



Policy highlights

Smarter Logistics for Carbon Reduction and a Greener Future

The SPOTLOG 7th Main Interregional Exchange of Experience Event was held in Rīga, Latvia, organised by the Vidzeme Planning Region.

A more efficient freight transport and mobility systems, especially in low-density and rural areas, were discussed, closely analysing and sharing concrete cases on sustainable urban logistics, mobility governance, infrastructure planning, and data-driven solutions.

Special focus was given to carbon neutrality, regional policy improvements, and the integration of mobility and freight systems in a socially and economically sustainable way.

In this document, the key points discussed and raised during the events are summarized.

Key highlights from SPOTLOG interregional policy learning exchange:

- *Mobility Governance:* the Riga experience has showed the need to go through an evolution process from voluntary cooperation to regulated approaches.
- *The need for a legal and clear framework for zero-emission urban distribution:* Policy is crucial in guiding the transition to a sustainable logistics, helping stakeholders move from theory to efficient practices, also formulating recommendations for zero-emission logistics and integrating facilities planning for carbon reduction.
- *The SUMP and SULP can support the way forward:* The Ialoveni (Moldova) SUMP and the Rimini (Italy) SULP highlighted not only the importance of a clear policy but also the need for a participatory approach involving logistics operators and where possible citizens too.
- *The use of data:* as done in Tampere (Finland), IoT and open



data can help creating a dynamic overview of city operations; and above all can guide maintenance, and improve decision-making and citizen experiences.

- *The hubs integration:* the logistics impact of urbanization is quite high and integrating logistics hubs into new developments to meet growing delivery demands more sustainably could be a possible solution.
- *The cooperation role:* pilot projects, collaborative approaches, and stakeholder consultations are key to promote sustainable city logistics.

In conclusion, this new SPOTLOG partnership's exchange event in Riga once again helped to broaden the view of logistics in Europe and concrete cases that can become models for implementation and a source of inspiration.

However, it is always important not to underestimate or forget the role of politics and decision-makers in each country.

The dialogue between the various parties is always a must.