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D5.5

Dissemination Material 1

alliance

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PANEPISTIMIO THESSALIAS – UTH	Greece
FRAUNHOFER GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FORDERUNG DER ANGEWANDTEN FORSCHUNG EV – Fraunhofer	Germany

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
CSUM	Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility
D	Deliverable
EU	European Union
Fraunhofer	Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation
GA	Grant Agreement
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
M	Month
PO	Project Officer
STSE	Short-Term Staff Exchange
TTLog	Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory
TTI	Transport and Telecommunication Institute
UTH	University of Thessaly
WP	Work Package

ABSTRACT

The present deliverable provides an outline of the first part of the dissemination material that has been produced for the ALLIANCE project, addressing material that has been designed during the first six months of the project's lifecycle, and including: poster, leaflet, brief presentation, one-slide presentation, three press releases and the 1st ALLIANCE fact sheet. In addition, structured templates (e.g. newsletter template) that have been developed for further dissemination purposes, are also presented.

1 Introduction

1.1 Contents of the deliverable

This document is the third deliverable of WP5 that has been prepared, along with deliverables D5.1 entitled "1st Dissemination and exploitation plan", and deliverable D5.4 "Website". The objective of WP5 is to promote the project to existing international, European and national forums and provide them with the latest news, calls for forthcoming events, etc. ALLIANCE's dissemination manager – UTH is responsible to organize and prepare all required dissemination material for this purpose, as well as to develop further synergies to achieve it.

Deliverable D5.5 provides information on the dissemination material produced for the ALLIANCE project. A leaflet, a poster, a brief presentation, a one-slide presentation (all four in preview) and the first fact sheet, including also a template for the annual project's newsletters are presented in the following chapters. In addition, chapter 3 contains the first three press releases that have been already uploaded onto the project's website. Lastly, in chapter 5 the impact of the project till now is presented, through tables exported, based on visiting numbers in the project's website. A synopsis is presented in the last part of the deliverable, and nine annexes follow with the dissemination material.

1.2 Project overview

ALLIANCE aims at developing advanced research and higher education institution in the field of smart interconnecting sustainable transport networks in Latvia, by linking the Transport and Telecommunication Institute – TTI with two internationally recognized research entities – University of Thessaly – UTH, Greece and Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation – Fraunhofer, Germany. Close collaboration of TTI with UTH and Fraunhofer will enable the achievement of the goals through the following activities:

- Organization of young researchers' seminars
- Organization of workshops
- Organization of summer schools for trainers and young researchers
- Development of educational programme for graduate and post-graduate students
- Development of training programme for trainers and practitioners
- Provision of grants for participation as authors of peer reviewed publications in conferences
- Facilitation of Short-Term Staff Exchanges (STSE's) with the aim of international collaboration, mainly publications
- Establishment of a guidance strategy for preparing scientific publications
- Creation of an educational forum as on-line tool for distance learning and knowledge sharing.

The overall methodology of the project is built around the analysis of the needs of Latvia and the surrounding region of the Baltic sea (Lithuania, Estonia, Poland) on knowledge gain about intermodal transportation networks and the development of the tools to attain this knowledge, providing at the same time excellence and innovation capacity. The analysis to be conducted during the first stages of the project, steps on the overarching relations among policy makers, industry and education/research.

Structured around three main pillars, organizational/governance, operational/services and service quality/customer satisfaction, ALLIANCE will deliver a coherent educational/training program, addressed to enhancing the knowledge of current and future researchers and professionals offering their services in Latvia and the wider region.

The expected impacts on the overall research and innovation potential of TTI and Latvian research community will be of high importance and TTI will benefit from ALLIANCE by:

- Improving its knowledge in methodologies for preparing, writing and publishing scientific papers
- Strengthening its research capacity
- Establishing international research teams in specific areas of interest
- Generating new innovative ideas for future research work through the project's activities
- Setting up the fundamentals for the young generation of researchers
- Being integrated in a number of existing international transportation research networks
- Being incorporated in the European research system of transport and logistics.

In addition, the cooperation of TTI with UTH and Fraunhofer will induce benefits into several domains of everyday life at regional, national and international scope. New bases will be established concerning knowledge transfer procedures, education and interdepartmental collaboration amongst research institutes. The innovative organizational framework, which will be structured for this purpose during the project, is expected to constitute a best practice application with tangible and well estimated progress results, which will be disseminated and communicated through social events to the research community and to the respective business sector as well.

Lastly, an important benefit will be the configuration of an integrated framework pertaining to the knowledge transfer techniques and the generic upgrading of the educational system with use of networking, staff exchange, webinars and other knowledge transfer methods and techniques based on a well-structured and well-tried schedule.

2 Graphic project identity

The ALLIANCE logo (Figure 1) was used for the design of the website (www.alliance-project.eu), the social media accounts (Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube channel), and the dissemination material of the project.

Figure 1: ALLIANCE logo

3 Dissemination material

The material that has been produced during the first semester of the project for the promotion of ALLIANCE is presented in the following paragraphs.

3.1 Project presentation

A brief presentation (Figure 2), outlining the scope of the project, the concept, the expected impacts, the consortium, and contact details has been prepared in a "powerpoint" format to be used for the promotion of the ALLIANCE project in workshops, meetings, etc. The presentation is uploaded onto the project's website, and is available for downloading.

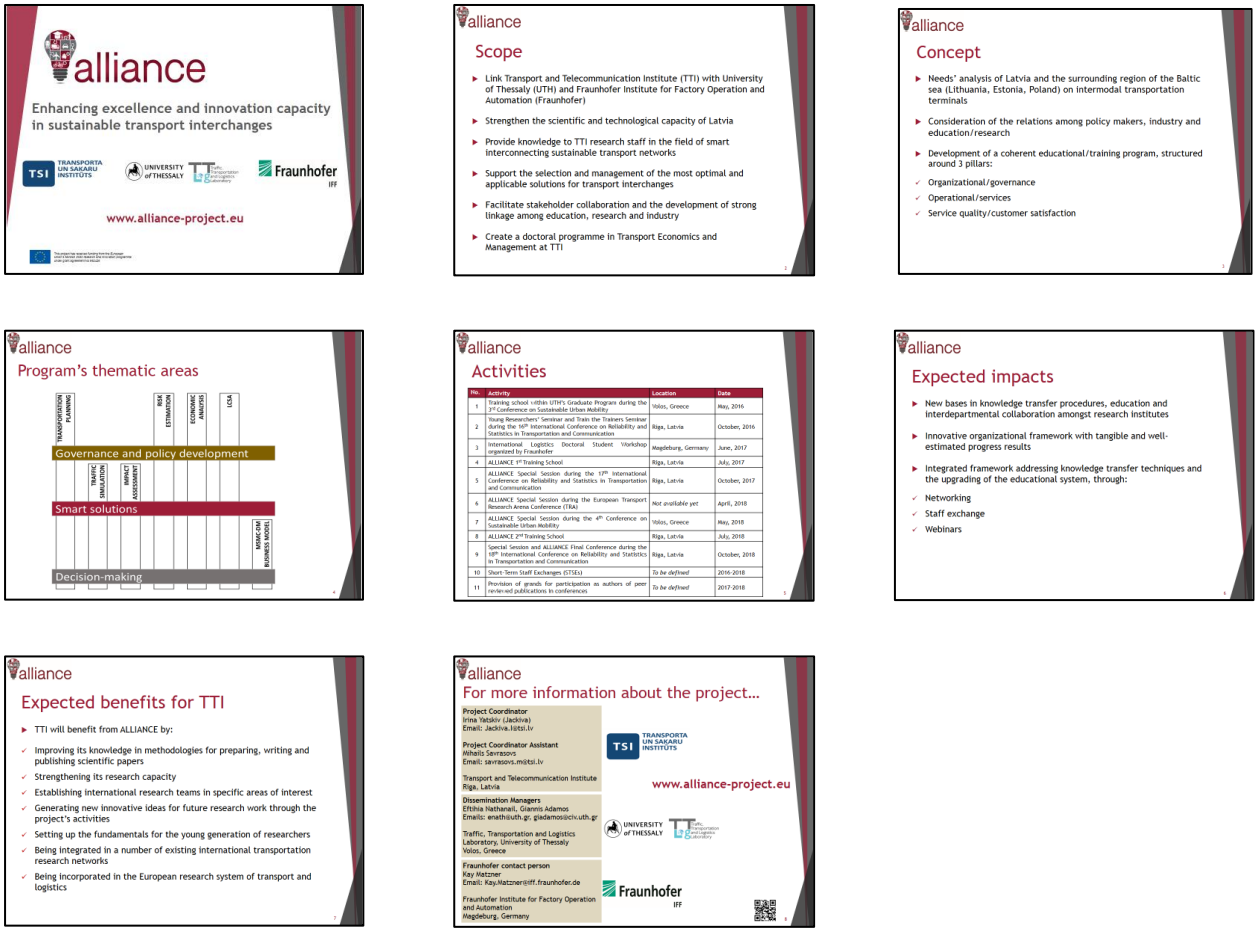

Figure 2: Brief presentation

3.2 One-slide presentation

Additionally to the brief presentation, a "one-slide" presentation has been prepared (Figure 3), and is also available for downloading from the project's website.

