

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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