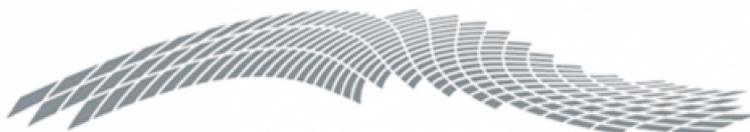


Inter-Connect

Newsletter #4 August '19

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1. Inter-Connect participation in the ADRION annual event and in the 4th EUSAIR Annual Forum in Budva, 6-8 May 2019



Inter-Connect project representatives participated in the 4th EUSAIR Annual Forum that was held under the auspices of the Programme's Montenegrin Presidency on the 6th of May, 2019 in Budva, ME. Partners were informed of the Progress in ADRION Programme and of main best practices, cooperation and integration issues in important sectors across the region. Cross – fertilization and capitalization activities among projects were also referred as issues of critical importance.

Inter-Connect participated also in the back-to-back event of EUSAIR annual event that aims to raise visibility of progress from the last Forum in Catania in May 2018 and to open a fruitful discussion on ideas and experience on how to facilitate the development and growth in the Adriatic-Ionian region. The participants had the chance to discuss funding mechanisms for all four thematic pillars of the EUSAIR and share concrete ideas on the future prospects of the Strategy. Each year the Forum attracts numerous stakeholders, such as European Commission and other EU institutions, national ministries, regional and local public authorities, business sector, academia and civil society, who share views, exchange experiences and discuss ways of cooperation. This year, Inter-Connect project was there to elicit useful remarks for incorporating them and further examining them within the project's

framework.

2. Fourth Inter-Connect Project's meeting in Bar



It was held in Bar, on 3rd and 4th of July 2019, the fourth Inter-Connect project's meeting hosted by Port of Bar. The meeting was the occasion for discuss on the advancements of the project's activities and in particular on the state of the different case studies focussing on how to improve and promote the passengers transport intermodality in the ADRION Region.

The results of the technical activities conducted by the Inter-Connect consortium shown as the passengers intermodality demand among the ADRION Regions is very weak. This is one of the main reason of the weakness also of the offers of sustainable, reliable and frequent transport connections among the different ADRION countries. Moreover the Inter-Connect case studies shown as it is possible to work both on promoting transport demand and offer of cross boarder connections working on new sustainable transport solutions, ticketing integration, better connections among maritime and terrestrial main transport hubs.

The results of the Inter-Connect local dissemination events and round tables held in each Inter-Connect countries shown as the main local, regional and national stakeholders are aware of these aspects and they are ready in create new

collaborations and agreements to overcome the cross-boarders transport bottle necks.

3. Second Stakeholder's Roundtable led by the Central European Initiative in Trieste



On 23rd May the 2nd Stakeholder's Roundtable led by the Central European Initiative – Executive Secretariat in the context of the Inter-Connect project was held in Trieste, gathering representatives from the Municipality of Trieste, Muggia and Koper, as well as representatives from the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, Koper Regional Development Centre, Trieste Trasporti, Gal Carso, Samer & Co, and the Association ViaggiareSlow. Stakeholders discussed the advancements of the two case studies run by CEI. The first case study identifies measures to improve intermodality of Public Transport with maritime lines, by providing better information, sustainable solutions, and accessible infrastructures for passengers. Regarding the second case study, speakers discussed about the feasibility of a new maritime line between the cities of Muggia and Koper with the aim to promote an integrated approach to cross-border mobility for tourists and regular users, through the extension of existing services. Stakeholders demonstrated a great interest in the

studies presented and showed the will to collaborate in order to limit car use while improving connectivity and sustainability in the area.