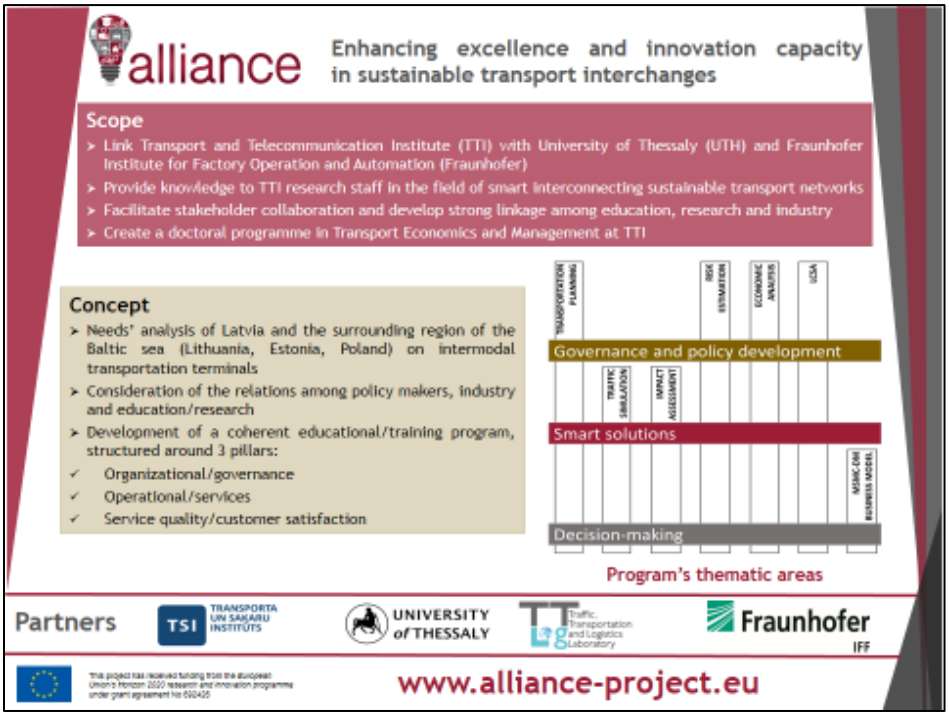

Figure 3: One-slide presentation

3.3 Leaflet

An electronic leaflet (Figure 4) has been designed, summarizing the objectives and expected impacts of the project. This leaflet along with the brief presentation, the one-slide presentation and the poster will be used for the public events, e.g. conferences, workshops, etc., where ALLIANCE partners participate. The leaflet is available for downloading from the project's website.

Figure 4: Leaflet

3.4 Poster

A poster has been designed to present the scope of ALLIANCE, as well as to provide information on the project's consortium. Accordingly, it will be used for the promotion of the project at events. The poster has been adjusted for printing in three poster frames A3, 50x70 cm and 80x200 cm, and is available for downloading from the project's website.

Figure 5: Poster

3.5 Press releases

Press releases (Figures 6-8) are one of the key dissemination materials of the project, since they communicate the achieved progress of the project at specific milestones. The distribution of the press releases started with the commencement of the ALLIANCE project in January 2016, announcing the beginning of the project, the objectives and the expected impacts of the project. So far, three press releases have been distributed in English, while each partner translated them to their local language and distributed them in local printed and electronic press.

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Press release

Friday 04/03/2016, Volos, Greece

The ALLIANCE project: Enhancing excellence and innovation capacity in sustainable transport interchanges

A new project on sustainable transport interchanges commenced on January 1st 2016, financed by the European Union under the HORIZON 2020 Research and Innovation Programme.

ALLIANCE aims at developing advanced research and higher education institution in the field of smart interconnecting sustainable transport networks in Latvia, by linking the Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TTI) with two internationally recognized research entities, University of Thessaly (UTH), Greece and Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation (Fraunhofer), Germany. Close collaboration of TTI with UTH and Fraunhofer will enable the achievement of the project's goals through several activities, including the organization of young researchers' seminars, workshops and training schools, the development of an educational programme for PhD and post-doctorate students, the facilitation of short-term staff exchanges with the aim of international collaboration, the creation of an educational platform as an on-line tool for continuing education distance learning and knowledge sharing, etc.

The overall methodology of ALLIANCE is built around the analysis of the needs of Latvia and the surrounding region of the Baltic area (Lithuania, Estonia, Poland) on knowledge gain about intermodal transportation networks and the development of the tools to attain this knowledge, providing at the same time excellence and innovation capacity.

ALLIANCE will deliver a coherent educational/training program, structured around three main pillars: governance/policy, smart solutions and decision-making, and addressed to enhancing the knowledge of current and future researchers and professionals offering their services in Latvia and the wider region.

The first official event, the kick-off meeting of ALLIANCE took place in Riga on January 26th and 27th, 2016. The two-day meeting agenda included among other, technical presentations given by the responsible partners and discussions to set the methodologies to be followed during the project lifecycle. A list of key dates and forthcoming activities was also decided by the members of the Project Management Board.

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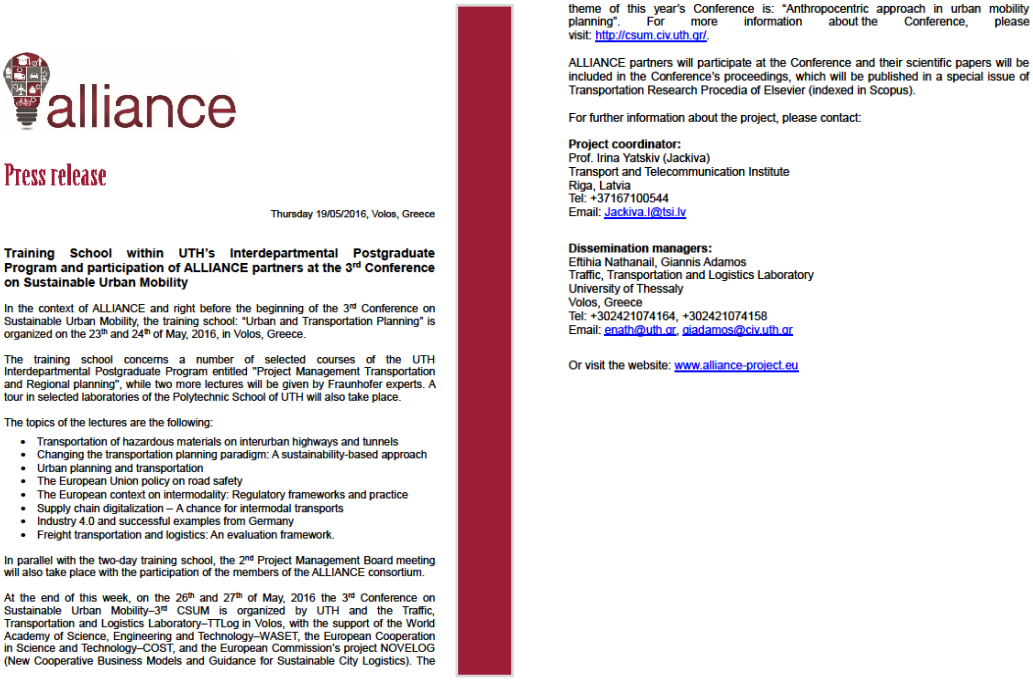
Or visit the website: www.alliance-project.eu

Figure 6: 1st Press release



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Press release

Thursday 19/05/2016, Volos, Greece

Training School within UTH's Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program and participation of ALLIANCE partners at the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility

In the context of ALLIANCE and right before the beginning of the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility, the training school: "Urban and Transportation Planning" is organized on the 23th and 24th of May, 2016, in Volos, Greece.

The training school concerns a number of selected courses of the UTH Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program entitled "Project Management Transportation and Regional planning", while two more lectures will be given by Fraunhofer experts. A tour in selected laboratories of the Polytechnic School of UTH will also take place.

The topics of the lectures are the following:

- Transportation of hazardous materials on interurban highways and tunnels
- Changing the transportation planning paradigm: A sustainability-based approach
- Urban planning and transportation
- The European Union policy on road safety
- The European context on intermodality: Regulatory frameworks and practice
- Supply chain digitalization – A chance for intermodal transports
- Industry 4.0 and successful examples from Germany
- Freight transportation and logistics: An evaluation framework.

In parallel with the two-day training school, the 2nd Project Management Board meeting will also take place with the participation of the members of the ALLIANCE consortium.

At the end of this week, on the 26th and 27th of May, 2016 the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility–3rd CSUM is organized by UTH and the Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory–TTLog in Volos, with the support of the World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology–WASET, the European Cooperation in Science and Technology–COST, and the European Commission's project NOVELOG (New Cooperative Business Models and Guidance for Sustainable City Logistics). The theme of this year's Conference is: "Anthropocentric approach in urban mobility planning". For more information about the Conference, please visit: http://csum.civ.uth.gr/.

ALLIANCE partners will participate at the Conference and their scientific papers will be included in the Conference's proceedings, which will be published in a special issue of Transportation Research Procedia of Elsevier (indexed in Scopus).

