Inter-Connect Newsletter #3
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1. The Roundtable in Split
On 20th of December 2018, HŽ Putnički Prijezvoz organized the first roundtable in Split, the second strategic hub in Croatia. The main goals were presented to the strategic stakeholders and local attendees.
The presentations showed the first survey results on the regional and transnational demand - data were gathered from tourists and everyday commuters.
The city of Split has all the characteristics to become a great tourist hub thanks to its potential expansion of services. At the moment, a bottleneck stressed this harbour as underlined by the Tourist board as well as other transport operators (hub where all means of transport are integrated).
Stakeholders agreed that the level of service should be raised and modernized to provide better transport conditions. The meeting closed with the agreement that public service providers need to work on intermodality to enhance supply of service, particularly to ease the transfer for users between two or more transport modes.

2. The Local Dissemination Events in Trieste, Bologna, Belgrade and Zagreb

On 12 November, the CEI Executive Secretariat hosted the first dissemination and presentation event, open to the public, regarding the Interreg ADRION project Inter-Connect as well as the roundtable on strategies of cross-border and intermodal connectivity, a topic addressed by the Interreg Central Europe
Inter-Connect aims at promoting intermodal passenger transport and rail use in the Adriatic Ionian region, by supporting institutions and policymakers, to identify tangible proposals in order to improve the connectivity in the area. The CEI, as project partner, presented to the public the partnership, objectives and project’s case studies, as well as their expected impacts. A specific session was dedicated to the presentation of the case study in the city of Trieste, focusing on improving public transport connectivity with the transnational maritime seasonal lines.

The event was opened with welcome remarks from Roberto Antonione, CEI Chief Operating Officer. Presentations followed by Paolo Dileno, Project Manager of Inter-Connect and CONNECT2CE; Lorenzo Bandelli, Director at the Municipality of Trieste on Innovation, Tourism and Economic Development; Michele Scozzai, Communication and Institutional Relations Manager at Trieste Trasporti, and Massimiliano Angelotti, a representative from the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region.

LOCAL DISSEMINATION EVENT IN BOLOGNA

The first Inter-Connect Local Dissemination Event in Emilia-Romagna Region was held on 17th December 2018 in the Region Emilia-Romagna premises in Bologna. The purpose of this first local dissemination event is to present the project objectives, the case studies and the preliminary results to the wide public at regional and local level. The focus of this first dissemination event was on the Inter-Connect Emilia-Romagna Region Case Study A (improving the passenger rail service between Ravenna, Rimini and Bologna reducing the time to reach the final destinations) and Case Study B (extension of the current bus “Romagna smart pass” tourists tickets to rail along the Romagna attractive cities, to promote intermodality and public transport in Romagna). Thanks to this event, several information and evidences from main stakeholders and users are collected. All these information will be used to improve the pilots developed in the framework of the inter-connect project.

LOCAL DISSEMINATION EVENT IN BELGRADE
On 31st of January in Belgrade, the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Serbia (CCIS) organized the first dissemination event thanks to a strategic roundtable with Serbian stakeholders where the first results and the local developed cases were presented.

During the first Roundtable, the representatives of all involved stakeholders had the possibility to discuss on the several issues on Belgrade Case examination plan. Results of conducted survey and preliminary results of data analysis were presented and discussed in detail.

The second part of discussion was dedicated to existing issues and bottlenecks of intermodal and railway transport of passengers as well as possible future solutions and measures aiming to enable better connectivity within ADRION region and local movements to/from destinations in Adriatic-Ionian region. In addition to this, possibilities, form and general content of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) among or between CCIS and stakeholders was initiated.

Moreover, in order to increase the visibility of the Inter-Connect project and disseminate it more efficiently, a brief presentation of its objectives, main outputs and expected results was done during the opening session of EUMedRail/IPA Workshop on SMS and Safety culture held on February 12th 2019, where the CCIS as a host of the event used an opportunity to promote the Inter-Connect project to all key stakeholders in Serbian Railway market, including Railway authorities (Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, Serbian Railway Directorate, Centre for investigating traffic accidents and number of railway operators).

