



# VELO-CITY 2015

CYCLING: FUTURE MAKER  
NANTES, FRANCE JUNE 2-5



From 2 to 5 June 2015



Rendez-vous at  
Velo-city, Nantes-France!



Call for Papers  
Submission deadline: 31 October 2014

English version 

[www.velo-city2015.com](http://www.velo-city2015.com)





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# 5 GOOD REASONS TO CONTRIBUTE at Velo-city 2015



## #1 Communicate and highlight your action and research

Want to give your action and research greater visibility?

Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your action to a wide audience of targeted stakeholders. Optimise your exposure and get prime publicity throughout the bicycle world.

## #2 Share best practices at an international level

Want to discuss topics and work collectively with people actively involved in cycling from over the world, in particular Francophone communities?

Velo-city is an unmissable opportunity to share knowledge, experience, and initiatives with other international participants.

## #3 Expand your network and/or business opportunities

Want to expand your network with European and international stakeholders in active mobility (i.e. cycling and walking)?

Velo-city is an exceptional opportunity to build new professional relationships and boost your international image. By contributing, you shine the spotlight on YOU and YOUR action, making it easier for other stakeholders to identify you.

## #4 Take an active part in the changes and development in cycling worldwide

Want to engage in the pursuit of a cycling-friendly world?

Velo-city is the ideal moment to promote cycling as an aspirational form of transport and create solutions together for a better future.

## #5 Enjoy yourself! Mix business with pleasure

Want to discover the sixth biggest city in France and the fifth most bike-friendly in the world, with Bordeaux? Nantes is often listed amongst the most desirable destinations by the international press. You will be spoilt for choice with its renowned culture, art, and gastronomy!



## SO, WHO CAN CONTRIBUTE?

- Local, national and international policy-makers,
- Technicians from local authorities
- Transport technicians and operators,
- Universities, public and private research institutes,
- Consultants in transport and environment,
- Service providers, engineering departments,
- Developers, town planners, engineers,
- Health professionals and sociologists,
- Cycling industry, cycling facilities, bike equipment, manufacturers and retailers,
- Tourism and leisure business,
- Associations, NGOs, cycling advocacy groups,
- Journalists,

# VELO-CITY 2015, NANTES-FRANCE: for a liveable and bikeable future




**The Velo-city series: what is it?**

Velo-city is ECF's annual global summit on cycling. Velo-city is an ECF brand. The Velo-city conference series serves as the major global platform for the exchange of visions, knowledge, expertise skills and good practice on cycling as part of daily transport and recreation and on cycling related policies. More specifically, Velo-city promotes the integration of urban cycle planning into all the relevant public policy sectors, including transport planning, land development, public health, education, environment, economy, energy and human rights.

ECF selects host cities for the Velo-city conferences and co-hosts the events.

ECF is the federation of currently more than 80 associations and organisations from over 40 countries around the globe working on the promotion of cycling. ECF's mission is: 'More people cycling, more often!' by dissemination, capacity building, networking and stimulating the development of cycling, building capacity for advocacy at the international level, education and training, organizing events and running networks.

🔊 Find out more about Velo-city series:  
[www.ecf.com/projects/velo-city-2/](http://www.ecf.com/projects/velo-city-2/)



## Velo-city 2015, Nantes-France

Named the world's fifth most "bicycle-friendly" city and "Green Capital of Europe 2013", Nantes also held the 10th ECOCITY World Summit for Sustainable Cities in 2013, for the first time in Europe. Nantes is showing an ongoing commitment to its transition to a more sustainable region. Situated at the crossroads of Eurovelo bike 6 and 1, two major cyclotourism routes, it will seek to meet four key objectives as it hosts the next Velo-city event from 2 to 5 June 2015:

### Create a replicable model dedicated to regional cities

Alongside the ECF, Nantes aims to give prominence to a model for cycling development that could be replicated by many other urban areas of a similar intermediary size. Cycling development on this scale has great potential because:

- 🔸 medium-sized cities accommodate the majority of the world's urban population,
- 🔸 these cities show emerging cycling movements.

The issues and subsequent solutions developed by cities at this level will provide an inspirational lead for others to follow.

