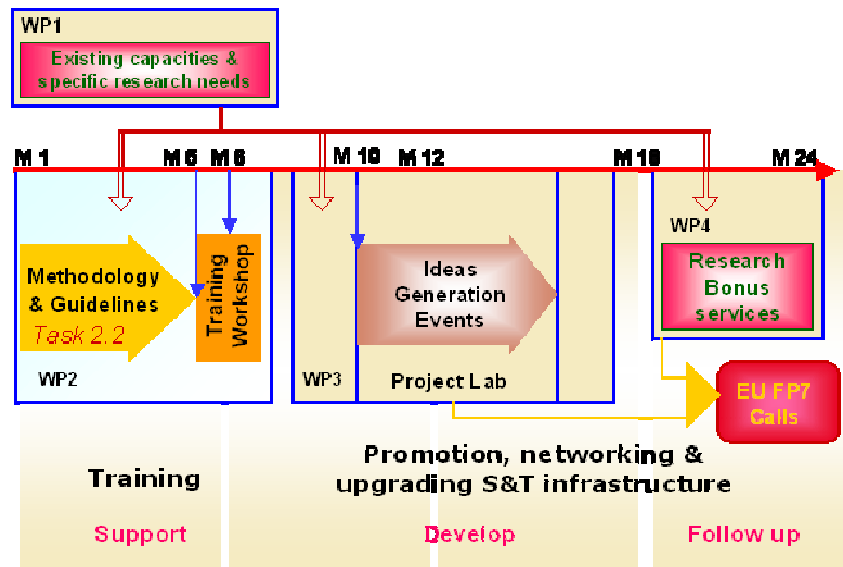


TransBonus

Transport EU-Western Balkan Network for Training, Support and Promotion of Cooperation in FP7 research activities



This is an extract from:

Ideas generation Events Summary report

2010
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INTEGRATED RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



1ST IDEAS GENERATION EVENTS

Overview of Events

5 Ideas Generation Events were organized in the 5 Balkan partner countries. The purpose of these IGEs was to stimulate and collect a critical mass of innovative transport RTD ideas, which could then be developed into potential FP7 research proposals.

The main aim of these events is to bring together experts from the transport sector in the Balkan area. Public entities, SMEs and research organizations were given the opportunity to present ideas for project proposals and to discuss and evaluate these ideas within the framework of the FP7 research programme.

The IGEs were designed to strengthen the research capacity of the Balkan partners through training and support in FP7 knowledge and practices, creative thinking and networking.

Participants in the IGEs included experts and researchers from Ministries and other public entities, private transport service providers, SMEs, universities, research centres and NGOs.

Country	Partner	Date	No. of Participants
Albania	UPT	11.09.2009	16
Bosnia & Herzegovina	AMC	08.09.2009	32
Serbia	MFK	10.09.2009	19
Macedonia	UoS	15.10.2009	20
Bulgaria	VTU	11.09.2009 (2 sessions)	40 (22+18)
Bulgaria	VTU	05.11.2009	35
Total attendance			162 participants

Proposal Ideas Generated

The Ideas Generation Event was organized in three phases:

- **First Phase:** This includes a brief introduction of the project objectives and the event overview. A brainstorming session ensues where participants needed to generate as many project ideas as possible in the field of surface transport. The ideas generated are passed through preliminary screening to identify those ideas that have most potential as RTD project proposals. These ideas are then evaluated in Phase 2.
- **Second Phase:** Evaluation of the selected ideas is performed following the Six Thinking Hats techniques created by Edward De Bono. Based on the comments and insights resulting from the discussion, ideas are either discarded or further consolidated into pre-proposals in the next phase.
- **Third Phase:** Through Intervention Logic questions (Logical Framework), a proposal outline is developed for each idea selected.

The following Table gives an overview of the number of ideas generated, evaluated and consolidated from each event.

Table Overview of ideas developed by partners

Partner	Phase 1 Ideas Generated	Phase 2 Ideas Evaluated	Phase 3 Ideas Consolidated
Albania	20	5	3
Bosnia & Herzegovina	70	3	2
Serbia	17	2	2
Macedonia	20	2	2
Bulgaria	16	7	3
Totals	143	19	12

For the first phase, themes based on the priorities set forth by the EU FP7 transport research, were provided to guide participants in generating ideas that are in line with the EU research agenda in surface transport. The Table hereunder gives the titles of the ideas consolidated and the themes for which they were developed.

Country	Project Ideas	Research Theme
Albania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Impact of the Surface Transport - Study case in Tirana Area. • Policies and strategies of development of multimodal surface transportation of goods in area of Balkan. • Use of intelligent traffic systems (I.T.S) to increase traffic safety. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greening Transport • Co-modality • Safety and security
Bosnia & Herzegovina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of modern braking system. • New system of urban traffic management and reduction of pollutants emissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety and security • Urban transport and mobility
Serbia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Novel Fiber-optic Sensing Technique for <i>On-line</i> Monitoring of Fatigue Cracks in Railway Axles (Smart Axles). • Methods for decrease influence of vibrations synchrony with noise on people and sensitive measuring equipment in rail transport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety and security • Greening transport
Macedonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technique as a way to increase the traffic flow and traffic safety in the urban environment - ITS-UETflowS system. • Connections between guardrail sections, bolted joints, failure strength during an impact of a passenger vehicle. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban transport and mobility • Safety and security
Bulgaria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a system for measuring and control on railway vehicle parameters. • Development of a system of compatible/transferable trans-border documents for freight transportation in the Balkans. • Optimization of railways transport capacity in the SEE countries (CORRIDOR 10) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety and security • Other • Other

2ND IDEAS GENERATION EVENTS

Overview of Events

Following the success of a first round of Ideas Generation Events (IGEs) which saw the organization of 6 national events, the 5 Balkan partner countries in TransBonus undertook a second set of IGEs during March and April 2010.

