



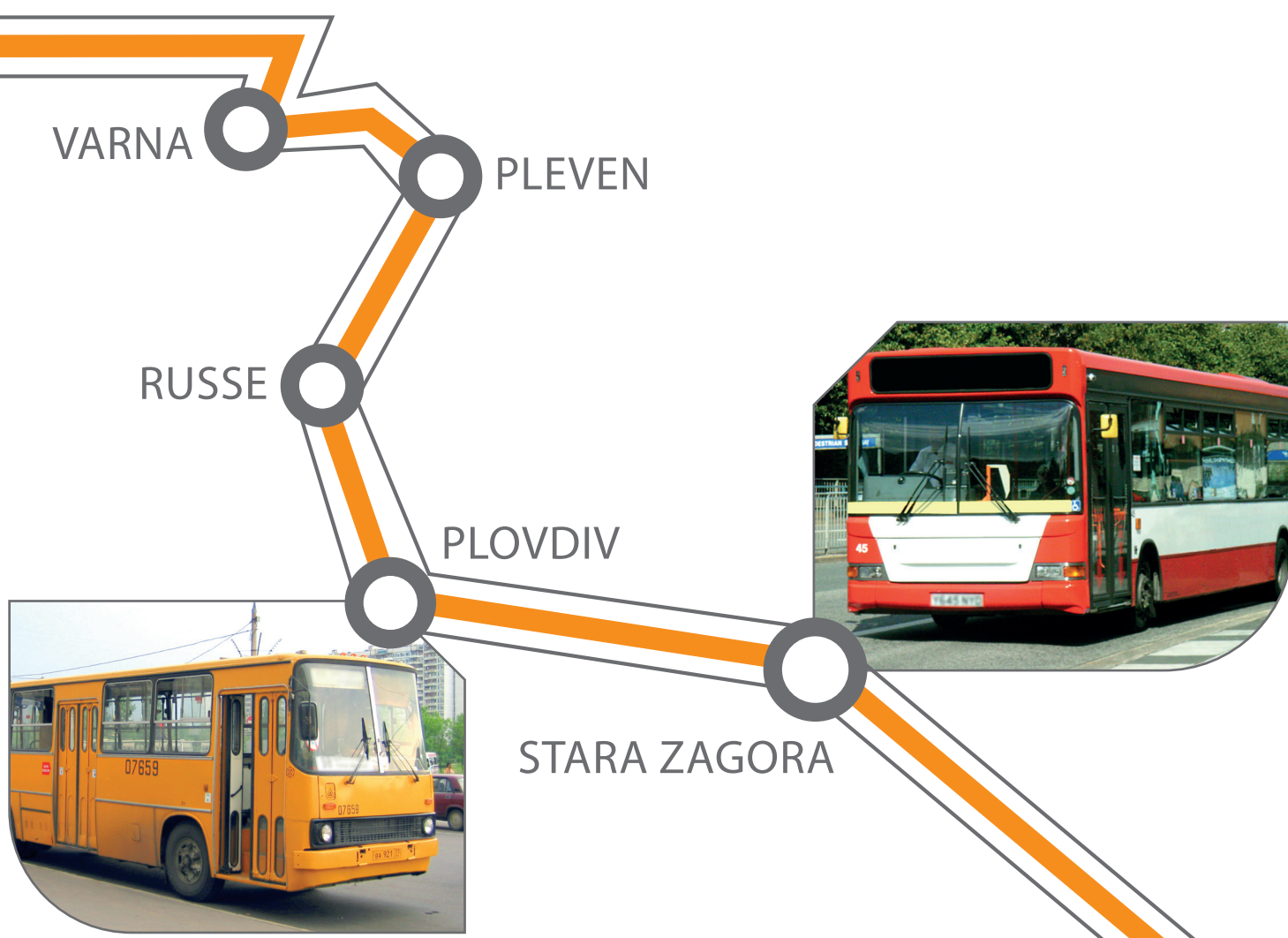
Investing in your future



European Regional
Development Fund

Operational Programme Regional Development 2007-2013
invests in integrated urban transport projects

PREPARATION OF PROJECTS FOR INTEGRATED URBAN TRANSPORT IN THE FIVE MAJOR CITIES (Varna, Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Pleven and Russe)



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Elaborated under project: BG161PO001/5-01/2008/005
"Communication, information and publicity" of Operational Programme Regional Development 2007-2013,
Priority axis 5: "Technical assistance".
The project is financed by the European Regional Development Fund and state budget of the Republic of Bulgaria.

The OPRD Priority axis 1 "Sustainable and Integrated Urban Development", Operation 1.5 "Sustainable Urban Transport Systems" provides for implementation of projects for modernization of the urban transport in the five major Bulgarian cities: Plovdiv, Varna, Stara Zagora, Russe and Pleven. The indicative budget amounts to BGN 196 million, distributed between the five cities on the basis of the number of residents, as well as on the part of population, which uses urban transport, and the tourist flow.

In relation to the projects for modernization of the urban transport, high quality feasibility studies should be elaborated for each of the cities. In relation to this, under Priority Axis 5: "Technical Assistance" of the Operational Programme, the project "Development of documentary package for modernization and sustainable urban transport in the five major cities (Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Varna, Russe and Pleven)" has been approved and it includes preparation of feasibility studies with the following scope:

- Marking of the scope and content of the urban transport projects, as well as collecting miscellaneous information about the five cities, related to the development of their transport systems;
- Preparation of strategies for development of urban transport for the five cities;
- Elaboration of feasibility studies;
- Elaboration of financial and economic analyses;
- Study of the ownership of the rolling stock of urban transport in each city, including study of the relevant infrastructure of the urban transport system (stations, depots, contact grids, power supply substations);
- A package of tender documents for public procurement of services, construction, supply, full set of documents for applying for financing of an investment project under OPRD.

OBJECTIVES OF THE URBAN TRANSPORT PROJECTS

- Increased attractiveness through improved accessibility;
- Improved functionality of cities within the municipality;

- Improved mobility within the municipality, including for the employed on its territory and the general population, by giving priority to environmentally friendly passenger transport: urban transport, bicycle and pedestrian lanes;
- Reduction of traffic jams and improved capacity of the urban transport;
- Environment protection by reducing harmful emissions, expansion of trolley and/or bus networks with low level of pollution;
- Improved transport safety.

COMPONENTS OF THE URBAN TRANSPORT PROJECTS

- Planning of transport for transition from personal vehicles to public transport, bicycles or walking;
- Regulation of traffic and special policies on parking opportunities;
- Passenger information systems;
- Environment friendly rolling stock of buses/trolley buses;
- Improvement and development of the urban transport infrastructure;
- Configuration of routes for the purpose of ensuring special lanes with right of way priority.

MAIN PARTICIPANTS

- Municipalities of Plovdiv, Varna, Stara Zagora, Russe and Pleven;
- The municipal urban transport companies, operators of bus and trolley bus lines;
- The Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW), the Managing Authority of Operational Programme Regional Development 2007-2013;
- JASPERS shall support the preparation of the projects.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Better technical equipment;
- Higher quality of transport services;
- Improved living environment in cities;
- Benefits for the population - 1,289,744 residents.