

Welcome to the LO-PINOD (Logistics Optimisation for Ports Intermodality: Network, Opportunities, Development) project newsletter. This edition features upcoming events as well as the latest news and information from the project.

Led by the Institute for Sustainability, LO-PINOD focuses on building an efficient, balanced and sustainable transport network. Funded by the North Sea Region programme, part of the EU Inter-regional (INTERREG) initiative, the project aims to make regional ports in the North Sea Region more accessible, sustainable and competitive. It will enhance the multi-modal transport network and demonstrate efficient movement of goods to make better use of available capacity.

LO-PINOD project extension approved



Nordic hospitality in the Port of Drammen

The Port of Drammen hosted a Business to Business (B2B) workshop and a project partnership meeting on 18 and 19 April.

The workshop, hosted by the Port of Drammen, Norway took place in the recently refurbished and opened Maritime Museum, which is a flagship investment of the LO-PINOD project. The museum, a former storage shed from the 19th century, has been cleaned, the roof repaired, the surrounding area has been landscaped with artefacts of the maritime industry.

The building provided a welcome and suitable environment for the B2B event, where a series of presentations promoted the business opportunities across the North Sea regional ports, and were followed by updates from LO-PINOD partners on their activity.

For more information visit www.lopinod.eu/news/nordic-hospitality-in-the-port-of-drammen/



Activity focus: Collaborating on rail infrastructure development

The Kilbride group visited the Port of Drammen to discuss the rail development options and designs being considered to help shape their own activity.

The exchange of transnational experience of designing new rail infrastructure in port hinterland areas enabled the Port of Drammen to decide on the best solution for them, it also provided Kilbride with useful information on practices and design principles for port and rail infrastructure in other parts of Europe, which Kilbride will be able to apply to their own projects.

For more information visit www.lopinod.eu/news/collaborating-on-rail-infrastructure-development/

LO-PINOD has received approval to be extended to December 2014 to deliver project activity and welcomes new partner, the Port of Ramsgate, owned and operated by Thanet District Council.

The project was originally approved in 2010 and developed with partners in the preceding two years. This was in a time before the banking crisis and wider economic impacts were felt in industry and the port and freight industry. The delayed effects of the recession has had significant and challenging effects for private sector partners, on their investment schedule, works programme, and staff resources.

The refresh changes that the Institute and partners have put together include adjusting activities to create better alignment with business challenges facing regional ports, and emerging market opportunities, as well as bringing in new partners who will contribute to delivering the objectives of the project.

For more information visit www.lopinod.eu/news/project-extension/



Debating, networking and learning in Halmstad

Once again, LO-PINOD will be represented at the annual INTERREG IVB North Sea region conference on 11-13 June in Halmstad, Sweden.

This event aims to bring together organisations involved in projects funded by INTERREG, to share experiences and promote mutual opportunities and learning. An audience of around 300 delegates is regularly attracted, including partners in many of the North Sea region projects, the Interreg secretariat, the North Sea Commission, local dignitaries and other interested people.

It provides an excellent opportunity to show-case the project's activities and to discuss possible synergies and opportunities with other European projects.

This year's conference is themed 'A Better Place to Live' and on Monday 20 June there will be a conference pre-session involving consultation workshops in preparation for the next NSR programme period of 2014-2020. This provides the only opportunity to meet face-to-face with the programme evaluators and directly influence the content and priorities, and therefore the type of projects for the next programme period. This will be important for LO-PINOD and the proposal to develop a regional ports grouping which can act together in the future for such things as accessing funding opportunities.

For more information visit www.lopinod.eu/news/debating-networking-and-learning-in-halmstad/



Cruising into Harlingen and Oostende

This month, project partners, the Ports of Harlingen and Oostende hosted a conference for around 40 port operators, cruise industry specialists and local authorities to discuss port diversification and explore the growing opportunities presented by the North Sea cruise industry.

The central theme of the debate was to identify the requirements of the cruise sector and then to explore how local ports might attract cruise ships. Encouraging the cruise industry to use a local port would give a significant boost to both the port and immediate hinterland, including creation of jobs and for Harlingen the start of a new industry for the region.

Following presentations from cruise sector representatives, delegates learned that the central issue was not focused on the port itself but on the more unique, regional attractions that could be reached from the berth. Local ports are smaller than traditional cruise ports and, in some cases, are closer to the main visitor attractions. This could reduce transfer times as well as providing a less crowded port environment. But smaller ports also restrict the size of the vessel able to make a call and delegates recognised that LO-PINOD ports would only appeal to small and medium sized ships.

These vessels often catered for the luxury end of the market and so would expect an extremely high quality of customer service from the port alongside well organised excursions, reliable land transport and short waiting times.

For more information visit www.lopinod.eu/news/cruising/

LO-PINOD partners



Lead partner

1. Institute for Sustainability

Partners

2. AG Port of Oostende (Belgium)
3. Brunsbüttel Ports GmbH (Germany)
4. Harlingen Seaport (The Netherlands)
5. Kilbride (UK)
6. Municipality of Meppel (The Netherlands)
7. Port of Bodø (Norway)
8. Port of Drammen (Norway)
9. Port of Esbjerg (Denmark)
10. Port of Hanstholm (Denmark)
11. Port of Karlshamn (Sweden)
12. Port of Sheerness (Peel Ports Ltd) (UK)
13. Provincie Drenthe (The Netherlands)
14. SEStran (UK)
15. Thanet District Council - Port of Ramsgate (UK)

Upcoming events

Thanet District Council – site visit and networking event at the Port of Ramsgate.

LO-PINOD partner, Thanet District Council is planning a site visit and networking event at the Port of Ramsgate in early September 2013. The event will enable attendees to gain an understanding of the commercial requirements for an alongside quay with a 300t lifting capacity hoist facility, and a commercial boat park enabling repairs, maintenance, servicing and fabrication of large vessels at the Port of Ramsgate.

To register your initial interest, please contact Nikki Morris at Nikki.Morris@thanet.gov.uk