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Or visit the website: www.alliance-project.eu

Figure 7: 2nd Press Release

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Press release #3

Tuesday 14/06/2016, Volos, Greece

Successful realization of the Training Program "Urban and transportation planning" organized by UTH in Volos, Greece

With great success the training program "Urban and Transportation planning" was realized in Volos, Greece from 24 to 27 May, 2016. The program was organized by UTH's Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program "Project Management, Transportation and Planning" and the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility (3rd CSUM), which took place from 26 to 27 May, 2016. In total, 28 students, 8 from Latvia and 20 from Greece, participated.

The training program, being part of ALLIANCE's dedicated knowledge-sharing activities, lasted four days, the first two of which were realized at the premises of the Polytechnic School of UTH, and concerned a number of selected courses of UTH's postgraduate program, while two more lectures were given by Fraunhofer experts. The topics of the lectures were:

- Transportation of hazardous materials on interurban highways and tunnels
- Changing the transportation planning paradigm: A sustainability-based approach
- The European Union policy on road safety
- The European context on intermodality: Regulatory frameworks and practice
- Supply chain digitalization – A chance for intermodal transports
- Industry 4.0 and successful examples from Germany
- Freight transportation and logistics: An evaluation framework.

Additionally, students had the opportunity to visit selected laboratories of the Civil Engineering Department of UTH, including:

- The Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory
- The Laboratory of Highway Engineering
- The Laboratory of Concrete Technology and Reinforced Concrete Structures
- The Laboratory of Geotechnical Engineering.

The last two days of the program, May 26-27, 2016, students attended eight selected sessions of the 3rd CSUM, which are relevant to the scope of ALLIANCE. The thematic areas of these sessions were the following:

- Green Transportation
- NOVELOG "City Logistics in an era of change"
- Transportation Interchanges
- Activity-Based Transport Modelling
- Public Transport and Demand Responsive Systems I
- Public Transport and Demand Responsive Systems II
- Safety and Security II
- Accessibility Analysis.

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Or visit the website: www.alliance-project.eu

Figure 8: 3rd Press Release

3.6 Fact sheets

The first ALLIANCE fact sheet (Figure 9), entitled “An overview of transportation networks’ interconnection in Europe”, has been prepared. The scope of this fact sheet is to present the main findings of the comprehensive state-of-the-practice review in the interconnection of transportation networks in Latvia, the region, and generally in Europe, and to highlight good practices revealing from specific passenger and freight interchanges. The visitors of the project’s website will also be able to download it.


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ALLIANCE Fact Sheet N° 1:

An overview of transportation networks' interconnection in Europe

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Figure 9: 1st Fact sheet

3.7 Templates

Three yearly electronic newsletters will be developed to support the communication of the project. Specifically, one electronic newsletter will be published per year as a follow up of the project’s progress and aiming at communicating midterm and final results. The newsletter will be available

for downloading from the website, and will be sent by email to the project's contact database. The first newsletter will be developed at the end of 2016 and its template is given in Figure 10.

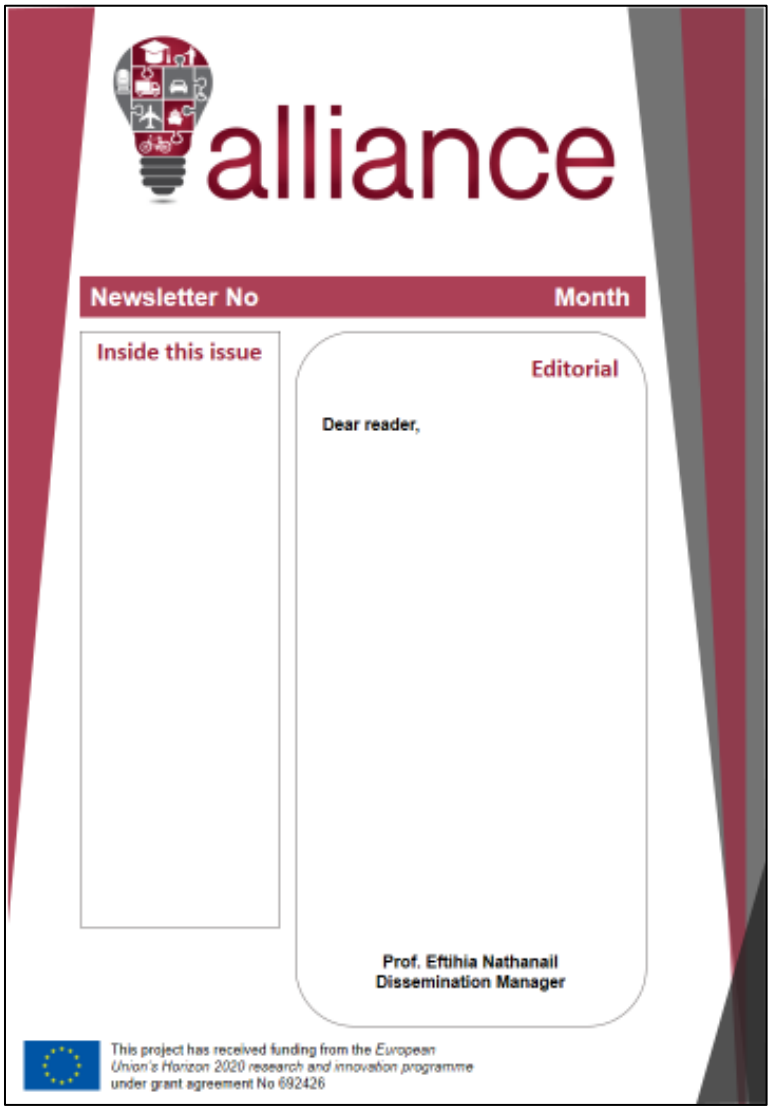


Figure 10: Newsletter template

4 Impact monitoring system

4.1 Website

Key statistics presenting the use of the project's website for the period 01/03/2016 – 14/06/2016 are as follows (Figure 11):

- Visits (sessions): 566
- Users (unique IPs): 317
- Page views: 2970

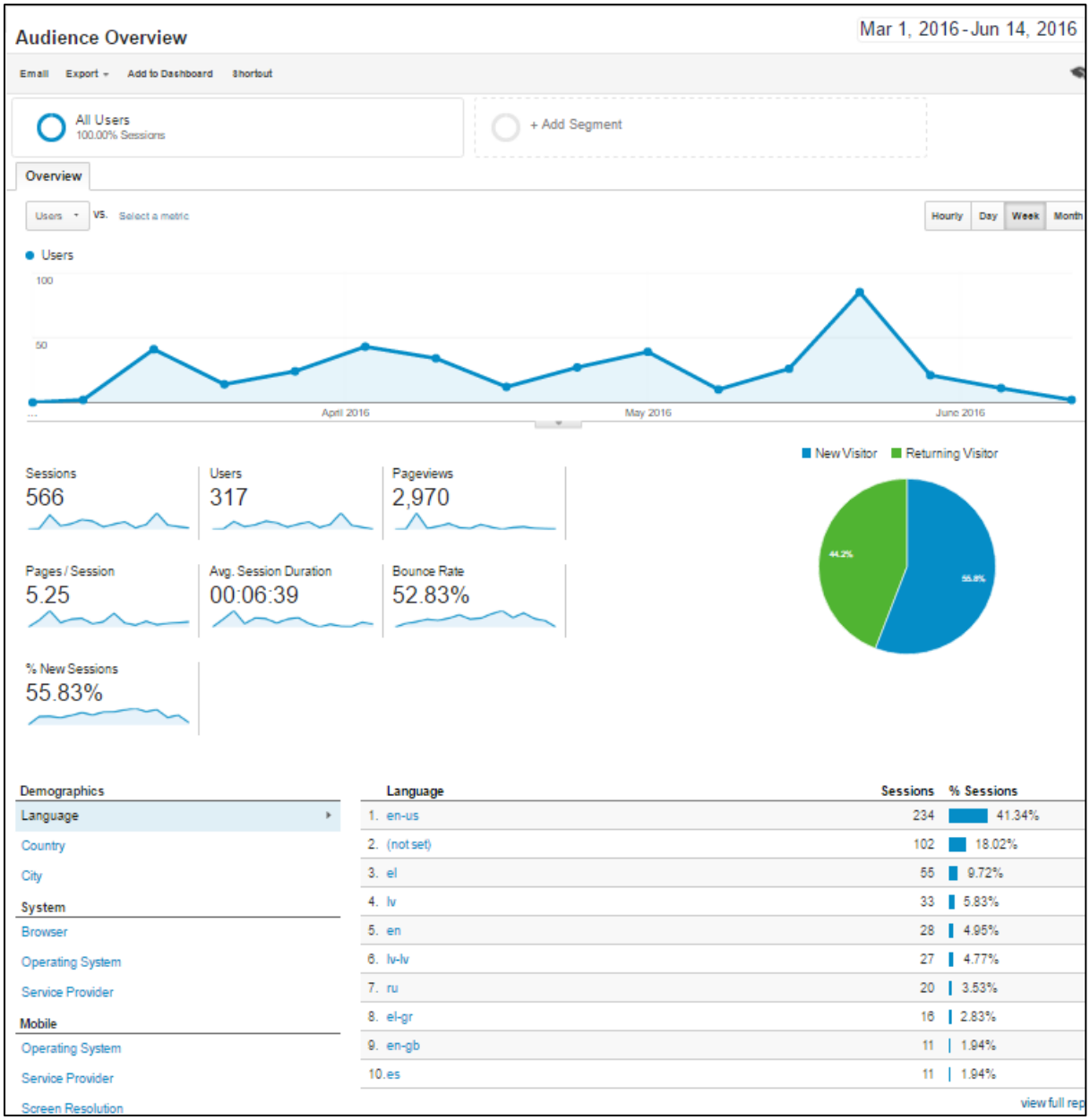


Figure 11: Overview of the website visits, users and page views

In addition, in Figure 12, for the same time period, the location (country) of the visitors is presented. It is interesting that in such a short period that the website is “on air”, people from 12 different countries have visited it.

