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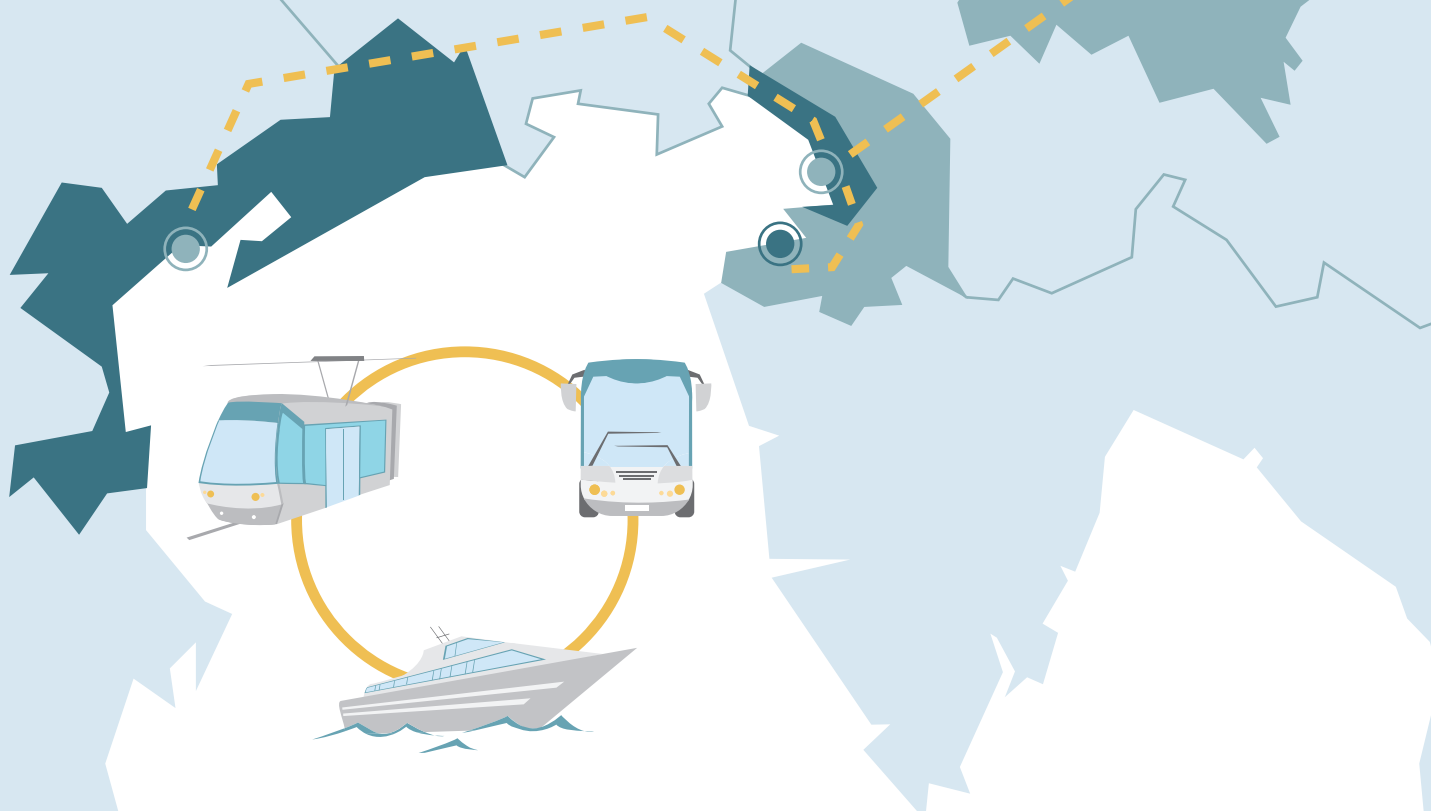
UNIONE EUROPEA  
EVROPSKA UNIJA

**ITALIA-SLOVENIJA**



**FORTIS**

Progetto standard co-finanziato dal Fondo europeo di sviluppo regionale  
Standardni projekti sofinancirani Evropski sklad za regionalni razvoj



# F O R T I S

*Newsletter n. 2  
November 2020*

## 2nd FORTIS NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the second edition of Newsletter series of the FORTIS project!

