INTRAREGIO: A EUROPEAN PROJECT ON TRANSPORTS, LOGISTICS AND INTERMODALITY

Brief Introduction. On February 2012 the InTraRegio project officially started off. Under the FP7 programme, Capacities Action, Theme "Regions of Knowledge", eight-teen partners from five European regions gathered together to develop the project entitled "Towards an Intermodal Transport Network through innovative research-driven clusters in Regions of organised and competitive knowledge". Through the analysis of the situation of the transport and logistics in the five European regions, the project aims at developing a joint action plan to suggest improvements in the area of transport and logistics for the benefit of the regions as well as the European Community. In particular the project focuses on fostering intermodality as a sustainable approach in transport. With a duration of three years (2012-2014), the projects aims at:

- 1. Develop the regional know-how in transport and logistics.
- 2. Foster research and RDT and transport policy to contribute to the regional social and economic development and to strengthen transport competitiveness at European level.
- 3. Promote the development of the involved clusters and the cooperation among them.
- 4. Sensibilise public opinion on the role of transport and logistics and the importance of research in the sector.

List of the Partners and Regions involved:

- ♣ Gobierno de Canarias
- Asociación Cluster Canario del Transporte y la Logística
- Consulta Europa
- WFB Wirtschaftsforderung Bremen Gmbh
- Univeritaet Bremen
- ♣ BLG Logistics Group AG & CO KG
- ♣ Dogu Marmara Kalkinma Ajansi Baskanligi
- ♣ Istanbul Teknik Universitesi
- Koc University
- Uluslararasi Nakliyeciler Dernegi
- ♣ Autoritá Portuale di Gioia Tauro
- Universitá della Calabria
- ♣ Logistica Ricerca e Sviluppo SCARL
- ♣ Innova SPA
- **♣** Executive Agency for Exploration and Maintenance of the Danube
- University of Rousse Angel Kan-chev
- Bulgarian River Shipping JSC
- Holding Bulgarian State Railways
- √ Canarias (Spain)
- ✓ Bremen (Germany)
- ✓ Calabria (Italy)
- ✓ Marmara (Turkey)
- ✓ Ruse (Bulgaria)

Visit also our website at: www.intraregio.eu

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Third InTraRegio Meeting: 14-16 Nov 2012, Brussels. After the kick-off meeting that took place in Santa Cruz de Tenerife in February and the second meeting held in Bremen in order to participate to the LOGMS Conference, the third InTraRegio meeting took place in Brussels in November at the Delegation of Canary Islands Government. After a first day meeting within InTraRegio members only, the consortium agreed on the procedure to follow to finalise the two deliverables planned for the end of December. On the hand, the Regional Research Agenda jointly

developed by the five regions in collaboration with Innova (Italy) that is at the core of the key deliverable that the project would have to produce, that is the Joint Action Plan. On the other hand, the Report on Regional clusters analysis that Koc University (Turkey) was in charge of developing with the objective of gathering together all the information coming from the clusters and their regional policies.



On the second day, an open session had been planned by Consulta Europa (Spain), the organizer of that meeting. After a short introduction to all the participants and the introduction to all the partners of the project Officer, Ralitsa Atanasova, the floor was given to Liam Breslim, Head of Unit-Surface Transport (DG RTD) that delivered a presentation on the topic "Transport Research in Horizon 2020" highlighting the links between the role of Transports under FP7 and the future role in Horizon 2020 (photo on your left).

Afterwards, each region presented made a brief presentation in front of the ERRIN members and other participants from European, regional and local offices attending the open session. Finally, Fernando Liesa, General Manager of the Spanish National Center of Competence in Logistics and member of the Senior Advisory Board for InTraRegio, delivered a presentation on the WINN project with the aim of establishing a fruitful collaboration between the two consortia. In fact, It was the first time when members of the Senior Advisory Board have participated an InTraRegio meeting; apart from Fernando Liesa, there were Mr.Mladen Ganchev (General Manager of the auto-transport company, Holleman Bulgaria" Ltd., Ruse, Bulgaria) and Eduardo Bezares (from the Canary Island Cluster of Transport and Logistics).