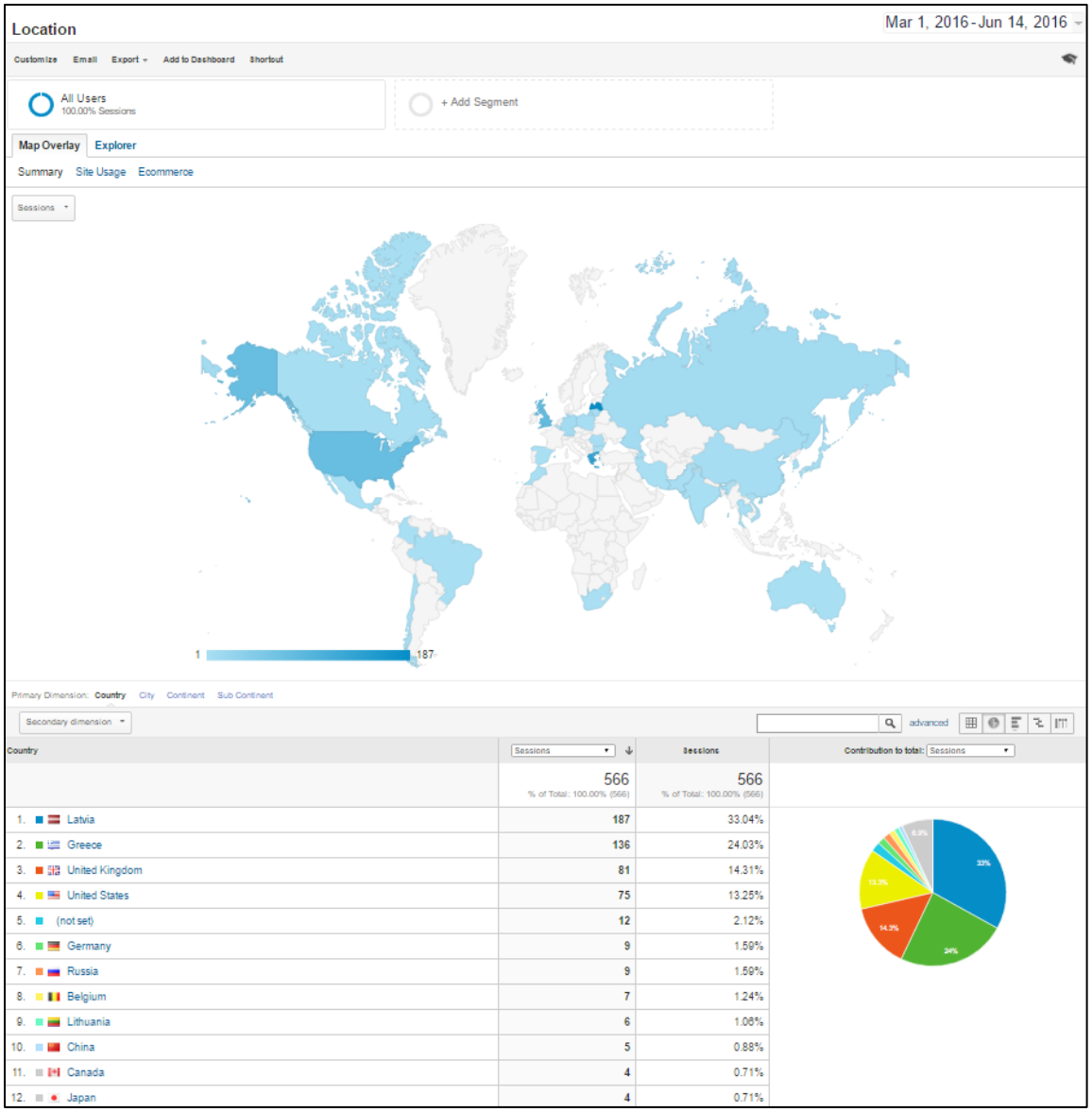


Figure 12: Analytics of the visitors’ countries

4.2 Press releases

Regarding the distribution of the three press releases, these have been distributed through the official websites of the partners and selected posts are presented in Figures 13-16.

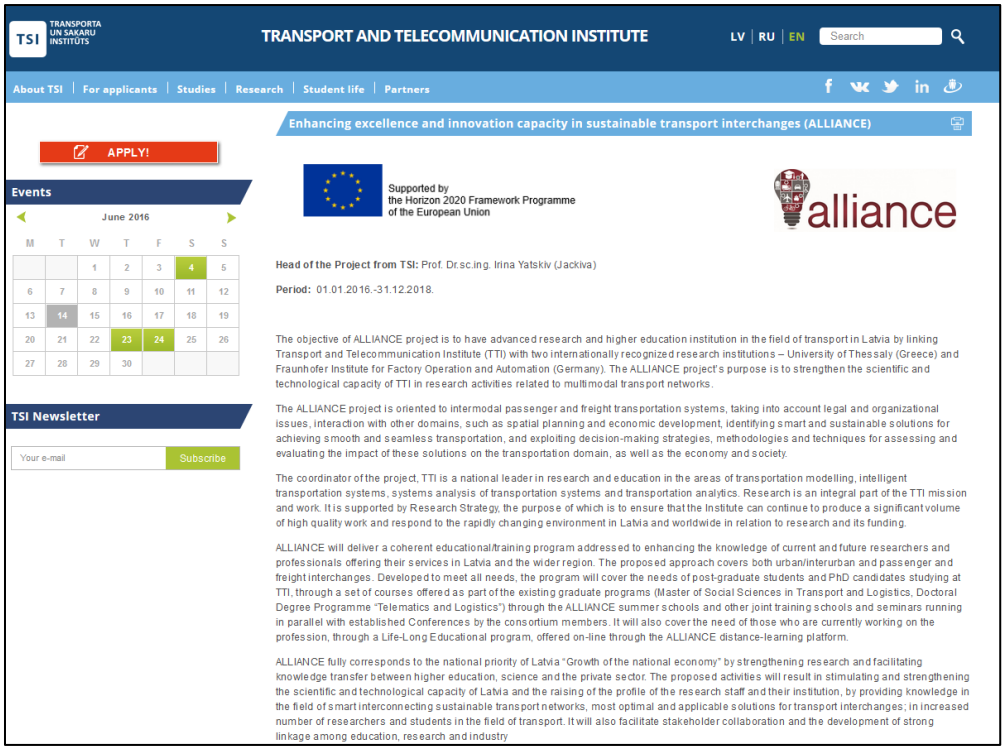


Figure 13: TTI's website presentation of the 1st press release (English version)

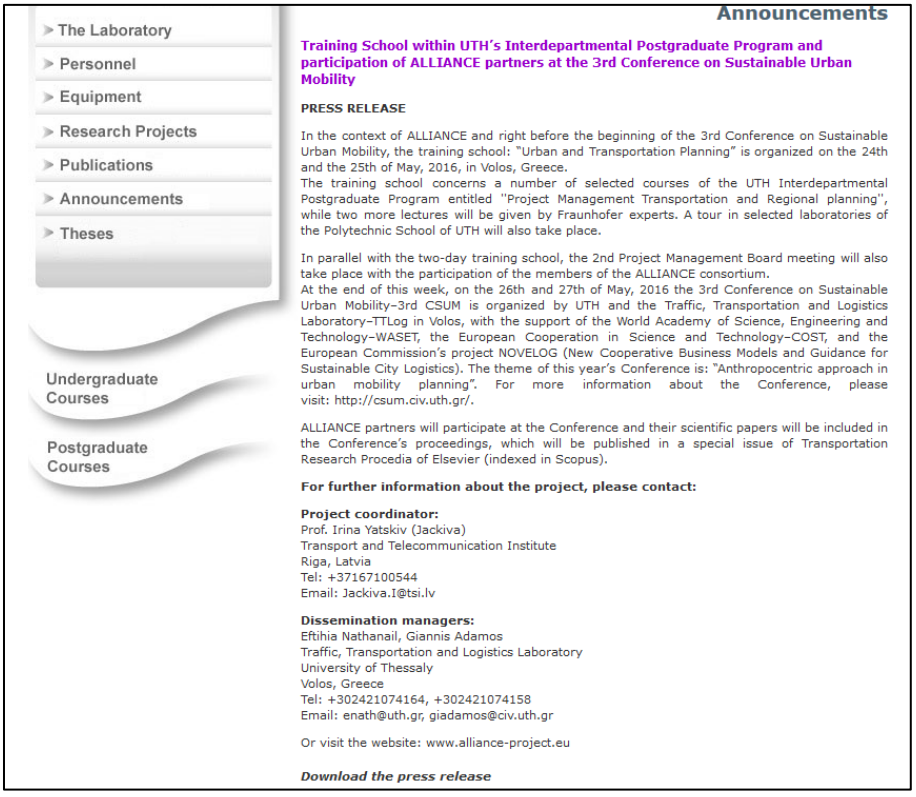


Figure 14: UTH-TTLog's website presentation of the 2nd press release (English version)