4. Second Inter-Connect dissemination event in Split



As part of the activities of the Inter-Connect project, the partner HŽ Putnički Prijevoz (HŽPP) held its 2nd Dissemination Event in Split on July 5, 2019. At the conference HŽPP presented both the aims of the Inter-Connect project and the pilot activity they are running in order to bring it closer to the local audience. The main focus of this event was to discuss on how to address the bottlenecks and weaknesses of public transport in the area and how to improve the quality of life of citizens. The conference was also an opportunity to create new synergies among different EU projects working on the public transport services in the same Inter-Connect geographical area. Mr. Martin Bućan presented STEP-UP project “Sustainable Transport E-Planner to Upgrade the IT-HR mobility” funded under the INTERREG Italy-Croatia programme; Mr. Tomo Šundov from the City of Split presented the EU REMEDIO project, an EU project aimed at promoting the use of low-carbon traffic systems through testing of operational modes in the management of congested roads and overburdened urban area. Finally, Mrs. Dijana Beganović from the Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences (University of Zagreb), presented a study on the provision of multimodal traffic information. Mr. Dino Novosel, leader of HT’s

E-mobility project and Mr. Marko Knežević, Head of Division for Infrastructure Services, Logistics Support and Transport Execution of HŽPP, participated in the discussion.

The conference was successful as the possibility for further collaborations on public transport services were discussed.

5. Inter-Connect Toolkit is now online

The screenshot shows the Inter-Connect website interface. At the top, there are logos for Interreg, ADRION, and ADRIATIC-IONIAN, along with the Inter-Connect logo. A navigation menu includes 'Home', 'Intermodality', 'Cooperation', 'Financial', 'Roadmap', and 'About'. The main content area is titled 'European Strategies' and shows a list of years from 2001 to 2017. The year 2001 is selected, displaying the 'White Paper 2001 - European Transport Policy for 2010: Time to Decide' document. The document text includes the following key points:

- The White Paper, Transport Policy for 2010: Time to Decide proposed 60 measures for the reorganization of the EU's transport policy. Sustainability and reduction of pollution and congestion are the core objectives of the transport policy. The main directions given in the White Paper were:
 - the "decoupling" of economic growth from transport growth to make transport more dynamic and less dependent on market factors
 - the decrease of road transport share by revitalizing rail and water travel
 - a tax system able to reflect transport externalities - the actual cost of transport in terms of environmental damage, network congestion and accidents
 - the development of a safer and more efficient transport system
- There is special reference to intermodal and co-modal transportation. In passenger transport, there is considerable scope for improvements to make travelling conditions easier and facilitate modal transfers, which are still highly problematic. Far too often passengers are put off using different modes of transport for a single journey. They have problems obtaining information and ordering tickets when the journey involves several transport companies or different means of transport, and transferring from one mode to another can be complicated by inadequate infrastructure. Also, the efficient use of different modes on their own and in combination will result in an optimal and sustainable utilization of resources. This approach offers the best guarantees to achieve at the same time a high level of both mobility and of environmental protection.
- Rail transport plays an important role in the White paper 2001 and the proposed directions are:
 - Integrating rail transport into the internal market
 - Creating a genuine internal market in rail transport
 - Guaranteeing rail safety
 - Making optimum use of the infrastructure
 - Modernization of services

The Inter-Connect consortium, technically coordinated by CErTH, released an important technical deliverable for the Inter-Connect project: the Inter-Connect Toolkit. The toolkit is an open online platform aiming to enhance organizations' skills in intermodal passengers transport planning. The tool will be enriched of contents together with the advancements of the project. The Inter-Connect toolkit aims at providing different services to interested stakeholders:

- Intermodality understanding tool, providing access to EU, national, regional and local policies and strategies related to sustainable passengers' mobility
- Seed money tool, providing information for potential funding instruments/sources for mobility solutions (stay tuned, soon online);
- Cooperation schemes insight tool, showing the effective interfaces among stakeholders in definition of intermodal policies and measures (stay tuned, soon online! It is called "Inter-Connect intelligence");
- ADRION's connectivity roadmap with measures on the different time horizons that could support rail and maritime boost in the Region (and at local level)

