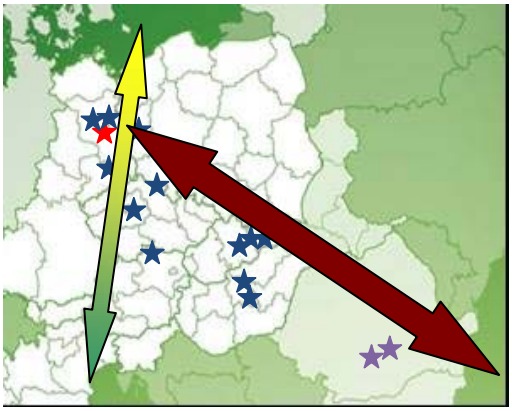
FLAVIA - Proposal to the INTERREG IV B CENTRAL EUROPE Programme

The Mission

Intermodal freight transport connections from Central Europe (CE) towards South-East European (SEEC) and Black Sea countries are insufficient but urgently needed for more and efficient import and export. A lot of potential trade partners as well as large amounts of natural resources, like oil, copper and gas, exist in the Black Sea area and beyond along the TRACEA (Transport Corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia). Analyses of successfully implemented INTERREG projects (ECO4LOG and INTERIM) have shown different problems of intermodal terminals, market players and cross border procedures. Therefore the idea of the proposed project **FLAVIA** is to establish intermodal cooperation and to develop the logistic corridor from Central to South-East Europe. This will be done in co-operation with the transport axis projects SoNorA and SCANDRIA.



Legend:
Development axis: green/yellow: SoNorA/SCANDRIA
Dark red: FLAVIA
★Locations of FLAVIA partners

Objectives

FLAVIA addresses the following problems in intermodal freight transport:

- Modal split of rail and inland waterway dropped down despite of increased volumes
- Increasing road congestions
- Big delays of freight trains at border crossings
- Obsolete terminal technique
- Mental barriers of market players against intermodal transport

The project intends not to develop a new “spatial planning corridor” or a specific road or rail connection. The approach of the project is logistic process oriented with the aim to improve intermodal cargo flows instead of the building of new infrastructure. This can avoid or concentrate investment funds. Through the logistical approach and instruments being used (like e.g. benchmarking, accessibility analyses, running time and bottleneck analyses, implementation of quality standards) new and innovative measures for a better interconnectivity of the regions will be developed and implemented. Also the exchange of knowledge and the promotion of best-practice are elements of the project.

Activities

The **FLAVIA** logistic corridor project involves partners from Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia. Improving logistic flows among the involved regions will contribute to the integration of markets in the enlarged European Union. Furthermore, the reduction of barriers in the intermodal logistic flows will result in a stronger integration of the new member and candidate countries into the EU. To enhance the competitiveness of the involved regions it is planned, among other things, to support the harbour development at the Black Sea as an alternative to the Adriatic harbours for Central European overseas trade and to foster the intermodal transport infrastructure for a “greener” logistic. Main activities in terms of work packages are:

- **WP3 (Trade and transport between CE and SEEC)** will consider logistic flows and chains, network and organisational barriers, security aspects and finally visualise bottlenecks in an IT tool.
- **WP4 (Quality and efficiency increasing of logistic chains)** will transfer best practice in rail and inland waterways transport, elaborate action plans for logistics to remove bottlenecks, elaborate concepts for intermodal security and efficiency and establish institutional pro-rail and intermodal terminal alliances.

- In **WP5 (Capacity building and pre-feasibility studies)** 10 pre-feasibility studies will be carried out to support inter- / multimodal goods transport in the ***FLAVIA*** logistic corridor. The related investments will improve the accessibility of the involved regions drastically in terms of intermodal transport, unburden the congested roads and contribute to the ecological aims of the regions. All studies will be based on environmental performance evaluation methods and consider the aims of "green logistics".
- But the Southern endpoint of the ***FLAVIA*** corridor in Romania also does not mark the final destination of the considered logistic flows and channels. Therefore in **WP6** an **extension** of the corridor is foreseen **towards the Black Sea bordering and TRACECA countries**. Main goal of the extension process is the establishment of co-operation structures in the fields of trade and transport.

Useful Results for the Corridor and the Regions Involved

All these activities will be undertaken to promote economic development, trade and growth with simultaneous reduction of environmental impacts through the intensive support of intermodal rail and inland waterway transport ways. Additionally, establishing an efficient Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) is a key element for competitiveness and employment in Europe. ***FLAVIA*** will support and improve intermodal logistic flows and channels, especially along the TENT-T corridors IV (Dresden-Prague-Bratislava/Vienna-Budapest-Arad) and VII (Waterway Danube).

Finally, the territorial cohesion of the involved regions will be strengthened by a reduction of organisational, administrative and technical barriers of integrated logistic chains and a further development of logistics and trade relations between Central and South-East Europe and beyond to the Black Sea countries.

The Partnership

FLAVIA will bring together experienced stakeholders in the field of new intermodal transport services to develop trans-national action plans, concepts and suggestions. Key stakeholders from the whole FLAVIA corridor with logistic background will support the objectives of the project as associated partners. Together they build a triple helix of logistics knowledge competence, government and inter-/multimodal transport industry. All integrated actors are interested in an increased accessibility of the regions and improved trade and transport relations along the ***FLAVIA*** corridor.

- Technical University of Applied Sciences Wildau (Lead Partner) DE
- Pro Rail Alliance DE
- GVZ Development Corporation Southwest Saxony Ltd. DE
- Ministry of Economy of the Federal State Brandenburg DE
- University of Pardubice CZ
- ČSKD INTRANS CZ
- Interport Servis ltd. SK
- Upper Austrian University of Applied Sciences R&D Ltd. - LOGISTIKUM AT
- Institute of Logistics and Warehousing PL
- University “POLITEHNICA” Bucharest - Transport Research and Consulting Centre RO
- SC ROMTRANS S.A. RO
- Technical University Kosice, Faculty of Manufacturing Technologies Prešov SK
- Regional Advisory and Information Centre Prešov SK
- Hungarian Logistics Association HU
- BILK KOMBITERMINÁL Zrt. HU

Associated Partners: Logistics Network Berlin-Brandenburg (DE), Ministry of Economy Federal State Saxony (DE), Upper Austria Ennshafen Ltd. (AT), Association of Forwarding and Logistics of the Czech Republic (CZ), Oberösterreichische Technologie- und Marketinggesellschaft m.b.H. (AT), Industrielogistik Linz GmbH & Co KG (AT), Intermodal Terminal Kobylnica (PL), Voiwodship Wielkopolska (PL).