On Thursday, February 28th, 2019, from 12.00 to 15.00 p.m. the Croatian railway...
Society and HŽ Putnički prijevoz d.o.o., gathered and celebrated the Engineers day hosting its first dissemination and presentation event regarding the Interreg ADRION project INTER-CONNECT. The event was held in the premises of ITHŽ (The Croatian railway Society), at the address Petrinjska 89, Zagreb. It was an opportunity to gather and bring together engineers, engineering societies and organizations with the aim to promote, develop and allow a growing understanding of the railway engineering profession and of its influence for economy growth and the improvement of life quality.

The event was animated by Mr. Tomislav Prpić from HŽ Putnički prijevoz d.o.o. company and ITHŽ representative and the external expert from the company MOBILITA Evolva.

MOBILITA Evolva was responsible for creating the Feasibility study named Improvement of railway connections of Zagreb with focus on railway lines ending in ports Rijeka, Zadar, Split & Dubrovnik, the pilot action of partner HŽ Passenger Transport.

The HŽ Putnički prijevoz d.o.o., as a partner of the project, presented the partnership, the objectives and the case studies of INTER-CONNECT as well as their expected impacts.

After the presentations, stakeholders as well as all participants had the opportunity to ask questions and participate at a round table discussion.

3. Focus on:

DEMAND AND SUPPLY ANALYSIS OF CURRENT SITUATION IN ADRION
In the framework of deliverable T1.3.1, a report approaching ADRION as a whole (transnational connectivity), the following are presented:

- Case to case connectivity (supply based) diagrams (Figure 1) – in terms of total trip duration, total cost and value of time
- Country to country connectivity mapping (Figure 2)
- Tourist arrivals charts per origin country (Figure 3)
- Insight on the flows among pairs of Inter-Connect cases (categorized) (Figure 4)
- "Taking stock and looking ahead" messages
REGIONAL DEMAND - SUPPLY ANALYSIS

Deliverable T2.1.2 presents Inter-Connect areas of intervention and their main characteristics while poses special focus on cases’ catchment area definition and presents regional and local transport data collection results (demand and supply).

Figure 5: Trieste case catchment area

CASES AS-IS SITUATION DESCRIPTION

Deliverable T2.1.3, giving the overview of the current situation regarding mobility status and interconnectivity level at Inter-Connect cases, consists of the following information:

- Cases SWOT’s analysis
4. Transport capacity building Toolkit

The Inter-Connect consortium is working on the definition of the “Intermodal Transport Capacity Building Toolkit”, an open online platform aiming to enhance organizations’ skills in intermodal passengers transport planning. The tool will integrate a series of training exercises, maps, figures, financing instruments, etc in order to facilitate the knowledge upgrade for trainees.

This online platform will provide users with 4 main functionalities: a) intermodality understanding tool, helping in understanding the as-is situation; b) seed money tool, providing a database with potential funding instruments/sources for mobility solutions; c) toolkit on interventions developed in the Inter-connect project, providing relevant intermodal case studies in the Adrion region; d) Cooperation schemes insight tool, showing the effective interfaces among stakeholders in definition of intermodal policies and measures.

5. The 4th Inter-Connect Meeting in Bar - Montenegro

On July 2019, the Inter-Connect partnership will meet in Bar, Montenegro to present and discuss the state of the art of the project, in particular on the pilots.
GDRP Policy

I am sure you are aware that new laws about data protection have come into force in May 2018. As your privacy is important to us, we wanted to assure you that your data will only be used to keep you informed about the latest activities of Inter-Connect and invite you eventually to Inter-Connect events. We do not give out your data to any other third party addresses on its mailings list to other people without your permission.

You do not need to do anything unless you no longer wish to receive emails concerning Inter-Connect project. Should this be the case, then please contact us in reply to the email stating this fact. If we don't hear from you we shall assume you wish to continue receiving information about Inter-Connect and keep your email address on our list.

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