



SMARTCORRIDORS

INTERNATIONAL R&T COOPERATION BETWEEN CHINA & GREECE



ISSUE 1, APRIL 2021

NEWSLETTER

Dear reader,

We are pleased to present you the first newsletter of the **SMARTCORRIDORS** project. The project was developed in the framework of the national action: "**INTERNATIONAL R&T COOPERATION**" between China and Greece, starting its activities in October 2019, with 3 years implementation period, till October 2022.

Enhancing the competitiveness of global supply and improving the added value of intermodal freight corridors, relies on a number of factors, among which technological innovation is a major one. Digitalization, the flourish of e-commerce, the development of cloud computing, big data analysis and the Internet of Things to name just a few. As has identified, in EC level, digitalization in transportation and logistics industry is an important driver for lowering costs, efficiency, simplification and better use of resources and existing infrastructures.

Taking into consideration these trends the **SMARTCORRIDORS** main goal is to enhance the competitiveness of the China-Europe land-sea express line by employing Smart Supply Chain and Intelligent Corridor Management technologies and tools.

The innovative part of the project is based on the design and the development of a **Collaboration Platform, contributing in smart supply chain and intermodal corridor management**. Collaboration Platform will provide the ability of exchanging data between different entities/platforms and offers data transformation capabilities as well as business logic components to be built and/or connected to allow data enrichment/matching capabilities. The resulted Information Hub will act as mediator between existing systems as well as provide the core interoperability services for visibility and monitoring platforms. Furthermore, it will ensure a high level of security via specific authentication mechanisms and enhance corridor analytics capabilities.

The consortium of the project consists of research institutions, consulting and industrial companies from both China

and Greece. This collaboration will allow a pilot demonstration of the developed solutions, ensuring high standards of quality.

In the current newsletter, you will find information regarding project's goals, stakeholders, and the activities already has taken place as well as the following actions of the project.

Dr. Georgia Aifandopoulou
Coordinator of SMART-CORRIDORS project



PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME

Smart Supply Chain and Intelligent Corridor Management to support the competitiveness of China-Europe land-sea express line

DURATION

10/2019 - 10/2022

STARTING DATE

October 2019

PROJECT ACRONYM

SMART-CORRIDORS

WEBSITE

www.smartcorr.imet.gr

FUNDING

Co-funded by European Union - European Regional Development Fund, in the framework of the Operational Program EPANEK 2014-2020 Competitiveness, Entrepreneurship and Innovation

CONTACT DETAILS

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BUDGET

396,900.00 €

TECHNICAL COORDINATION

HIT/CERTH



GENERAL INFORMATION

The **SMARTCORRIDORS** project aims to promote innovative solutions that will contribute to the development of freight transport in Greece. The project proposes the design and development of a Collaboration Platform powered by a Connectivity Layer to enable unified messaging, data processing/matching/consolidation and enrichment allowing easy adaptation of the platform to receive new formats/standards messages from any data source along the supply chain.

These developments will be based on close cooperation between Greek and Chinese side. The consortium of the project consists of the Hellenic Institute of Transport (HIT/

CERTH) and TREDIT S.A., representing the Greek side, and the Chinese Academy of Transportation Sciences (CATS) and COSCO, representing the Chinese side. HIT/CERTH is the technical coordinator and is responsible for the monitoring and coordination of the project

This industry-led project includes a pilot demonstration of the developed solutions supported by COSCO Shipping Logistics and COSCO Network e-logistics as well as Greek partners while simulation modelling is foreseen to assess the effectiveness and validate the expected positive impacts of large-scale deployment.

PROJECT'S EVENTS

KICK-OFF MEETING

The kick-off meeting of the **SMARTCORRIDORS** project has taken place on Friday 11 September 2020. Due to the restrictions of COVID-19, the meeting was held online.

In the kick-off meeting all project's stakeholders participated; From the Greek side representatives of the Hellenic Institute of Transport (HIT/CERTH) and the consulting company TREDIT S.A. and from the Chinese side, representatives of the research institution China Academy of Transportation Sciences (CATS) and maritime logistics service provider company COSCO.

Additionally, in the meeting participated, a representative of the University of Beijing, who on his side, has expressed his interest in the project.

During the meeting, a presentation of project's main goal has taken place so stakeholders reach a common understanding of the twinning projects implemented in Greece and China. The first approach of the system's architecture that will be

developed in the framework of the **SMARTCORRIDORS** project, has also presented. Moreover, the work structure to be followed, the assignment of tasks per work package and respective time schedule has presented.

Following, stakeholders from Chinese side, provide information regarding the goals and the main activities of the twinning project they are developing, financed by the Chinese government.

After the presentation, stakeholders had the chance to discuss and express their thoughts regarding the context and mutual goals of the twinning projects, as well as setting the framework of collaboration and each partner's contribution in the development of work packages.

Ending the kick-off meeting, Coordination Board has selected, in order to monitor project's outputs and ensure high standards of quality, while additionally, the action plan has finalized.



