

# ECO-WAY TO KINDERGARTEN IN GDYNIA

POLIS Working Group on Active Mobility and Health, Brussels (Belgium), 19<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Karolina Marszałkowska, City of Gdynia

# City of Gdynia



- Chartered in 1926
- Belongs to the Tri-City agglomeration
- Port city
- Gdynia has 250 000 inhabitants
- Total area 135 km<sup>2</sup>





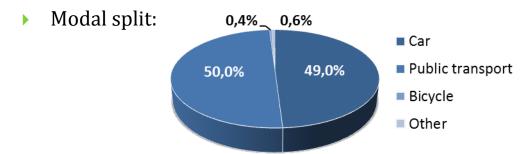




# Transport in Gdynia



- Total roads in Gdynia: 391,1 km
- Means of PT:
  - Buses: (77 lines)
  - Trolleybuses: 40,3 km (12 lines)
  - Rapid urban railway (SKM)



- Public transport one of the most efficient and green in Poland and in Europe
- Clean PT vehicles operate in the city mainly CNG buses and the modern, energy efficient fleet of trolleybuses







# **Background**



- Environmental pollution (mainly air pollution)
- The danger resulting from high traffic volume in the kindergarten and school areas
- The need to increase the road safety in school areas
- The significance of the youngest generations
- Encouragement and motivation to lead active and healthy lifestyle
- Youngest children can be treated as "driving force" to change our negative transport and lifestyle behaviour









# **Background**







- Continuation of WOW (Walk Once a Week) campaign launched in 2012 within EU **SEGMENT** project
- 6 primary schools in Gdynia (altogether 22 classes – 507 pupils)





# **Background**











# "Eco-way to kindergarten" in Gdynia



- Continuation of WOW initiative enhanced and continued in kindergartens in 2013 with own funds
- 37 public kindergartens in Gdynia invited to participate (result: 25 involved – 75 groups – 1989 pupils ).
- Main principle: Children are individually walked to kindergartens by their parent instead of being driven by car.
- Other sustainable modes of transport are also acceptable, f.i.: bike, scooter, PT.





# **Target groups**



- Oldest groups from City's public kindergartens (4-5 year old children) and their parents
- Reason: possibility to shape their travel behaviour and increase their awareness on sustainable transport at a very early age.





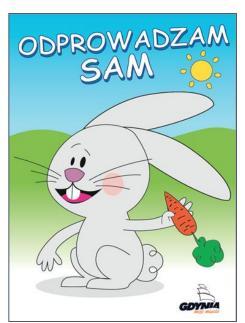
#### Aim of the initiative

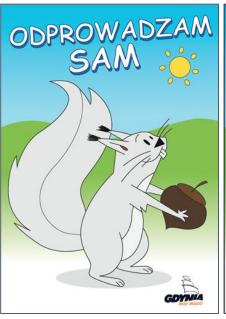


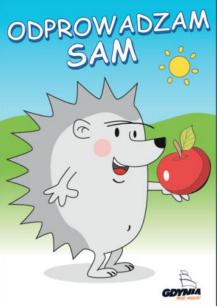
- Promote walking and other alternative modes of transport among target group,
- Encourage and motivate the target group to lead active and healthy lifestyle,
- Youngest children can be treated as "driving force" to change our negative transport and lifestyle behaviour
- Increase target group's awareness on sustainable transport,
- Reduce congestion and air pollution in Gdynia's public kindergartens area,
- ▶ Enhance the road safety of kindergarten children,
- Encourage the target groups to re-think their everyday travel choices and reduce car use whenever possible.

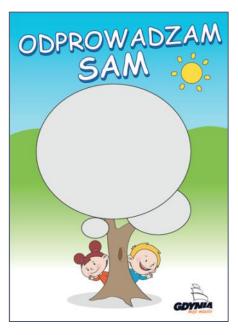


#### Posters with stickers











Reflective vests and toys





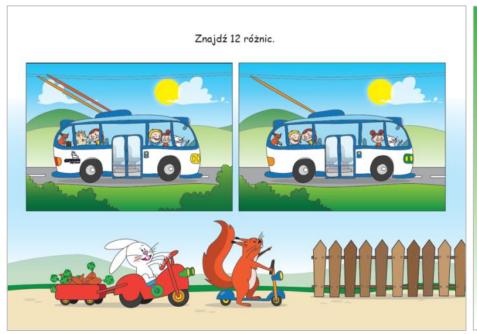


Memory game - BAMBINORY





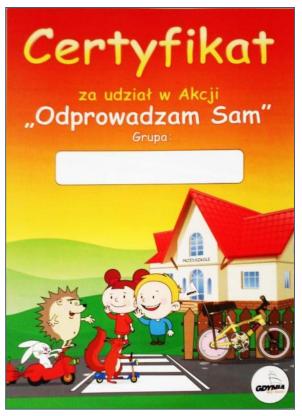
Exercise book on sustainable transport







#### Certificates















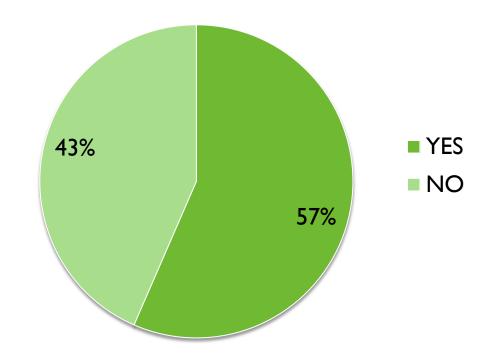






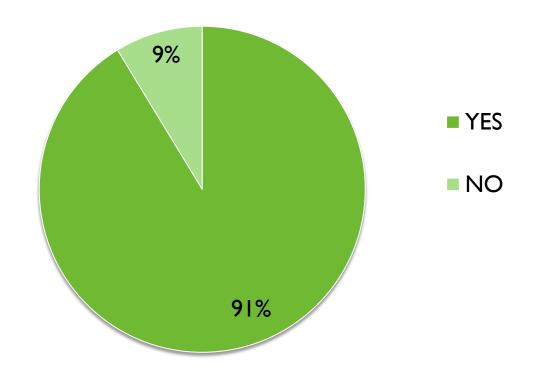


Have you noticed the decrease in the number of cars parked in the kindergarten area?