Figure 15: UTH-TTLog's website presentation of the 2nd press release (Greek version)

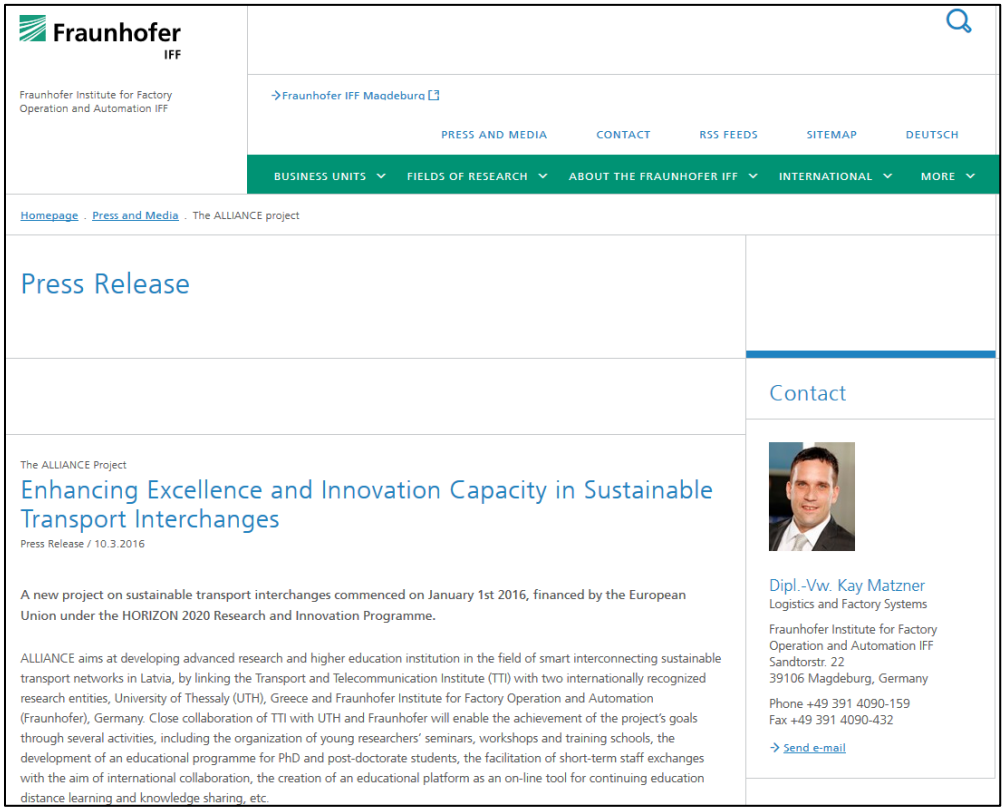


Figure 16: Fraunhofer's website presentation of the 1st press release (English version)

4.3 Participation in Conferences

The ALLIANCE consortium participated to the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility (3rd CSUM) which was held on 26 – 27 May, 2016 in Volos, Greece. The International Conference was organized by the University of Thessaly, Department of Civil Engineering, Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory – TTLog, with the support of the World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology – WASET, the European Cooperation in Science and Technology – COST, and the European Commission's project "New Cooperative Business Models and Guidance for Sustainable City Logistics" – NOVELOG.

In total, TTI and UTH partners submitted 11 papers to the 3rd CSUM, in which more than 120 people participated from 20 countries. An overview of this activity is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Overview of the participation of ALLIANCE consortium at 3rd CSUM

No.	Conference	Involved partners	No. of papers	Date/period	Place	Type of audience	Size of audience	Countries addressed
1	3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility	TTI, UTH	11	26 – 27 May, 2016	Volos, Greece	Research & academics communities, Local & regional authorities, Transport & terminal operators, Transport policy makers & influencers, Enterprises /Businesses, General public	120 participants	20

The 3rd CSUM was the first activity, through which ALLIANCE was promoted in the wide audience, since a special stand with the project's material was set up in the conference's secretariat area (Figures 17-18), while the project's poster was distributed to all participants, as part of the conference's material.

Figure 17: ALLIANCE's promotion at the 3rd CSUM

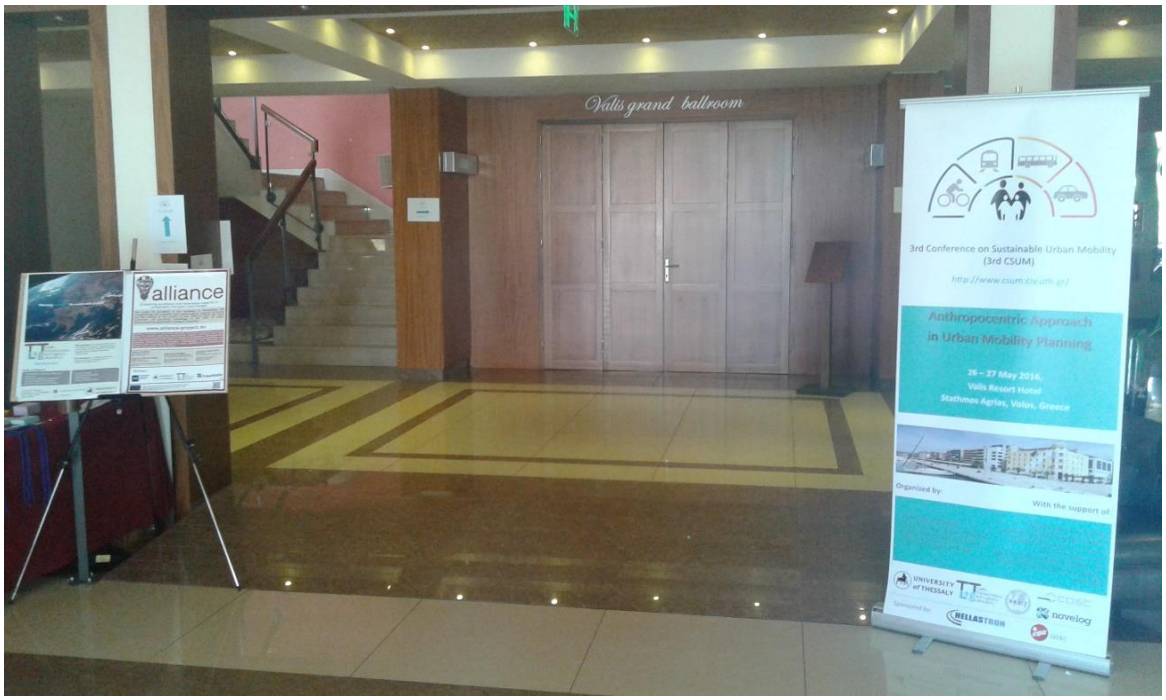


Figure 18: Promotion of the project at the 3rd CSUM

5 Synopsis

In accordance with the plan, the dissemination material, during the first semester of project's lifecycle has been developed. Templates have also been prepared to cover the project's future dissemination and communication needs. In addition, the consortium of the project has promoted the ALLIANCE actions through the project webpage (www.alliance-project.eu) and all partners' websites. Lastly, the three press releases have been distributed to a large amount of media, raising awareness of the project across Europe.

6 Annexes

Annex A: Brief presentation
Annex B: One-slide presentation
Annex C: Leaflet
Annex D: Poster
Annex E: 1st Press release
Annex F: 2nd Press release
Annex G: 3rd Press release
Annex H: 1st Fact sheet
Annex I: Newsletter template

Annex A

alliance

Enhancing excellence and innovation capacity in sustainable transport interchanges

TSI TRANSPORTA UN SAKARU INSTITŪTS

UNIVERSITY *of* THESSALY

TTLog Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory

Fraunhofer IFF

www.alliance-project.eu

This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 692426

Scope

- Link Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TTI) with University of Thessaly (UTH) and Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation (Fraunhofer)
- Strengthen the scientific and technological capacity of Latvia
- Provide knowledge to TTI research staff in the field of smart interconnecting sustainable transport networks
- Support the selection and management of the most optimal and applicable solutions for transport interchanges
- Facilitate stakeholder collaboration and the development of strong linkage among education, research and industry
- Create a doctoral programme in Transport Economics and Management at TTI