InTraRegio Session at the LOGMS 2012 conference: 21-24 Aug 2012, Bremen. During the conference LOGMS 2012 a session dedicated to the InTraRegio project took place. Five partners presented scientific papers related to intermodal transport issues in their regions. Thanks to this session the visibility of the project among the conference participants has been created. Furthermore the publication of the presentations in the conference proceedings contributes to awareness of the project on the international level, mainly in the scientific community. The Intraregio consortium discussed the first deliverables, such as the Drafts of the Regional Research Agendas, searching for the similarities/differences among the regions, identifying some of the regional cluster policies & initiatives and best practices of technology transfer dynamics. All partners have the opportunity to visit the Bremen Logistic Group - the auto and container terminal in seaport Bremerhaven.

NEWS: DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

SALT 2012 - Canary Islands: Feedbacks and Comments. The third edition of Logistic and Transport Atlantic Congress (SALT) took place on 21, 22 and 23 of November 2012 and was organized by the Canary Cluster on Transport and Logistics with the support of the Government of the Canary Islands. The SALT had a positive balance endorsed by the presence of more than 2,000 industry professionals who visited the 54 stands and the parallel activities installed at the "Tenerife International Centre for Trade Fairs and Congresses". Hundreds of lectures attended conferences on air connectivity, maritime logistics and business cooperation, while at the same time companies and organisations had been given the chance to present themselves and their activities.

On the other hand, business encounters were encouraged, which led to 118 meetings of 56 companies, of which 39 were companies from the Canary Islands and 17 were African companies. In fact, a significant institutional and business representation of African countries was advocated assuring the attendance of the Minister of Transport from Morocco. Furthermore the Transport Ministers of Cape Verde and Benin were present, in addition to representatives from Mauritania, Senegal, Ghana, Cameroon and Madeira.

On the last day international tenders attended the meeting; in particular, Morocco asked for Canary entrepreneurs to participate in the international tender offer such as the Moroccan global investment in transport infrastructure, which adds a batch of 15,000 million euros between 2013 and 2017.

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InTraRegio project at C.E.N.T.E.R conference in Brussels. On November 23rd the InTraRegio project had a stand at the CENTER conference in Brussels for disseminating its activities and results achieved so far. The final C-E-N-T-E-R conference took place at Erasmus University College. With the occasion, a dissemination toolkit has been presented to participants planning to disseminate their EU projects. The InTraRegio project had a stand so to disseminate the activities already developed and the results achieved.



For further information on the event, consult the following link.

UPCOMING EVENTS

First International Conference on "The future European strategy for intermodal transport": 17-18 April, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain). InTraRegio is organizing the first international conference on "The future European strategy for intermodal transport" which will be held in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria on 17th and 18th April 2013. The aim of the event is to gather together experts from many European countries and discuss transport and logistics related issues. Therefore, a Call for Papers has been launched to selected the participants that will have the opportunity of meeting with others relevant people in the field and deliver a presentation on a specific topic.

Besides raising awareness and knowledge on the regional situations the event aims at:

- giving advice to regional authorities and further stakeholders on the coordination of RTD policy development and support the consideration and integration of transport related concerns into policies;
- formulating recommendations to private and public RTD ac-tors on research strategies to be tackled in the future and spread knowledge on successfully developed technologies and procedures for improving transport modes;
- presenting and debating on successful cluster policies and strong innovation systems supporting the exploitation of re-search results on the market in order to find new approaches for the promotion of innovative activities.

The event will provide also the possibility to attach importance to the needs of the emerging clusters involved in the project that today are characterised by a lesser developed research profile and/ or unsatis-factory economic development and RTD policies.

Deadline: Januray 10th (first draft); March 1st (full paper)

For further information on the Call for Papers you can check the following link.

The Fourth Intraregio Meeting: 17-19 Apr 2013, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain). During the first days (17th and 18th April) the first international conference on "The future European strategy for intermodal transport" is taking place while the InTraRegio internal meeting is scheduled for 19th April.

PROJECT RESULTS

All partners with access to internal project documents and WP leaders can upload/download the project deliverables www.intraregio.eu

- D2.1. "Draft of 5 regional Research Agendas" and D2.2. "Five regional Research Agendas" with description of each of the InTraRegio regions (Canary islands, Bremen, Marmara, Calabria and Ruse) in regards to: overview and key indicators; political framework; intermodal transport cluster.
- D2.3. "Report on regional cluster policies and initiatives at regional, national, and European level", prepared for each of the five regions using the Michael Porter's Diamond Method.
- D6.1. "Dissemination & Communication plan, presentation of the running website and final dissemination plan".
- D6.2. "Project leaflet".