

# Quarterly Network Report

Beyond the Urban April to June 2024  
summed up



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# **1. 2nd TNM “Citizens Journey” in Tartu, Estonia**

# 2nd TNM “ Citizens Journey” in Tartu, Estonia

**On the 14th and 15th of May it took place the second Transnational Meeting in Tartu, Estonia, gathering 49 attendees from the 10 different municipal delegations within the network, along with other representatives from the URBACT program. This time, focused on the “Citizens Journey”.**

The network members experienced two exceptionally intense days, fully immersed in a diverse array of workshops, conferences, and various other activities. Each day was packed with opportunities for learning, collaboration, and networking, offering participants a rich and varied program that kept them engaged from start to finish.

## Two very demanding days

During the first day of the meeting, attendees participated in three sessions throughout the day. The first one was about On-demand service activation, where the partners from Treviso, Osona, Tartu and Bram shared their respective experiences.

The second session involved Mobility Studies to advance the understanding of urban-rural mobility flows, led by PhD Age Poom, Associate Professor in Urban Environment at the University of Tartu.

Lastly, representatives from Tartu’s local authorities and entities explained some good practices, actions and strategies implemented in the municipality, particularly concerning school student transportation and cooperation between Tartu and other municipalities in the region. These sessions were dynamised by Tarmo Raudsepp, member of the municipal council and Roman Meeksa, head of Tartu City Transport.



In respect of the following and final day, the morning sessions were more focused on the URBACT project itself. The first one aimed at

gaining a deeper understanding of the Integration concept and the Self-Assessment tool provided by URBACT.

The second one, was more focused on the activation of the Pilots and Small Scale Actions, and the possibility to cooperate between partners with similar challenges. It became a very interactive session that consisted of exchanging common difficulties and challenges across the network, with a final brainstorming of possible solutions and the sharing of local success experiences with the objective of establishing possible connections amongst all the partners. Both sessions were led by the Lead Partner's Project Manager, Mònica Carrera.



At the end of the day, attendees had the opportunity to explore and learn more about the historical water transportation in the region of Tartu through the social activity that consisted of a technical and historical presentation and experiencing the river in a reconstruction of the traditional Peipsi Barge.



## What URBACT really means

This second Transnational Meeting was a perfect and accurate representation of what URBACT really stands for: sharing knowledge and experience between different municipalities despite coming from diverse regions, situations and contexts that, apparently, are very distinct, but end up sewing connections with the objective of helping each other to implement actions that can solve the mentioned challenges. And, also, the desire to inspire people beyond the network. This meeting supposed a challenge since the schedule of a Secretariat meeting in Paris made it impossible for our Lead Expert to attend. That meant an effort on coordination and good preparation that the team in Tartu as well as the Lead Partner faced with assumed so well.



## 2. BtU Network Coordination

Review of the online meeting of the 27th of June 2024



# BtU Network Coordination (27-06-2024)

## The 4th to date

**In the last stages of the second quarter of the year, specifically on the 27th of June at 11:30 in the morning, the 4th Coordination Meeting to date took place.**

It consisted of three different sections: the first focused on network-level updates, covering the current status of the pilots, ULG meetings of all the partners, and finally the forthcoming transnational visits; the second allowed each partner to share with the whole network the stage where they found themselves at the moment; and last, but not least, we dedicated some time

to outline the next steps, including deadlines, the upcoming Transnational Meeting and to inform about the EUI and URBACT open calls (City-to-City Exchanges and Good Practice).

Here we outline some of the main subjects and ideas shared during the meeting:

## Keep the pilots running

Regarding the next steps for the pilots, the Network Expert Dr. Clyde Hutchinson emphasized the importance of maintaining progress during the approaching summer vacation period, which typically presents challenges, since the pilots are scheduled to start running in September. He also highlighted the importance to keep in mind that they are experimental small-scale actions that ideally should not have to be too troublesome.

