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ACCESSMILE

NEWSLETTER #1 September 2023

Dear reader, we are proud to invite you reading the first newsletter fo the ACCESSMILE “Improving ACCESSibility of last MILE connections of rural and peripheral regions to main TEN-T nodes in Central Europe through ICT” project, co-financed by the Interreg Central Europe Programme. Enjoy!

ACCESSMILE IN A NUTSHELL

ACCESSMILE helps to solve the weak last-mile accessibility of rural and peripheral areas to the main TEN-T freight nodes.

This challenge affects in particular transport operators from Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Austria, Hungary, Germany and Poland. In fact, they are affected by multimodal transport inefficiency, weaker economic growth, higher transport-related air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions compared to regional centres. To change this, **cooperation is central** because the issues to be tackled are common and cover operational topics that cannot be dealt at local level, given the global nature of transport flows. This is why cooperation among transport operators who represent key actors in the logistic chain, each of them contributing to the overall efficiency of multimodal connectivity, is essential to improve the last mile accessibility of rural and peripheral areas to the main TEN-T nodes and strengthen territorial cohesion.

To achieve this, we will focus on **digitalisation**, drafting medium and long-term planning tools and testing IT tools in our territories, enabling us to set common standards. We will start by benchmarking the current situation of our regions with the available best practices, and drafting a **strategy and action plans** in three IT

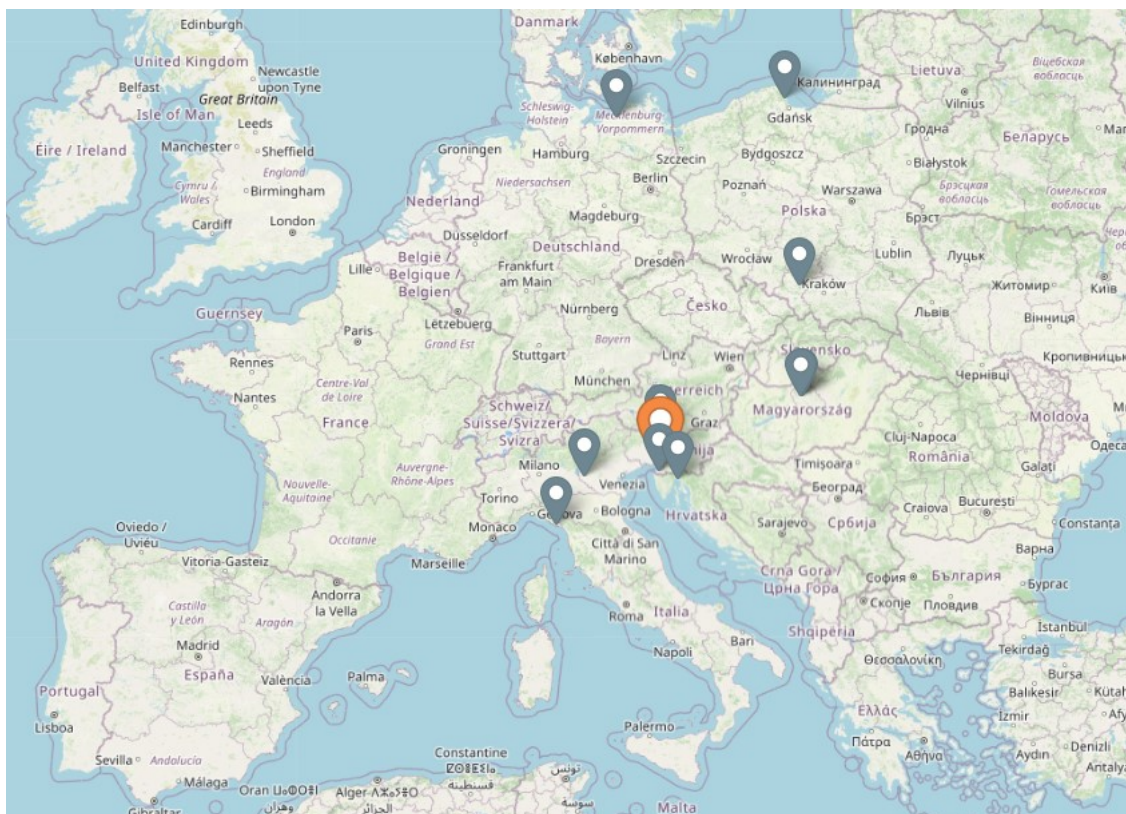
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We will then jointly test them in result-oriented **pilot actions** in different locations, compare their outcomes and **draw related lessons**, translated into solutions being able to be replicated in other regions.

