

## Setting up of a North Sea Regional Economic Ports Group (Norse REP)

### Report

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#### Port Collaboration 'Seanergy Ports'

##### **Lo-Pinod**

The Lo-Pinod (Logistics Optimisation for Ports Intermodality: Network, Opportunities, Development) project is to contribute to making regional ports more accessible, sustainable and competitive transshipment nodes and thereby contribute towards a more balanced polycentric European transport network which benefits economic prosperity and quality of life in the North Sea Region (NSR), especially in areas away from global gateways.

##### **Report Introduction + Background summary**

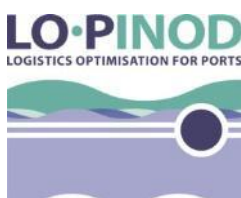
Today in a world of global competition and over-regulation, small and medium sized ports are confronted with an increasing number of significant multifaceted challenges. In order to remain competitive, they require innovative port financing instruments, resource efficient operations and equipment, novel technological solutions, modern infrastructure and skilled and versatile staff.

Some of the ports have the opportunity to invest in new emerging sectors, like the blue industry, or to specialize in niche markets. Small and medium-sized ports can overcome their handicaps of size and location by jointly developing transnational collaboration schemes and clustering information, service providers, projects, expertise, business ideas, hence sharing costs and making savings.

The 5 partner sea ports (Port of Oostende, Port of Ramsgate, Port of Newhaven, Brunsbüttel Ports and Rendsburg Port) have a focus on the development and the implementation of the blue industry, including offshore wind, wave and tidal energy (marine renewables sector). With the focus on 'environmental friendly logistics and low carbon economic development, Seanergy Ports want to contribute to the 2030 EU objectives in the field of EU energy management and innovative economic development.

##### **Transnational Engagement**

Seanergy Ports was officially launched on October 10<sup>th</sup> at the slot conference of Lopinod. Lopinod is an European Interreg project of different ports and challenges existing thinking on freight distribution and offers a more sustainable and efficient alternative. The transnationality lays in the fact that 5 ports located in three different countries of the Lopinod project joined forces for working more intensively together on the sector of renewables.



## Lessons learned

There are 3 important objectives:

First: Seanergy Ports is an international information platform where potential clients can easily find all relevant information needed for their project(s) or activity(ies) in a particular port or a cluster of ports.

Second: Seanergy Ports is an international expertise forum where port managers can exchange expertise in the field of handling and organizing major logistic and economic projects at sea and on land, as well as in energy efficacy and the implementation of low carbon economic development .

Third: Seanergy Ports will also act as a single voice to the local and international authorities in order to develop and promote common quality standards and methodologies

As the port group has been launched only at the final conference of Lo-Pinod we are still focusing on the objectives.