In every single moment, the network expert let every partner know that he is ready to provide support and assistance whenever it is needed.

**Pilots and small-scale actions**

**TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT:**

- Submit the Pilot Draft
- Arrange a meeting with Clyde
- During summer - keep it working
- Inform if you are late in a delivery
- Ask for a check-in if you need some assistance

Clyde Hutchinson

URBACT Co-funded by the European Union Interreg

## The role of the ULG's

In respect of the Urbact Local Group Meetings, Clyde emphasized the aims and focus that these meetings should have: creating an active and dynamic environment, fully integrated and committed to the actions planned by each partner. This can be reflected on how frequently are the meetings scheduled, the level of involvement and engagement of all the members regarding the measures to execute, and the outcomes achieved at a local level.

**“The ULG is seen as something active, engaging, they know what the tasks ahead are and also the potential outcomes they are looking to achieve.”**

**Dr. Clyde Hutchinson**

## The upcoming URBACT National Campus

Throughout autumn 2024, every URBACT National Point will organize their URBACT National Campus, which every partner may attend. The focus of these meetings is to provide an opportunity to share challenges at a national level. Participants will discuss a variety of topics, including governance solutions, state funds and subsidies, legal and administrative procedures, building territorial networks and support, addressing common issues, and exploring effective strategies to enhance urban development. These gatherings aim at fostering collaboration and innovation among partners within the same country, even if they belong to different networks. Our APN National Campuses' are the following ones:

Country	Day	Month
Romania	15th-16th	October
Italy	17th-18th	October
Portugal	22nd-23rd	October
North Macedonia	31st-1st	October - November
Ireland	5th-6th	November
Spain	12th-13th	November
Czechia	21st-22nd	November
Estonia	28th-29th	November
Hungary	2nd-3rd	December
France	5th-6th	December

## Getting familiar with IAP structure

As for the final topic concluding the network update chapter, it was dedicated to the IAP progress. The Lead Partner’s coordinator, Mònica Carrera, exposed the importance of having Introduction and Section 1 (context, needs and vision) written, and Section 2 (overall logic and integrated approach) started by the end of 2024.

IAP Section	Key Activities	Deadline
Executive Summary	Drafting the Executive Summary	August, 2025
	Feedback and finalisation	September 2025
Introduction	Draft the Introduction section	June 2024
	Review and finalisation	February 2025
Context, Needs, and Vision	Draft initial elements (a to e)	September 2024
	Feedback on initial drafts	October 2024 Transnational Meeting
	Draft additional elements (f and g)	December 2024
	Finalisation	February 2025
Overall Logic and Integrated Approach	Present draft strategic objectives	October 2024 Transnational Meeting
	Draft areas of intervention and actions	November 2024
	Finalisation	February 2025
Action Planning Details	Drafting detailed Action Tables and other elements	February 2025
	Collective review of sections 2, 3, 4, and 5	March 2025 Transnational Meeting
Implementation Framework	Receive guidance and begin drafting	March 2025 Transnational Meeting
	Submit draft Implementation Framework	August 2025
	Feedback and finalisation	September 2025
Conclusion	Drafting the Conclusion section	October 2025
	Finalise and integrate into the IAP	November 2025
Sharing Final IAP's	Presentation of final IAP's to fellow partners	November 2025

She also provided a brief explanation of the expected format of the IAP drafts and outlined the different types of implementation actions of the IAP, which consists of: Strategic Objectives, a long-term goal; Areas of Intervention, specific sectors; and Planning Actions, concrete and detailed initiatives.

Another aspect to highlight is that, once every partner has submitted the pilot draft, Dr. Hutchinson will explore the possibility of establishing supporting and cooperating connections with partners whose pilot ideas have similar patterns. This way every partner will be able to share information or support each other in order to successfully implement the pilots in their respective territory.

## Local Updates

In this section, every partner of the project had the chance to update everyone on their current phase of the project, which consisted on their current situation regarding the challenge that highlighted from the last period, the biggest achievement, the core focus for the next months and, outside of resources, their main challenges.

