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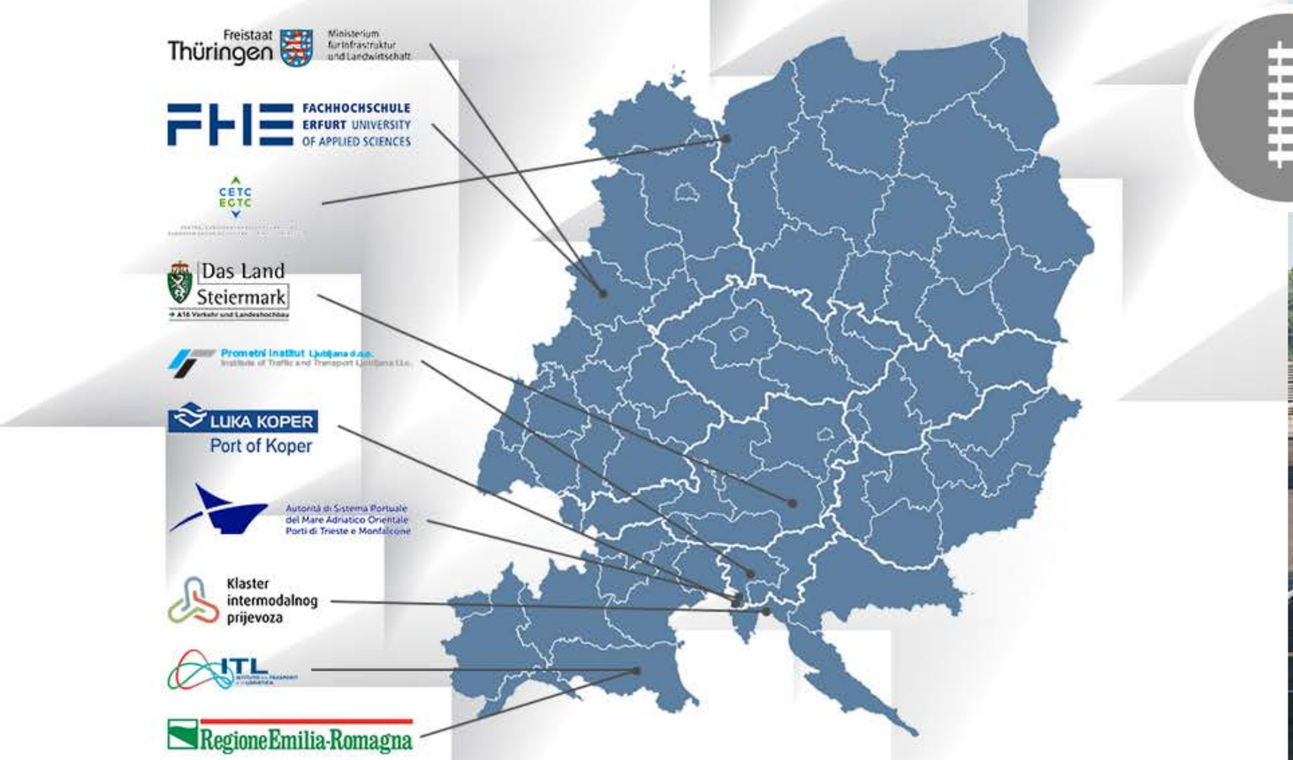
REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RAILWAY FREIGHT TRANSPORT - REVITALISED

Pilot Action #8 - ITL & RER



Pilot Action #8, performed by ITL Foundation and Emilia-Romagna region, focuses on identifying freight traffic volumes related to regional intermodal nodes and their catchment areas that can be shifted to rail. Emilia-Romagna has a highly specialized production system, consisting of 424 thousand companies, mainly SMEs, 50 thousand of which operate in the manufacturing macro-sector.

The rail/road modal split for regional freight transport is about 11%-89%, for domestic traffic, while for traffic originating in the region it is 14%-86%. The pilot deeply analysed this strong imbalance in order to evaluate what are the possibilities:

1) to integrate the two modes using the system of regional intermodal nodes;

2) to attract greater volumes by rail for those categories of goods that are suitable for this mode of transport and that currently use road transport anyway.

The pilot actions, in fact, analysed the flows originated and destined in Emilia-Romagna to identify long distance flows by road, and test whether the introduction of relevant intermodal transport options can lead those flows to shifting to rail. In order to evaluate the activation of medium-long distance rail services the regional freight transport model, which is being updated within Pilot Action #5 activities, will be used. The pilots activities will improve the regional transport planning capabilities since the regional planners have an assessment of the effects of the introduction of new rail services on the modal split. Useful information for policy makers will be also collected to orient transport strategies and investments aimed at achieving specific regional modal shift objectives. As in the the Pilot #5, the reliability of big data analysis will be tested comparing its results with those one coming from the regional freight transport model.

TAKING COOPERATION FORWARD