



GREEN SUPPLY CHAINS

Building on synergies from greening strategies

Sustainable Transport: Needs and Challenges

Network event and workshop In Kristinehamn 19th of september 2024

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1. Workpackage 2

Freight transport accounts for approximately 25% of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions, making it the second-largest emitting sector after energy. Significant emission reductions are required to meet the long-term climate goals of the European Union, especially considering forecasts predicting an increase in total freight transport activity by about 58% (1.2% per year) between 2010 and 2050.

Work Package 2 within Green Supply Chains aims to develop zero-emission solutions in the areas surrounding inland ports, creating synergies between green fuel and electrification strategies from ports and green strategies from regions. This effort is intended to support the move toward zero-emission freight logistics.

The work package also includes two overarching communication objectives that focus on two target groups: Port Authorities (1) & Regional Administrations, and Freight Forwarders (logistics service providers/transport demanders = SMEs) (2).

Communication Goals:

Goal 1: Create synergies between strategies from ports and regions to provide frameworks for zero-emission freight transport chains.

Goal 2: Inform and engage freight forwarders/logistics service providers about available solutions for operating low or zero-emission transport chains, motivating them to adopt zero-emission freight transport in the future.

1.1. Activity 2 and 3 - Stakeholder involvement

Within Work Package 2, there are seven activities, and the purpose of this meeting and workshop is linked to activities two and three.

Aim of Activity Two

To develop a stakeholder involvement strategy aimed at creating synergies with regional logistics needs. RISE is responsible for developing the strategy, with Kristinehamn Municipality and the Port of Brest serving as reference groups. In this process, Kristinehamn Municipality is testing various stakeholder involvement techniques to ensure the strategy is designed based on best practices.

Aim of Activity Three

To engage stakeholders in order to create synergies with regional logistics in the two testbeds: (1) Vänern-Lake-Region, and (2) the Large Port Community of Brest. This work includes investigating and mapping stakeholders' requirements, needs, obstacles, and challenges.

Through active stakeholder involvement, the goal is to enable cooperation that supports the scale-up of zero-emission freight logistics. Clear strategies are needed for this effort, which can be used by all actors across the entire supply chain in processes where stakeholder involvement is required or desirable.

1.1.1. Networking

The focus of the Green Supply Chains (GSC) project is on increasing synergies between inland ports' green fuel and electrification strategies, and the green strategies of regions affected by these ports' freight transport activities. As part of this effort, governance models need to be developed within the project to clarify the relationship between stakeholders and institutions. This will help improve coordination, make the implementation of solutions more efficient and faster, and ensure stronger stakeholder engagement and market adoption.

Currently, strategies for bringing together different stakeholders in various scenarios are lacking, which presents a significant barrier to sustainable development and effective governance. A key first step in developing these strategies is to create platforms where actors from different parts of the transport chain, along with representatives from institutions, can meet to discuss development, obstacles, and possible solutions—in essence, fostering active networking.

In this context, Kristinehamn Municipality recognizes that as a governing authority, it must take the first steps in establishing regional networking efforts to contribute to the development of green transport chains and support the overall goals of the GSC project.

2.1.1. Workshops

A workshop can be an effective method for gathering information or opinions from a diverse group of people. The idea behind a workshop is that the group present works together to generate content and find solutions to the issue at hand. The goal is precisely this: to find a solution to a problem or question collaboratively, in a structured setting, with an emphasis on interactivity and active participation.

2. Networking event Sustainable Transports: Needs and Challenges

Today's networking event was the second organized by Kristinehamn Municipality for actors within the transport and logistics sector. The purpose of the event is to establish a platform for regional actors to share and access information regarding transport and logistics developments in Kristinehamn. The theme of the event is linked to activity 3 within WP2 and aims to facilitate discussions between the municipality and stakeholders about the challenges involved in achieving sustainable transport, as well as the needs identified by the stakeholders. This includes needs that the municipality can help address, as well as those at other levels that have an impact.

The event began with a welcome from the municipality and the municipal business development company to the eleven participants, including representatives from the port company Vänerhamn, three local haulers, manufacturing

industry, warehousing, and a railway company. Representatives from Region Värmland and our partner RISE were also in attendance.

The municipality opened with a presentation on its ongoing work in transport and logistics, as well as an update on the progress of the Green Supply Chains project. One of the haulers, Wiréns Åkeri, was invited to prepare a presentation on the theme of sustainability. Their Head of Marketing and Sales, Hallin, spoke about their efforts toward sustainability and the challenges encountered along the way. This included not only aspects of social sustainability within the company but also the use of AI tools to reduce fuel consumption and driver training programs aimed at more fuel-efficient driving.

2.1. Participants

Participated were representatives from the haulage industry, the train companies, the manufacturing industry, the regional authority, RISE, the port company, and the municipality.

Details in separate participation list.

3. Workshop Sustainable Transports: Needs and Challenges

Within Work Package 2, Activity 3, three workshops are planned, for which Kristinehamn Municipality will be responsible. The purpose of these workshops is twofold: to gather input and test a stakeholder collaboration strategy, and to identify, through discussions with regional stakeholders, existing needs and necessary solutions to develop sustainable transport chains and last-mile solutions.

The workshop lasted approximately 45 minutes. Participants were divided into two groups, each with a designated note-taker. A representative from the municipality was also present in each group to listen and support the discussions. Each group was provided with a large sheet of paper and Post-it notes. A question was displayed for the group to discuss, and participants wrote down their thoughts and ideas on the Post-it notes. There were a total of three questions, each discussed for 5–10 minutes. After the workshop, the materials were collected for compilation.

4. Results

1. Discuss and list the major challenges in achieving sustainable transport and transport chains at the municipal and regional levels.

- a. Discussion points: Condition of infrastructure, limited resources, technical barriers, legislation and regulation, lack of awareness or engagement among stakeholders.

The results from the discussions on the first question highlighted current infrastructure deficiencies that hinder development. These issues include the need for a higher weight classification on municipal roads to facilitate last-mile deliveries with larger vehicles, as well as the limited availability of electric infrastructure for charging heavy-duty vehicles. There was also concern about the availability of electrical power and amperage to support the expansion of charging infrastructure. Additionally, stakeholders expressed that unclear political directives make it difficult for them to act. Few companies are willing or able to invest large sums in new vehicles or charging infrastructure when there is uncertainty about whether these investments will remain viable in the coming years

2. Discuss and identify specific needs currently lacking for the implementation of sustainable transport solutions (within your organization).

- a. Discussion points: Need for funding and investments, technical support, training and skills development, collaboration with other stakeholders, access to data and information.

The results from the discussions on the second question also highlight the lack of long-term direction in policies, which prevents stakeholders from knowing which investments to make. The market is calling for clear political directives regarding future fuel options. This would help the market develop engines and charging infrastructure on a more universal scale, thereby supporting overall progress.

3. Discuss opportunities and solutions. Suggest ways to overcome the challenges discussed in question 1 and address the needs identified in question 2.

- a. Discussion points: Innovative technologies (e.g., electric vehicles, biogas, hydrogen), policy measures and incentives, collaboration models, sharing services, sustainability certification, and incentives.

The results from the discussions on question three indicate that there is both a need and a desire within the logistics and transport sector for greater knowledge sharing to support mutual development. The role of the EU was also discussed, particularly the need for harmonized regulations within the EU regarding matters such as tonnage and vehicle length. Additionally, the EU's long-term commitment to sustainable development—such as the Fit for 55 initiative—was highlighted as beneficial for providing a clearer direction.