. Such as in France and in Belgium. But this is not always the case. In Italy e.g. this is not the case for mainly two reasons: the central NGO organ is the Italian Olympic Committee and sport and movement in Italy is a regionalized matter. In Italy, cities and municipalities can only formulate argumentations for change or improvement post the decision making.
2. Cities and municipalities - in relation to the national governmental rules and regulations policymakers on Corona measures - have two main tasks. One is to help the national authorities by defining what is feasible / desired at the local level. Two is to translate, implement and control what has been decided at the national level, within the boundaries of the local setting.
3. Initiatives that cities and municipalities undertake, to motivate their citizens to be active, are very varied. They (co-)organize outdoor activities. They promote online challenges. They provide podcasts and videos with examples how to be active in times of a pandemic. Both outdoor and at home. They connect with schools - definitely local authority or state owned schools - to (co-)organize sport activities, for the school attendees or the people living in the neighbourhood, especially on the school playgrounds and other outdoor spaces they might have. They connect with the sports clubs and societal associations to (co-) organize or provide support to their activation initiatives. They help formulating ideas on what traditionally are indoor activities to be practiced outside. They foresee communication on what is allowed and what is not allowed (codes and colours) in the sports infrastructures. They promote televised and radio campaigns. They foresee enlarged possibilities for non-organized physical activities in the public space (replacing car lanes by cycling lanes, close roads during the WE's to favour walking, etc.). And much more.

4. Most national associations of cities and municipalities organize knowledge exchange and information sessions, on sport and movement during a pandemic, between their members. The idea being that cities and municipalities can learn from each other. Similar exchange sessions are sometimes set up between the local authorities and other stakeholders (federations, clubs, societal organisations, work places, educational sector).
5. All countries work on financial compensations for the losses incurred by the sport associations. That is sometimes to the sports associations without employees (only volunteers), sport associations with staff, or for both of them. In France, budget is foreseen to fund volunteers helping out the sports clubs. Funding is foreseen related to sport infrastructures; new investments or compensation of the rent. Local authorities often let off the rental obligations of the sports clubs, since they cannot use the facilities. Cities and municipalities often foresee funding to install physical activity enhancing infrastructures in parks and at other public spaces. Or they enlarge their budgets for opening up new walking paths or cycling lanes. All these being exceptional subsidies voted by the local authorities, or often it also concerns pandemic compensation budgets the local authorities receive from the national or regional governments.
6. The (associations of) cities and municipalities have already learned lessons, related to sport and movement, from the past months of pandemic. One of these is that cities and municipalities must be able to rely on sport associations which address 'all' citizens. It is not for the local authorities to organize sport and movement themselves. Local authorities must create opportunities for their citizens to be active on an individual bases or support associations which organize collective sport and movement practice. At least over 80% of the sports infrastructures are paid by the local citizens, paying taxes, which the local authorities invest in the sport and movement infrastructures. Especially the federated Olympic sports clubs, who benefit from this local funding, must reinvent themselves. They must focus much more on the health aspects of being active (physically, mentally and enhancing social cohesion) and relatively less on sports competition and their corporate interests. Or cities and municipalities must reduce the funding to those club, for the benefit for funding sport and movement accessible for all. Being able to do sport is a universal right. Associations are the key players for enhancing citizenship for 'all' citizens. Studies in many EU member states have demonstrated that during the pandemic the most vulnerable people have been much less active, whereas the people who are better have been relatively equally active. As numerous studies from the past decades have demonstrated, there is a correlation between health and being active.

## **Mails with the participants' evaluations**

**Van:** Jonas Mickus <jonas.mickus@lsa.lt>

**Verzonden:** donderdag 17 december 2020 11:48

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**Onderwerp:** RE: Report on the 7 sessions attended by 26 EU members states on "Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, with a low cost for our cities and municipalities"

Dear Philippe,  
Thank you for anotation.

Pagarbiai/ best regards  
Jonas Mickus

Patarėjas švietimo ir kultūros klausimais/Adviser on Education and Culture Affairs  
Lietuvos savivaldybių asociacija/Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania

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**Van:** Thomas Bach <K09F@kk.dk>

**Verzonden:** donderdag 17 december 2020 8:54

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**Onderwerp:** SV: Report on the 7 sessions attended by 26 EU members states on "Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, with a low cost for our cities and municipalities"

Dear Mr. De Witte

Thank you for a well-organized discussion and the interesting findings of the sessions.

Merry Christmas. Stay safe.

Best regards,  
**Thomas Bach**  
Director of Sport

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City og Copenhagen  
Phone: +45 2278 9669  
E-mail [k09f@kk.dk](mailto:k09f@kk.dk)

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**Van:** Cyril CLOUP <cyril.cloup@andes.fr>

**Verzonden:** donderdag 10 december 2020 9:49

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**Onderwerp:** RE: Report of the 08/12 session on “Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, with a low cost for our cities and municipalities” -

Thank you Philippe for all information

It's an initiative who needs being developed if France can bring information in health sport in EU, i will be happy.

I would like also to know if our project with PACTE and Sport and Citizenship can be presented again ? I regret this project have not been selected.

Bien cordialement,

**Cyril CLOUP**

**Directeur Général**

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**Van:** Zethrin Nils-Olof <Nils-Olof.Zethrin@skr.se>

**Verzonden:** woensdag 9 december 2020 15:47

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**Onderwerp:** SV: Report of the 01/12 session on “Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, with a low cost for our cities and municipalities” -

De Mr De Witte!

Thank you very much for getting the opportunity to discuss with colleagues from other European organizations.

As I told you, IAKS Nordic (where I am in the board) arranged a seminar on the topic “Corona and its effects on sport in the Nordic countries”. You can see it if you follow the link below:  
<https://www.facebook.com/iaksnordic/posts/808732139691661>

If you are not able to see the whole seminar I would recommend the first half. You find the presentations attached to this mail.

