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## ***Newsletter #2***

**June 2022**

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## **2nd Transnational Cooperation Network Meeting**

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With the scope of further promoting dialogue and cooperation among stakeholders in the ADRION Region, ADRIPASS PLUS Project organized and held the second meeting of the ADRIPASS Transnational Cooperation Network on 9 June 2022 focused on the newly updated “**Transnational Strategy for the Improvement of Multimodal Transport and Accessibility in the ADRION Region**”.

The importance of the topics and objectives included in the strategy was highlighted and the main transport stakeholders confirmed their interest in the identified “strategy” goals and measures with the aim of ensuring faster, safer and more efficient transport and logistic services as well as cargo operations in the Adriatic-Ionian Region.

Several speakers, starting from **Mr. Alain Baron**, European Commission, Directorate General for Mobility and Transport, underlined the importance of multimodal transport and in particular of rail connections with ports, as their main link to the hinterland. Mr. Baron explained that the recent events in Ukraine and the need for alternative routes for grain exports showed a lack of regional cooperation and rail capacity to cover the unforeseen urgent need for new transport solutions. Indeed, resilience and the improvement of this transport network will be on top of the agenda of the forthcoming TET-T days in Lyon. Solving bottlenecks at border crossings was also mentioned as an important element to reduce travelling and waiting time, making railway transport more competitive. The new TEN-T revision, he added, *also includes a Western Balkan Corridor which will play a key role to increase the competitiveness in terms of accessibility and capability for the Adriatic Ionian area and Europe in general.*

**Mr. Matej Zakonjsek**, Director of the Transport Community Treaty Permanent Secretariat, agreed with the importance of further improving multimodal transport in the area to ensure the competitiveness of the entire Adriatic-Ionian region by keeping TEN-T at the core of the national transport planning. He underlined the need for a green and digital transition, starting from the modernisation and maintenance of rail networks, digitalization and cooperation among the main actors, to the use of existing knowledge in the area.

During the round table discussions, participants provided further inputs for the finalisation of the ADRIPASS strategy for the improvement of multimodal transport in the Adriatic-Ionian Region. For example, the creation of intermodal terminals; the promotion of multimodal transport not only as an environmentally-friendly measure, but also as an opportunity for future economic development; the involvement of decision-makers to create the necessary political will to ensure cooperation among ports and nodes; the adoption of common standards and single-window systems for quicker information exchange and checks.

