



Icarus Transnational Newsletter - December

Introduction

A year passed by since our last newsletter, during which ICARUS partners worked intensively despite the complicated situation worldwide caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This time we would like to share with you our latest achievements.

ICARUS aims at improving passenger intermodal transport connections and ease coast-hinterland sustainable lifestyle to promote car-independent lifestyle. This will be achieved through innovative solutions and by activating a behaviour change in mobility through the Mobility as a Service (MaaS) concept.

Main achievements

Over the course of 2020, partners analysed the current state of the art in terms of innovative solutions, **mobility gaps and needs as well** as by capitalizing EU and international practices. This provided useful inputs to calibrate pilot activities.

Partners produced **three documents** in which they analysed available ICT tools for public transport and intermodal solutions, including MaaS and its opportunities, secondly behaviour change towards more sustainable transport modes, with adopted solutions to make a radical change and finally policy framework in each local context and trends in the world. These documents provide insights on the pillars of the project and in general, key aspects of intermodality and mobility.

Last but not least, ICARUS elaborated **strategies to ease the transfer of experience to other realities**, together with Enlarged Transfer Programme to non-partner institutions of the the IT-HR cross border area. ICARUS partners are actively working on the development of their pilot actions boosting intermodality and sustainable mobility, which are described in the next section.

All our reports can be downloaded from our website:
<https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/icarus/docs-and-tools>

ICARUS PILOT ACTIONS

between Italy and Croatia. The pilots consider all possible sustainable solutions to ensure better connectivity of the area and reduce car use. Particular attention is given to the development of wayfinding solutions, open data, improvement of rail services and links between different cycle paths with seamless solutions.

1) INTERMODAL BIKE+TRAIN SOLUTIONS

To further promote and better connect cycle path Alpe Adria in Friuli Venezia Giulia Region

This pilot is interlinked with several other actions aiming at better connecting Alpe Adria Cycle path, and therefore ensuring a major number of cyclists and tourists travelling through the area. The Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia wishes to provide a train connection and bike transportation to Trieste, where further intermodal solutions will provide a connection to the cycle path Parenzana. For this reason, bike ramps will be installed in 9 train stations (from Cervignano to Tarvisio Bosco Verde) to allow easier bike transportation along the stairways to reach the train platform.



2) BIKE & BUS CONNECTION

From Trieste to Poreč

Through this pilot Friuli Venezia Giulia Region intends to ensure daily bus connections from Trieste to Poreč every weekend (Friday – Sunday) in September, October, April and May with a minibuss and bike track. The challenges consist in ensuring multimodal connections, which will link the cycle paths Alpe-Adria and Parenzana to the benefit of tourists and citizens crossing this area.



3) INTEGRATED TICKETING AND BOOKING SYSTEM FOR TRAIN&BIKE

On the entire Croatian territory

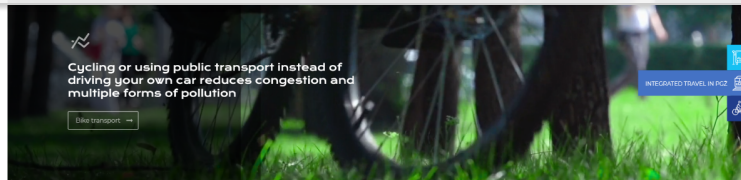
Croatian railways intend to improve the existing ticketing and booking system for passengers travelling by train together with their bikes. Through the web and mobile applications, the passengers will be able to purchase a combined train and bike ticket. The aim is to raise passengers' awareness about multimodal sustainable transport.



4) ICT SOLUTIONS FOR THE PROMOTION OF INTERMODALITY AND INTEGRATED PUBLIC TRANSPORT

In Primorje-Gorski Kotar County

The International Transport Cluster proposes to use ICT solutions for promoting intermodality in the region Primorje Gorski Kotar, in Croatia as well as by offering information about the new integrated solutions in other partner regions. This is provided in a unique website (www.icarus-mobility.com) which includes information on transport in Croatia, travel solutions and integrated travel options in the region Primorje Gorski Kotar, bike sharing and bike transport solutions, opportunities for cross-border travel between Italy and Croatia and new integrated services in ICARUS partner regions.