You will find all the information regarding this exercise down below in the segment: **where do the partners stand at this point?**

## Next steps

Finally, the chapter that closed the online meeting was the deadlines of the text tasks to do for every partner that, obviously, the pilots and IAP's took prominence.

### Next objectives

- 17th June: Submit the first drafts of Pilot ideas and arrange to one-to-one meetings
- 30th June: Send the IAP Introduction Draft with the Initial Integration Reflection to Clyde.
- Beginning of September: WEBINAR (to be confirmed)
- **September: ALL THE PILOTS should be running**
- 15th of September: Send the IAP elements A to E draft to Clyde.
- 2nd-3rd October: 3rd TNM Bucharest-Ilfov - INTERMODALITY
- 15th November: Send Draft Areas of Intervention and Actions to Clyde.
- 10th December: Online meeting
- **December: CONCLUSIONS from the Pilots to the IAP**
- 11-12 March: 4th TNM Hradec Králove - CULTURE AND BEHAVIOUR

# **3. Where do the partners stand at this point?**

Challenges faced in March vs. current challenges, achievements and short-term focuses.



# Where do the partners stand at this point?

As mentioned previously, this chapter provides key information to help comprehend the standpoint of each partner in the network. The structure is as follows: challenges faced in March and current issues, their biggest achievement, and the core focus of each partner this quarter.

## Challenges faced in March and current issues

**The following chapter summarizes the main challenges faced by all the partners in our network during the first period of the year and their current status. It details whether they have overcome these challenges or are still dealing with them. Additionally, it briefly mentions the current difficulties they are encountering.**

Our colleagues from **Bucharest-Ilfov** have been experiencing significant difficulties in engaging their regional stakeholders to ensure everyone feels represented and acknowledged. As of today, they are still facing this challenge, since in the last ULG meeting, despite notifying and inviting regional stakeholders, unfortunately, the meeting went ahead without them. Nevertheless, they are currently preparing their next ULG meeting, which will take place in July and where their Urbact Local Point will take part. Our partners are confident that all their ULG members will be able to attend. It is also important to mention that the election procedures have not been helpful in this aspect.

Regarding **Bram's** situation, since the beginning, they have encountered numerous issues with mobilizing the necessary resources and dedicated staff for the project due to the size and scale of their organization. Unfortunately, as of now, things have not improved. They hope to bring new projects to fruition on the scale of two inter-municipalities to territories.

Speaking of **Hradec Králové**, they have found themselves in the same situation of the past three months, affected by the organizational changes with respect to the Transport and Development departments of the city. The new department was created on Monday, July 1st, and they are still in the process of electing the department chief, which explains the ongoing delays. Additionally, they are facing another challenge: the agreement with their local group on the upcoming implementation of their pilots. Due to the work overload involved and the contractual aspects with the company that organizes the bike sharing and directly owns the bikes. The situation turned even more complicated due to the hosting of the Rock for the People Festival in their city, requiring the mobility technician to focus on his efforts on the event.

**Kocani's** main issue over the past few months has been dealing with a lack of historical data, making it more difficult to analyze procedures and, consequently, understanding in an efficient way the region's mobility. Thanks to their dedicated effort and persistence, they have reached a principle of agreement to hire a new technician. With his expertise, the collection

and interpretation of data will become easier and, hopefully, will have a vast impact on the entire municipality.

Regarding our partners from the Island of Madeira, **Machico** has been facing difficulties in collecting the necessary data to understand the mobility issues of their local territories. They are still working on this matter, but since their relationship with their stakeholders has improved, they are achieving significant progress, such as the acquisition of a new dataset. However, with the current workload involved in implementing their ideas, their existing staff is not enough. Therefore, they believe that reaching out with figures like the counselors of Culture or Civil Protection from the municipality will be crucial for achieving all their goals.

