



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2

OCTOBER 2019



TalkNET: TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS STAKEHOLDERS NETWORK



TalkNET IN A NUTSHELL

TalkNET - Transport and Logistics Stakeholders Network is a project co-funded by Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE programme 2014-2020 with a total budget of EUR 2.5 million. It aims to improve and strengthen coordination among freight transport stakeholders for **efficient multimodal and environmentally-friendly** transport solutions in Central Europe.

15 partners coming from 8 central European countries (Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, Czech Republic and Germany) work in close cooperation with each other to achieve this aim. Two main **challenges** are tackled by the project:

1) the **optimization** of terminal management and last mile connections to strengthen the efficiency of the logistic nodes, their hinterland connections and related logistics services; and

2) the **improvement** of environmental performances of the logistics nodes through the deployment of alternative fuels and energy efficient solutions to reach EU low-carbon targets.

Concrete solutions will be achieved thanks to the development and implementation of common knowledge tools, pilot actions, trainings and action plans to support investments in the key above-mentioned areas of intervention.



1. TalkNET launches a video campaign!

As transportation and logistics systems continue to integrate, their impacts on the physical environment (air, water, and land resources) will become more complex.

The EU transport policy aims at a form of mobility that is sustainable, energy-efficient and respectful of the environment. TalkNET partners are working together with stakeholders to support the creation of a favorable framework for the logistics services in Central Europe.

Stay updated about what TalkNET is doing and subscribe on our new YouTube channel!



TalkNET - Transport and Logistics Stakeholders Network

CLICK TO WATCH!


TalkNET

TECHNOLOGY LAST MILE ALTERNATIVE FUELS INTERMODAL SERVICE COOPERATION INNOVATION ENVIRONMENT

Cooperation is the most important move to do if we want to win this team play.

TalkNET - Intermodality Explained

CLICK TO WATCH!


TalkNET

INTERMODALITY



2. Enhancing the Transport and Logistics Stakeholders Network

One of TalkNET's key objectives is to create closer and tighter business relationships among logistic stakeholders around Europe. Within this framework two of the project partners, the **Port Network Authority of the Eastern Adriatic Sea, Port of Trieste and Monfalcone (PNAEAS)**, and **Szczecin & Swinoujscie Seaports Authority** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** during the **7th International Maritime Congress** held on **5th September 2019** in **Szczecin**. From the most important issues, the Congress featured a panel session on the **Trimarium Initiative** (also spoken of as the **Baltic, Adriatic, Black Sea Initiative**).

The Italian Ambassador to Poland **Aldo Amati** witnessed with satisfaction the **signing of this joint agreement** between the Head of Strategic Development and Special Projects Unit at the Port Network Authority of the Eastern Adriatic Sea, **Sergio Nardini**, and the President of the Board of Szczecin & Swinoujscie Seaports Authority, **Krzysztof Urbaś**.



The MoU aims to establish a strengthened partnership between the two Port Authorities in key sectors, with particular reference to port's environmental protection initiatives, including green infrastructures and facilities for the provision of alternative fuels deployment services. The two Parties also affirmed their commitment to further their partnership in enhancing intermodality and interoperability on the **TEN-T core network corridors**, Port

Community Systems and implementation of other ICT related tools in compliance with IMO applicable rules and standards. To this end, regularly exchange visits all levels have been scheduled for the upcoming months.

Both Parties have already made various efforts over the past years sharing the strategic objective to improve their respective port operations, service efficiency and competitiveness. In carrying out these efforts, strong cooperation and coordination with relevant public and private stakeholders at EU and international level have always been commonly recognized as critical for ports' continued success and ability to ensure sustainable added value as set out in the EU's growth strategy.

The MoU thus formalizes this **shared strategic vision** and its aim to strengthen Europe's interests in promoting EU and international maritime cooperation.



3. TalkNET goes to Transport Logistic 2019

To answer some of the most important questions related to the challenges faced by TalkNET, the partners organized the event “**How to Improve Multimodal Environmentally-Friendly Freight Solutions in Central Europe?**”, which took place the 6th June 2019 on occasion of the fair Transport Logistic.

