

## EV Pilot City Forum 2018

The first event of the EV Pilot City Programme, the Pilot City Forum 2018 was hosted by the city of Helsinki in Finland. The event was opened by Helsinki's Deputy Mayor Anni Sinnemäki, and attracted one hundred participants from twelve different countries. Besides city-level representatives the event hosted participants from national government, NGOs, academia and the private sector. The two day event consisted of a workshop on the first day, a dinner in Helsinki's city hall hosted by Deputy Mayor Anni Sinnemäki, and a site visit on the second day.



The workshop consisted of a plenary session with introductions by the city of Helsinki, the IEA, Finland's Ministry of Transport and Communications, and from the Rugao municipal government, China. The largest part of the workshop was devoted to breakout sessions with presentations from city representatives, NGOs and the private sector, sharing experiences followed by a discussion. There was a breakout session focussed on the Nordic experience with electric cars, commercial vehicles and buses, followed by a breakout session focussed on international experiences on the same topic.

## Future of the EV Pilot City Programme

At the end of the workshop session, the future of the EV Pilot City Programme was also discussed. Cities were asked to give their take on what topics and types of activities the Programme should focus on. Key topics of interest identified by city representatives were:



- Standards (includes connectors, communication protocols), with a focus on implementation and the need to enable interoperability
- Types of chargers (private & publicly accessible, slow or fast)
- Procurement (EV prioritization or mandates)
- New financing instruments to bridge the cost gap
- Road tolls (differentiated rates for EVs)
- EVs in High Occupancy Vehicle lanes
- Park and ride facilities, other parking policies (e.g. differentiated parking fees, dedicated parking for EVs)
- Policy transition from phase of initial uptake to phase of scaling up EVs

- Mandates for EV charging capabilities in parking spaces (residential) – also covered by EU Directive
- Enforcement/coexistence of EVs and ICEs
- How to deal with EV penetration for individuals not having access to private parking
- Environmental Zones
- Link between EV and public transport (including effect of MaaS and autonomous vehicles)
- Data collection methods: sharing experiences on how cities monitor EV uptake
- Monitoring public opinion

Participants also expressed interest in thematic webinars to be held from time to time for PCP members, and to establish a contact list for cities by area of competence. It was also discussed that future Forums could serve to call for a project proposal to be conducted in the following year, such as analytical publications. The idea that cities could use the Programme to set collective targets was also brought up, although there were mixed opinions among participants about the feasibility of this. Finally, there was broad support among attendees to open up the programme to other cities/jurisdictions from both developed and developing regions.

The next steps of the Programme will build on the feedback received at the Forum.

## Day 2: Site Visits



On the second day, the group travelled by electric bus to the smart city district Smart Kalasatama in Helsinki, with a demonstration of the district's plan to reduce GHG emissions and integrate electric mobility in its design. Some participants were able to experience a test drive in an autonomous and electric minibus. The group also visited VTT, Finland's technical research center, which included an introduction of their research on electric vehicles and batteries.