### Draw on the strengths and weaknesses of the Nantes experience and other French cities

As in many other similar cities around the world, the story behind the growth of cycling in Nantes holds many lessons for medium-sized cities which face a different set of constraints and opportunities than large cities. Here, 30 years of persistent and consistent urban mobility policies, including the reintroduction of the tramway, have paid off. The development of active mobility may have lagged behind for a long time, but since 2008 a dynamic plan of action favouring cycling







and walking has doubled the modal share of cycling. We may still have a way to go to match the level of cycling in Northern Europe, but we have nonetheless succeeded in creating a **replicable and successful model for pro-cycling cities**.

### Reach out to the world

Velo-city 2015 will mobilise and connect cycling communities worldwide with the French speaking countries, particularly in Africa. By choosing France as the host of Velocity 2015, ECF intends to liaise Stakeholders worldwide, partly through the use of the language and culture, but also by making the

most of existing cooperation programmes between French-speaking countries and the world.

### Create a future inspired by cycling

The programme for Velo-city 2015 Nantes-France is firmly focused on the future. Our motto - "**Cycling: Future Maker**" - sends a loud and clear message: cycling will play a key role in influencing the future of our societies.

Cycling might seem like a simple solution to the world's complex problems. However, it has already proved its ability to have a positive impact on local economic development, public health, social ties, quality of life, safe travel, and innovation throughout the world. We can draw inspiration from these various benefits to meet new urban mobility challenges.

**The conference is an open invitation to think, participate, and create workable solutions which will achieve a true shift in cycling culture.**

 **The conference will be held in both French and English.**





Other French cities, like Bordeaux or Strasbourg, have shown with their cycling policies that the "Tour de France" is no longer the archetype of cycling in France! Many French people now use their bike daily to get around. A "bike revolution" has begun, designing new urban landscapes, generating economic profits, and building new social ties.



## VELO-CITY 2015'S EDITORIAL LINE

Velo-city 2015 is sending a strong message with its motto "**Cycling: Future Maker**". We aim to positively impact the future of our urban spaces, in dense city centres as well as periurban areas or regional cities.

**Our programme will highlight how progress and education practices are crucial in building our common global future, including:**

-  Progress that has had a major impact or lever effect,
-  Feedback on experience that has been a source of improvement,
-  Confrontation of key hypotheses or preconceptions,
-  Illustration of collaborative, transverse or multidisciplinary approaches.




## Cross-cutting approaches:

Our programme favours two cross-cutting approaches that underpin and guide our vision:

### Cycling as a tool for transition

Climate change illustrates the necessity to evolve production and consumption systems. Environmental shocks, limitations of the economic system, and the resulting social inequalities are already visible and felt by populations worldwide.

Transition refers to the passage towards other ways of life, resulting in resilience not just on an individual level but also on a global and local level. In the face of the crises that threaten our planet, it is up to all of us to create a better and less vulnerable future by taking action now to:

-  Reconstruct a vigorous and sustainable local economy, in particular through relocalisation,
-  Create a healthier, friendlier, safer, and fairer living environment,
-  Reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and our impact on the scarcity of natural resources.

Cycling can play a key part in this necessary evolution of society and the way it functions.

Cycling is a driver of multiple local economic activities: sales, recycling, renting, services, education, etc.

Cycling is a central tool in addressing the public health issues linked to transport and our ways of life, such as inactivity, noise, climate impacts and accidents.

Cycling is an important factor in the transformation towards more sustainable societies.

