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REGIONAL

EUROPE'S REGIONS AND CITIES **REVIEW**

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Open dialogue

Regional, national and European policymakers give their views on the key issues in focus at Open Days 2011

Green capitals: Why Hamburg is leading the way in its efforts to tackle climate change



Wasting time: How Europe's local and regional authorities can help move towards a zero-waste society



Urban renaissance: Mayors from across Europe come together at the Eurocities annual conference



BATCo: Baltic-Adriatic Transport Cooperation Interreg IV Central Europe



BATCo project seeks to foster the development of the Baltic-Adriatic Axis (BAA), through a series of **technical**, **environmental** and **economic** interventions from 2010 through 2013. These interventions are conducted through the cooperation of 18 national and regional partners from 5 European Countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Italy, Poland and Slovakia).

A key project component targets the development of the Business Cooperation Alliance along the Axis to:

- foster cooperation between the various local stakeholders on common areas of business interest;
- support SME engagement transnational along the Axis;
- identify effective elements of regional action plans.

The development path for this alliance is based upon the realisation of regional workshops, which seek to provide information and define local priorities for optimising regional economic impacts from full axis deployment.



Within this context, the Regional Union of the Veneto Chambers of Commerce developed the strategic vision for the transnational Business Cooperation Alliance, which specifies relevant objectives for stakeholder workshops including the sharing of expectations and building consensus on key issues regarding:

- development of economic activities;
- business cooperation along the axis;
- needs for business support activities.

In particular, the trans-national partnership has identified four primary themes with specific associated services for the Business Cooperation Alliance and for discussion in the regional workshops.

These services, all aim to foster regional economic development along the corridor, will be evaluated and discussed by each partner region in their local workshops. The overall objective is to identify the most appropriate local activities for optimisation of regional economic impacts from corridor deployment.

Due to investments to transport infrastructure and services along the Baltic-Adriatic Axis most populations along the corridor, given its role in better connecting organisations to global markets through environmentally sound transport options, will directly and indirectly benefit.

This intrinsic link between regional economic developments generated from transport infrastructure investments is widely recognised. BATCO seeks to identify the most effective means to ensure that these opportunities are fully realised by supporting local businesses along the Axis. To this end, BATCo will provide regional BATCo Business Cooperation Points for interested organisations to obtain information and contacts, to support their cooperation with other actors along the corridor, with regard to the services mentioned before.

For further information: <http://www.baltic-adriatic.eu/en>

Facts & Figures

Baltic-Adriatic Axis is the railway axis connecting the Baltic seaports with the North Adriatic seaports.

Course:

From Gdansk / Warsaw / Katowice / Zilina / Bratislava / Brno / Breclav / Vienna / Semmering Base Tunnel / Graz / Koralm Railway / Klagenfurt / Villach / Udine (Trieste) / Venice to Bologna / Ravenna.

Total length: approx. 1.820 km

Baltic-Adriatic Transport Cooperation (BATCo)

Carried out by 18 Partners from 5 EU Countries (AT, IT, CZ, PL, SK)

Duration: 36 months (March 2010 – February 2013)

Total budget: € 3.723.373,98

ERDF contribution: € 2.902.134,40

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Edited by: Regional Union of the Veneto Chambers of Commerce

