

PILOT FOLLOW UP REPORT

WORK PACKAGE 4
INTERMODAL SEAMELESS SOLUTIONS
ACTIVITY 4.2
ICARUS CROSS BORDER DEVELOPMENT
Deliverable 4.2.2

AUTHOR: Silvia Bianchet
PP 2 FVG
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Pilot activity in a nutshell

The bike-bus initiative was aimed at testing the potentialities of this kind of services in a cross-border area, with the aim of supporting intermodality and encouraging users to exploit sustainable transport options. A total of 54 bus round trips (2 for each day) were completed between Trieste and Poreč from July to the end of October 2021. The service was operated during all weekends (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and holidays, with a dedicated bus with a capacity of about 40 passengers and bikes: a total of 749 passengers and 731 bikes made use of the service throughout the 4 months of activity.

The success of the initiative, which registered a rising number of passengers during the months of activity, represents a supporting element and a valuable input contributing to the long-term planning of intermodality and transport policies at the regional and cross-border levels.

Stakeholders

In order to better plan the bike & bus connection service between Trieste and Poreč, the interested stakeholders, i.e. FIAB FVG and Federalberghi FVG, were consulted and provided us with useful information about the needs of the regional territory and cyclists. In total, we organized three meetings with the aforementioned stakeholders, one in the design phase of the service, the second shortly before the start and the third at the end, during which we collected the useful information to refine a possible further new season of the same accepting the requests received from the final users (cyclists). Data on these meetings can be found in the WP5 QPM reports.

Press involvement

A press conference was held and the news appeared in several local newspapers (Gazzettino, Messaggero Veneto, some online newspaper and RadioRaiFVG).

The representatives of the FVG Region were also interviewed on two different occasions by a local radio station in July and August 2021 and a YouTube video was promoted by TeleQuattro (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fL1Z3G24ABM).

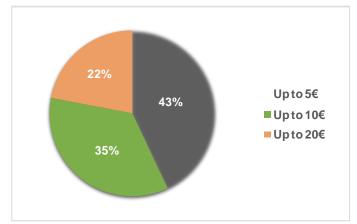
Pilot outcomes

Since the start of the service, monitoring has been activated on the frequency of passengers who have used the Trieste-Parenzo Bike&Bus between July and October 2021. The final data are summarized in this table:



	Total number of passengers	Total number of bikes	Trieste – Porec (one- way) n. of passengers	Porec – Trieste (one-way) n. of passengers	Round-trip n. of passengers
July	119	114	16	45	58
August	160	147	27	91	42
September	202	202	39	133	30
October	268	268	47	83	138
TOTAL	749	731	129	352	268
			17%	47%	36%

As a matter of fact, capitalizing on the agreement already reached among authorities of FVG and bordering regions of Croatia and Slovenia, the bike&bus service (D.4.2.2) could be arranged for additional lines, which would highly benefit tourists and citizens visiting this cross-border territory in their free time. Moreover, the monitoring surveys implemented has shown a moderated availability of passengers to pay for such service, thus potentially be highly useful to ensure its financial sustainability. The success of the initiative, especially during the last months of activity, demonstrated the great need for additional services aimed at cyclists riding along the Parenzana cycle path. Many lessons were learnt by FVG during the process, such as how to deal with the presence of electric bikes occupying a bigger space, how to respond to the need for intermediate stops and the risk for the service to be used by people without a bike. The awareness and experience acquired within this initiative will be greatly useful for proposing additional services to be developed in the upcoming years in the framework of future mobility plans.



Pilot n. 2 (D.4.2.2): Users willing to pay for the service by amount