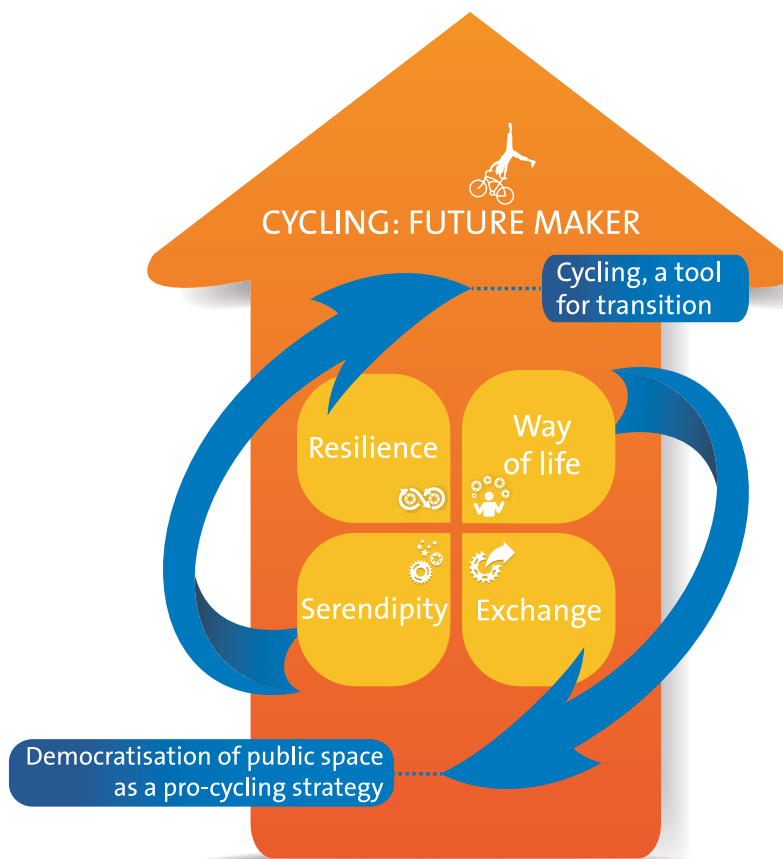
### Democratisation of public space as a pro-cycling strategy

Being able to get around by bike - and more generally have access to active mobility - raises the issue of the right for all to move about safely in public spaces. The flagrant unfairness in the shared use of public spaces, where cars get the upper hand, has led to unequal access for cyclists of all social classes and in all countries.

Your choice and capacity to get around by bike is conditioned by the space given to you in town (infrastructure, urban improvements, facilities, services, etc).

This issue is all the more important for children, whether they jump on a bike to learn, play, or exercise. This is why in 2012 the Charter of Vancouver recognised the universal right of children to cycle (relative to art.31 of the International Convention of the Rights of the Child). This freedom to get around shouldn't cause environmental degradation, and conversely, protection of the environment shouldn't impede the right to active mobility.

**Cycling: an efficient way to get the right balance between rights, individual freedom, and protection of the environment.**





## Themes

Our programme will also highlight four overarching themes which pave the way for a large variety of specific conference topics such as safety, infrastructure, education, and art. You can find more examples in the guide for contributors.



### Resilience

The backbone of transition, resilience is the capacity to absorb disruption, be it climate-, health-, or conflict-related. It is also the ability to regroup and restore balance. According to the World Health Organisation in 2008, 3 million people die prematurely each year due to lack of physical exercise. Cycling appears to be an obvious way to overcome some of the trials of our contemporary societies and help both cities and individuals become more resilient.

🚲 **How can widespread cycling help prepare cities to cope with economic, demographic, and ecological shocks?**

**How can cycling help citizens to increase their psychological and physical resistance in the face of life's vicissitudes?**



### A Way of Life

Nowadays, our travel habits impact our way of life, and vice versa. Increased bike use transforms our way of living, connecting people and fostering social responsibility. Bringing cycling back as a mainstream and everyday way of life, however, calls for an evolution of the current representations of cycling, from both citizens and policy makers.

🚲 **How can we anchor cycling as a new way of life in the city?**

**What changes in our lifestyles would facilitate daily bike use?**



### Serendipity

Serendipity is the art of finding the pleasantly unexpected, by chance or sagacity. This intellectual process has inspired us with a framework for researching and obtaining new ideas on the role bikes can play in the transition. It's about discovering new positive aspects of **individual and collective bike use**, or unexpected levers that could encourage bike use.

