

## What is the challenge?

Citizens living in rural or peripheral areas of Central Europe are facing **inadequate connectivity, fragmented transportation networks, and lack of sustainable public transport solutions, particularly at the cross-border level**. Leaving the car at home remains challenging for these people because there are often **no satisfying public transport offers** available.

## What is the aim?

European policies look toward a **greener and smarter future**, by supporting, among others, actions aimed at promoting the development of sustainable public transport solutions, while providing all citizens with **equal public transportation services and access opportunities**.

## What will SUSTANCE do about it?

The SUSTANCE project **involves a wide range of transport stakeholders** to better understand the accessibility of public transport in the involved regions as well as to co-design and **test innovative mobility services and governance schemes** that will **support public authorities in the planning process**. Innovative pilot actions are tested by partners in the involved regions and pave the way to the **adoption of long-term action plans and solutions**.

## Project partners



Central European Initiative - Executive Secretariat  
[www.cei.int](http://www.cei.int)

Institute for Transport and Logistics Foundation  
[www.fondazioneitl.org](http://www.fondazioneitl.org)

Győr-Sopron-Ebenfurth Railway Corp.  
[www.gysev.hu](http://www.gysev.hu)

Eurac research  
[www.eurac.edu/en](http://www.eurac.edu/en)

HZ Passenger Transport Ltd  
[www.hzpp.hr](http://www.hzpp.hr)

Istrian development agency – IDA Ltd  
[www.ida.hr](http://www.ida.hr)

Institute of Traffic and Transport Ljubljana Ilc  
[www.prometni-institut.si](http://www.prometni-institut.si)

Slovenian Railways – Passenger Transport Ltd  
[www.slo-zeleznice.si](http://www.slo-zeleznice.si)



## SUSTANCE

Sustainable public transport solutions and innovative governance schemes for improving connectivity in Central Europe



### Contact - Lead Partner

Central European Initiative  
Executive Secretariat

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2,01  
million €  
Project budget

8  
Partners

04.2023  
Start date

6  
Pilots

03.2026  
End date

80%  
ERDF co-financing



[www.interreg-central.eu/projects/sustance](http://www.interreg-central.eu/projects/sustance)



Sustance project

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through Interreg Central Europe Programme



SUSTANCE


Which are tangible benefits for people?



**TRANSPORT SERVICE**

 A **new cross-border train service** in 2024, connecting Italy (Trieste, Villa Opicina), via Slovenia (Divača, Pivka), with Croatia (Rijeka)

**TRANSPORT SERVICE**

 **Extension** until Sopron **of the cross-border train service** linking Austria (Neusiedl am See) with Hungary (Fertőszentmiklós)

**STUDY & EQUIPMENT**

  **Feasibility study** for the improvement of passenger train services between Croatia (Pula-Buzet) and Slovenia (Divača) and installation of **bike/scooter sharing points**


 


**TRANSPORT APP**

 **Demand responsive transport application** in Italy (Romagna Region), including ICT application for **planning, booking and e-ticketing**



**TRANSPORT APP**

 **Interactive ICT app** for Istria Region (Croatia), including all **private and public transport services** and displaying them in one place



**DIGITAL SOLUTION**

   **Digital solution** to promote and increase the **use of railway services and bicycles** in Croatia, Italy and Slovenia



### Challenge

Tourists are struggling to find information about railway transportation and bike services on many different places online

### Location

We are planning on promoting train&bike services in Croatia, Italy and Slovenia



### Idea

Why not provide them with existing railway timetables, bike routes, services and accommodation, but in one place?

### Solution

Our solution is to cooperate and create a digital tool that will gather all these information



### Result

Facilitate access to updated information and train&bike!

