Baltic Loop

Interreg Central Baltic

EUROPEAN UNION
European Regional Development Fund

BALTIC LOOP PROJECT

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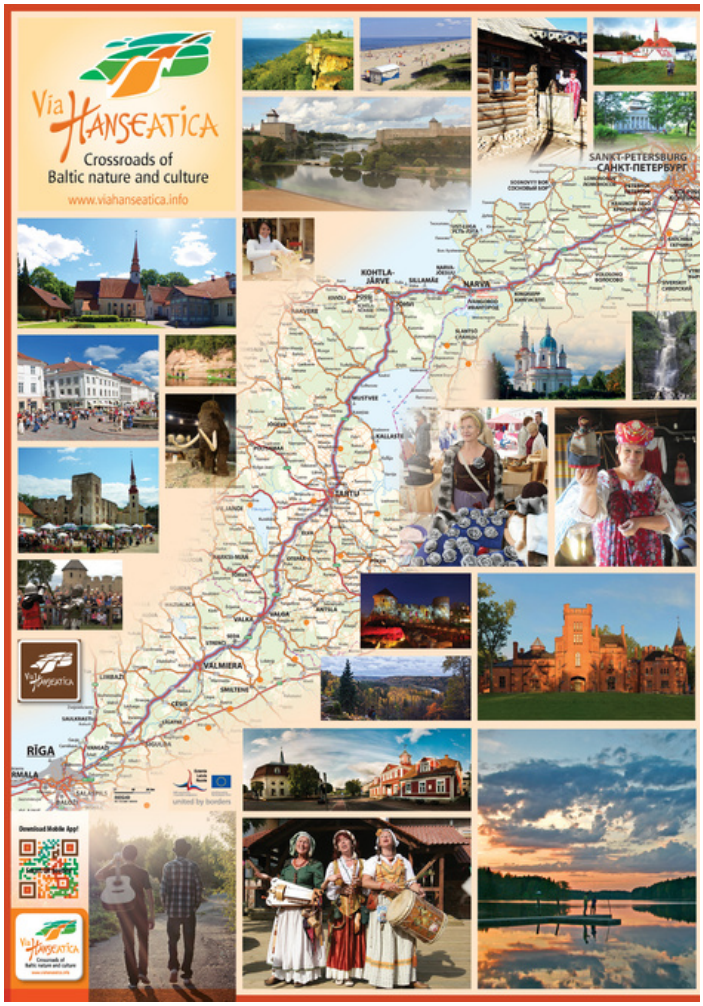
INDUSTRY AGREES ON 3 STRATEGIC GOALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE VIA HANSEATICA TOURISM AND TRANSPORT CORRIDOR BY 2030

On January 7, 2021, Vidzeme Planning Region organized a stakeholder meeting to continue the discussion on the vision of the development of the tourism and transport corridor on the Via Hansetica route until 2030.



Representatives of the tourism and transport sectors agreed on **three strategic development goals for the Via Hanseatica tourism corridor:**
1) to improve the speed and efficiency of traffic flow; 2) to develop tourism and mobility information systems; 3) to increase the flow of tourists in the Via Hanseatica tourist corridor.

The strategic part of the draft document formulates the long-term development vision of the tourist route Via Hanseatica for the improvement of passenger flow, strategic goals and development priorities.

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BALTIC LOOP DISCUSSES MOBILITY CHALLENGES AT CO-CREATION SEMINAR IN RIGA

Within the framework of the international project “Baltic Loop”, an online co-creation seminar was held on local level mobility in the Riga metropolitan area and connectivity with the southern transport corridor Ventspils – Riga – Valka.

The aim of the seminar was to discuss the current situation and possible solutions for passenger and freight traffic in the corridor, including the Riga metropolitan area, taking into account the need for connectivity between major development centers (in areas along the corridor) and international multimodal mobility points (Riga port, Riga central railway station, Riga International Airport).

Experts agreed that the backbone of regional mobility for both passenger and freight transport should be rail. In passenger transport, one of the challenges right now is how to create efficient mobility points by transferring from one transport mode to another.