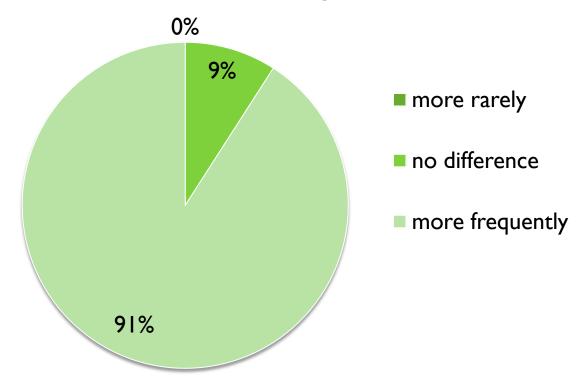


Based on the initiative, do you think that children have significant impact on change of their parents travel behaviour?



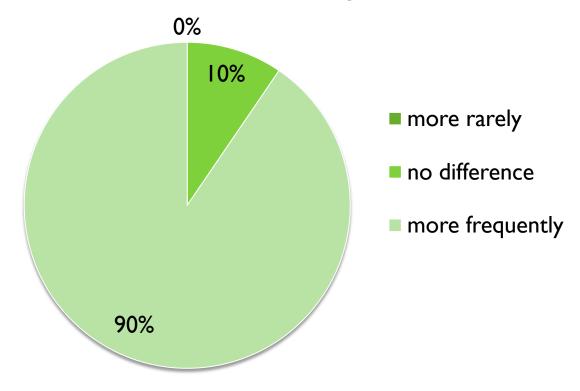


Comparing to the time before the campaign, have you noticed that parents WALK their children to/from kindergarten...?



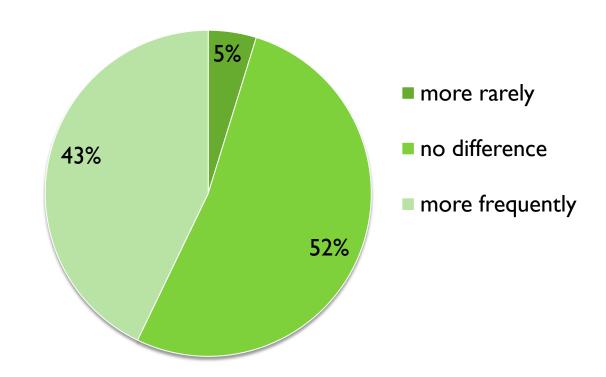


Comparing to the time before the camapign, have you noticed that parents CYCLE with their children to/from the kindergarten...?



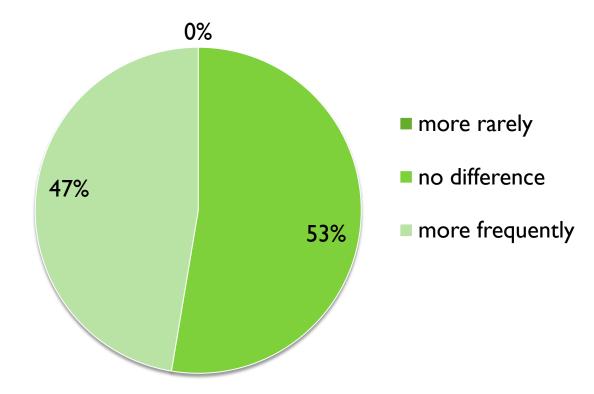


Comparing to the time before the campaign, have you noticed that parents use PT in their travel to/from kindergarten...?



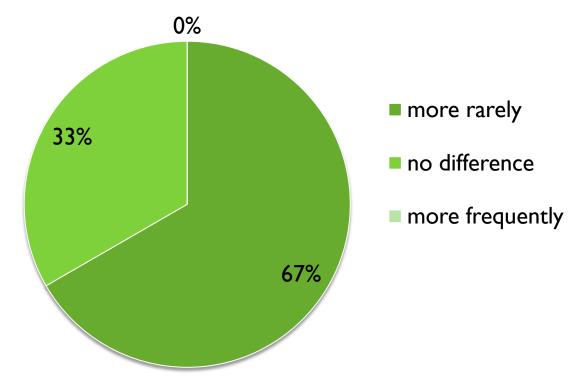


Comparing to the time before the campaign, have you noticed that children travel to/from kindergarten on scooter..?





Comparing to the time before the campaign, have you noticed that you travel with your child to/from the kindergarten BY CAR ..?



# Summary



- "The campaign is a very interesting initiative, which has contributed to the increase of road safety of our pupils as well as the decrease of the traffic volume in the kindergarten's area."
- "The initiative has motivated the parents to use alternative modes of transport in their everyday travel to the kindergarten, lead more healthy lifestyle and decrease their negative impact in the environment."
- " The children like the campaign a lot, they tell a lot about it to the parents and encourage to walk more."
- "(…) the colourful campaign materials were a great tool, very encouraging for the children to participate in the action."
- "(…) the parents declared the need of cycle racks to be installed in the kindergarten's area."



## THANK YOU FOR YOU ATTENTION!!!@

#### **Contact:**

Karolina Marszałkowska

E-mail: <u>k.marszalkowska@zdiz.gdynia.pl</u>