In terms of **Osona**, their biggest goal was to integrate the Autonomous Government of Catalonia, the Provincial Council and the Barcelona Transport Authority into their local group and ULG meetings, an objective that they successfully achieved. And, as of today, their current challenge is to sustain the interest of the assisting members of the URBACT Local Group. They are concerned that if the members do not feel acknowledged or involved in the efforts to integrate in the territory, they will lack the motivation to show up every three months.

Speaking of **Santa Maria da Feira**, the connection between rural and urban areas continues to be their biggest concern due to the lack of public transport and the region's geography. Their first ULG was held on May 2nd, with notable participation from citizens living in urban areas. These participants highlighted the need for pedestrian and bicycle lanes and the need for flexible transport in lower density areas. The civilian servants were inspired by the information transmitted in Tartu TNM. Regarding their current challenges, our Portuguese partners have been struggling with mobilizing citizens, matching agendas and, undoubtedly, the lack of public transport in some parts of the municipality, that is currently their main problem.

In reference to our partners from **Szabolcs 05**, they are encountering the same problems with their limited influence and power over public transport. Due to this, they are currently working very hard on implementing the small scale actions, planned to take place in September in the framework of European Mobility Week. The summer period will be a key time to achieve it involving ULG members to clarify together the details of the pilot actions of Szabolcs 05 Association.

The challenges presented in the spring of 2024 continue to be relevant for our fellow partners from the **Tartu** municipality. The organization and execution of the TNM held in May required significant attention. The feedback received from the event and the information acquired during joint discussions among colleagues helped them to find new directions and activities, for example, in directing the movement habits of children and young people (and their parents). They still want to achieve that it is possible to plan your journey and buy tickets for the public transport used on the journey from one application. To the extent that the state is currently developing such a solution, they are not dealing with the same thing separately, but they have informed the ministry of their desire to be an active partner in developing the solution and, if necessary, testing it.

They have also implemented the practice that in new detailed planning areas, a space for a public transport stop is planned immediately. This ensures an easier way to plan new public transport lines.

In respect to their current challenges, during the rest of the year, the city of **Tartu** will host several competing events, which explains why it is very difficult to get the attention of key persons and stakeholders. Also, the general economic situation of Estonia and the municipality of Tartu has drawn the attention of politicians, specialists and ordinary citizens to other issues. At the same time, tax changes planned in Estonia (e.g. car tax) have increased interest in public transport options.

Last but not least, we turn to our Italian partners, where **Treviso** has faced obstacles in managing the project and ensuring active participation and involvement of all stakeholders. They have also struggled with managing accountability and the availability of all the members. Economically, they feel satisfied with the current situation. Their main challenge now is testing their new pilot action, presented in the Transnational Meeting in Tartu and their new bike station system.

## Our partners biggest Achievements

**This section collects all the significant achievements of our partners up to the date. It highlights their most remarkable acquisitions and milestones.**

### Osona's biggest achievement so far is...

Involving the Autonomous Government of Catalonia, the Provincial Council and the Barcelona Transport Authority into the Local Group, especially the first two mentioned, which were very pleased and captivated with all the work that had been done from their side.

### Hradec Králové's biggest achievement so far is...

The agreement on the pilot has become, by far, their most remarkable acquisition and, as mentioned before, their biggest challenge.

### Kocani's biggest achievement so far is...

The principle of agreement for hiring the expert who will give support and specialization in terms of data management, even though the election campaigns are slowing things down, they hope to optimize and seal the contracting procedure as soon as possible.

### Machico's biggest achievement so far is...

All the data that they have recollected from three different questionnaires sent to the local schools (with responses received from two) in the municipality totals 1.500 answers from the students across the two schools. This has been a key aspect in improving the relationships with the stakeholders, particularly with the Regional Directory of Transport and Land Mobility.

### **Treviso's biggest achievement so far is...**

From a technical point of view, the testing of their new on-demand services that will take place during this summer and the new bike sharing station system.

