



# Impact of Transport Infrastructure on International Competitiveness of Europe

project number 314395 – 7th Framework Programme of the European Commission

## Newsletter no 2 – June 2013

### Editorial

Welcome to the second issue of the I-C-EU Newsletter.

This newsletter provides information on the I-C-EU project progress, important upcoming events and other news. It is addressed to the I-C-EU network, policy makers and the scientific community.

The I-C-EU consortium will publish four issues during the 2-year project period. Each issue is available both in PDF and accessible HTML format via:

<http://www.i-c-eu.eu/newsletters/index.htm>

The second issue contains the project presentation, current developments and upcoming events.

### Project presentation

#### *What is the I-C-EU project about?*

I-C-EU is a 2 year FP7 project that studies the relationship between transport infrastructure and competitiveness, by exploring the state-of-the-art of the methodology and assessment tools for public and private investments in transport infrastructure. The project explores and further develops the current assessment methodology. The existing framework for policy intervention will also be analysed and some improvements will be proposed. The practical use of this improved framework will be tested on a representative set of transport projects.

I-C-EU will provide recommendations to the European Commission for interventions, in order to enhance the international competitiveness of Europe as well as between its countries and regions. The project started in October 2012 and will finish in September 2014.

#### *What could people expect from the project?*

The project will produce three main outputs:

- A synthesis of the relationship between transport infrastructure investment, competitiveness and economic growth
- An improvement of the methodology used to assess the impacts of transport infrastructure investments especially on competitiveness and economic growth
- A synthesis of recommendations on assessing EU policy in transport infrastructure investments in respect of competitiveness and economic growth





### ***What are the activities?***

I-C-EU starts with a methodological study. The main objective is to define the issue of competitiveness and to explore the state of assessment methods used to evaluate transport infrastructure projects. The project involves a set of selected case studies which represent all transport modes and different EU regions, and which affect accessibility to the international market.

The project also considers transport and economic models in the analysis of competitiveness and regional growth by studying a number of tools. This activity aims at analysing ex-post modelling results, determining if competitiveness and regional growth were taken into account by those tools and formulating possible improvements.

Finally, the project provides an overview of EU policy cases. It establishes a set of indicators to be used at country or regional level, comprising the direct and indirect impacts of transport infrastructure investments. Furthermore it elaborates a set of recommendations on the assessment of transport infrastructure investments.

During the project, the consortium will organize three workshops, publish four newsletters and actively take part in various related European forums and events. The consortium encourages stakeholder participation, particularly by sending us inputs and project aspirations. The project website is: [www.i-c-eu.eu](http://www.i-c-eu.eu)

## **Current developments**

### ***Narrow Sense Definition of Competitiveness***

Based on the literature survey, as well as some of the analyses of factors underlying (influencing) competitiveness, we defined competitiveness:

*Competitiveness is the extent to which firms in a particular region can compete with those elsewhere. Critical factors for competitiveness are those that determine the level of productivity in a region in relation to other regions.*

### ***Indicators of Competitiveness and Regional Growth***

Two leading composite indicators of competitiveness are the IMD's *World Competitiveness Yearbook* and the WEF's *Global Competitiveness Indicator* where transport infrastructure investment is considered to be an important variable when measuring national competitiveness.

I-C-EU has also made a review on several studies which used *meta-analysis* techniques. They could give a rough guess of the expected effects, make predictions on new situations and can be used in practical decision making, e.g. when data is not available for a Cost-Benefit Analysis.

### ***The Use of Models in the Assessment***

Accessibility is one of the drivers that contribute to a change in competitiveness. The pyramid model of regional competitiveness (Lengyel, 2004 and Gardiner et al, 2004) provides a visual overview of the way one could address competitiveness through indicators.

I-C-EU reviewed several transport models, such as *Basgoed (NL)*, *Extended Riga Model (LV)*, *GBFM (GB)*, *LM (NL)*, *National Transport Model (DK)*, *Trans-tools (EU)*, *Vaclav (EU)*, and *WCM (EU)* and several economic models, such as *ASTRA (EU)*, *CGEurope (EU)*, *RAEM (NL)*, *RegFin (FI)*, *Rhomolo (BE)* and *SASI (EU)*.

## Case Studies

We selected a set of case studies representing all transport modes and different EU regions, and which affect accessibility to the international market in some way.