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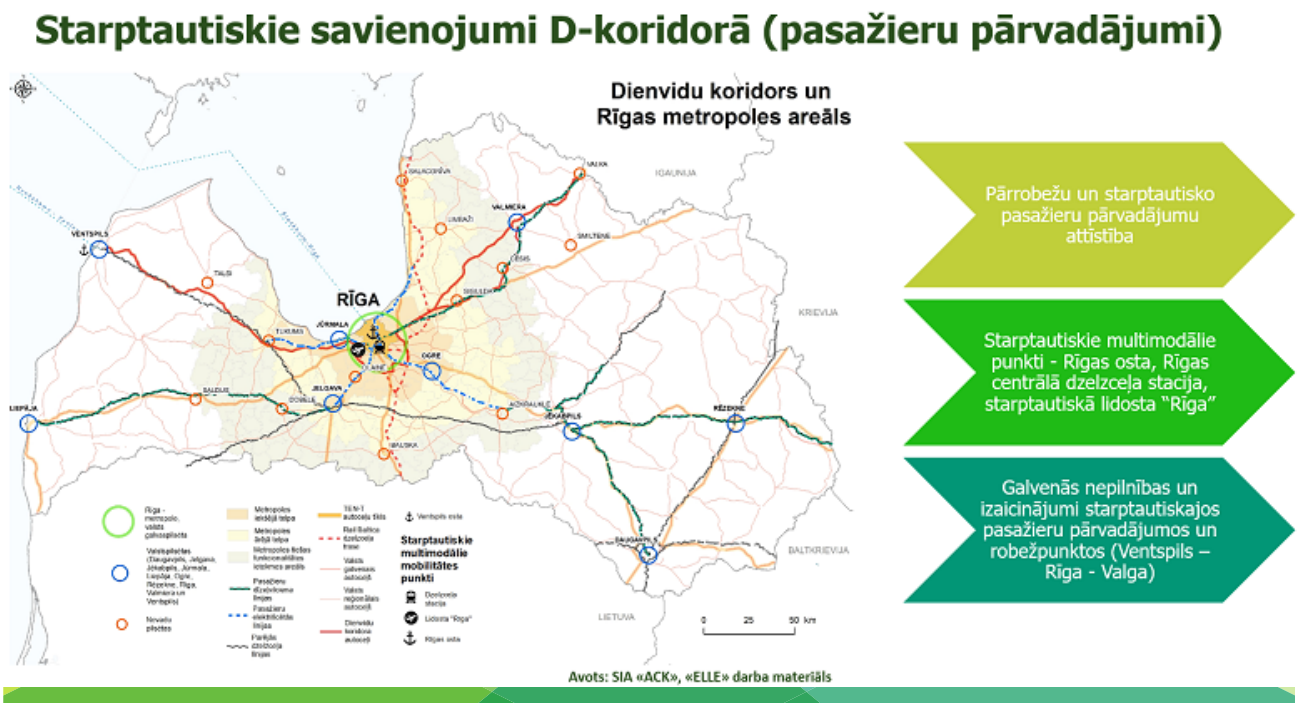
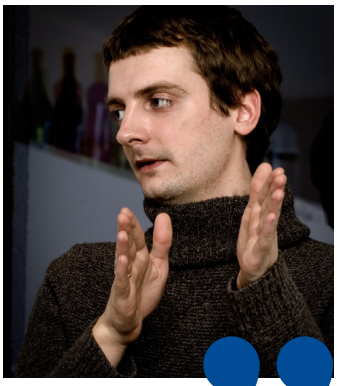


RIGA PLANNING REGION HAS DEVELOPED A REPORT ON COOPERATION ISSUES IN THE TRANSPORT INDUSTRY

Riga Planning Region has developed a report on cooperation issues in the transport industry in Latvia aimed at identifying the industry problems and finding solutions for more efficient cooperation by the stakeholders' dialogue.



Rūdolfs Cimdiņš
Head of Riga Planning Region Administration

The transportation corridor should be considered within the international scope, and in order for it to function well, it is important that we eliminate local problems, in particular, in Latvia in our case. In this report we identify several directions for improvement related to both searching for mutual cooperation platforms for experts and institutions, as well as a better mobility planning process and continuity of political decisions. Riga metropolis area plays a very significant role in the transportation industry in Latvia, it serves as a backbone of the internal transport movement with a regional airport, ports and railway network.