### **Bram's biggest achievement so far is...**

The emergence of a National Cycling Policy and, also, reaching the first part of the Integrated Action Plan and the first Integrations Self-assessment.

### **Tartu's biggest achievement so far is...**

Triumphantly hosting the 2nd network TNM. Planning, organizing and implementing this event required them a relatively large amount of time and other resources. In addition to Tartu municipal government officials, ULG members as well as the project's leading partner and leading expert were of great help in organizing the event. The city of Tartu is the capital of culture in 2024. As a result, a large number of different conferences were held in the city of Tartu, the topics of which include the field of mobility. For example, the planning conference "boldness in planning" was held in Tartu in March, which dealt with the challenges of planning in current environmental and security conditions. Also, in April, the Day of Estonian Cities and Municipalities was held in Tartu, where spatial planning and mobility topics were discussed over the course of two days. At these events, they gathered a lot of new knowledge and contacts with people and organizations that are engaged in activities that support our goals in Estonia.

### **Szabolcs 05' biggest achievement so far is...**

Successfully organized their third ULG meeting on the 22nd of April during which they discussed data management with stakeholders and identified potential testing actions/events they would like to test in the European Mobility Week that will take place in September of this year. Also, another fact fulfilled from their side, has been the preparation of their Testing Action Plan and the introduction of the Integrated Action Plan. The 7th Tour de Gát (Tour de Dam) bicycle tour was held for the seventh time since 2018 on 25 May 2024 which was organized by the Rotary Club of Mátészalka and seven municipalities of the Szabolcs 05 Regional Development Association of Municipalities. The purpose of the event is to draw attention to healthy and recreation, additionally, promotion of the environmentally friendly modes of transport. The highly successful mobility program is always held at the paved dam of the Kraszna-Szamos flood-reducing reservoir every spring and it is of great interest from children to the elderly in the whole county.

### **Bucharest's biggest achievement so far is...**

The signature of a feasibility Studio for a new metropolitan train line that will be around 32 kilometers and 11 stops, it will cover 6 municipalities from the north of Bucharest, that will also be connected to the train station of the zone.

### **Santa Maria da Feira's biggest achievement so far is...**

The holding of the ULG on May 2, 2024, and the beginning of the procedure for hiring an external entity that will help in the dynamization and operationalization of activities essentially linked to the ULG.

## To have a core focus to keep on working

**In this next chapter, you will find a summary compilation of the next goals and core focus that our partners are looking forward to successfully fulfilling.**

### Treviso

Our fellow Italian partners during this Summer are fully committed to prepare the pilot actions and to schedule several meetings with their ULG and the Project Expert in order to catch up the work rhythm again due to the accumulations of setbacks and workload.

### Kocani

As the same case exposed previously, our partners from Kocani will be focusing on their pilot actions during the month of July, where, after finally reaching an agreement with the Mayor and other politicians of the municipality, they have already scheduled a meeting with the core group in the beginning of July, in order to work on the Integrated Action Plan.

### Hradec Králové

After facing a very busy schedule during the month of June, their priority during the months of summer is their ULG, they will be in touch with each other during the following months with the aim to set up a meeting in September. They are planning to send as soon as possible to all their ULG members the Baseline Study in Czech in order to optimize the procedure. Towards the end of the period, their ULG group met in a close circle for a meeting focused on transport integration.

### Tartu

To gather people again after the vacation period and actively start further activities. A ULG meeting is planned to specify the activities of the SSA, establish an action plan and implement the activities. The preparation of the first chapters of the IAP also requires a significant contribution.

### Machico

In respect of Machico, their core focus is planned to keep working on the data management from the school questionnaires and the European Mobility Week activities too.

### Szabolcs 05

From our Hungarian colleagues, their next target is to organize their fourth ULG meeting on the 3rd of September, which will be focused on people's behaviors in transport, according to the second webinar realized in the past. They will also put their effort to finalize the two testing actions events which will be organized in the late of September and October.