Table 1 25 Case Studies of I-C-EU

No.	Project name	Short Remarks	Country/Countries
1	Amsterdam Orbital	Completion of the A10 orbital by opening of Zeeburgertunnel	Netherlands
2	Betuweroute	Freight Rail	Netherlands, Germany
3	HSL Zuid	High speed passenger train Amsterdam-Brussels	Netherlands, Belgium
4	Eurotunnel	Railway tunnel	UK, France
5	Storebelt Bridge	Road-Rail Bridge Development	Denmark
6	Spanish HSR network	Passenger high speed train	Spain
7	Malaga Airport	Airport development	Spain
8	A20 Baltic Sea Motorway	Motorway	Germany
9	Magdeburg Waterway Crossing	Inland waterway	Germany
10	Öresund Bridge	Motorway-railway bridge	Sweden, Denmark
11	Southern bypass of Gdańsk	Express road	Poland
12	Gdansk Lech Walesa Airport	Airport development	Poland
13	E-59 Poznań-Szczecin-Świnoujście	Railway line	Poland
14	Maasvlakte 2 Rotterdam	Port development	Netherlands
15	Deurganckdok Antwerp	Port development	Belgium
16	Container Terminal Altenwerder, Hamburg	Port development	Germany
17	Vidin-Calafat Bridge	Road-Rail Bridge Development	Bulgaria, Romania
18	Corridor 22	Railway line	Countries on the track of the rail link between Germany and Greece
19	Iron-Rhin	Railway line	Belgium, Netherland, Germany
20	Rail Baltica	Rail	Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia
21	Twente	Inland Waterway	The Netherlands
22	Crossrail	Railway line	UK
23	HS2	High speed rail	UK
24	Außenweser shipping fairway (extension)	Inland waterway	Germany
25	Stichkanal Hannover-Linden (extension)	Inland waterway	Germany

## Upcoming events

### Invitation to Mid-term Workshop

The I-C-EU project team will organize its one day mid-term workshop on **Monday, 16 September 2013** at **FEDEA C/ Jorge Juan, 46 – 28001, Madrid, Spain**.

We will discuss the following topics during the workshop:

- Definition of indicators of competitiveness in relation to transport infrastructure investment as well as tools and models used in Europe
- Revision on transport infrastructure project assessment practices in Europe in relation to competitiveness with its implementation to the selected case studies
- Review of EU Policy approach to improve international competitiveness of Europe





External speakers and panellists at the workshop:

- Philippe Montfort – European Commission, DG Regional Policy
- Andries Brandsma – European Commission, DG Joint Research Centre, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies
- Barry Zondag – Significance, the Netherlands
- Marco Ponti - Polytechnic of Milan/TRT Trasporti e Territorio, Italy

It is free to attend the workshop but please confirm your participation to the I-C-EU project coordinator by using the e-mail shown at the end of this newsletter before 15 Augustus 2013.

### Miscellaneous

- Jan Kiel (Panteia) will present his paper titled *“The Impact Of Transport Infrastructure Investments Upon Competitiveness”* at the European Transport Conference 2013 to be held from 30 September to 2 October in Frankfurt, Germany.
- The I-C-EU project was present as one of the exhibitors at the OECD’s International Transport Forum 2013 Annual Summit, 22–24 May 2013 in Leipzig, Germany. The Forum theme was *“Funding Transport”*.
- Researchers, scientists, policy makers, industry representatives, and consultants are the main users and beneficiaries of the I-C-EU project. I-C-EU has finally formed its Associated Partner Group (APG). These are the first external stakeholders to be updated with project news, who have also the opportunity to attend the I-C-EU workshops and to review project deliverables. The APG consists of *Abertis Infraestructurae, Mott MacDonald* and *European Railway Agency*.

### For more information on I-C-EU project please contact:

Joko Purwanto

Transport & Mobility Leuven (TML), Belgium (*Project Coordinator*)

Telephone: +32 (16) 31.77.37 E-mail: [joko.purwanto@tmleuven.be](mailto:joko.purwanto@tmleuven.be)

### I-C-EU consortium consists of:

- Transport & Mobility Leuven (TML), Belgium
- Panteia, business unit NEA, The Netherlands
- VU University Amsterdam (VU), The Netherlands
- Fraunhofer Center for Maritime Logistics and Services (CML), Germany
- Uniwersytet Gdanski (UG), Poland
- Fundación de Estudios de Economía Aplicada (FEDEA), Spain

