

# First steps towards Klaipeda as a Healthy city



**Klaipėda**  
sveikas miestas

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# I will talk about...

- I. Accession to WHO European Healthy Cities Network
- II. Klaipeda's Healthy City management structure
- III. Ongoing Healthy City implementation



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**FROM IDEA TO OBLIGATION...**

# Healthy City project stages

## Start

Rather informal. It begins when two people decided that Klaipeda would benefit from new health methods, that would be implemented with the help of HCP. It ends with the official approval of city government. During this phase it is important to understand and accept the idea of the project, to transform it into practical proposals and to obtain government approval.

## Organization

City government officially supports the implementation of the HCP. Organization continues until it becomes driving force of the solution of urban health problems. At this stage organizational structures and administrative control mechanisms are created.

## Activities

Project becomes organizing force for the urban health problems and continues until the project takes place.

# Application Timeline

2008

- Informal personal contact. Acquaintance with requirements, documents and application methods to WHO Healthy City network.

2009

- Dec: Mayor of Klaipeda supported goal to join WHO Healthy City network.

2010

- Jan: official letter sent to the WHO Healthy City network.
- Feb: official letter received to start necessary procedures
- July: City council voting

2011

- Klaipeda becomes member of WHO Healthy City network



*This is to confirm that the  
City of Klaipėda*

*is hereby designated as a member of the  
World Health Organization*

*Healthy Cities Network for Phase V (2009-2013)*

*The City of Klaipėda  
is committed to achieving the goals and deliverables of Phase V  
of the Healthy Cities Network and to work in partnership with  
WHO and other cities for a healthy and sustainable future.*



Signed on behalf of  
The City of Klaipėda

Signed on behalf of  
WHO Regional Office for Europe

  
Mr Rimantas Taraškevičius  
Mayor

  
Zsuzsanna Jakab  
Regional Director

*2011. 02. 21.*

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

# Consequences of City Council's decision

- acknowledged health as a major priority
- made a political commitment to the WHO and society to achieve better health for Citizens
- made a commitment to take into account the interests of a health issues in all local health strategies



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**FROM MISSION TO INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE...**

# **Klaipeda's HC status is consistent with the LT Public Health strategy**

*"Public Health Care reform is associated with the activity of  
society and participation of other public sectors while  
reforming health policy"*

# Features of a Healthy city (I)

## **1. A clean, safe, good quality environment:**

- establishment, protection and management of municipal protected areas;
- improvement and protection of an environmental quality;
- maintenance, repair and construction of a local municipal roads and streets;
- participation and cooperation in ensuring public order, development and implementation of crime prevention programs;
- approval of sanitation and hygiene regulations, assurance of a cleanness and tidiness in public areas;
- setting of regulations for a trade and other services managed by the municipalities or their controlled entities administered markets and public places.

## **2. Stable ecological system now and in the future:**

- organization of drinking water supply, heating and wastewater management;
- implementation of municipal waste management systems, organization of secondary raw material collection and recycling, installation and operation of landfills.

# Features of a Healthy city (II)

## **3. Strong community without exploitation:**

- participation and cooperation while ensuring public order, development and implementation of crime prevention programs.

## **4. Society is actively involved in dealing with life, health and welfare issues.**

## **5. All residents are provided with food, water, shelter, security, jobs, income:**

- social service planning and provision of social services, family formation, maintenance and co-operation with NGO's;
- creating possibilities of social integration into community for people with disabilities;

# Features of a Healthy city (III)

## **6. A wide variety of skills and experiences, great opportunities for cooperation, interaction and contacts.**

- involvement in the solution of such problems as skills acquisition and retraining issues, organization of public and seasonal work.
- participation in the development and implementation of regional development programs.

## **7. Diverse, vibrant and innovative city economy:**

- issuance of a set of design conditions and permits for a construction;
- maintenance of the usage of buildings;
- creation of decent conditions for a business development and tourism;

## **8. Close contact to the culture and past of the city:**

- education of a general culture, upholding of ethnoculture - participation in cultural development projects, establishment of museums, theaters, cultural centers and other cultural institutions, reorganization, restructuring, liquidation and supervision of their activities, establishment of municipal public libraries, reorganization, restructuring and supervision of their activities.

# Features of a Healthy city (IV)

## **9. Model of a city management:**

- urban planning, infrastructure development, social and economical development, preparation of programs for tourism, housing, small and medium businesses;
- issuance of permits and licenses.