🚲 **What new hypotheses or unexpected discoveries is research on cycling producing?**

**What are the unexpected benefits linked to bike use?**



### Sharing

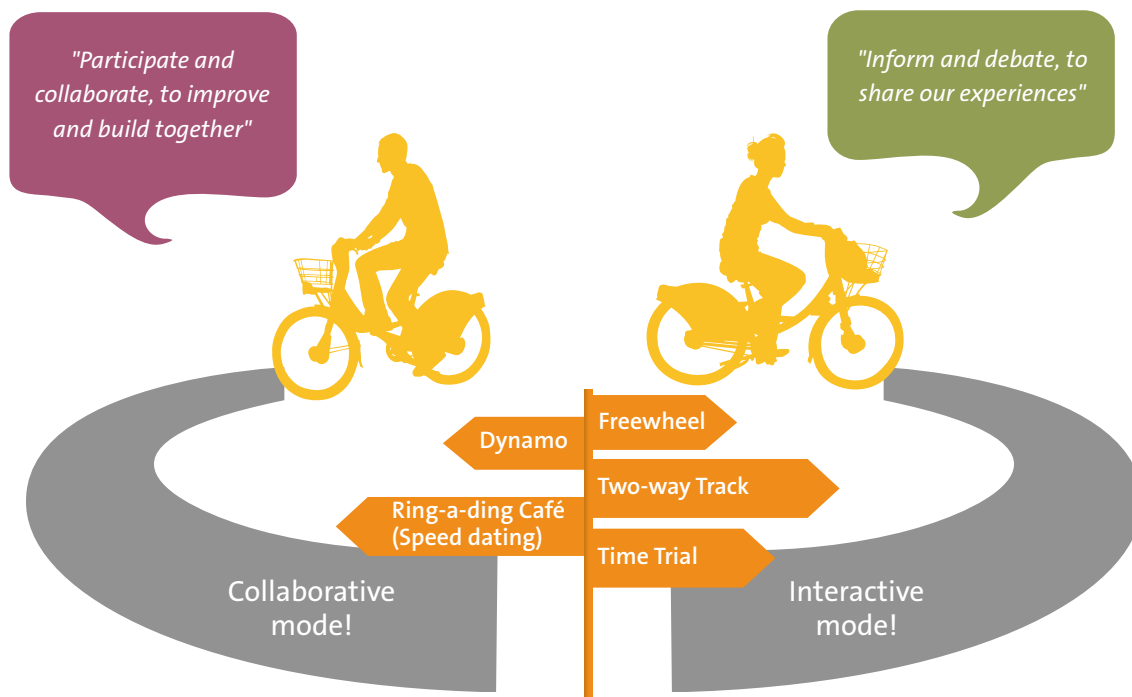
At a time when companies are in need of innovation to keep up with their transformations, sharing is a key factor in the evolution of individual choices as well as global public policy. Sharing of know-how between experts or citizens, solidarity between individuals and the country, **sharing of data and collaborative tools**... they all have a positive impact on the development of cycling culture.

🚲 **What sharing patterns drive innovation in cycling?**

**What tools encourage bike users to share information?**

## CONTRIBUTION FORMATS

Velo-city 2015 will be an interactive and collaborative conference, built around several innovative sessions, designed to get everyone involved. Its programme and the call for papers are organised into two modes:



Other formats that are separate from the call for papers will be set up directly by the organisers, such as **plenary round tables and theatre-forums**. However, some contributors could be asked to participate in these formats too, depending on the nature of their chosen topics. **Road-sign panels and posters** will complete the package.



## Contributions can take the following forms:

### Dynamo

#### • Principle •

A workshop that brings together various speakers who successively share their experiences on a targeted issue. Guided by a mediator, the Dynamo workshop aims to collectively and synthetically highlight the latest knowledge on a topic which can be discussed in plenary sessions (success factors for a type of project, research on cyclist behaviour, etc).

Present an experience - the results of research or action - pointing out together any lessons that emerge from the topic, to collectively establish progress in the improvement of knowledge.

### Freewheel

#### • Principle •

A workshop led by a mediator that revolves around 3 successive presentations on complementary themes: each speaker has 20 minutes to present a topic by drawing on their personal creativity without using a Powerpoint presentation.

Present an experience, an argument, or study conclusions with various props (artwork, films, soundtracks, objects) other than Powerpoint.

### Time Trial

#### • Principle •

A session led by a mediator which lasts 30 minutes, with short, successive presentations from 5 to 6 speakers.