The Inter-Connect toolkit is available here: <https://interconnect.imet.gr/>

6. Inter-Connect Emilia-Romagna Region pilot. The Rail Smart Pass



The Emilia-Romagna Region, in collaboration with the Institute for Transport and Logistic (ITL Foundation), in the framework of the Inter-Connect project pilots developments, worked on extending an existing tourist transit pass, called “Romagna Smart Pass” to railway services system on the Ravenna-Rimini railway services. During the Summer 2018, several exploring activities on how to improve this integrated ticket were conducted in the framework of the Inter-Connect project. In particular a wide survey were conducted in Rimini in order to map the tourists needs in terms of public transport ticketing and fares systems. All the collected data were presented to the main local public transport operators, Start Romagna (local bus operator) and Trenitalia (national rail operator). Now, starting from the existing 3/7 days bus integrated ticket called “Romagna Smart Pass”, a new integrated rail and bus ticket valid in all the Romagna sub-region will be tested. This is an important result for the project and for the local stakeholders, one of the first case at national level. On these new 3/7 days integrated rail and bus tickets the logo of the Inter-Connect will appear.

7. Ljubljana Inter-Connect case study. Transport accessibility analysis

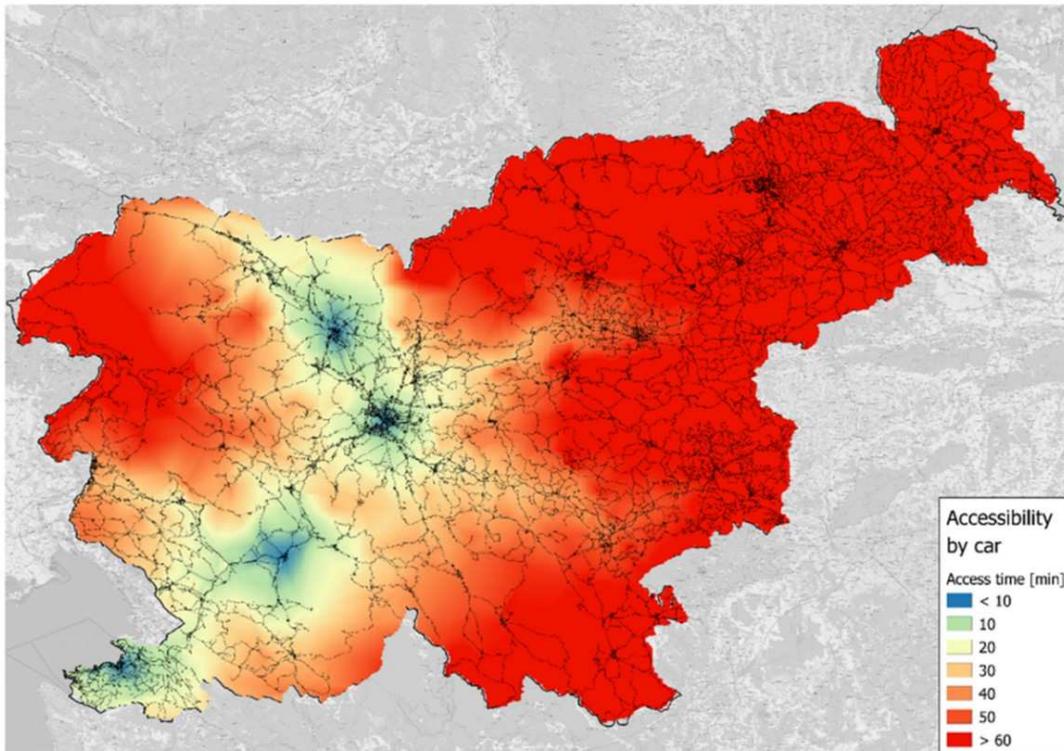


Figure 5: Private transport accessibility from urban centres in project area: Ljubljana, Kranj, Postojna, Koper. (Source: PNZ)

