

A woman and a man are cycling on a city street in Amsterdam. The woman is in the foreground, wearing a black leather jacket and a patterned skirt. The man is behind her, wearing a dark blue shirt and sunglasses. They are both looking forward. The background shows a busy street with historic buildings, a crosswalk, and other cyclists.

14 APRIL -
30 JUNE 2016

EUROPE: LET'S GO CYCLING



2016

CYCLING
FESTIVAL
EUROPE

ON 7 OCTOBER 2015, DURING THE INFORMAL TRANSPORT COUNCIL CHAIRED BY LUXEMBOURG, MINISTERS AND SECRETARIES OF STATE ADOPTED A "DECLARATION ON CYCLING AS A CLIMATE-FRIENDLY MODE OF TRANSPORT".



As a cycling nation with more bicycles (22.5 million) than people (17 million), and with our cycling culture in our DNA, the Netherlands offers a Cycling Festival to Europe, providing a stage for the growing cycling culture in cities and countries across Europe.

The December 2015 Climate Conference in Paris already addressed the importance of doing whatever we can to reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions: it goes without saying that cycling is by far the most climate-friendly mode of transport. With Cycling Festival Europe, the Dutch will show how fun, efficient and healthy cycling is, whether for recreation or for commuting to work and school.

Our vision is: "Cycling is for Everyone".
Our goal is: Europe: "Let's go Cycling!"

CYCLING FESTIVAL EUROPE

During the Dutch presidency, we aim to increase the number of kilometers cycled with several activities organised or sponsored by Dutch Embassies in EU capitals in cooperation with local stakeholders. This can include all sorts of events, such as public events to get as many people as possible on their bicycle, or workshops to bring together local officials and stakeholders in order to generate ideas to better integrate bicycles into urban transportation systems.

On **14 April 2016**, all 28 EU Ministers for environment and transport will meet in Amsterdam. During this meeting, they will receive a 'toolbox' with best practices from all over Europe to promote cycling in their country. Our Dutch cycling experts

are of course on hand at all times to share their knowledge and experience. The festival website provides an overview of the cycling activities that are going on in Europe during the Dutch presidency. If you are organising an activity, have an innovative idea or have examples for the cycling promotion toolbox, please share it with us.

Contact

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CELEBRATING CYCLING EVERY DAY

Bernhard Ensink,
Secretary General European
Cyclists' Federation:

"There are many best practices in Europe to show how safe and convenient cycling infrastructure contributes to quality of life for all users of public spaces. We are glad to be cooperating with the Netherlands to collect these European best practices and to share our experience and knowledge in an open and accessible toolbox for all stakeholders."

Mirjam Borsboom,
Director Dutch Cycling Embassy:

"Cycling in the Netherlands is our way of life. People bike to work, to school, when going out, doing their groceries or visiting friends. Even our royal family, our politicians and our ambassadors all over the world often prefer to use the bicycle."

Sanne Westra,
Project coordinator European Cycling Festival:

"I hope that through Cycling Festival Europe politicians in Europe will realise that promoting and increasing cycling as a mode of transport benefits all users of roads and public spaces. But most of all, I hope more and more people will experience the fun side to cycling around their city; by opting for the bicycle, they opt for a more pleasant and healthy city to live in. I have been cycling since I was a child, and this experience of freedom is what I wish for all children growing up."