## Santa Maria da Feira

Finishing the procurement process with the external entity, realization of the 2nd ULG, drawing the 1st SSA/ pilot and initiating the IAP, as well as having citizens available to participate in the meetings. We count on the participation of people from rural areas of the territory in the next ULG, in order to obtain contributions from those who are most affected by the lack of public transport, considering that people's needs are different depending on where they live. Additionally, they plan to develop a pilot draft project for the flexible transport, which will be enhanced by contributions from ULG participants, this way, they will be able to analyze the possibility of creating a project in one or several locations across the territory, which should be identified as a priority by participants in the next ULG.

## Osona

About our partners from Catalonia, in respect of their current core focus, it is on the execution of the pilots. Due to the high level of attendees in their ULG's meetings, they are already scheduling bilateral meetings between their ULG and core group in order to execute their pilots in a smooth and coordinated way, since every single member has valuable contributions and perspectives to offer.

## Bram

In relation to Bram's next goals to work on and, fortunately, achieve, consist of structure related actions and intermunicipality mobility policy.

## Bucharest

With regard to Bucharest, their main focus is on their next ULG meeting, where they expect to discuss and have new insights and pilots ideas from all the members that will attend. They are also confident and hoping for the necessary support from the stakeholders from their region for the European Mobility Week.

# 2nd Webinar: Moving People:

Using Science to Nudge Behaviors in  
Transport and Mobility.



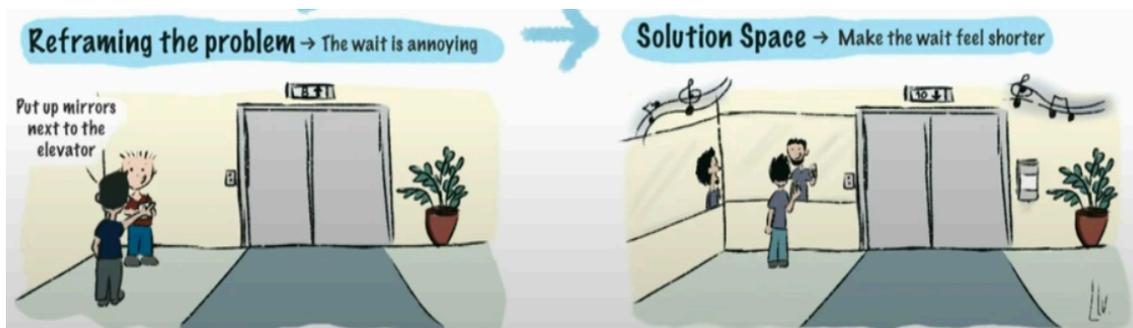
## 2#BTU WEBINAR: MOVING PEOPLE

On June 27th, 2024, the Network Beyond the Urban hosted its second webinar, "Moving People: Using Science to Nudge Behaviors in Transport and Mobility", featuring Brian Marrinan, an expert in supporting national and local transportation bodies around the world to implement sustainable mobility, with a particular focus around innovation and data, as well as how to create behavioral change (or nudging) in mobility users and the wider public.

### Development of the session

The session was divided into two main parts. The first part, following a brief introduction which consisted that acknowledged the expert Brian Marrinan, the session facilitator, involved a series of interactive questions aimed at defining the context of the webinar's theme: pursuit mobility changes driven by nudges, as Mr. Marrinan defines them: "The reframing of people's thinking around their decisions".

The second part consisted of a more theoretical approach. It covered the key principles of behavioural science and how they are related to nudging, the five key elements that drive our decisions, various persuasion techniques, the different nudging spectrums that exist and the essential steps for creating a nudge.



The integration of theoretical content with real-world and visual aids captured the participants' interest and maintained high engagement throughout the section. This was evident in the active participation during question breaks and the numerous contributions shared via the chat.