<p>i Why should I use public transport?</p> <p>Public transport is a healthier, safer and greener alternative to the over-used personal cars.</p>	<p>i Are there benefits for people around me?</p> <p>Using public transport instead of personal cars reduces congestion and multiple forms of pollution.</p>
<p>i What are my benefits?</p> <p>Using public transport in combination with walking or bicycle riding makes you more physically active and has a positive impact on your health. Public transport also allows you to relax and avoid the pressures of driving your car.</p>	<p>i Is public transport safe?</p> <p>Studies have shown that public transport users are much less likely to have a serious traffic accident compared to personal vehicle drivers.</p>

5) FACILITATING INTERMODAL CONNECTIONS FROM THE HINTERLAND

To the coast of the Emilia Romagna Region

Guided by the aim of improving intermodal connections from the hinterland to the Emilia Romagna coast, the Region will improve integrated ticketing while also encouraging change of behaviours. Such a solution will ensure citizens and tourists more efficient, simple, and sustainable travel towards the Emilia Romagna coast. Needless to add, such a solution will also simplify tourists travel towards the Croatian coast.



6) BIKE AND TRAIN CONNECTIONS

In Istria Region

Istrian Development Agency (IDA) wishes to improve hinterland and coast connections in the Istrian region by promoting the combined use of bike and train. IDA signed the agreement with Croatian railways for wagon arrangement. As the change of behavior is essential for the modal shifts IDA will organise events and promotional activities including thematic equipment set up in Istria.



7) INTERMODAL SOLUTIONS

In the metropolitan city of Venice

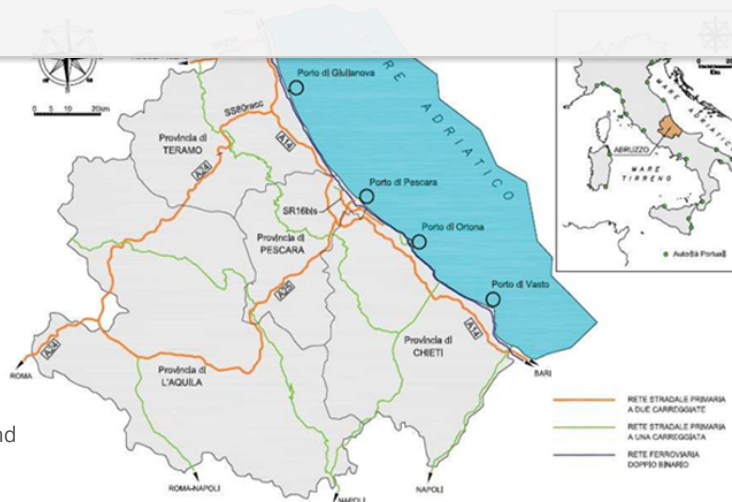
The pilot consists of two initiatives: the first one concerns the installation of a set of facilities (mobile bicycle racks, bike sharing solutions) in selected test area to enhance the use of intermodal services train/bus/bike. The second part of the pilot will focus on improving the existing ICT platform by optimizing data and information related to mobility. This will be done by providing an “entry point” to link existing ticketing and booking opportunities and information for bike users.



8) IMPROVING CONNECTIONS

Between Abruzzo hinterland and the coast

The pilot action conducted by ARAP (Regional Agency for Production Activities) aims at integrating the hinterland with the coast of the Abruzzo region, by improving the transport services for its citizens and tourists. Therefore, they will test new ICT solutions by providing info mobility and integrated ticketing, real time check-in and tracking for passengers.



HOW DID COVID-19 AFFECT THE TRANSPORT SECTOR AND ICARUS PROJECT

Transport sector and its evolution depend on numerous external factors, such as urban development, ecological transition, socio-demographic changes, technological progress (digitalisation) and governance. Lately it became obvious that our lives change quite rapidly and often transport planning must face suddenly those changes, as for example COVID-19 outbreak.

People's lives all over the world were suddenly put on hold. The effect on the public transport was huge and transport operators had to adjust their services and fleet to ensure social distancing, preventive solutions (mask wearing, reduced capacity and more frequent travels) and to meet citizens need. This led to higher costs and lower demand.

There are other issues to be noted: the COVID-19 pandemic led to more active mobility (walking and cycling) and micro mobility options, adoption of temporary solutions in some cities – pop up bike lanes or extended pavement for pedestrian and extended public spaces and home-working. Many fear also the revenge of private car, as public transport and shared mobility is seen as a risk for contagion. For the first time and in contrast with previous policies, people are invited not to use public transport or to use it less. It has been noted also that citizens have been avoiding long distance travelling and the concept of proximity arose, as the 15-minutes cities concept became more popular. Many of these issues will for sure affect the transport sector in the next few years.

ICARUS activities have also been affected due to the lockdowns imposed to both countries involved, Italy and Croatia. However, thanks to smart working partners continued to cooperate and identified solutions to counteract and reach the objectives. Some pilots, with cross-border features had to be put on hold. We took the opportunity to discuss the effects of COVID-19 in several ICARUS webinar, as a possible inspiration and input for partners working directly in the field of transport. If you are interested in learning more about it – visit our website and watch our webinar videos with our experts.



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