

Freight Telematics and logistic chains management: Strategic Initiative project idea

Project name:

Freight telematics and logistic chains management

Which of the S.I. Fields of Action best describes your project:

1. Transport and logistics chains.

1B) Connectivity to national/international freight “gateways” and hubs, and freight logistics management.

General aim of the project:

The project(s) aim(s) at the development of improved freight transport logistics systems and chains, in the context of North West Europe transnational transport corridors and regional/city distribution systems: in particular by using the potential of ICT technologies, especially in the context of intermodal transport chains (rail, water, road, air).

Specific objectives:

- To develop and test innovative approaches to freight logistics handling and logistics chains; including pilot projects and demonstration projects;
- To develop and demonstrate the potential of ICT for freight logistics management, for example better integration of CVO and AFMS;
- To use results for improved urban/regional planning systems;
- To improve connectivity and accessibility in regions and/or North West Europe international transport corridors;
- To improve economic and environmental performance of regions (optimising logistics transport with less external effects).

Project Activities

A number of activities have been proposed which might emerge in more than one project idea. In general, the idea of developing a “corridor project” with a large geographical coverage was very welcome (looking at last miles, harmonization of standards and ICT models, modal shift, under-used facilities etc).

Three categories of activities emerged:

- 1) ICT
 - **ICT cross border traffic information** and integration of freight transport management systems: harmonisation/standardisation (TPEC)
 - New freight management systems , **new services**
 - Intermodal TOMTOM
 - Develop better tracking and tracing (rail companies)

- 2) Alternative corridors /underused facilities/intermodality
- Making use of **underused facilities**, intermodal shift, **alternative corridors**, infrastructure optimisation, focus on perishable goods, biomass transport (wood, waste)
 - Short distance multimodal transport
 - Shift from one mode to the other :time savings
 - Second-tier ports

3) Last miles

- **Last miles freight consolidation** (reliability issue): platform of local distribution centers, new models of distribution systems (strategic decision making) – competition for space in the city
- Better informed planning decisions: development of model to bring forecasting into planning policy
- Communication activities to attract new ideas including regional level

4) Other

Other proposed actions during the discussion:

- Legal constraints=issue in the bigger picture
- New ways of using rail, transport avoidance, changing our working patterns
- New methods of identification of sites for specific logistics purposes

Expected results:

- Improved region/city connectivity and accessibility (time from a to b)
- Improved economic efficiency and performance (GDP)
- Improved environmental sustainability (PM10, Nox, CO2, etc)
- Improved performance of logistic businesses

Possible total budget and ERDF sought:

Still to be defined according to the number of projects, partners and the concrete action plan(s)

Partners involved at this stage:

Interest so far from partners in BE, DE, UK, NL and FR.

Further partners sought:

Not all the workshop participants have confirmed their interest in being a partner yet (deadline 8th December). Interest sought particularly from other countries in the NWE area (IE, LUX, CH).

A number of specific partners need to be attracted:

- Ship owners
- Rail operators
- Transport providers
- Air freight transport representatives

How are the partners going to jointly benefit from this transnational cooperation project?

By setting up a NWE-project, partners will benefit from financial and political support. They will

further be able to exchange their know-how/experiences and jointly elaborate best-practice models (by implementing pilot actions) which may then influence their respective national policy. In addition, the partners are often confronted with the same (EU-) requirements and therefore are most likely to welcome a European approach to these challenges.

How is your project relevant to the identified S.I. Fields of Action?

Integrated, Intermodal, Internetbased and Intelligence: a globally integrated framework for freight movement realizing a synergy between previously isolated systems.

How does your project display a high degree of transnationality?

The project will gather relevant partners across North West Europe who will jointly elaborate actions which have to be relevant for a large part if not the entire NWE area. A corridor approach is likely to be adopted.

What is innovative and original about your project?

New ways to develop and test improved freight logistics management especially in the context of North West Europe transnational transport corridors and regional/city distribution systems.

This project concentrates on a range of organisations playing a role in freight promotion and roll-out at a regional level.

What strategic impact is your project likely to have?

Improved layout of cities and regions (with better economic performance as a result) due to opportunities made possible by the use of state-of-the art telematics in both mode and system level; better economic performance of private companies (mostly SME"s).

Is your project a follow-up to a previous project? If yes, how does it build on previous results?

Yes – builds on previous EU projects. The participants are currently identifying the gaps.

If applicable, which other funding Programmes or EU Policies might be relevant for your project?

As mentioned above, gaps are being identified under the following programmes:

- 6th and 7th European Framework Programme
- INTERREG IV B Programmes Baltic Sea Region, Central Europe, North Sea Region, Alpine Space
- INTERREG III/IV C and III/IV A

Project idea source

- NWE Strategic Initiatives step1 workshops report, August 2008
- Strategic Initiatives Working Group (SIWG) PI proposal March 2009

- SIWG report, 21st May 09
- Strategic Initiative Workshop, Brussels, 17 November 2009