**More information, in our website:**

**You can retrieve the entire webinar on Youtube below:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUPHwyEQkgQ>

## Attendees profile

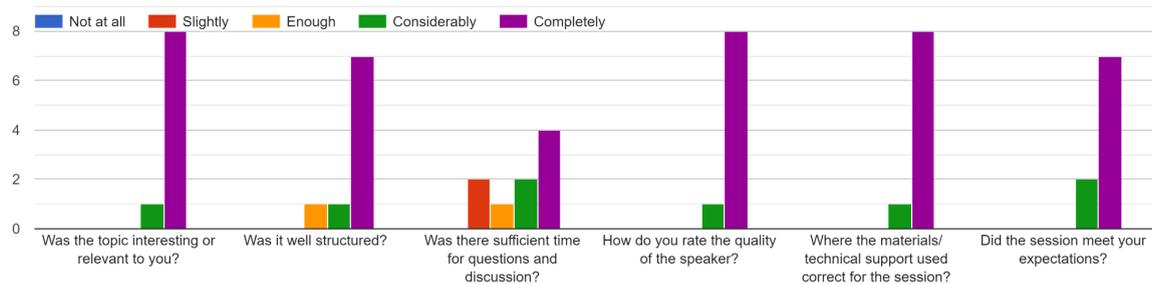
The webinar "Moving People," hosted by Brian Marrinan, had a total of 39 attendees. Of these, 20 participants, representing 51% of the total, were from the Beyond the Urban network. Additionally, 4 participants (10%) were from P.U.M.A., with one each from Cities for Sustainability Governance and Greenplace. The remaining 13 attendees, accounting for 33.3% of the total, came from other networks and organizations.

## Feedback from the participants

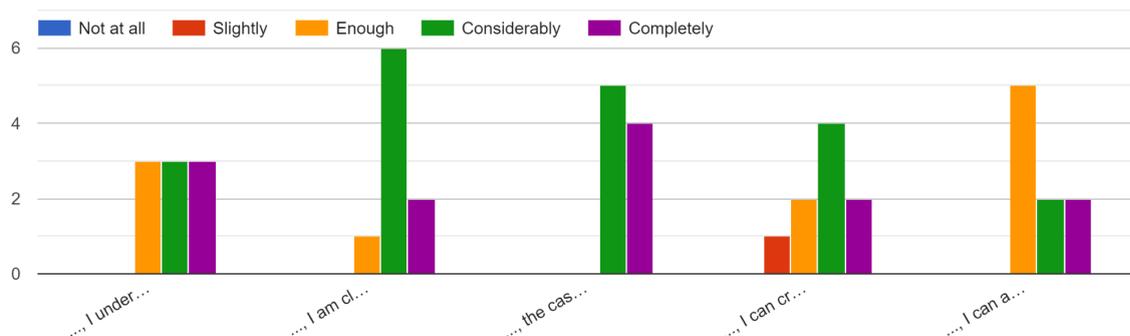
Only 9 out of the 39 attendees completed the evaluation questionnaire, so the results should be interpreted with caution.

The evaluation indicates that the topic's relevance, the webinar's structure, the speaker's quality, the materials and technical support, and the extent to which attendees' expectations were met, were all rated highly. However, while feedback on the time allocated for questions and discussions was generally positive, some participants felt it could have been extended. For a more visual representation of the results, please refer to the column charts below.

Webinar evaluation



In terms of the insight results from the topic of the webinar, the majority of attendees are clear on how psychological insights can influence on people's behaviour and they believe that the case studies were highly relevant to them. Regarding the understanding of the basic concepts of nudging, the ability of critically analyze campaigns launched until now and capacity of applying the concepts learned in the webinar to a new campaign in their territory, have been marked positively.





**This webinar served as an introduction to the topic, preparing participants for a more in-depth exploration at the upcoming TNM event in Hradec Králové, scheduled for March. There, we will continue working on encouraging active travel.**

