



## Partner Meeting

2020-07-02, virtual

### Minutes

Meeting Item	Meeting Topic	Agreed responsibilities
1	Present Status Quo of Project	
2	Interim Status of Project Studies	Update to be reported at August virtual meeting
3	Upcoming events	Observation of developments due to COVID-19
4	Communication / Engagement / Policy Learning Platform	Stronger engagement of partners

The first virtual meeting was started by a welcome message and opening remarks by the Ministry for Economy and Innovation (MWI). The meeting was capped at 2 hours to ensure that the meeting can be kept efficient and focus on work plan. Individual consultations were again offered at any time upon request by partners.

This was then followed by a presentation of the status quo of the project by Gunnar Platz from Planco, in his role as Lead Partner support.

The next agenda item then was the focus of the virtual meeting. The project partners were asked to give an overview of the interim status of the regional studies, that are serving as an assessment for the later developed action plans and best practice selections.

The first overview was provided by the Lead Partner through a presentation provided by the MWI. Nantes asked how the port community reacted to the study / assessment of the project and was given the answer



that the topic of alternative fuel trucks is currently a topic, but not yet so easy in the implementation. Otherwise the stakeholders are very open. This is due to a very good network of stakeholders in the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and a good exchange between the different interest groups.

Livorno then continued with their presentation and outlined that they were lucky to have their stakeholder workshop before the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. The activities of the study / assessment at that stage also required a lot of desk-research and phone calls, which were doable during lockdown and home-office. The analysis is now the theoretical part of what the partners were able to witness during the second partner meeting in February. Looking at the state of play of freight controls in Livorno. The calculation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is estimated to be done by the end of the year. It will also be considered what ICT tools could support to cut the emissions.

Nantes noted that the data collection is very sensitive due to commercial data. It was noted that of course no detailed data acquired during the project will be passed on and only the anonymised data will be used for the project.

Nantes then went on to present their status quo. It was noted that there were some internal staff changes. So, Nicolas will be supporting Christophe now and a new colleague will look after financial aspects. The information will be provided to the Lead Partner in due course. It was then noted that the COVID-19 pandemic had caused some issues with project management and first level control, but that now things should be in a better state. Nantes is on track with the actual project related tasks and



political developments in France, because of the pandemic, cause their activities to be in exactly the right timing and relevance. The best practices and action plans are the next items on the to do list and are closely related to the regional assessment. The partner intends to make use of an industrial ecology aspects conference in November to push their added-value and project activities accordingly. The new ERDF operational programme is currently also in development and they are in contact with the relevant parties to support this procedure and consider SMOOTH Ports in that process. There will be an emission assessment around August and the results presented to stakeholders accordingly in October.

Varna was the next to present their progress. Unfortunately, the sound quality and connection were a bit rough, so things were hard to understand. However, the presentation gave an overview of their activities and a Lead Partner – Partner dialogue offered during presentation and already taken up on, after the meeting (and before writing these minutes).

Last, but not least, Monfalcone presented their situation. Due to the lockdown, a total closure of activities had to be noted. Furthermore, due to some internal issues at the sister port Port of Trieste, there is a delay in the joint activities of assessments. Preparations have been made in the background and hopes are high to have the issues solved shortly, so that the activities can continue, and the delay can be caught up on. A questionnaire had already been sent out to stakeholders, but due to COVID-19, the response rate has not been so great so far. The municipality of Monfalcone will continue to query for more feedback accordingly. A stakeholder meeting with port authority, together with other projects is anticipated to have a wider audience and to create further synergies. The mayor had a meeting with port operators that addressed



issues with the seabed, the municipality's port masterplan and the railway connection. So, on these topics some stakeholder involvement was able to take place.

The Lead Partner then moved on to discuss upcoming events. One of the bigger items is the currently hybrid planned "European Week of Regions and Cities". Instead of one week as usual, it is now planned across three. There are also specific restrictions, related to the pandemic. The partners were asked to provide input for this event too, as only a limited participation is possible per project. The next point on the agenda was to discuss the next virtual meeting at the end of August. Provisional dates were mentioned and a doodle link with an indication of possible participation sent out afterwards. The final agenda point from the Lead Partner was the next partner meeting in Varna. Due to the pandemic, it was decided to extend the timeframe for the partner meeting. This is done, to ensure that the project stays on track with output requirements. Due to the pandemic, the meeting is planned with a limited number of participants per partner and as a possible hybrid/mixed event, in case of travel restrictions or similar. The study visit to Antwerp has been postponed to late November at this stage.