## **10. Ease and affordability of access to personal health care:**

- primary personal and public health care (the foundation of institutions, its reorganization, liquidation and maintenance);
- preparation and implementation of municipal health care programs; support of citizens' health care system;
- administration of public transport systems;

## **11. High level of health index.**

# Institutional Timeline

2008

- Municipality establishes **Public Health Bureau**

2010

- July: **City council** votes positive to apply for accession to WHO Healthy City network

2011

- Municipal **Supervisory Health Board** becomes HC policy maker
- Municipal **Public Health Bureau** becomes HC policy implementer

# Klaipeda's HC management structure

## Policy formation

- Mayor
- Council committees
- Supervisory health board



## Implementation

- City administration
  - Public health bureau
  - Independent organizations

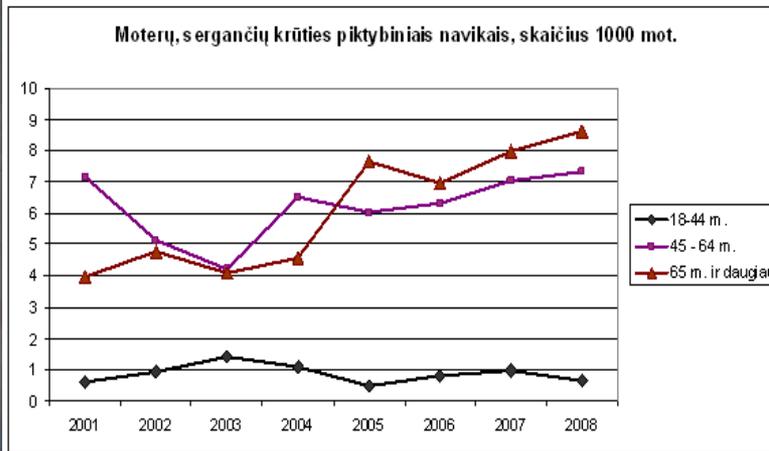
# Conclusions

- The main Healthy City features and priorities set out in the Zagreb Declaration 2008 correspond to essential regulations of municipal functions set out in the Lithuanian Self-Governance Law.
- Existing institutional structures in line with HC management requirements (No need to create new ones)
- Future challenges: improve use monitoring systems and to foresee evaluation indicators

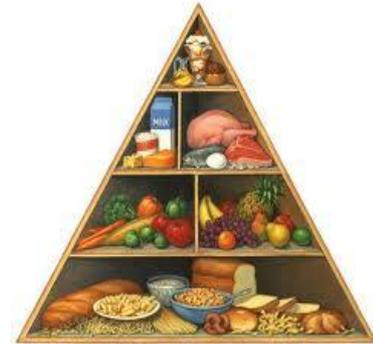


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**FROM BUREAUCRACY TO PRACTICE...**



# Public health programs



# Klaipeda's HC implementation activities

- The Municipality carries out the **environment quality monitoring**
- Public Health Bureau (PHB) carries out **public health monitoring, functions of public health consolidation** and **school education** about healthy lifestyles.
- Klaipeda **City Strategic Development Plan** is the main document to implement Healthy City ideas. The Plan is under preparation for the new period 2013-2020.
- **General municipal projects** to improve the environment quality are carried out
- **Public Health Support Program** projects are under implementation

# Public health support program 2011-2014

- **Objective** – to implement Healthy City goals, to form the general understanding of health, encouraging to stick to principles of healthy lifestyles, to strengthen personal responsibility for one's health
- **Program priorities**
  - Children health improvement
  - Prophylaxis of heart and blood vessels diseases
  - Safe neighbourhood and secure community
  - Prevention of drug addiction and HIV / AIDS
  - Prevention of Tuberculoses
  - Public information on health issues

# Main activities

- Regular competitions for pre-school and school children "I Grow Healthy" and "The Healthiest Class". Cycles of seminars dedicated to 5-8 formers, their parents, teachers and public health specialists " Computer Technologies and Child's Emotional Health".
- Hope Lines and Mobile Team Program – free of charge, anonymous, psychological help
- Consultation given by phone and internet. (12000 calls and over 500 letters answered annually)
- Drug Abuse Hazard Reduction Program implemented since 1996 determined that HIV / AIDS problem is controlled and not so spread as in neighboring countries.
- Tuberculosis Prevention Program – children from social risk families are tested by tuberculin, social risk group grown-ups are provided free-of-charge x-ray examination.

# “Municipality’s role as a driver of Healthy City idea is vital”

- Political support through political decisions
- Use of monitoring system
- Local intersectoral cooperation
- Integration of public health dimension in City strategic development plan
- Cooperation and knowledge transfer within WHO Healthy Cities Network

# Public health- a political choice

- If not us – then who?
- If not now – then when?

# Welcome to Klaipeda

October 8, 2012 International Conference:

**“A Healthy City: the Reality and Future Prospects”**

