



Example 5 **CityBee – Localisation and Rescue of Lost Persons**

City (country) **Barcelona (Spain)**

good practice for people with ...	kind of vehicle	kind of measure/approach
... visual impairment ... cognitive/learning impairment	city bus tram underground	engineering/technology approach financial support measure

Project description

A public institution for the disabled in the city of Barcelona will be the first to test the new technology approach of CityBee, funded by the EU's Sixth Framework Programme. This new low-cost wireless metropolitan network could be used for the localisation and rescue of vulnerable persons in urban areas. The network of CityBee will be designed with clusters, so that it is flexible and manageable. It will consist of a control centre, fixed and mobile devices and is specially designed for different groups of vulnerable users such as children, older people and people with physically and mentally impairments.

The most essential effect on the mobility of those with visual and cognitive impairment is that this new technology can help them reduce their inhibitions toward using public transport. Alzheimer's sufferers, for example, are often restricted in their mobility range because of fear of getting lost. With the new location system affected persons can feel confident about going out and using public transportation services without any fear. Small and smart devices offer users the chance to continue with their lifestyle.

The project will run for two years and began in October 2006. In the future other applications of CityBee are imaginable, for example the offer of information services like waiting times at bus and tram stops.

Source:

Cordis: City Bee to the rescue of those at risk in busy cities,

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS&OZ_WEBSRCH=citybee (23/10/07)