The conference was included in the official program of the renowned fair **Transport Logistic** in Munich and had a great success among the public that gathered in front of the stage. The international atmosphere offered by the fair, by the speakers as well as by the **Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE project TalkNET**, ensured the success of the workshop and gave some of the major players in the field of logistics the opportunity to discuss the need to adopt sustainable solutions that at the same time do not compromise the market and freight transport in Europe.

The event was structured in two panels: the first panel focused on “**Eco-innovative solutions for freight transport**”, whereas the second had “**Multimodal transport solutions**” as central theme.

Antonio Revedin (Director Strategic Planning and Development Department - North Adriatic Sea Port Authority) and **Alessandro Marino** (CEO - Italian-German Chamber of Commerce in Munich) opened the conference by illustrating some of the main achievements already collected by TalkNET.

Sebastian Reimann (editor-in-chief of DVZ, Deutsche-Verkehrszeitung) moderated a stimulating debate between **Lajos Veer** (Sales Manager Hungary - Shell Fleet Solutions) and **Stanislaw Iwan** (Associate professor at the Maritime University of Szczecin - Department of Transport Systems) during the first panel and finally gave space to the second round of speakers: **Armin Riedl** (CEO - Kombiverkehr and Lokomotion), **Agnes Hernad** (Managing Director - Rail Cargo Operator - Hungaria Kft.) and **Nunzio Savarese** (Commercial Executive Short Sea Lines - Grimaldi Group).

These leading personalities from the logistic sector discussed sustainable ways of shifting freight transport from road to rail or waterborne transport. Other points of discussion were the promotion of eco-innovation in freight logistics, the development of multimodal corridors, the optimization of the performance of multimodal logistics networks and the need to consolidate efficient methods to maintain a seamless information flow in the logistics chain.

At the end of the conference **Harald Leupold** (HL Consulting und Wagener & Herbst Management Consultants GmbH, Büro Nürnberg) held a speech, where he briefly summarized the various topics discussed during the event.





4. Interview with the Freeport of Budapest Logistics

BUDAPEST DOCK

Szabadkikötő
Logisztikai és Ipari Park

The Freeport of Budapest Logistics Ltd (FBL) is the port operator of the Budapest Freeport, which is the largest, core inland port in Hungary on the Danube. FBL is responsible for the correct implementation of the **Thematic Work Package 3** (*Pilot actions and trainings for cooperation in multimodal transport chains and business activation*) of the TalkNET project. WPT3 includes **pilot actions and trainings** for cooperation in multimodal transport chains and business activation. As WPT3 coordinator, the Freeport of Budapest is responsible for the preparation of its work methodology and structure, and for the guidance, support and supervision of the activities of other Project Partners involved in the piloting. Furthermore, it has actively participated in the **design and implementation phase** of other activities along the project duration, providing inputs, surveying and analyzing issues related to last mile connection and alternative fuels, freight and environmental handling cargo solutions and hub efficiency, in particular in the Danube area.

FBL is finally in charge of the assessment of pilot results and the draft of transferability guidelines to ensure the sustainability and actual deployment of those innovations and services tested during the project course.

Moreover, **policy makers and stakeholders** are planned to be involved in all major activities to regularly verify project contents and results. Expected benefits of the WPT3 are to deepen and consolidate relationships and synergies especially with the ports and rail operators involved, in order to redirect cargo goods from the road to the combined waterway and railway mode. These project activities - as much as other planned activities - shall support the **improvement of node efficiency**. Therefore, WPT3 shall have a **strong positive environmental impact** as well.

We discussed some of the most important implications with the Work Package 3 Coordinator.

FBL is a partner of great experience and of high competence. As WPT3 leader, what will be your role? How do you intend to exploit your expertise in favor of the project?

*As the WPT3 leader our role is to guide and control the activities of the partners involved in WPT3 implementation. **TalkNET is a complex project** with a high number of partners coming from various segments of the logistic sector with different corporate and cultural background.*

*WPT3 includes a lot of piloting activities - all building upon the previously implemented technical work packages - so it is of utmost importance to provide a unified methodology and a strong but supportive guidance to avoid delays and **maintain high quality**. We have to work closely with all the members of the partnership involved in*



WPT3 so we maintain regular contacts online and also via phone between the personal Steering Committee meetings and we also ask for written progress reports in a pre-set format.

