

OUTPUT FACT SHEET

Strategies and action plans

Version 2

Project index number and acronym	CE886 CONNECT2CE (Improved rail connections and smart mobility in Central Europe)
Output number and title	O.T3.2.1 - Territorial strategies enhancing peripheral and cross-border PT accessibility in CE <u>from</u> D.T3.3.7 - Territorial strategy for improving regional and cross-border accessibility in VENETO REGION
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	PP14 - Sistemi territoriali spa
Project website	https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/CONNECT2CE.html
Delivery date	28/05/2020

Summary description of the strategy/action plan (developed and/or implemented), explaining its main objectives and transnational added value

Main challenge addressed by the strategy: Following the territorial needs assessment phase and the studies developed during the project implementation, the Regional Strategy of Veneto Region is characterized by the capitalization of the main results of the performed analysis in a more strategic approach and vision which was shared with relevant stakeholders of the involved region with the main aim of allowing the definition of more result-oriented approaches in the future definition of PT management and planning. The main focus of Sistemi Territoriali analysis was related to the improvement of the existing railway service operated by ST along the peripheral regional transport lines, such as: Verona-Rovigo, Rovigo-Chioggia, Mestre-Adria.

How the strategy has been developed (and its transnational added value):

Several meetings were held with local stakeholders (14th october 2018, 14 july 2019, 6 december 2019) held to share the main technical results of the pilot action developed and identify the strategies to be put in place to implement the works

In particular the Veneto region has shown particular interest in the technical activities carried out.

The dissemination tables of the results allowed to collect relevant points of view on the main issues addressed by the CONNECT2CE project and to further elaborate the strategy.

The document was then elaborated according to the main feedback of the discussion and structured in councils that flow into expected scenarios addressed by driving strategies that have highlighted the importance of some main issues that include the opportunities arising also from the new regional transport plan drawn up by the Veneto region during the year 2019, which provides, among others, some specific actions concerning the improvement of railway lines managed by territorial systems. The studies performed by Sistemi Territoriali regarding the improvement of train services in peripheral areas identified problems that may be relevant in other Central European areas. The proposed solutions identified in the studies may be taken into account in other regions as to solve similar issues.

Adoption/implementation: The Strategy has been adopted through the signing of the support letter prepared in CONNECT2CE. This has been signed by the Veneto Region - Department for infrastructures and transport on 29 May 2020.

NUTS region(s) concerned by the strategy/action plan (relevant NUTS level)

The main area involved in in the strategy encompasses the area of Veneto Region (ITD2 / NUTS2).

Expected impact and benefits of the strategy/action plan for the concerned territories and target groups

Expected effect of this strategy: The main focus on which the work of Veneto Region and Sistemi Territoriali in the project has been oriented, in relation to the three main objectives of CONNECT2CE: connectivity, tariff integration and innovation; it is related to the improvement of the existing railway service along the peripheral transport lines under management, such as: Verona-Rovigo, Rovigo-Chioggia, Mestre-Adria, focusing on improving CONNECTIVITY by identifying a series of actions to be implemented in the short term, such as: Timetable revision, purchase of new vehicles (trains), improvement of signaling technology that guarantees an improvement in journey times, partial electrification of the line along some routes.

In relation to the actions to be taken in order to make the results of the work carried out concrete, also on the basis of feedback received from stakeholders, four marks of action have been identified:

- Renewal of means of locomotion: by the year 2020;
- Planning Tools: the actions aimed at improving the service identified by the feasibility study conducted, have been borrowed and included in the new Regional Transport Plan of the Veneto Region, which is in the process of approval by the Regional Council. In line with what has been implemented by the Veneto Region, the Metropolitan City of Venice is also drafting the new Urban Sustainable Mobility Plan, within which the results of the work carried out will be incorporated;
- Adaptation of the timetable and partial electrification of the line: the time horizon for the implementation of these actions is expected in the next two years 2020-2021;
- Tariff integration: in coordination with the actions that the Veneto Region is developing within the project called "Single Regional Ticket", also Territorial Systems will have to be involved in the transition to the management of the new ticketing platform. The time horizon is presumably estimated for the year 2021.

Who benefits from the strategy: The main target group are the commuters using the regional train services (students, workers).

Policy of institution uptake: The strategy has been adopted at institutional level through the support letter signed by the department for transport and infrastructures of the Veneto region, responsible for planning public transport services.

Sustainability of the developed and/or implemented strategy/action plan and its transferability to other territories and stakeholders

Sustainability of the output after the project end: To the extent that the strategy proposes measures that somehow address broader aspects related to the future development of rail transport along the lines south of the Veneto Region, in a medium-long term perspective, if followed, these measures can be replicated in other contexts, such as the lines in the area north of the Region (province of Belluno).

Moreover, the stakeholders involved at different levels in the development of the strategy will also represent a potential beneficiary of the measures implemented, insofar as they will be able to disseminate the results achieved so far in other specific contexts. To this end, the dialogue (between stakeholders at different levels) has been highlighted as one of the main lessons learned in the strategy implementation process, together with the high potential to be exploited by learning from past experiences of previous initiatives already implemented.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links

If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

Project deliverables strictly connected to the achievement of the regional strategy (i.e. D.T3.3.7 - Territorial strategy for improving regional and cross-border accessibility in VENETO REGION) are the ones related to the process of its implementation which are including the whole set of consultation and involvement of stakeholders, those are in particular:

- D.T1.2.4 - Territorial needs assessment for Veneto Region, where first information is set in order to start-up of the discussion;
- D.T1.3.3 Study for the prediction and assessment of mobility demand for the Regional rail service, with focus Verona-Rovigo-Adria-Chioggia and Adria-Mestre (phase 1 and phase 2) where relevant technical information of the piloting initiatives were provided as baseline of the discussion with stakeholders;
- D.T3.3.2-4 - Local stakeholder workshops, in which stakeholders were consulted
- D.T3.3.7 - Territorial strategy for improving regional and cross-border accessibility in VENETO REGION, which is the strategy described here.

Majority of the cited deliverables are available through the project website (<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/CONNECT2CE.html>) at the section “project documentation”.

No relevant pictures can be provided in relation to the strategy developed, apart from the ones contained in the reports of the stakeholder’s consultations testifying their involvement.