



# GREEN DEAL PROJECTS SUCCESS STORIES



KNOWLEDGE AND CITIZENS WORKING GROUP

## SHIFTING GEARS: SCHOOL COMMUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

April 2025



### ABOUT THE SHARED GREEN DEAL PROJECT

The SHARED GREEN DEAL project provides Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) tools at the local and regional level, in support of the European Green Deal. Through these tools, the project stimulates behavioural, social and cultural change towards shared action in implementing the EU Green Deal policy priorities. In Panevėžys, Lithuania, the project focused on engaging school communities to promote sustainable mobility and reduce car dependency for school commutes. The initiative was in support of a broader European effort to develop co-creative solutions that align with the EU's Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) framework.



### DESCRIPTION OF SUCCESS

Under the SHARED GREEN DEAL project, the Lithuanian Environmental Centre for Administration and Technology (ECAT) led a local experiment, engaging school communities in Panevėžys to design and implement sustainable school mobility solutions.

A series of "mobility labs" involved over 30 students, parents, and teachers in activities like walk audits, route mapping, and creative games. These interactive sessions resulted in the creation of school travel plans for three schools, providing actionable steps to improve school journeys. As a key outcome, the experiment influenced city-level policy by contributing recommendations for Panevėžys' SUMP, ensuring that young people's mobility needs are prioritised in future transport planning.



project

SHARED GREEN DEAL stimulates action in 24 local experiments on six Green Deal topics (Energy, Circular Economy, Renovations, Mobility, Food, Biodiversity) leveraging SSH tools.

The underlying research focuses on navigating the vast space between individual experiences (micro) and our structural systems (macro) by advancing the understanding and appliance in policy of the 'Meso' - bridging the structural and individual approaches.

#EUGreenDeal

Research and  
Innovation



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 30 students, parents, and teachers participated in workshops to co-create solutions for safer and more sustainable school commutes.
- Developed actionable plans for three schools, supported by educational toolkits and city-level policy recommendations.
- Used activities like walk audits, mapping exercises, and the “Let’s Grow the Sustainable Trips Tree” game to inspire engagement and participation.
- Produced recommendations to enhance Panevėžys' SUMP with child-friendly transport measures.
- Demonstrated the effectiveness of participatory approaches in generating actionable solutions, paving the way for other schools in Panevėžys to replicate the initiative.



## IMPACT

The SHARED GREEN DEAL initiative in Panevėžys has inspired new sustainable behaviours within school communities, with students, parents, and teachers adopting sustainable transport practices. The project empowered students to actively shape local transport solutions, enhancing civic participation and responsibility. Concrete recommendations from the initiative serve as a valuable way to draw politicians' attention to the fact that young people want to live in a clean and safe environment and are ready to contribute to creating it. The tools, guidelines, and educational resources developed through this initiative are being leveraged to encourage similar efforts in other schools, broadening the project's impact.

### Read more about this success story online

[Shifting gears: school communities for sustainable mobility](#)

### Visit the project website

[SHARED GREEN DEAL](#)