Concept

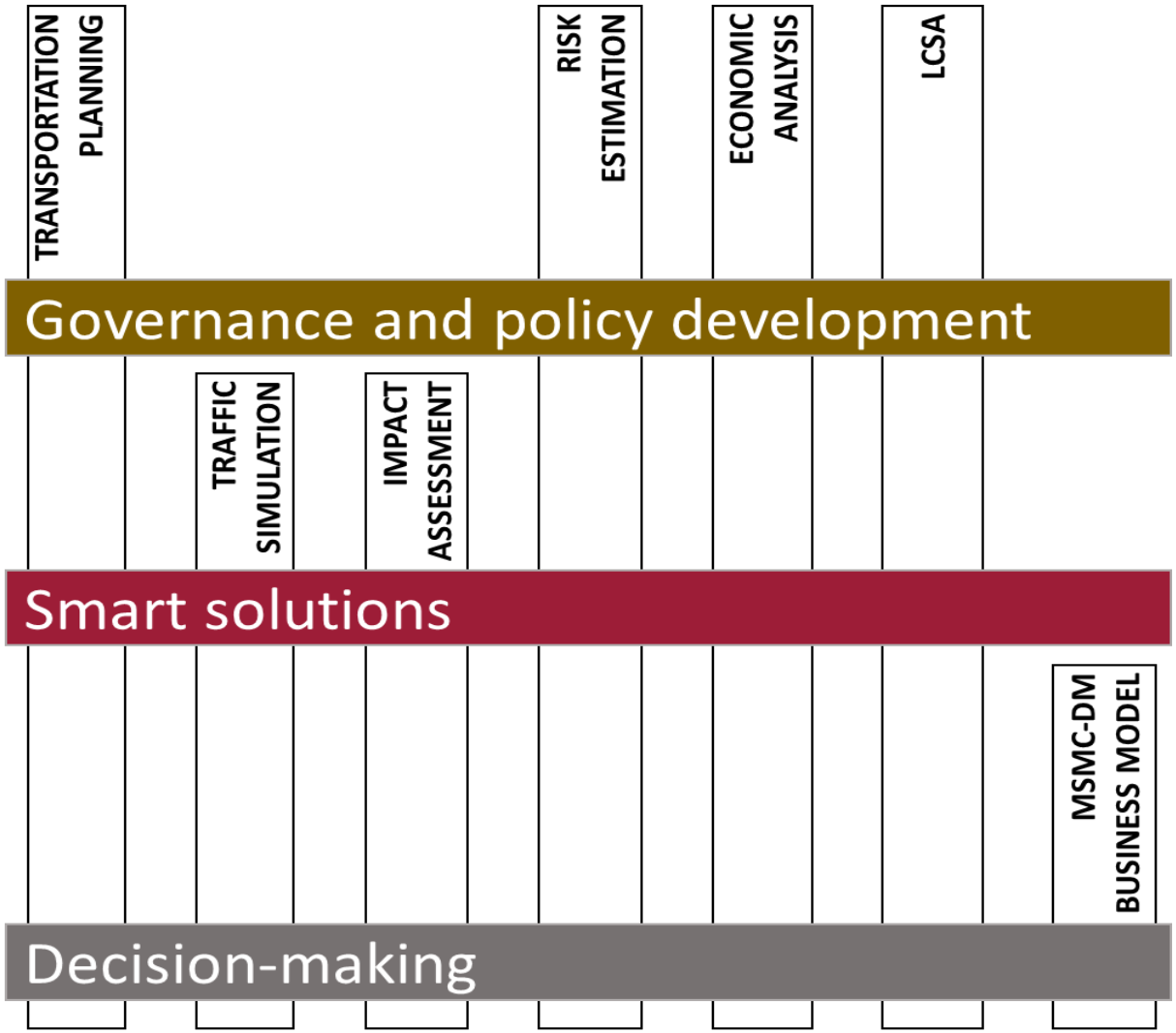
- Needs' analysis of Latvia and the surrounding region of the Baltic sea (Lithuania, Estonia, Poland) on intermodal transportation terminals
- Consideration of the relations among policy makers, industry and education/research
- Development of a coherent educational/training program, structured around 3 pillars:

✓ Organizational/governance

✓ Operational/services

✓ Service quality/customer satisfaction

Program's thematic areas



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Activities

No.	Activity	Location	Date
1	Training school within UTH's Graduate Program during the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility	Volos, Greece	May, 2016
2	Young Researchers' Seminar and Train the Trainers Seminar during the 16th International Conference on Reliability and Statistics in Transportation and Communication	Riga, Latvia	October, 2016
3	International Logistics Doctoral Student Workshop organized by Fraunhofer	Magdeburg, Germany	June, 2017
4	ALLIANCE 1st Training School	Riga, Latvia	July, 2017
5	ALLIANCE Special Session during the 17th International Conference on Reliability and Statistics in Transportation and Communication	Riga, Latvia	October, 2017
6	ALLIANCE Special Session during the European Transport Research Arena Conference (TRA)	Vienna, Austria	April, 2018
7	ALLIANCE Special Session during the 4th Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility	Volos, Greece	May, 2018
8	ALLIANCE 2nd Training School	Riga, Latvia	July, 2018
9	Special Session and ALLIANCE Final Conference during the 18th International Conference on Reliability and Statistics in Transportation and Communication	Riga, Latvia	October, 2018
10	Short-Term Staff Exchanges (STSEs)	*To be defined*	2016-2018
11	Provision of grands for participation as authors of peer reviewed publications in conferences	*To be defined*	2017-2018

Expected impacts

- New bases in knowledge transfer procedures, education and interdepartmental collaboration amongst research institutes
- Innovative organizational framework with tangible and well-estimated progress results
- Integrated framework addressing knowledge transfer techniques and upgrading of the educational system, through:

✓ Networking

✓ Staff exchange

✓ Webinars

Expected benefits for TTI

- TTI will benefit from ALLIANCE by:

- ✓ Improving its knowledge in methodologies for preparing, writing and publishing scientific papers
- ✓ Strengthening its research capacity
- ✓ Establishing international research teams in specific areas of interest
- ✓ Generating new innovative ideas for future research work through the project's activities
- ✓ Setting up the fundamentals for the young generation of researchers
- ✓ Being integrated in a number of existing international transportation research networks
- ✓ Being incorporated in the European research system of transport and logistics

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TT Log Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory

Fraunhofer IFF

Annex B

alliance

Enhancing excellence and innovation capacity in sustainable transport interchanges

Scope

- Link Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TTI) with University of Thessaly (UTH) and Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation (Fraunhofer)
- Provide knowledge to TTI research staff in the field of smart interconnecting sustainable transport networks
- Facilitate stakeholder collaboration and develop strong linkage among education, research and industry
- Create a doctoral programme in Transport Economics and Management at TTI

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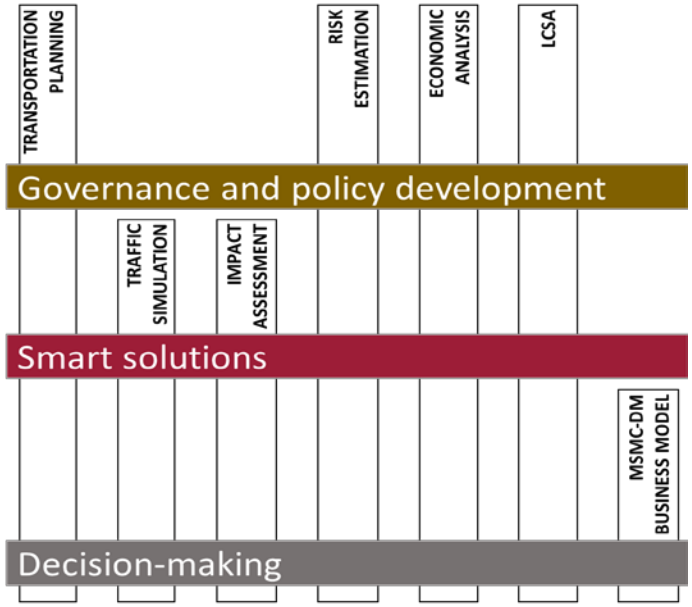
- Needs' analysis of Latvia and the surrounding region of the Baltic sea (Lithuania, Estonia, Poland) on intermodal transportation terminals
- Consideration of the relations among policy makers, industry and education/research
- Development of a coherent educational/training program, structured around 3 pillars:
  - ✓ Organizational/governance
  - ✓ Operational/services
  - ✓ Service quality/customer satisfaction



Program's thematic areas

Partners

TSI TRANSPORTA UN SAKARU INSTITŪTS

UNIVERSITY of THESSALY

TT Log Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory

Fraunhofer IFF

This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 692426

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Annex C

Consortium

TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATION INSTITUTE (TTI)	Latvia
UNIVERSITY OF THESSALY, TRAFFIC TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS LABORATORY (UTH-TTLog)	Greece
FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR FACTORY OPERATION AND AUTOMATION (IFF)	Germany

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alliance

Enhancing excellence and innovation capacity in sustainable transport interchanges

www.alliance-project.eu

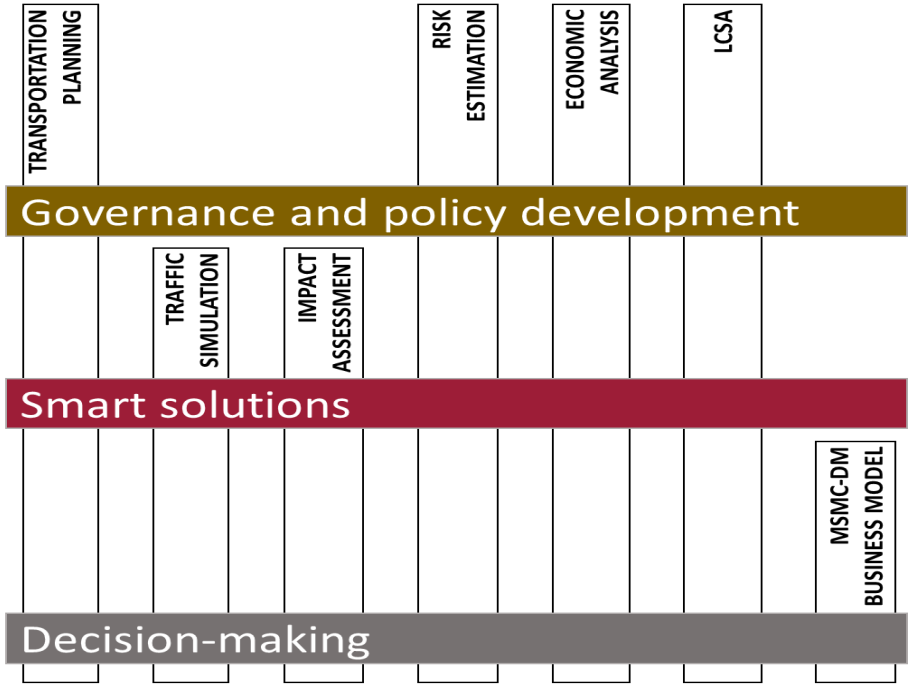
This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 692426

The scope of the ALLIANCE project is the enabling of stimulating and strengthening the scientific and technological capacity of Latvia and the raising of the profile of the research staff and their institution, by providing knowledge in the field of smart interconnecting sustainable transport networks.

