

## Output factsheet:

### D.T2.3.5 Pilot implementation of improved passenger transport to TEN-T nodes- Season Bus line

<b>Project index number and acronym</b>	CE973 TRANS-BORDERS
<b>Lead partner</b>	Saxon State Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Transport
<b>Output number and title</b>	D.T2.3.5 Pilot implementation of improved passenger transport to TEN-T nodes-Season Bus line
<b>Responsible partner (PP name and number)</b>	PP 7 - Verkehrsverbund Kärnten GesmbH PP 8 - Regional Development Agency for Koroška region
<b>Project website</b>	<a href="http://www.interreg-central.eu/TRANS-BORDERS">www.interreg-central.eu/TRANS-BORDERS</a>
<b>Delivery date</b>	11/2020

#### Summary description of the pilot action (developed and/or implemented)

Cross border region offers considerable amount of existing cycling infrastructure and developed tourism and recreational products. Cross border bus service was implemented and evaluated within TRANS-BORDERS project in summer seasons 2019 and 2020. It has supported efforts for more sustainable transport for recreation and tourism in peripheral region on one hand. And on the other hand, cross border bus service has enhanced the existing public transport services between TEN-T nodes Maribor and Klagenfurt since it was connected to train service in Slovenia and Austria.

#### NUTS region(s) concerned by the pilot action (relevant NUTS level)

AT21 Kärnten (NUTS 2)  
SI033 Koroška (NUTS 3)

#### Expected impact and benefits of the pilot action plan for the concerned territories and target groups

In 2019 a new cross border bus line has been designed, a financing model and a pricing model were developed and a pilot operation was implemented. The cross-border bus line runs along three well-known cycle routes: Lavant and Drau bike path and along Štrekna, the abandoned railway line Velenje (SI)-Lavamünd (AT). The bus line consists of two segments: Velenje (SI)-Lavamünd (AT) with bus operator Nomago and Lavamünd (AT)-Wolfsberg (AT) with bus operator ÖBB-Postbus GmbH - both buses were equipped with a trailer for bicycles. Both segments followed harmonised timetable with possible transfer from: one bus to another and to train in Dravograd (SI) and St. Paul (AT), with connection to Maribor (SI), and Wolfsberg (AT) or Klagenfurt (AT). The bus line was running in 2019 from 1 May until 30 September (July-August daily; May, June and September during weekends and national holidays in Slovenia and Austria). On segment Velenje-Lavamünd 1.182 passengers and 967 bicycles were transferred. On segment Lavamünd-Wolfsberg 360 passengers were transferred (no option for counting bicycles was provided by bus operator).

Pilot action has been implemented with learning loop again in 2020. Small modifications (minor modification of route and timetable) for the 2020 season were carried out. In 2020 restart was on 1st July instead of 1st May due to covid19 (daily connections July and August, on weekends in September). On segment Velenje-Lavamünd 805 passengers and 651 bicycles were transferred.

### **Sustainability of the developed or pilot action and its transferability to other territories and stakeholders**

TRANS-BORDERS project partnership networking with key crossborder stakeholders has provided necessary basis for pilots implementation. Within TRANS-BORDERS project article 50 of Road Transport Act in Slovenia was amended - cross border local/regional public bus service to the next bus station across the state border was made possible. In September 2020 workshop for short and long-term financing model with key national stakeholders from Slovenia and Austria in Ljubljana has been carried out. All present have agreed on TRANS-BORDERS common follow up activities including regular work and search for new projects. In December 2020 project idea for Interreg Slovenia-Austria 2021-2027 activities has started.

Constant lobbying on the regional and state level decision making bodies is carried out in addition. In Slovenia for instance in the framework of the Koroška Regional Council, Ministry of Infrastructure, Slovenian Infrastructure Agency or Common Board Slovenia - Austrian Carinthia.

### **Lessons learned from the development/implementation process of the pilot action and added value of transnational cooperation**

The railway passenger and bus public passenger transport in Slovenia is regulated at the national level. There is no public transport act and subsequent agency dealing with all modes of public passenger transport in Slovenia. There are separate acts and subsequent agencies for road and railway transport. With the support of the TRANS-BORDERS project regional development agency has been able to act as a multisectoral coordinator for overcoming sectoral planning on the state level. And as a bridge for regions' local communities with the state level planning and decision making. This kind of approach was first developed by the RRA Koroška for planning and carrying out core cycle network within the region. Approach proved to be successful and was further developed for the cross and public transport planning in general within the TRANS-BORDERS project.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links  
If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

<https://strekna.si/>



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