*There is also a close cooperation between us and the highly experienced staff of the Lead Partner, **Northern Adriatic Sea Port Authority (NASPA)**: we overview and discuss frequently the progress of the implementation.*

There have been several modifications in the definition of the pilots in comparison to the original plan, as TalkNET was submitted more than 3 years ago and some of the originally planned pilots have been implemented from other resources or market needs changed and partners wish to prepare other pilots. It makes WPT3 implementation more complex as approval of such modifications always takes time.

*Leading a work package is not new for us: we have been involved as a WP leader in the **CE-INWAPO** project and the experienced and knowledge gained is very valuable now to lead WPT3.*

The Freeport of Budapest Logistics is the responsible partner for Thematic WPT3 of the TalkNET project. Since all major activities foresee the participation of stakeholders, how do partners plan to involve them? Moreover, what kind of stakeholder and how many of them you intend to involve?

*First step of the WPT3 implementation is to **involve stakeholders**. Project partners involved in the pilot implementation has to consult their stakeholders to validate and update their pilot project's design. In this sense there is a strong link to the previous work packages: the results of the analysis phase implemented in WPT1 and WPT2 contributed in better defining pilots and also possible re-orientating their implementation. It is now necessary to verify if the pilots - which were designed in the **application phase** - are still valid. The primary objective is to guide the stakeholders through a **participative process** which is able to explore and collect all questions and proposals related to the development of the pilot actions of the TalkNET project. As well as WPT1 and WPT2, also WPT3 foresees the implementation of related activities improving dialogue and coordination among stakeholders through a consultation and validation process. Having a wider support and understanding represents a crucial element for the start-up phase.*



We have developed a “*Stakeholder Involvement Logbook*” which explains the partners how to organize and document the stakeholder’s involvement. Stakeholder may come from various institutions (state and private companies, clusters, public sector, interest groups, NGO etc) depending upon the subject of the pilot. There is also a lot of flexibility regarding the form of the stakeholder consultation (can be *interviews, workshops, presentation* etc). A report shall be prepared on the results of the stakeholder involvement by the relevant project partners following a structure laid down in the “*Logbook*”.

What do you expect to achieve from TalkNET’s pilot actions and from all other activities FBL will oversee?

TalkNET’s Pilot Actions are designed to develop and enhance multimodal environmentally-friendly freight transport services and solutions. There are 13 pilots in the project which cover various areas such as *eco-driving solutions* for the rail freight sector, *test of new services, development of IT solutions, survey of the feasibility of alternative fuels used in logistics* etc.

Pilot actions and trainings will be assessed and will include transferability indications spread in public events and targeted events. We also aim to capitalize the individual partners’ pilot results, share the knowledge and spread the new solutions inside and outside the partnership. Each of the 13 pilots will review different solutions, meaning the FBL will benefit a lot from other partners’ work and inputs.

5. Next Events & Future Developments

27-28 November 2019:
[PSC Meeting Prague \(CZ\)](#)

On 27-28 November 2019 TalkNET partners will gather in Prague for the **6th Steering Committee and technical meetings**. The meeting will be attended by all the representatives of the 15 organisations that collaborate since 2017 on the better coordination of freight transport stakeholders for efficient multimodal and environmentally-friendly transport solutions.

The meeting will be opened by a welcome speech and a short presentation of the **Ústí Region nodes**. Subsequently, partners responsible for the implementation of specific actions will discuss together **updates, status of play and next steps of the activities**. On the second day of meeting, project partners will have the chance to visit the **CD-DUSS Terminal at Lovosice** and the **Mělník port and terminal**.



GET INVOLVED

Information about TalkNET is available in various ways and the partnership is open to your opinions and suggestions. Visit us on Facebook, send us an email, give us a call or follow us on our website. We look forward to your active participation!

Visit us on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Youtube -



Communication partner:



Italian-German
Chamber of
Commerce

Martina Agosti: agosti@italcam.de
Giuseppe Currò: curro@italcam.de

Project partners of TalkNET