*Present a topic synthetically (5 minutes and 10 slides/pictures maximum) before engaging the audience in exchanges and discussion.*

### Two-way Track

#### • Principle •

A debate that mixes speakers and participants. Divided into two groups, each is responsible for defending opposing arguments and take antagonistic positions.

*Present a controversial topic (For example: For or against the compulsory wearing of bicycle helmets?)*

### Ring-a-ding Café (Speed dating)

#### • Principle •

A session with a large number of speakers who simultaneously present their experiences or innovations, and exchange with participants that have similar projects. Participants have a limited time (60 minutes) to visit as many contributors as possible. The presentations start over again every 10 minutes (presentation and exchanges) when a bike bell rings and participants move on to visit another speaker of their choice. The most frequent questions could be pointed out to be discussed in plenary sessions, aiming again to collectively produce ideas for implementing Velo-city's projects.

*Present your action and advise participants on ways to implement projects by drawing on their own experiences.*

### Road-sign Panels and Posters

#### • Principle •

Have your poster on display in an exhibition showroom for the duration of the conference. You can schedule appointments which will provide additional information.

## Submission instructions and Selection of abstracts

### Procedures for Submission

You must submit your proposal online on the provided internet platform: <https://www.xcdsystem.com/velo-city2015> or on our website: [www.velo-city2015.com](http://www.velo-city2015.com)

A variety of information will be requested via an easy-to-use form:

- your input to the event with regards to the editorial line,
- the choice of approaches and themes that your proposal will be related to,
- your choice of format,
- summary of your contribution.

### Your Abstract

Your proposal should offer practical solutions in relation to the various cycling themes, and be consistent with the editorial line.

The contributions' contents will be assessed according to its link with:

- the general vision "Cycling: Future Maker",
- the cross-cutting approaches (see page 6 of this document),
- the themes (see page 7 of this document).

Contributors can combine various approaches and themes, or - exceptionally - propose an independent contribution that does not reflect the editorial line, if they feel that the topic is primordial.

### Conditions for Submission and Selection

- Contributors are responsible for covering their registration, travel and accommodation costs. However, contributors benefit from an early bird rate if they register before the deadline on 15 March 2015.
- Contributors who have not registered before 15 March 2015 will no longer be part of the Velo-city programme.
- Contributions will be reviewed, assessed, and selected by a proofreading and selection committee. The selected list will be confirmed by the Organisation Committee.
- Non-selected contributions will not be granted compensation indemnities.
- Selected contributors authorise Velo-city 2015 Nantes, France and la Cité Nantes Events Center to reuse and communicate their work, in compliance with copyright law, following the conference.
- It would be preferable if the contributions were not submitted to or published by another public event. However, if this is the case, please specify the event.
- The Organisation Committee for Velo-city 2015 Nantes, France is the only decision-making entity for all matters concerning the conference.

#### IMPORTANT DATES

- ▶ Launch of the call for papers: **2 June 2014**
- ▶ Submission deadline for contributions: **31 October 2014**
- ▶ Announcement of selected contributions: **End of December 2014**
- ▶ Communication of the schedule for contributors: **31 March 2015**
- ▶ Registration deadline for contributors: **15 March 2015**
- ▶ Pre-Programme: **End of January 2015**

#### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- ▶ **Website:** [www.velo-city2015.com](http://www.velo-city2015.com)
- ▶ **Platform for contribution submission:** <https://www.xcdsystem.com/velo-city2015> or on our website: [www.velo-city2015.com](http://www.velo-city2015.com)  
*In exceptional cases, if downloading is impossible, a submission form can be sent to contributors at their request.*
- ▶ **Appendix documents online:** Instruction guide for the call for papers
- ▶ **Contact:**  
Call for papers and Programme: [coordination-programme@velo-city2015.com](mailto:coordination-programme@velo-city2015.com)  
General Information: [contact@velo-city2015.com](mailto:contact@velo-city2015.com) | +33 (0)2 51 88 20 24

Event Production  
La Cité, Nantes Events Center

Velo-city Concept  
European Cyclist Federation

Editorial Management  
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