Interregional Learning towards Sustainable Mobility in Europe: the REGIO-MOB Experience

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• Project summary

European regions are facing an increasing mobility demand while coping with higher congestion levels. Undoubtedly, there is a strong need to increase the use of sustainable transport modes meaning, above all, promoting intermodality, technical innovation and the use of cleaner and more efficient systems. Hence, European regions need to undertake the transition towards low-carbon and resource efficient transport systems in order to increase mobility, remove major barriers and fuel growth and employment.

In this challenging context, where an effective action requires strong interregional cooperation, arises REGIOMOB, whose overall objective is to secure Europe’s sustainable growth by promoting sustainable mobility. Therefore, influencing the related instruments in each concerned territory and contributing to their improvement and more efficient performance, as a result of mutual interregional learning.

REGIO-MOB partners expect to contribute to the consolidation of sustainable mobility in their regions by improving their policies performance as a result of a shared learning process. This improvement will be materialised through the development of regional mobility strategies with an holistic approach (environmental, economic & social factors).
To this end, every partner will carry out a regional analysis on their needs and best practices, which will be further transferred through the 7 regional workshops. In addition, each one of them will set up a Regional Stakeholders Group that will enrich the process & will also ensure the key stakeholders engagement. This process’ results will be gathered in a Guide on Recommendations for more efficient & cleaner mobility prior to undertake the development of the 7 Regional Mobility Plans. The outputs will directly benefit the partners, our stakeholders and clearly our regions. Eventually, we aspire to influence as well other regions not originally involved in the project. Then we will be able to say that we have fully succeeded.

• Ljubljana meeting report. (summary)

On 24th and 25th May 2017 a workshop was held in Ljubljana for the exchange of good Slovenian practices in the field of sustainable mobility held by the Ljubljana Traffic and Transport Institute within the framework of the Interreg Europa REGIO-MOB Project.
Traffic and transport institute Ljubljana is partner of the international project: “REGIO-MOB - Interregional learning for sustainable mobility in Europe: the REGIO-MOB experience”.
REGIO-MOB aims to promote sustainable mobility in Europe by influencing its own political instruments in each partner territory: an interregional cooperation project to improve low-carbon economic policies.

In addition to the representatives of the partners and their main stakeholders, representatives of the Slovenian stakeholders of the REGIO-MOB project: Ministry of Infrastructure of the RS, City of Ljubljana, Ljubljana Passenger Transport and the Ljubljana Regional Development Agency.

- On the first day of the event, on May 24, 2017, Slovenian good practices to promote sustainable mobility in Slovenia were presented by Mr. Matic Sopotnik of the City of Ljubljana, Ms. Polona Demšar Mitrovič and Mr. Tadej Žaucer from the Ministry of Infrastructure, Gregor Cunder of the Ljubljana Passenger Transport and Matej Gojčič from the Urban Region of Ljubljana. Ms. Polona Demšar Mitrovič presented the national approach to developing the integration of transport strategies for municipalities.

- On the second day of the event, on May 25, 2017, participants at the event discussed Slovenian good practices of sustainable mobility and how to “live” on the ground.

At the end it was said that until the year 2015 only 11 (from 212) Slovenian municipalities had implemented sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP). Thanks to the new approach to the implementation of SOSP co-funding, adopted by the Ministry of Infrastructure in 2016, the use of SUMP documents has increased significantly in several municipalities.

(SUMP is a strategic document that outlines the vision of the municipality and objectives in the field of sustainable transport and a list of the necessary actions that help achieve complete change and, consequently, a better quality of life.)
• **Niepolomice meeting report. (summary)**

The REGIO MOB project aims to improve regional problems of sustainable mobility through a process of shared interregional learning. This report describes the four best practices presented during the two-day seminar organized in **June 2017** by the Municipality of Niepolomice.

The scheme and the technical specifications of the best practices are presented, to allow partners to adopt the practices in their respective regions, provided they decide to concentrate these particular practices.

The seminar took place in the hospitable chambers of the royal castle of Niepolomice, in the city and municipality near Krakow - one of the largest economic, cultural and academic centers in Poland. Partners from 5 countries, accompanied by interested parties, attended. Partners from Spain and Greece were not able to attend the event due to technical problems and organizational problems.

The practices chosen by the REGIO MOB partnership to focus on Niepolomice were:

- **Telebus**: requires reactive transport,
- **FAR**, Fast Agglomeration Railway: fast agglomeration train combined with **P&R** (Park&Ride) systems
- **CHUMS**,
- **E-bike Net**

The first day was entirely dedicated to presentations of the above arguments and workshops, organized with the help from representatives of the University of Technology in Krakow. The second day of the meeting was dedicated to study visits in places that serve as transport hubs, interchanges, control rooms, etc. It was also a good opportunity to see how the systems work.

In conclusion, it was found that:

- Tele-Bus can be used in low-density residential neighborhoods and industrial areas where a conventional **PT** service is not appropriate.

- The Fast Agglomeration Railway combined with **P&R** facilities and interchanges for the city transport - to be implemented successfully - should meet different requirements: short time trips, fixed hours, high frequency of courses, good comfort and reasonable prices.
• The **CHUMS** initiative increases the general awareness of carpooling and helps change the mentality of local car commuters.

• The **E-Bike Net** project aims to create a network of electric bicycles that people can use across the entire cross-border area along the Danube river.

Given this, it is believed that sufficient details have been presented and discussed to allow partners to assess whether or not these best practices would be of interest to them in their respective cities and regions.

**DO YOU KNOW THAT...**
The CHUMS measures have realised increases in carpooling mode share varying from 1% to 36% depending on the site.
REGIO-MOB news

In this section we list the innovations 2018 in which the REGIO-MOB team will participate.

1. The “CITEMOS” event organized by Confartigianato di Vicenza presenting the best practices in the session on Saturday 16 October 2017 entitled “Future Visions on the Mobility of Goods in Smart Cities: International Experiences”

   more info on:  

2. A breakfast meeting in Brussels during the European Week of Regions & Cities.  
   October 10th-12th, 2017 Bruxelles, Belgium.
Meeting calendar:

- **10th October**: Explore good practices with the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform, at Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors, Atrium 5 [Code:JDE 5 floor] Bruxelles

- **11th October**: Fourth Project Meeting including Steering Committee and Technical Committee Meeting at ANCI (refer to Lazio Region at the entrance) Rond Point Schuman 14 Sixth floor – Meeting Room Bruxelles.

- **12th October**: “Sustainable transport in cross-border cooperation” event” at Region Värmland European Office, Rue du Luxembourg 3, Bruxelles.

3. Meeting in Malaga.

**November 7th, 2017 Malaga, Spain.**

Meeting calendar:

- **9:30 - 11th** Technical Visit to the Metropolitan Transport Consortium of the Province of Malaga.
  Main topics of the visit:
  - How the consortium works;
  - Its coordination at the territorial level;
  - Relations with “stakeholders” and cities;
  - Its impact on the local policies on the mobility issue in the interested municipalities.

- **11:30 - 13: 30** Visit at the Empresa Municipal de Transportes (EMT) - Public Transport Company of the City of Malaga.
  It has on citizens (integrated tickets, etc.).

- **14-15** Lunch seminar: informal meeting which gives an opportunity to get feedback and reactions on the study visit.
REGIO-MOB partners are working for a more sustainable Europe, a Europe where everyone can contribute to the consolidation of sustainable mobility patterns. By sharing knowledge and best practices, the European regions can make the difference!