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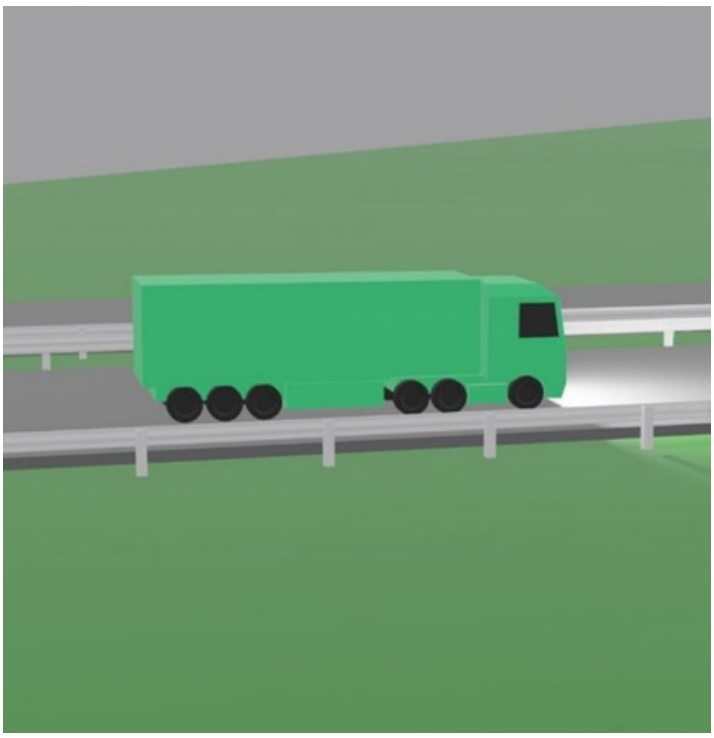
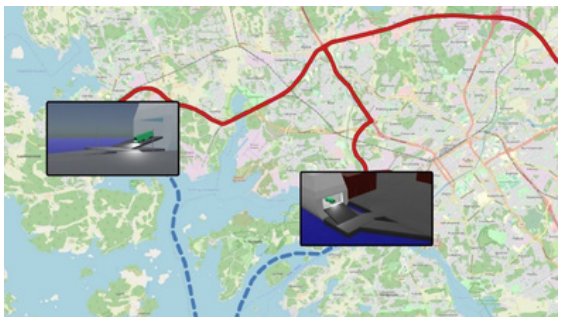
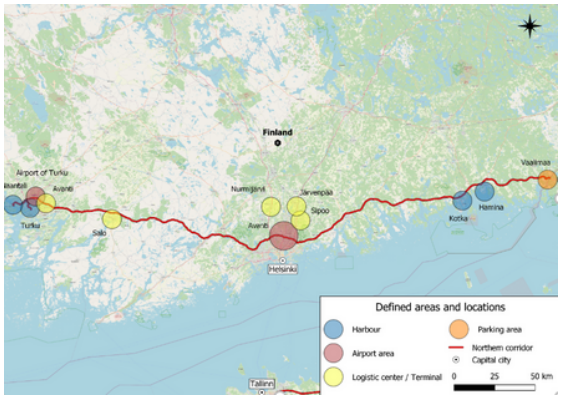
THE ROAD FROM THE TURKU PORT TO THE RUSSIAN BORDER WILL BE ANIMATED TO HIGHLIGHT BOTTLENECKS

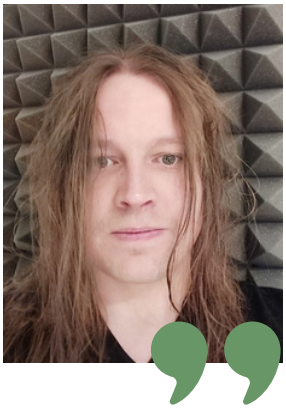






Continuing the project, TUAS from Finland intends to visualize the southern corridor by animating the entire route from the Turku port to the Russian border (Vaalimaa) to clearly show cargo traffic bottlenecks that are closely related to the time spent on the road, as well as other characteristics. The visualization will conclude several topics emerged during the project like bottlenecks, total travel time, total distance, total production of carbon dioxide emissions, as well as possible time saving without bottlenecks and possible reduced carbon dioxide emissions. The visualization will clearly indicate the specific problem areas in the corridor.

READ MORE HERE



Patrick Yliluoto
Data visualizer, TUAS

The main task of the visualizer is to present the data in a clear and informative way. An example of visualization is a map, which contains very versatile information that can be displayed in one place in a convenient and easy-to-understand way. Traffic visualizations can help researchers and others interested in understanding the situation relatively quickly – they can reflect characteristics such as traffic density, cargo movement or locations of bottlenecks on the map. This has a significant advantage to authors, researchers and other third-party members to have a fully presented detailed view of the topics.

DB SCHENKER TERMINAL IN FINLAND HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS A PILOT SITE FOR BALTIC LOOP RESEARCH

Following the set goal, the DB Schenker terminal has been chosen as the pilot site, where, using various methodologies, proposals will be made for actions to be taken to speed up the cargo handling in terminal. It is located at Turku Ring Road along the E-18 corridor.

The study will use new tools and methods developed by private company Noccela Ltd., that provided the significant data for Turku University of Applied Science (TUAS) project team. This company has been developing new ICT based solutions to track the time-location positions of cargo. The idea is based on tags that are placed to forklift trucks going around or placed to cargo being transferred at the terminal.

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Baltic Loop project in 1 minute

7 partners

4 countries

3 transport corridors

East-West direction to evolve its full potential

Overall target

Improving transport flows of people and goods in three selected corridors of Central Baltic region, at the same time reducing the CO_2 emissions

2 years
to implement April 2019 – June 2021

1 983 434,75 €
budget dedicated to brake the bottlenecks along the East-West transport corridors

Main activities:

Non-technical solutions for cross-border corridors

Technical solutions along the corridors

Business models for smart and sustainable sea logistics and port operations

Join us!

1 final conference

6 local kick-off events

3 local and international conferences

10
- international stakeholder meetings
- international workshops
- seminars

21 local stakeholder meetings

Partners:

1. **Turku University of Applied Sciences** (Finland) 2. **Region Örebro County** (Sweden)
3. **Vidzeme Planning Region** (Latvia) 4. **Åbo Akademi University** (Finland) 5. **Riga Planning Region** (Latvia)
6. **Ventspils High Technology Park Foundation** (Latvia) 7. **Union of Harju County Municipalities** (Estonia)

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