Concept

ALLIANCE is oriented to intermodal passenger and freight transportation systems, taking into account legal and organizational issues, interaction with other domains, such as spatial planning and economic development, identifying smart and sustainable solutions for achieving smooth and seamless transportation, and exploiting decision-making strategies, methodologies and techniques for assessing and evaluating the impact of these solutions on the transportation domain, the economy and the society.

The overall methodology is built around the analysis of the needs of Latvia and the surrounding region of the Baltic sea (Lithuania, Estonia, Poland) on knowledge gain about intermodal transportation terminals and the development of the tools to attain this knowledge, providing at the same time excellence and innovation capability.



ALLIANCE's thematic areas

ALLIANCE's activities

No.	Activity	Date
1	Training school within UTH's Graduate Program during the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility	May, 2016
2	Young Researchers' Seminar and Train the Trainers Seminar during the 16th International Conference on Reliability and Statistics in Transportation and Communication	October, 2016
3	International Logistics Doctoral Student Workshop organized by Fraunhofer	June, 2017
4	ALLIANCE 1st Training School	July, 2017
5	ALLIANCE Special Session during the 17th International Conference on Reliability and Statistics in Transportation and Communication	October, 2017
6	ALLIANCE Special Session during the European Transport Research Arena Conference (TRA)	April, 2018
7	ALLIANCE Special Session during the 4th Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility	May, 2018
8	ALLIANCE 2nd Training School	July, 2018
9	Special Session and ALLIANCE Final Conference during the 18th International Conference on Reliability and Statistics in Transportation and Communication	October, 2018
10	Short-Term Staff Exchanges (STSEs)	2016-2018
11	Provision of grands for participation as authors of peer reviewed publications in conferences	2017-2018

Expected impacts

- New bases in knowledge transfer procedures, education and interdepartmental collaboration amongst research institutes
- Innovative organizational framework with tangible and well-estimated progress results
- Integrated framework addressing knowledge transfer techniques and the upgrading of the educational system, through networking, staff exchange and webinars.

TTI is expected to benefit from ALLIANCE by:

- Improving its knowledge in methodologies for preparing, writing and publishing scientific papers
- Strengthening its research capacity
- Establishing international research teams in specific areas of interest
- Generating new innovative ideas for future research work through the project's activities
- Setting up the fundamentals for the young generation of researchers
- Being integrated in a number of existing international transportation research networks
- Being incorporated in the European research system of transport and logistics.

Annex D

alliance

Enhancing excellence and innovation capacity in sustainable transport interchanges

The scope of ALLIANCE is the enabling of stimulating and strengthening the scientific and technological capacity of Latvia and the raising of the profile of the research staff and their institution, by providing knowledge in the field of smart interconnecting sustainable transport networks.

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ALLIANCE is oriented to intermodal passenger and freight transportation systems taking into account legal and organizational aspects, interaction with other domains, such as spatial planning and economic development, identifying smart and sustainable solutions for achieving smooth and seamless transportation, and exploiting decision-making strategies, methodologies and techniques for assessing and evaluating the impact of these solutions on the transportation domain, the economy and the society.

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Partners

TSI TRANSPORTA UN SAKARU INSTITŪTS

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Annex E

Press release

Friday 04/03/2016, Volos, Greece

The ALLIANCE project: Enhancing excellence and innovation capacity in sustainable transport interchanges

A new project on sustainable transport interchanges commenced on January 1st 2016, financed by the European Union under the HORIZON 2020 Research and Innovation Programme.

ALLIANCE aims at developing advanced research and higher education institution in the field of smart interconnecting sustainable transport networks in Latvia, by linking the Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TTI) with two internationally recognized research entities, University of Thessaly (UTH), Greece and Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation (Fraunhofer), Germany. Close collaboration of TTI with UTH and Fraunhofer will enable the achievement of the project's goals through several activities, including the organization of young researchers' seminars, workshops and training schools, the development of an educational programme for PhD and post-doctorate students, the facilitation of short-term staff exchanges with the aim of international collaboration, the creation of an educational platform as an on-line tool for continuing education distance learning and knowledge sharing, etc.

The overall methodology of ALLIANCE is built around the analysis of the needs of Latvia and the surrounding region of the Baltic area (Lithuania, Estonia, Poland) on knowledge gain about intermodal transportation networks and the development of the tools to attain this knowledge, providing at the same time excellence and innovation capacity.

ALLIANCE will deliver a coherent educational/training program, structured around three main pillars: governance/policy, smart solutions and decision-making, and addressed to enhancing the knowledge of current and future researchers and professionals offering their services in Latvia and the wider region.

The first official event, the kick-off meeting of ALLIANCE took place in Riga on January 26th and 27th, 2016. The two-day meeting agenda included among other, technical presentations given by the responsible partners and discussions to set the methodologies to be followed during the project lifecycle. A list of key dates and forthcoming activities was also decided by the members of the Project Management Board.

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Annex F

Press release

Thursday 19/05/2016, Volos, Greece

Training School within UTH's Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program and participation of ALLIANCE partners at the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility

In the context of ALLIANCE and right before the beginning of the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility, the training school: "Urban and Transportation Planning" is organized on the 24th and the 25th of May, 2016, in Volos, Greece.

The training school concerns a number of selected courses of the UTH Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program entitled "Project Management Transportation and Regional planning", while two more lectures will be given by Fraunhofer experts. A tour in selected laboratories of the Polytechnic School of UTH will also take place.

The topics of the lectures are the following:

- Transportation of hazardous materials on interurban highways and tunnels
- Changing the transportation planning paradigm: A sustainability-based approach
- Urban planning and transportation
- The European Union policy on road safety
- The European context on intermodality: Regulatory frameworks and practice
- Supply chain digitalization – A chance for intermodal transports
- Industry 4.0 and successful examples from Germany
- Freight transportation and logistics: An evaluation framework.

In parallel with the two-day training school, the 2nd Project Management Board meeting will also take place with the participation of the members of the ALLIANCE consortium.

At the end of this week, on the 26th and 27th of May, 2016 the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility–3rd CSUM is organized by UTH and the Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory–TTLog in Volos, with the support of the World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology–WASET, the European Cooperation in Science and Technology–COST, and the European Commission's project NOVELOG

(New Cooperative Business Models and Guidance for Sustainable City Logistics). The theme of this year's Conference is: "Anthropocentric approach in urban mobility planning". For more information about the Conference, please visit: http://csum.civ.uth.gr/.

ALLIANCE partners will participate at the Conference and their scientific papers will be included in the Conference's proceedings, which will be published in a special issue of Transportation Research Procedia of Elsevier (indexed in Scopus).

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Annex G

Press release #3

Tuesday 14/06/2016, Volos, Greece

Successful realization of the Training Program "Urban and transportation planning" organized by UTH in Volos, Greece

With great success the training program "Urban and Transportation planning" was realized in Volos, Greece from 24 to 27 May, 2016. The program was organized by UTH's Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program "Project Management, Transportation and Planning" and the 3rd Conference on Sustainable Urban Mobility (3rd CSUM), which took place from 26 to 27 May, 2016. In total, 28 students, 8 from Latvia and 20 from Greece, participated.

The training program, being part of ALLIANCE's dedicated knowledge-sharing activities, lasted four days, the first two of which were realized at the premises of the Polytechnic School of UTH, and concerned a number of selected courses of UTH's postgraduate program, while two more lectures were given by Fraunhofer experts. The topics of the lectures were:

- Transportation of hazardous materials on interurban highways and tunnels
- Changing the transportation planning paradigm: A sustainability-based approach
- The European Union policy on road safety
- The European context on intermodality: Regulatory frameworks and practice
- Supply chain digitalization – A chance for intermodal transports
- Industry 4.0 and successful examples from Germany
- Freight transportation and logistics: An evaluation framework.

Additionally, students had the opportunity to visit selected laboratories of the Civil Engineering Department of UTH, including:

- The Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory
- The Laboratory of Highway Engineering
- The Laboratory of Concrete Technology and Reinforced Concrete Structures
- The Laboratory of Geotechnical Engineering.