STATE-OF-THE-ART ON INTELLIGENT INTERMODAL CORRIDORS IN EUROPE AND CHINA

The first Work Package (WP) of the project has delivered at the end of 2020. The aim of the current WP was to provide an overview of the good practices, the clear identification of supply chain processes and bottlenecks and the analysis of corridors in EU level in a standardized way.

The collection of input has been based on continuous interaction and collaboration between Greek and Chinese stakeholders as well as based on existing knowledge of best common practices taking into consideration operational differences and procedural details on each side.

For more information regarding the deliverable of the WP₁, you are welcomed to visit project's website: www.smartcorr.imet.gr





1ST TECHNICAL COORDINATION MEETING

23 October 2020

The **1st Technical Coordination Meeting** was held online on Friday 23 October 2020. In the framework of projects has been set a Coordination Board, with main tasks the coordination and monitoring the overall progress. The Coordination Board consists of 4 members: Dr. Georgia Aifandopoulou (HIT/CERT), Mr. Jiang Cailiang (CATS), Mr. Frank Liu (COSCO SHIPPING Logistics), and Mr. George Tsoukos (TREDIT).

The meeting **has focused on the exchange of information and concentration between partners involved in similar activities, for solving technical problems and minimizing the risks related to the integration, interoperability and smooth demonstration of all the developed solutions.**

More specifically, the discussion focused on the business plan that will be examined in the framework of the **SMARTCORRIDORS** project. After an extensive discussion with Chinese stakeholders, the necessity to enhance the visibility of the current provided intermodal services in Greece identified. The main focus of the Chinese stakeholders have been on the business plan, where train is considered as the main transport mode for the transportation of containers from the port of Piraeus till Czech.

Taking into consideration these facts has been decided that the collaboration platform that will be developed in the framework of the **SMARTCORRIDORS** project, will address this gap by providing a comprehensive intelligent system, to enhance the visibility of logistics services in the main area of interest.

Following, stakeholders from China, provided an extended presentation of the smart systems they will develop in the framework of their national project. During the meeting has discussed extensively the issue of interconnection among the systems to be developed by each side and has been decided to be the main topic of discussion in the following technical coordination meeting.



FOLLOWING ACTIONS

In the next few months, a series of meetings have been planned with stakeholders operating in the field of logistics as well as with potential users of the business plan. The goal of these meetings is for stakeholders to get familiar with potential users' requirements as well as to ensure that technical specifications and services will meet market's needs and using this feedback to develop the system.

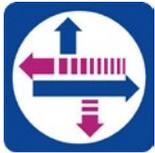
Taken into account market's needs the architecture of the collaboration platform and its components will get a final

form and the stage of development will follow. A number of technical meetings will take place, in order to ensure the interconnection with the system that Chinese stakeholders currently develop, and finalize technical specification of both systems and the necessary data exchange.

Finally, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is scheduled to be signed among Beijing University and Hellenic Institute of Transport, to establish the engagement of Beijing University in the **SMARTCORRIDORS** project.



GREECE



The **Hellenic Institute of Transport (HIT)** is part of the Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH) which is a non-profit organization that directly reports to the General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT), of the Greek Ministry of Development and Investments. It is a pioneer, internationally recognized research body, which offers basic and applied research, but also high quality technical services in the field of transport. HIT/CERTH is one of the leading research centers in Greece and Europe, included among the TOP-25 in the E.U. with the highest participation in research programs. CERTH/HIT is the project coordinator, responsible for the general coordination and monitoring of the project.



TREDIT S.A. (Transeeuropean Consultants for Transport, Development and Information Technology S.A.) is a consulting company with an extensive experience record in Integrated Studies for Public and Private Organizations in Greece and the E.U. spanning over a period in excess of 30 years. The company provides services for Planning and Management Studies in all transport sectors, Logistics, Business Organization and Development Studies, as well as, System Analysis and IT Applications Development, with an emphasis on the Transport Sector.

CHINA



Established in 1960, the **China Academy of Transportation Sciences (CATS)** is a comprehensive research institute affiliated to the Ministry of Transport (MOT), P.R. China. Mainly involved in the forward-looking, public-beneficial and fundamental transportation researches, CATS has formed seven major business areas, including transportation strategy planning & policy, transportation information, transportation environmental protection and safety, urban transportation, transportation standard & measurement and certification, road engineering technology and Inspection transportation science & technology Intermediary services etc.



COSCO SHIPPING Logistics, affiliate to CHINA COSCO SHIPPING CORPORATION LIMITED, is an international integrated logistics enterprise with shipping logistics as its core. The company's service network covered 30 provinces of China and many countries and regions in the four continents of Europe, America, Asia, and Africa. There are over 600 domestic and foreign sales and service points throughout the world, providing customers with a full range of logistics solution. Since its establishment, COSCO Shipping Logistics has won the awards of Golden Pegasus Prize and the national advanced logistics enterprises for many years.



Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση της Ελλάδας και της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης



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