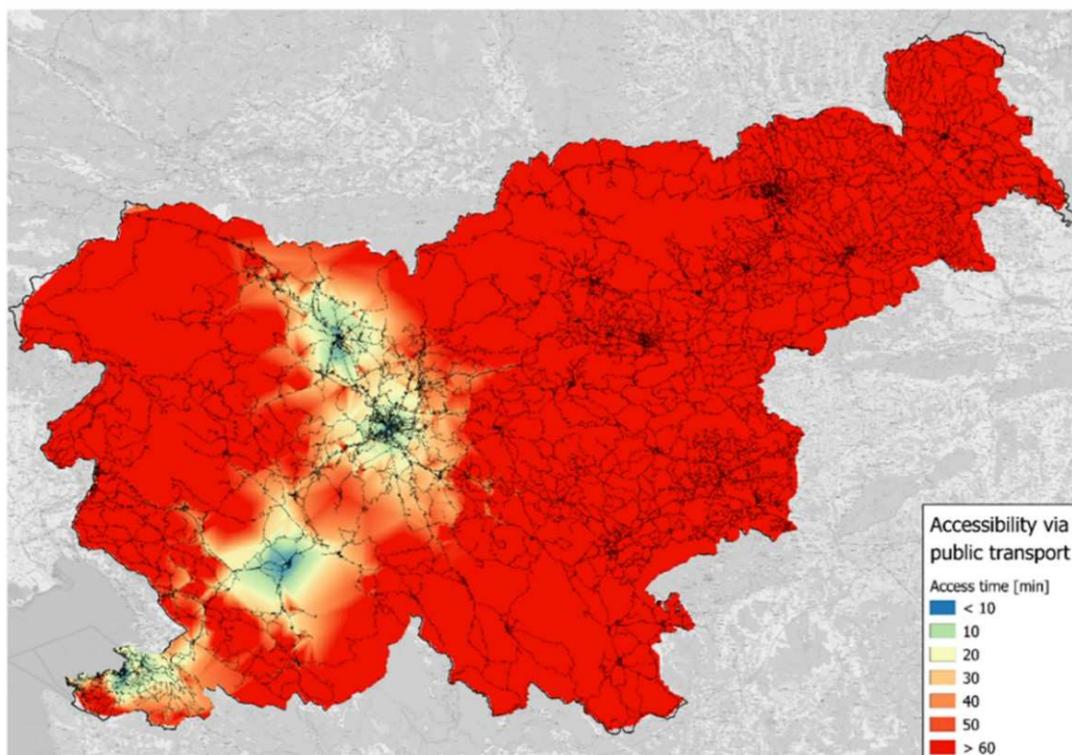


Figure 6: Public transport accessibility from urban centres in project area: Ljubljana, Kranj, Postojna, Koper. (Source: PNZ)

The main purpose of the Inter-Connect study and accessibility analysis of Ljubljana case study was to make an analysis of current state of public transport and inter-modality in the pilot region and present the necessary measures that could improve the conditions for use of the public transport especially for tourists between the Slovenian coast, the Ljubljana Urban Region (LUR) and the Ljubljana Jože Pučnik Airport. Within the case study the accessibility analysis focussing both on private and public transport to the main points of interest in the case study area.

The figures above indicates that the access times around Koper/Piran, Postojna, Ljubljana and Kranj are preferable for the car transport against the public transport. In the maximum 1 hour time, one can almost reach central part of Slovenia from any coastal area which is not the case for public transport. If a tourist arriving to the coastal area of Slovenia would use a bus or train public transport he would need much more time than 1 hour to arrive to the area of Ljubljana urban region. That would also be the case if he would have used integrated public transport systems. Analysis of results indicates that there are further investments needed in improvement of public transport service, travel times and timetables.

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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