As a result, transport stakeholders will be able to see concrete improvements in the efficiency of last mile connection to/from **rural and peripheral areas** already during the project lifetime. In three years of cooperation we expect to establish a joint cooperation and development path in order to ensure a medium- and long-term improvement of last mile connections of CE rural and peripheral areas to TEN-Ts and a stronger **territorial cohesion**.

Project partners:

PP1 - Port of Trieste	<i>Port Network Authority of the Eastern Adriatic Sea</i>
PP2 - RRT of Verona	<i>ZAILOG scarl</i>
PP3 - Port of La Spezia	<i>Port Authority of the Eastern Ligurian Sea</i>
PP4 – Port of Koper	<i>Luka Koper, port and logistic system, public limited company</i>
PP5 – Port of Rijeka	<i>Port of Rijeka Authority</i>
PP6 - LCA Fűrnitz	<i>Logistics Centre Austria South</i>
PP7 - MCC	<i>Mahart Container Center Ltd.</i>
PP8 - RSOE	<i>National Association of Radio Distress-Signalling and Infocommunications</i>
PP9 – BCT Gdynia	<i>BCT - Baltic Container Terminal Ltd.</i>
PP10 – Gruber Logistics	<i>Gruber Logistics Poland</i>
PP11 - Port of Rostock	<i>ROSTOCK PORT GmbH</i>



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TRANSPORT LOGISTIC FAIR 2023

Four trade fair days, full halls, exhibitors and visitors from all over the world and a dynamic industry still on the rise - from May 9 to 12, 2023, transport logistic and the integrated air cargo Europe were once again the center point of the logistics industry. Altogether 2,320 exhibitors from 67 countries and more than 75,000 visitors from over 120 countries came to the international industry trade fair for logistics, mobility, IT and supply chain management at the exhibition center in Munich. The share of international visitors rose to over 50 percent, and was therefore higher than ever.

Transport Logistic is the international trade fair for logistics, mobility, IT and supply chain management and the largest trade fair in the world for the multi-faceted transport of goods by road, rail, water and air cargo Europe.

This framework was a good opportunity to present the recently launched ACCESSMILE project, to get initial feedback from key stakeholders on possible IT tools to be tested for improve the last mile accessibility.



ACCESSMILE & MERIDIAN cooperation

On 13th June 2023, the ACCESSMILE project was illustrated by the Project Manager Mr. Alberto Cozzi at the CEF MERIDIAN project Steering Committee in Amsterdam. The meeting gave the opportunity to share the common best practises. A discussion

about the cross-fertilization activities to be followed together in the next months was established.

The projects share all the ACCESSMILE Italian partners, namely the ports of Trieste and La Spezia and the rail-road terminal of Verona.

The close relationship between ACCESSMILE and MERIDIAN activities for the three Italian partners will be a baseline for a wider collaboration between the two consortia.

Mr. Cozzi was designated as ambassador of ACCESSMILE in MERIDIAN.



Kick-off conference in Trieste on 21st June 2023

The conference entitled “Green and Smart Ports in the Adriatic-Ionian Region. The decarbonisation and digitalisation of ports and freight transport: the contribution of European territorial cooperation”, organised by the Port Authority of the Eastern Adriatic Sea in cooperation with the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region and under the auspices of the European Macro-Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region (EUSAIR) was held in Trieste on 21 June 2023.

The objective of the workshop was to take stock of the state of the art of the inevitable processes of environmental sustainability and adoption of digital solutions between the ports of Italy, Slovenia and Croatia, analysing their challenges and possible joint strategies.

During the conference, the main results of these projects were illustrated and a

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and Croatia for the creation of a system of cross-border cooperation in the field of decarbonisation of the port sector.

Among the speakers, Prof. Thierry Vanelander from the University of Antwerp presented the latest research results on the challenges and possible solutions available to improve environmental performance. Gadi Benmoshe, Vice-Chairman of the IAPH (International Association of Ports and Harbors) Data Collaboration Committee, emphasised the increasingly topical challenges related to cyber security, also in the port sphere. Finally, Prof. Pierluigi Coppola, coordinator of thematic group no. 2 of the EUSAIR Strategy highlighted the role of green and digital ports in the broader context of the Adriatic-Ionian Region.

Anne Jensen, European coordinator of the Adriatic-Baltic Corridor, also attended the conference and visited the port of Trieste in the afternoon.



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Autorità di Sistema Portuale
del Mare Adriatico Orientale
Porti di Trieste e Monfalcone



Autorità di Sistema Portuale
del Mar Ligure Orientale
Porti di La Spezia e
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