

OUTPUT FACT SHEET

Strategies and action plans

Project index number and acronym	CE1410 REIF
Output number and title	O.T1.3 - Regional priority lists of actions & Definition of policy measures
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	PP7 CETC-EGTC
Project website	interreg-central.eu/reif
Delivery date	08.2021

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

The railway network of Westpomerania Region is characterized by a relatively low density (5.3 km / 100 km²) compared to the national average of 6.3 km /100 km². The "backbone" of the railway infrastructure consists of: for the north-south axis, the E-65 corridor (lines 351 and 401) with the CE-65 branch (line 273), for the east-west axis, line 202 (Gdańsk Główny - Stargard) and, to a smaller extent, line 210 (Chojnice - Runowo Pomorskie). In the context of freight transport, the remaining lines are complementary to the abovementioned ones. The main generators of freight traffic (in terms of quantity) are the Szczecin and Świnoujście seaports, industrial plants and power plants located in Szczecin metropolitan area. Due to the transit location of the region and the location of the largest producers in the coastal area (conditioned by the proximity of port terminals), goods are moved mainly along the north-south axis using the E-65 / CE-65 corridor.

The currently operated railway lines ensure relatively efficient transport between the cities of the region, communicating them with smaller centers. The condition of railway lines, especially on some sections where speed limits are applied for safety reasons, requires modernization. The line parameters limit the possibility of creating timetable enabling efficient handling of freight transport. The challenge for the Region is not only to restore and modernize railway connections, but also not to close down some of them, as it happens in the case of the lack of financing of investments from national or EU funds. In order to ensure the development of rail transport and make it competitive with road transport, the regional priority lists of actions has been prepared. The objective of the priority list is to identify and budget actions (investments) in line with the analyses' outcomes, and to link them to West Pomeranian and Polish policies. The list features major investments in the railway network, promotional activities aiming to highlight the benefits of intermodal transport, and actions

to overcome administrative procedures representing obstacles for intermodality. The activities are proposed for realization within the Transport Development Policy of the Westpomeranian Voivodeship until 2030. The necessary financial costs still need to be assessed.

The results of prior analyses have been discussed with REIF's transnational consortium and were subject of a benchmarking work paper that had put all previous learning into perspective. REIF partner meetings were used to exchange first sets of action proposals and their potential contribution to achieve a growth of rail freight transport. The finalized priority list and identified policies for their realization represent the final results of REIF's WP T1 which was dedicated to analyses and the establishment of concepts for action. Decision-makers within the partner institutions are addressed and empowered with a more profound understanding of the current situation of rail freight transport and investments required.

The priority list of actions and identified policies will further be addressed through REIF activities in WP T3 where a Regional advisory board is created to elaborate a Roadmap for the realization of proposed actions (such as construction of the Szczecin Podjuchy Most - Dzieloklicz link; construction of the Western Bypass of Szczecin, Electrification of line 408 and 409 on the section Szczecin Gumieńce - state border; construction or reconstruction of the Service Infrastructure Facilities "Loading tracks" within the 28 stations).

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

Westpomerania Region, Poland. **NUTS** code: PL42.

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

The Priority list of actions and Definition of policy measures is based on prior analyses realized in REIF's WP T1, notably a Baseline study, a Market potential study and a Bottleneck analysis. The results of these analyses have been discussed with the transnational partners of REIF project and are summarized in a Benchmarking work paper. The Priority list of actions suggests medium and long term investments to promote the growth of rail the modal split in the transportation of freight in the Westpomeranian Region.

The defined policy measures indicate corresponding programmes and policies where proposed actions are to be anchored. The proposed actions are based on detected bottlenecks and unrealized market potentials and are addressed to regional decision-makers. Through the Priority list of actions and Definition of policy measures decision-makers receive a comprehensive overview on required investments for further consideration. The list will furthermore be addressed by REIF activities in WP T3 where proposed actions are to be discussed with stakeholders and key actors forming a Regional advisory board. That process is leading to a Roadmap defining how proposed actions will be uptaken on an institutional level.

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

The Priority list of actions and Definition of policy measures is addressed to decision-makers of rail freight transport and related investments. Stakeholders and other key actors will benefit from the document as it forms the basis for further discussion in a Regional advisory board (to be created in WP T3 of REIF) and for the elaboration of a Roadmap. The list's added value is its rooting in the outcomes of previous analyses and transnational exchange.

The process of the list's unbiased elaboration through a Baseline study, a Market potential analysis and Bottleneck analysis accompanied by transnational exchange and discussion is suitable for any other Central European region aiming at increasing rail freight transport. Related methodologies for studies and analyses have been published on the REIF website.

Rail and intermodal transport face in the Westpomeranian Region, and generally in Poland, many problems that reduce its competitiveness. The removal of barriers would allow enterprises to use rail transport much more willingly and more often. One of the elements improving rail transport is ensuring the appropriate quality of line and point infrastructure. The regional priority list of actions is comprehensive - from the construction of new and modernization of existing railway lines, through the reconstruction of neglected infrastructure, increasing the availability of reloading points, to feasibility studies determining the shape of further development activities. The goal is to achieve sufficiently high standards of infrastructure, both in terms of its operational parameters and accessibility for all entities interested in the implementation of rail shipments. A well-developed and generally accessible railway infrastructure in the region will certainly influence the individual decisions of economic entities in the field of shaping their supply chains.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links

If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

The output is based on the following deliverables*:

- D.T1.1.5 Regional baseline study
 - D.T1.2.3 Market potential analysis
 - D.T1.3.3 Regional catalogue of bottlenecks
 - D.T1.4.2 Priority list of actions and cost estimates
 - D.T1.4.3 Definition of potential policy measures
- Download link for the above-mentioned documents: <https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/REIF/Regional-Strategy-Output-CETC-EGTC.zip>
- D.T1.4.1 Benchmarking work paper ([https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/REIF/Benchmarking-Work-Paper-\(All-Regions\).zip](https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/REIF/Benchmarking-Work-Paper-(All-Regions).zip))