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## 2

# **Update of the ADRIPASS Transnational Strategy for the Improvement of Multimodal Transport in ADRION**

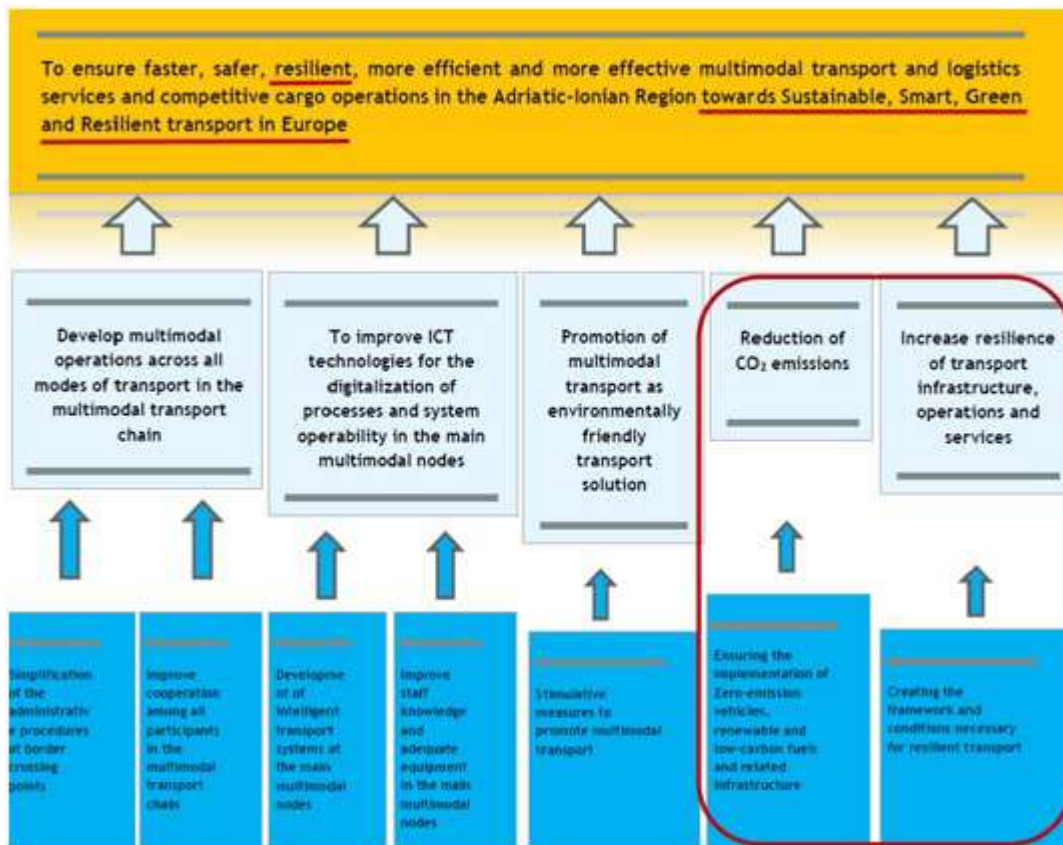
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ADRIPASS PLUS project is the extension of original ADRIPASS project. The project is approved within ADRION restricted call, for period from January to June 2022 with the aim of capitalising ADRIPASS results and therefore contributing to the improvement of the multimodal transport in the ADRION region. One of the main outcomes of the ADRIPASS project is represented by the Transnational strategy for the improvement of multimodal transport and accessibility in the ADRION region, designed by project partners in consultation with the ministries of transport of the partners countries and officially adopted at the end of 2020 by the institutions composing the ADRIPASS Transnational Cooperation Network (TCN).

Considering the critical moment in which the ADRIPASS Strategy was adopted (end of 2020) and taking into account the importance of updating its contents according to the unprecedented crisis represented by the COVID 19 pandemic as well as of further increasing awareness among key transport stakeholders and other institutions at local, regional and transnational level, the ADRIPASS PLUS project focused mainly on updating and further promoting the ADRIPASS Strategy in the ADRION region. Moreover, considering that the Strategy highlights the crucial importance of ICT technologies to support digitalization of processes and systems operability, ADRIPASS PLUS project further supports the

enhancement of the already developed ICT applications in the ports of Koper and Bar. The project foresees the update and the improvement of the ADRIPASS Transnational strategy, not only to ensure its resilience to Covid-19 and the consequent economic crisis but also to take into account relevant updates at national and transnational level (e.g. Sustainable and smart mobility Strategy of EU - December 2020, Strategy for sustainable and smart mobility in the Western Balkans - July 2021).

Events occurred over the last decade (e.g. floods, Suez Chanel blockade, restrictions due COVID-19 outbreak, recent crisis in Ukraine, and other) show how vulnerable the transport system is, and how disruptions of transport flows can affect global supply chains and economy. In this regard, seeking for a resilient transport system is set as one of top priorities in future transport development, where multimodality is one of crucial tools towards resilience of transport.



### **Figure 1: ADRIPASS Strategy Goals and measures (updated)**

Through all the documents prepared so far under the ADRIPASS project, there are four basic directions that need to be taken in order to strengthen multimodality and links in the Adriatic Ionian Region and another two directions added through the process of strategy update:

- Improvement of connections of basic multimodal hubs with hinterland, at infrastructural, administrative and operational level;
- Use of modern ICT technologies in the main multimodal nodes;
- Promotion of multimodal transport as an environmentally friendly mode of transport;
- Reduction of CO2 emissions.
- Major resilience of transport infrastructure, operations and services
- Constant cooperation and dialogue among transport stakeholders and policy makers to improve the overall efficiency of the transport sector in the ADRIAN region.