Best regards!

**Nils-Olof Zethrin, fil.dr/PhD**

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**Van:** CHEVAILLER Alexandre <achevailler@montbeliard.com>

**Verzonden:** woensdag 9 december 2020 10:21

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**Onderwerp:** "Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, at a low cost for our cities and municipalities" - Wednesday 9 December from 09:00 till 10:00 CET (Brussels time)

Merci Philippe pour cette réunion, qui, j'en suis convaincu appellera d'autres échanges.

Bien cordialement

A. Chevalier

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**Van:** Sabján Katalin <Sabjan@toosz.hu>

**Verzonden:** donderdag 3 december 2020 23:38

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**Onderwerp:** RE: Report of the 03/12 session on "Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, with a low cost for our cities and municipalities" -

Dear Philippe

Thank you for the information! Looking forward to cooperate with you.

Best regards

Katalin

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**Van:** Romuald.Niescher@magibk.at <Romuald.Niescher@magibk.at>

**Verzonden:** donderdag 3 december 2020 8:35

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**CC:** Romuald.Niescher@magibk.at

**Onderwerp:** Romuald AW: Report of the 01/12 session on "Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, with a low cost for our cities and municipalities" -

Dear Philippe

Many thanks for your preparations and now for this summary.

We hope for a better sports-year 2021.

Kind regards

Romuald

**INNS'  
BRUCK**



**Landeshauptstadt Innsbruck  
Sportamt**

**Romuald Niescher**

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**Verzonden:** vrijdag 27 november 2020-11:47

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**CC:** Jim Beggan <jim.beggan@dublincity.ie>

**Onderwerp:** RE: "Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, with a low cost for our cities and municipalities" - report of the 26/11 session

Philippe

Thank you for convening the meeting yesterday, it was good to have the opportunity to meet you and the other representatives virtually. Also for forwarding the attachments.

Just to note, should the conference be proceeding in April any invite would need to come through the CCMA Committee structure and a decision made through that forum.

Regards

**Marina Duffy**

Business Owner | Manager

CCMA – Rural Development, Community, Tourism, Culture & Heritage (RCTCH) Committee

&

CCMA – Business, Enterprise, Innovation & Urban/Town Economic Renewal (BEIUER) Committee

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**Van:** Igor Maretić <Igor.Maretic@split.hr>

**Verzonden:** vrijdag 27 november 2020 9:49

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**Onderwerp:** RE: "Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, with a low cost for our cities and municipalities" - report of the 25/11 session

Dear mr. Philippe De Witte,

Thank you very much for the kind invitation to the online discussion. Topic is very interesting and relevant, especially during a pandemic. International collaboration and exchanging experiences with other cities and countries on this theme is incredibly important to ensuring the health of the population.

We are looking forward to the next activities in this project.

Best regards,

Igor Maretić  
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**Van:** Jonas Mickus <jonas.mickus@lsa.lt>

**Verzonden:** donderdag 26 november 2020 13:56

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**Onderwerp:** Re: "Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, with a low cost for our cities and municipalities" - report of the 25/11 session

Mr. Philippe

Thank you for meeting and information.

Best wishes

Jonas

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**Van:** Latvijas tautas sporta asociācija <LTSA@riga.lv>

**Verzonden:** donderdag 26 november 2020 10:10

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

**Onderwerp:** Atb.: "Stimulating our citizens to be active during a pandemic, with a low cost for our cities and municipalities" - report of the 25/11 session

Dear Philippe

Thank you for the invitation to participate in a very interesting and very necessary conference in this situation.

Kind regards

Galina

Ar cieņu

Latvijas Tautas sporta asociācija

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Van: Mario Fava <mariofava16@gmail.com>

Verzonden: woensdag 25 november 2020 14:13

Aan: Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>

CC: Ott.Kasuri@elvl.ee; karolin.nirk@parnu.ee; ikaros.moushouttas@gmail.com; gerard.koob@syvicol.lu; eeicher@chd.lu; lca@lca.org.mt; Lianne Mifsud <lmifsud@lca.org.mt>

Onderwerp: Re: FW: Best practices from Malta

Dear Mr De Witte,

Thank you for sharing our initiatives.

Hopefully, we will be able to meet physically in the coming months.

Kind regards,

Mario Fava

President

Local Councils' Association

E-mail: mariofava16@gmail.com

Mob: +356 9944 3381

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**Van:** Lianne Mifsud <lcassar@lca.org.mt>

**Verzonden:** woensdag 25 november 2020 8:50

**Aan:** Philippe De Witte <philippe.dewitte@activelocaleurope.eu>; LCA <LCA@lca.org.mt>

**CC:** Mario Fava <mariofava16@gmail.com>

**Onderwerp:** RE: Best practices

Dear Philippe

Trust all is well.

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to share our practices with our colleagues from other countries.

Kindly find below the link for:

- the project framework – Slow Streets Project  
[https://issuu.com/lcamalta/docs/slow\\_20streets\\_20online](https://issuu.com/lcamalta/docs/slow_20streets_20online)
- LCA Vision 2020/2024 - [https://issuu.com/lcamalta/docs/akl\\_vision\\_summary](https://issuu.com/lcamalta/docs/akl_vision_summary)
- LCA facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/lcamalta>
- Resident First facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/YouSafeMalta>
- Yousafe Brief - [https://issuu.com/lcamalta/docs/yousafe\\_introduction](https://issuu.com/lcamalta/docs/yousafe_introduction)
- Yousafe Platform - <https://www.facebook.com/YouSafeMalta>

Best Regards

**Lianne Cassar**  
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