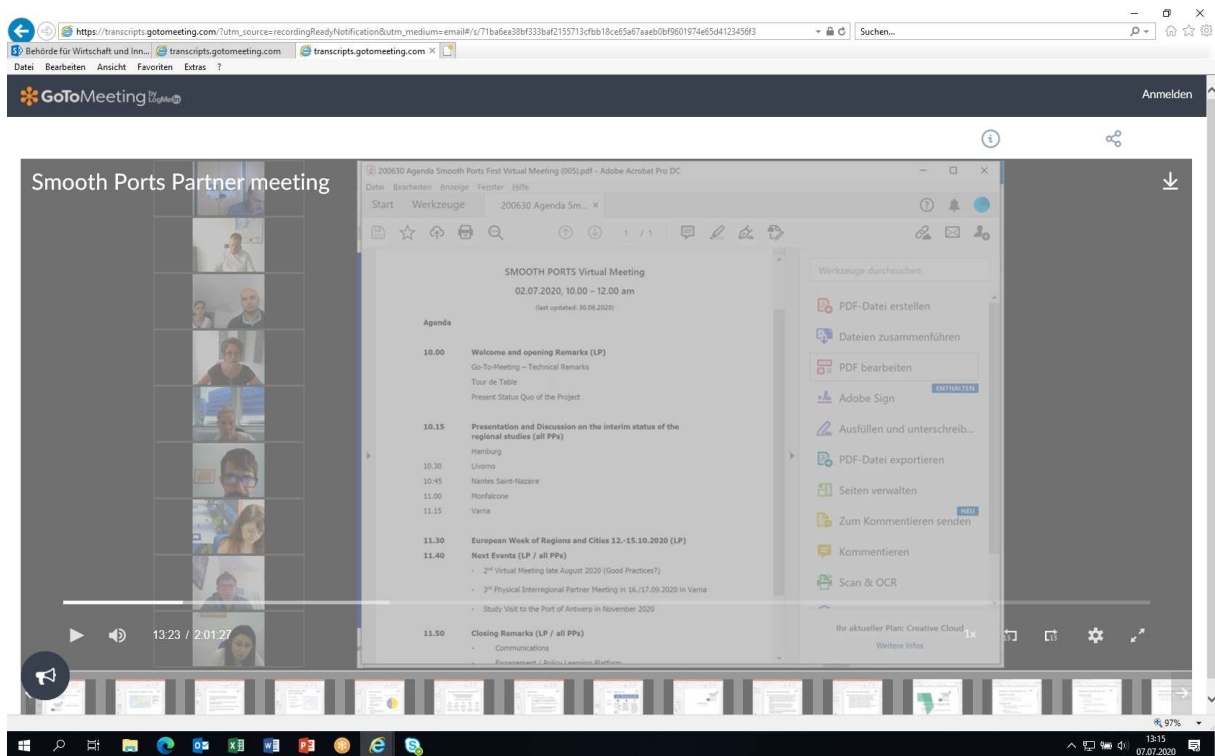
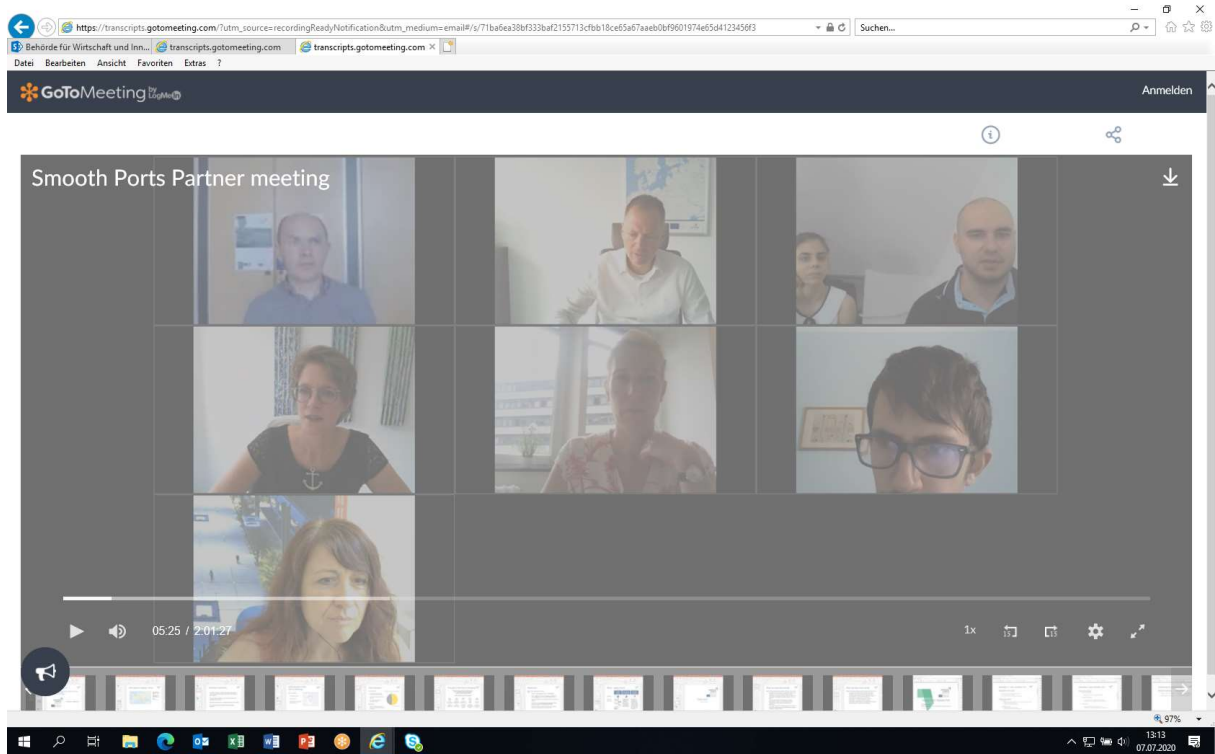
The last content related point on the agenda then was the Communication manager. It was pointed out again that visibility rules need to be assured of. Furthermore, participation in the utilisation of social media platforms was kindly reminded and that a more intense exchange between the partners should take place to be able to fulfil the necessary communication requirements. It was also noted that it is possible to do virtual stakeholder meetings and recording them (with prior agreement) should help to document towards the JS and for us to be aware of this and to