*FORTIS is a European project funded by Interreg V A Italy - Slovenia 2014 - 2020, that aims at identifying innovative solutions which facilitate lives of citizens of the cross-border areas. Moreover, it intends to promote institutional dialogue in two trajectories: 1) the improvement of local public transport systems with a view towards cross-border integration and facilitation of knowledge and 2) the exchange of administrative good practices related to different legislation on vehicle registration. Following a gap analysis on the areas of intervention, specific pilot actions will test experimental solutions to improve services and institutional dialogue in the area, allowing the establishment of a stable institutional cooperation network.*

The FORTIS project team!

### Round table of stakeholders to find innovative solutions on cross-border public transport

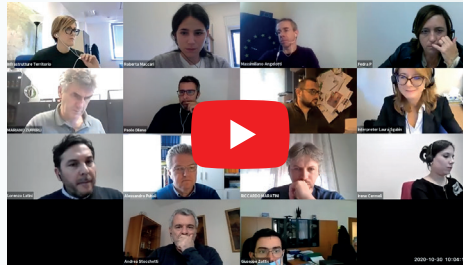
On October 30th, the Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia organised a Round Table with main project stakeholders to identify innovative solutions on cross-border public transport. The stakeholders, ranging from municipalities located in the area, public transport operators and transport experts provided useful feedback for the drawing of the Action Plan for streamlining cross-border public transport.

The event highlighted several activities necessary to meet the mentioned goal:

- ! dialogue among main actors to build a new framework for cross-border mobility to overcome existing obstacles, in line with the guidelines of the European Commission
- ! identification of common priorities for improving cross-border mobility
- ! promotion of cross-border public transport and accessible information for users
- ! integration between operators, demand analysis, strategic network planning increased
- ! strengthening of infrastructure
- ! harmonization and integration of modality services across borders

The participants proposed also some results deriving from several EU funded projects such as CROSSMOBY, SUTRA, MOBYTOUR, MICOTRA whose testing results represent an important source of information for the above mentioned issues.

To listen to the webinar recordings, please follow the link below:



## FORTIS pilot activities facing the impact of COVID-19 pandemic

One of the main focus of the FORTIS project is to promote innovative approaches and joint actions to improve cross-border mobility of citizens by identifying and supporting the enhancement of public transport connections between Italy and Slovenia. Four specific pilot actions dealing with this topic are envisaged in the project activity plan and are expected to be implemented by project partners in cooperation with key stakeholders.

In this framework, the persisting restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic - including the recent closure of borders between Italy and Slovenia - are currently affecting mobility and public transport connections at cross-border level.

Indeed, project partners, public authorities and public transport operators are dealing with unprecedented difficulties in planning, organising and implementing public transport services at local, regional and cross border level. Moreover, many cross-border public transport services between the two countries have been temporarily stopped.

The current limitations in public transport cross-border connectivity are also causing additional difficulties in planning and implementing the FORTIS piloting activities.

Despite this difficult moment and while exploiting all the available ICT tools to perform cooperation without physical meetings, project partners and involved stakeholders are discussing how to deal with this unprecedented difficulties in project implementation and how to guarantee the implementation of the planned piloting activities, including the preparation of mitigation measures if the mobility restrictions will be prolonged.

## Preliminary steps for the calibration of FORTIS PILOT ACTIONS

Over the past few months FORTIS partners worked jointly to identify the state of the art, good practices and existing gaps aiming at the definition of possible solutions to improve the level of services to citizens.



### **Territorial needs assessment of the Cross-border area between Italy and Slovenia**

The Regional development Agency of the Ljubljana Urban Region elaborated a study to review public passenger transport and intermodality in the cross-border area between Italy and Slovenia. The document describes the current situation and suggests several measures to improve the conditions of use of public passenger transport in the area. Based on the results and conclusions, derived from the analyses carried out and priorities identified by the cross-border public transport stakeholders, the main challenges concern public transport administration and organization, transport operations and information technology support. Based on this challenges, the strategy measures were proposed to rectify the exposed issues and to enhance cross-border connectivity.



### **New solutions for promoting efficient cooperation schemes in the CB area**

As it emerged in several moments, proper cooperation scheme is crucial for providing efficient and sustainable cross-border transport services.

Partners have therefore elaborated a joint methodology to implement all foreseen pilot actions in a harmonized way.

The methodology provides elements for a standardized cooperation and time-plan of every pilot action. In addition, the achieved results will be assessed during pilot implementation as well as at its conclusion. The achieved results will be used to convince the main decision-makers about the need for newly tested services and for the establishment of the permanent cross-border dialogue among the main actors.



The guidelines include indications on:

- ! the methodology of each activity implementation and responsible project partners for carrying out the activity;
- ! the stakeholders, observers and target groups involved;
- ! time-plan and necessary activities to complete each pilot activity.



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