The last two days of the program, May 26-27, 2016, students attended eight selected sessions of the 3rd CSUM, which are relevant to the scope of ALLIANCE. The thematic areas of these sessions were the following:

- Green Transportation
- NOVELOG “City Logistics in an era of change”
- Transportation Interchanges
- Activity-Based Transport Modelling
- Public Transport and Demand Responsive Systems I
- Public Transport and Demand Responsive Systems II
- Safety and Security II
- Accessibility Analysis.

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Annex H

EUROPEAN UNION
HORIZON 2020 RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME

ALLIANCE Fact Sheet Nº 1:

An overview of transportation networks' interconnection in Europe

TSI TRANSPORTA UN SAKARU INSTITŪTS

UNIVERSITY *of* THESSALY

TTLog Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory

Fraunhofer IFF

This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 692426

Background and content

During the last decade, the European Union has proposed a common transport policy framework as an overall strategy, integrating sustainable development in urban transport, and addressing aspects such as economy, competition, land-use planning and research policy. Transporting people and goods is a key catalyst in economy; still, increased traffic volumes significantly affect the quality of life in the urban-interurban environment. Therefore, cities and stakeholders need to identify new strategies to improve quality of life of citizens, setting up their planning according to economic competitiveness and business needs, but also to emerging travelling and consuming trends (ALLIANCE, 2016).

ALLIANCE addresses the topic of intermodal interconnections, through interchanges for passenger mobility and freight transportation, taking into consideration legal and organizational issues, mobility needs and patterns of transport usage, interaction with other domains, such as spatial planning and economic development, smart and sustainable solutions for achieving smooth and seamless transportation, and decision-making strategies, methodologies and techniques for assessing and evaluating the impact of these solutions on the transportation domain, as well as the economy and society.

The scope of the 1st ALLIANCE fact sheet is to present the main findings of a comprehensive state-of-the-practice review in the interconnection of transportation networks in Latvia, the region, and generally in Europe, and to highlight good practices revealing from specific passenger and freight interchanges.

Intermodality and transport interchanges

Intermodality is defined by the European Commission as a policy under which "*different transportation modes are being combined in a trip, in order to achieve a seamless journey*", with the aim of providing the means for better mobility and impact minimization (European Commission, 2007). Legal and institutional structures, decision-making schemes, infrastructural and technological solutions are other dimensions concerning intermodality (Adamos et al., 2012).

Transport interchanges are considered as the network components that enable intermodal operations. A definition for passenger interchanges is the following (Adamos et al., 2015): "*transportation nodal points that enable seamless mobility, increase travelling efficiency, achieve user satisfaction and ensure system performance for door-to-door journey by making optimal use of combinations of modes in a sustainable way*". In the case of freight transport, a respective definition for freight interchanges can be: "*network nodes enabling logistics operations, which are required for the transshipment of goods along a corridor*" (ALLIANCE, 2016).

In physical terms, transport interchanges compose the field of intermodal activities, including the transferring from a long to a short distance network, from interurban transport to urban distribution, referred to as "last mile" and the change of transportation modes and/or vehicles (ALLIANCE, 2016).

Good practices in passenger interchanges

In total, 41 passenger interchanges were reviewed, covering a wide range of the European Union, including 17 countries: France, Norway, Greece, Lithuania, Spain, United Kingdom, Finland, Hungary, Czech Republic, The Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Belgium and Portugal. The 32% of the interchanges were identified as national hubs, and the rest

68% of the interchanges can either be considered as national city terminals or other city/local terminals. Five more passenger interchanges, located in Latvia and the region, were also reviewed.

Table 1 summarizes good practices revealed when reviewing the 46 European interchanges. The practices are presented under three main topics: governance and policy, smart solutions and decision making, and they are separated into the European Union, and Latvia and the region.

Table 1: Summary of practices for passenger interchanges (Source: ALLIANCE, 2016)

Thematic area	Topic	EU practices	Latvia and region – state of practice
Governance	Stakeholders	Clear identification of the roles and responsibilities of multiple stakeholders. Use of concession contracts for the organization of the station operation.	Roles and responsibilities clearly identified. Various types of participation available.
	Policy	When the municipality has clear roles and responsibilities, then it can lead the processes at an interchange and bring in funding sources, if needed. National and regional authorities make efforts to familiarize transport and terminal operators with relevant policies.	National/regional/local policies for strategic development exist. National and local authorities have interest in establishment of interchange terminals.
	Ownership	Pursuit of public/private model to ensure that the operations and management are co-ordinated across all the transport and other functions. Organizing the relationships between public and private according to the local context and functions of the interchange. Ownership separation from operation.	Limited involvement of private investors due to small market. Restriction on the use of the public-private partnership model by the government. Poor use of public-private partnerships.
	Sustainable development	Involvement of private sector and pursuit of private funding. Development plan for city integration.	Development plans include integration of transport sector at the municipality level, not enough emphasis on integration of transportation modes at the national level.
	Management	Development of Interchange Management Plan.	Fragmented existence of management plan; may not cover all aspects of functionalities. The cities and the government of Latvia are eager to better control their subsidies to public transports companies, and they need automatic passenger counter systems widely accepted across the country.

Thematic area	Topic	EU practices	Latvia and region – state of practice
	Operation	Integrated coordination among transport operators and modes.	Poor operation integration among various operators at the state level.
Smart solutions	Information	Real time information: Pre-trip planning, electric departure time display, multilanguage information. Way finding plan: maps, floor plans, directional signals (WC, ticket booth, concise, clear, consistent and ambiguous information).	Smart solutions applied fragmentarily. Basic information is provided.
	Services	Integrating ticketing: ticket sale for all services in the interchange facility zone, definition of fare paid areas, staff presence, smart ticket readers. Safety: Design covering all emergency and security requirements (hand rails, anti-sleep flooring, and lighting), avoidance of conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles, emergency management plan amongst stakeholders, trained staff, emergency exits. Security: Consultation of crime prevention specialists during the design phase, consideration of crime prevention through environmental design, good lighting, CCTV, trained key staff presence.	Different ticketing systems developed for various modes of transport. Design in terms of safety does not correspond to today's requirements in cases of old passenger interchanges. Average level of security is provided.
	Physical properties	Appropriate design and layout of access/egress. Accessibility for all users. Environmental concerns and energy efficiency. Variety and high quality facilities.	Design and layout of access varies depending on facility's age. Energy efficiency is taken into account for new projects.
Decision-making	Interchange status assessment and users' feedback	Pursuit of public participation. Customer satisfaction surveys.	User feedback is used fragmentarily.

Good practices in freight interchanges

In this case, the review included 13 freight interchanges located in 8 European countries: Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Romania and Spain, and 5 more interchanges, located in Latvia and the region. A summary of good practices, also separated into governance and policy, smart solutions and decision-making, and into the European Union and Latvia and the region, is given in Table 2.

Table 2: Summary of practices for freight interchanges (Source: ALLIANCE, 2016)

Thematic area	Topic	EU practices	Latvia and region – state of practice
Governance	Stakeholders	Absence of clear identification of the roles and responsibilities of multiple stakeholders.	Roles and responsibilities clearly identified.
	Policy	Not harmonized policy.	National transport policies are in line with the EU transport policy. Fragmented focus on intermodality, in some cases effective integration of different modes of transport. Segmented policy on tariffs (for different transport modes).
	Ownership	Access to all companies to terminals under equal conditions of ownership.	Public and private ownership. Poor use of public-private partnerships.
	Sustainable development	Involvement of private sector and pursuit of private funding.	Sustainable development is foreseen in strategic plans.
	Management	Development of Master Plan.	Master Plan exists for each freight terminal.
	Operation	Integrated coordination among transport operators and modes.	Provision of high-level productivity, fast and reliable services. Effective integration of different transport modes.
Smart solutions	New consolidation/distribution and logistics cooperative concepts	Establishment of urban consolidation centers. Business and transport operational plan.	Consolidated distribution centers continue to develop.
	Information technologies	Use of Information and Communication Technologies for developing Truck Management Systems and Warehouse Management Systems.	IT systems introduced and used for supply-chain management, trip planning and fleet management, high standard technologies.
	Smart transshipment	Use of equipment for loading-unloading operations and movements within the interchange facilities.	Use of equipment for loading-unloading operations and movements. Fragmented use of energy effective and environmentally friendly equipment.

Thematic area	Topic	EU practices	Latvia and region – state of practice
Decision-making	Decision-support methods	Agent-based modeling approach and multi-stakeholder multi-criteria analysis.	Several decision support tools used such as environmental impact assessment, traffic forecasting, economic analysis and risk assessment. Fragmented data collection and analysis.

Conclusions

Concluding, the review of the interconnecting networks in EU and the Latvia and the region showed that Latvia and the region cover most of the areas in terms of practices for both passenger and freight interchanges. Latvia and the region corresponds adequately to basic needs and requirements; however, compared to EU practices it performs poorer mainly due to limited incorporation of sustainability principles into planning and operation of terminals and limited integration of technological advances with new transport trends as well as business and management plans.

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Annex I

alliance

Newsletter No Month

Inside this issue

Editorial

Dear reader,

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This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 692426