

## Output factsheet:

### D.T2.3.8 Plannings for railway passenger service Klagenfurt-Bleiburg-Prevalje-Maribor

<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.T2.3.8 Plannings for railway passenger service Klagenfurt-Bleiburg-Prevalje-Maribor
<b>Responsible partner (PP name and number)</b>	PP 2 - Office of the Carinthian Government Department 7 Competence Center of economic law and infrastructure 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)

Study with focus on railway line section Bleiburg/Pliberk-Dravograd was prepared by Austrian external expert (focus on timetable adjustments) as initially foreseen in the application form.

But through comprehensive key stakeholders' discussions on the Slovenian side additional activities not foreseen in the application form were implemented. Issue of upgrading Slovenian part of railway line with proposal for measures (infra- and non-infrastructural) was adequately addressed and has been included in by the Slovenian Infrastructure Agency financed study for upgrading regional railway lines in Slovenia in 2019. In the fall 2020 cross border workshop with key stakeholders regarding this issue along with short and long term measures discussion was organised by PP 8 RRA Koroška in addition.

Cross border region offers considerable amount of existing cycling infrastructure and developed tourism and recreational products. Summer Saturday cycling train Maribor-Bleiburg service was further developed and promoted within the project.

#### 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 for the concerned territories and target groups

Promotion, marketing and common ticketing would be needed to fully develop potential of cross border possibilities provided by railway line corridor between Maribor and Bleiburg/Pliberk. Common ticketing along with Slovenian Railways and ÖBB discussions to expand/enhance working days connections after 2020 can be regarded as long-term solutions. Initially planned working days connections enhancement is facing some obstacles at the moment.

During several meeting with Slovenian Infrastructure Agency issue of upgrading Slovenian part of railway line with proposal for measures (infra- and non-infrastructural) was adequately addressed and has been included into in 2019 finalized study for upgrading regional railway lines in Slovenia. Slovenian part of the railway line was included on the list of national important investments for recovery after covid19 epidemic in addition. In the fall 2020 cross border workshop with key stakeholders regarding this issue along with short and long term measures discussion was organized by PP 8 RRA Koroška in Dravograd. As well project idea for Interreg Slovenia-Austria 2021-2027 activities has started including further development of cross border railway line Maribor-Bleiburg.

Saturday summer trains between Maribor and Bleiburg were added as a service within TRANS-BORDERS project in 2018. In around dozen summer days per year results were following: in 2018 746 passengers and 202 transferred bicycles; in 2019 811 passengers and 431 transferred bicycles; in 2020 620 passengers and 217 bicycles. In 2018 service was financed as a regular public service for which operator received a compensation by the state. In 2019 Saturday summer trains operated with of some Slovenian national holidays in addition - service was partially covered by the state and partially by PP 8 RRA Koroška through TRANS-BORDERS. With some limitations due to covid19 epidemic Saturday summer trains were operating in 2020 as well. Additional dates of national holidays service costs were all covered by the state.

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

TRANS-BORDERS project partnership networking with key cross border stakeholders has provided necessary basis for pilot implementation. Necessary measures on the Slovenian side of the railway line were included in national strategic and implementation plans. In addition further state funding for summer Saturday trains was secured. All present at the cross border key stakeholders workshop in October 2020 in Dravograd 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://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/Cross-border-summer-train-between-Slovenia-and-Austria.html>