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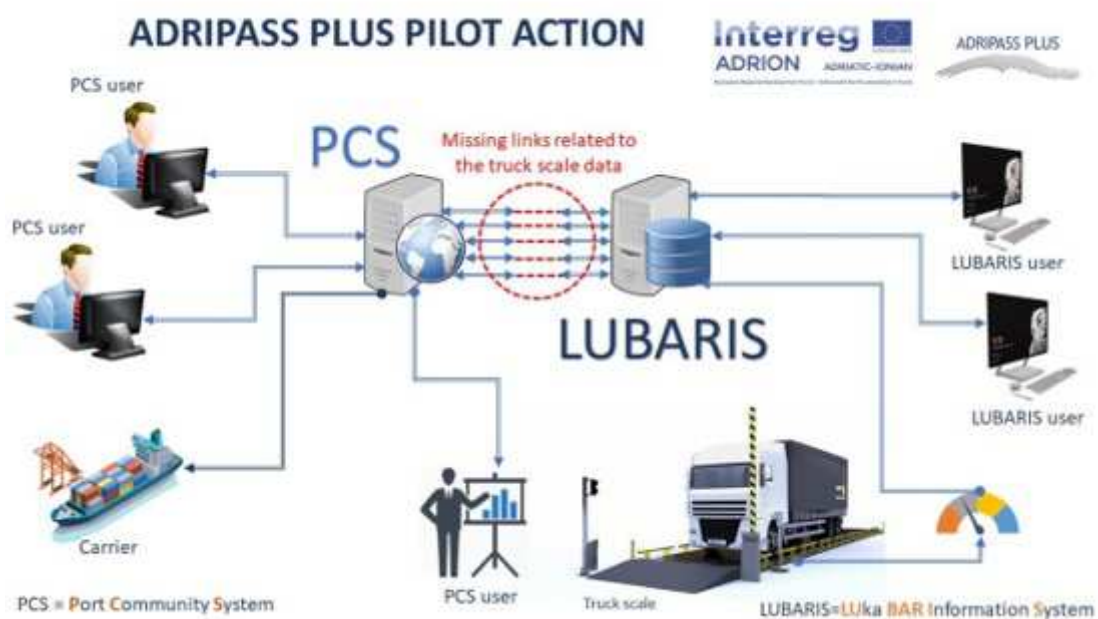
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# ICT Platforms enhancement in the ADIRPASS PLUS

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## 3.1

### Port of Bar



Port of Bar JSC implemented a pilot activity related to the truck scale data. The pilot is focused on the integration of the internal IT system of the Port of Bar (LUBARIS) and the Port Community System (PCS). More specifically, after pilot's implementation, agents and freight forwarders, the main stakeholders of the port, will be able receive any data related to truck scaling in the port in real time, and use them for personal data processing. The truck module has been improved within the ADIRPASS project. Additionally, the activities will be in line with the SOLAS requirements related to the Verifies Gross Mass (VGM0) of a container.

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## 3.2

# Port of Koper



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During the execution of pilot activities, the Port of Koper upgraded the VBS system. It is an online platform for the registration of truck entries, or the review of cargo status and planning applications. Through this system, Luka Koper can control the flows of trucks in the port and optimize traffic. By upgrading the system, Luka Koper will enable paperless operations for trucks at the car terminal. In order to achieve this goal, the Port of Koper, with the help of EU funds from the ADRIPASS PLUS project, upgraded the system by developing functionalities such as: display of data for arrivals or departures to the operator in the reception office on the basis of contactless reading of the truck driver's card; choice of place of loading or unloading; reading cards with portable devices; preparation and electronic confirmation of loading or unloading and the development of an application to display customs' data.

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### GDPR Policy

I am sure you are aware that new laws about data protection have come into force in May 2018. As your privacy is important to us, we wanted to assure you that your data will only be used to keep you informed about the latest activities of ADRIPASS PLUS and invite you eventually to ADRIPASS PLUS events. We do not give out your data to any other third party addresses on its mailings list to other people without your

permission.

You do not need to do anything unless you no longer wish to receive emails concerning ADRIPASS PLUS project. Should this be the case, then please contact us in reply to the email stating this fact. If we don't hear from you we shall assume you wish to continue receiving information about ADRIPASS PLUS and keep your email address on our list.

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