

# Reflections on sustainable transport

Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme  
Annual Conference 2008 - Herning

# EU policy

- Green paper on urban transport (2007)
  - Sustainable urban transport
  - Including freight transport
- Concept of “green corridors”
  - Non-road transport corridors
  - Not elaborated yet

# EU policy

- “Greening” of transport – discussion on Informal Transport Council (May 2008)
  - Reducing the environmental impact of transport
  - Regulation / research / investments / ...
  - Charging of transport, related to external costs
- Modal shift (Marco Polo II programme)
  - Modal shift actions & Traffic avoidance actions

# Urban distribution

- Smaller, cleaner and efficient vehicles to be used for local distribution (Green paper)
- Urban distribution by water
  - Use of small vessels to supply shops, restaurants along waterside in city centres
  - Ex. ‘beerboat’ in Utrecht (NL)

# Urban distribution

- Collection and transport of waste from cities by inland barges
- Systems in use in The Hague, Flevoland, Brussels, Liège, ...

# Distribution between consumer centres: Distrivaart (NL)



- © Mercurius Group

# Distriavaart (NL)

- Pilot project in 2002-2003
- Distribution of consumer goods from distribution centres to supermarkets etc...
- ‘Floating stock’
- Concept to take up in other regions?

# Passenger transport

- Creation of multimodal public transport hubs at the edge of the cities.
- Investigate possibilities for passenger transport by boats driven by sustainable energy sources

# Passenger transport

- Introduction of high-speed passenger network in Northern Europe.

# Example: Electroboat in Gent



# Maritime transport

- Modal shift / avoid road transport
- Improve access to port areas, improve hinterland connections
- Motorways of the Sea

# Maritime transport

- Strengthen the position of smaller ports
- Grouping of cargo, in order to make maritime transport an option

# Rail freight transport

- New rail freight corridors
- High-speed cargo trains?

# Traffic avoidance

- Rethink logistics chain in order to avoid unnecessary (road) transport.
- Reviewing delivery times - spreading of traffic (pilot project in Flanders)
  - No delivery in the morning = not stuck in traffic jam = less emissions

# Other EU programmes

- Ideas, outcomes, pilot projects, demonstrations, ... carried out under the Interreg programmes can be the perfect preparation or input for TEN-T (annual calls, MoS programme) or Marco Polo applications.
- Involve regional / national policy makers.

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