communicate about. Participation in the Interreg Europe Website / Platform was also reminded of and linking the profiles to the project. Furthermore, the work on the working documents – flyer and brochure were noted and that input by the partners is required to fill these documents with life and Up-to-date information.

The meeting was then concluded on time after two hours by the Lead Partner and the supporting Consultant.

Minutes drafted by: Johannes Betzon 7 July 2020





The screenshot shows a GoToMeeting interface with a video player. The video content displays a presentation slide titled "COMMUNICATION & FLYER". The slide lists items for a flyer and a brochure. The flyer items include a map and a list of locations. The brochure items include partner information, study details, stakeholder information, and a picture with permission. The video player shows a progress bar at 1:45:50 / 2:01:27. The browser address bar shows the URL: https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/?utm\_source=recordingReadyNotification&utm\_medium=email#s/71ba6ea328f233baaf2155713cfb18ce65a7aaeb0f9601974e65d4123456f3

The screenshot shows a GoToMeeting interface with a video player. The video content displays a presentation slide titled "200630 Agenda Sm...". The slide lists an agenda for a meeting, including times and topics. The agenda items are: Livorno (10:30), Nantes Saint-Nazaire (10:45), Monfalcone (11:00), Varna (11:15), European Week of Regions and Cities 12.-15.10.2020 (LP) (11:30), Next Events (LP / all PPs) (11:40), and Closing Remarks (LP / all PPs) (11:50). The video player shows a progress bar at 1:58:09 / 2:01:27. The browser address bar shows the URL: https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/?utm\_source=recordingReadyNotification&utm\_medium=email#s/71ba6ea328f233baaf2155713cfb18ce65a7aaeb0f9601974e65d4123456f3