The purpose of these IGEs was to stimulate and collect a critical mass of innovative RTD ideas in the field of surface transport, which could then be developed into potential FP7 research proposals. These activities were designed to strengthen the research capacity of transport experts in the Balkan area through training and support in FP7 opportunities for funding and proposal submission requirements, creative thinking and networking.

Feedback received from participants of the first IGEs showed that such activities provided critical support and skills towards the generation of innovative project ideas whilst offering important opportunities for networking between diverse researchers, industries and SMEs in the transport sector. The second round of IGEs offered Balkan partners the possibility to build on the experience of the first events by refining the process, focusing on improved ideas, strengthening the links with participating organizations and opening up invitations to new experts.

One of the challenges of these events is to bring together diverse experts from the transport sector in the Balkan area. Public entities, SMEs and research organizations are invited to present ideas for project proposals and to discuss and evaluate these ideas within the framework of the FP7 research programme. Balkan partners succeeded in bringing together groups ranging from 12 to 35 experts, which resulted in a total of 111 transport experts trained in ideas generation, creative thinking and FP7 proposal writing.

Country	Partner	Date	No. of Participants
Albania	UPT	23.04.2010	19
Bosnia & Herzegovina	AMC	08.04.2010	22
Serbia	MFK	15.04.2010	12
Macedonia	UoS	09.04.2010	23
Bulgaria	VTU	19.03.2010	35
Total attendance			111 participants

Heterogeneous groups brought together researchers from the transport sector and related fields of study, as well as other experts including policy makers, government bodies, universities, SMEs, private transport service providers, NGO's etc. This was intended to stimulate cross-fertilization

of ideas and expertise so as to encourage creative discussions based on representation from the overall transport sector.

Some partners used this opportunity to open up links with other national universities, such as in the case of the University of Skopje which extended invitations to the University Ss. Klimint Ohridski in Bitola and a new university, University Goce Delcey in Stip. The IGE in Bulgaria saw the participation of an associate professor from the University of Zilina in Slovakia and a PhD student from Croatia.

The partner countries organizing the events reported on the benefits of the Collaboration and Technology Profiles (collected in WP1 of the project) as these provided an extensive database for inviting potential participants to these events.

At the start of each IGE, participants were introduced to the TransBonus Project and to the FP7 Research Programme. Training was provided in FP7 knowledge and practices, proposal writing, and financial procedures.

Proposal Ideas Generated

The IGE Methodology involves three ideas generation phases. The First Phase includes a brainstorming session where participants generate as many project ideas as possible in the field of surface transport. The ideas generated are passed through a preliminary screening to identify those ideas that have most potential as RTD project proposals. These ideas are then evaluated in Phase 2 using the Six Thinking Hats techniques created by Edward De Bono. Based on the comments and insights resulting from the discussion, ideas are either discarded or further consolidated into pre-proposals in the next phase which uses Intervention Logic questions from the Logical Framework to produce a proposal outline for each idea selected.

The following Table gives an overview of the number of ideas generated, evaluated and consolidated from each event in 2010.

Table Overview of ideas developed by partners

Partner	Phase 1 Ideas Generated	Phase 2 Ideas Evaluated	Phase 3 Ideas Consolidated
Albania	19	9	9
Bosnia & Herzegovina	19	2	2
Serbia	12	12	2
Macedonia	15	1	1
Bulgaria	4	4	3
Totals	69	28	17

During the first phase, themes based on the priorities set forth by the EU FP7 transport research, were provided to guide participants in generating ideas that are in line with the EU research agenda in surface transport. The Table hereunder gives the titles of the ideas consolidated and the themes for which they were developed.

Country	Project Ideas	Research Theme
Albania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and Strategies of Freight Inter-Modal Surface Transport Development (Inter-Trans) • Techniques and Methodologies for Mobility Accessibility in Urban Transport Planning • Albanian Transport Corridors and Border Crossing facilitate trade, transport and logistics in the European Integration process • The Contribution of Sustainable Transport Development in Climate Change Aspects • Sustainable public transportation and transport modes integration for regional mobility enhancement • The safety of transport of hazardous substances in roads and rails – the interaction of structures of responsible agencies in the Albanian road corridors and control structures of cooperation with neighbouring countries • Use of intelligent traffic systems (I.T.S) to improve effectiveness, safety and sustainability in transport & traffic • Urban traffic demand management network • European-Albanian Center for Coordination and Facilities in Transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-modality • Urban transport and mobility • Co-modality • Greening transport • Urban transport and mobility • Safety and security • Competitiveness • Urban transport and mobility • Other
Bosnia & Herzegovina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of LPG in heavy duty diesel engines • Development and application new methodologies for increasing safety factor on WBC roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greening transport • Safety and security
Serbia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of methods for increasing efficiency of use of the waste heats on heavy vehicle motors • Developing a system for preventing collisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitiveness • Safety and security
Macedonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision support system for assessment of road transport influences on air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greening transport
Bulgaria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modelling the man-operator behaviour in railway transport and his/her interection with the systems of management • Optimization of safety with transportation of dangerous goods • Optimization of railway freight flows through Croatia, Western Balkan countries and Bulgaria (CORRIDOR 10) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other • Safety and security • Other

Overall the ideas generated during these events touched on a number of themes, more importantly those of safety and security, urban transport and mobility, innovative and sustainable technologies and new transport management systems and processes. Although most of these ideas were suggested as solutions to real and current problems within the Balkan region, the proposed research clearly finds relevant applications in the European transport sector as a whole.

Special focus can be seen with regards to solving urban transport problems such as improving flows and mobility, increasing efficiency and safety, reducing noise and air pollution, and promoting co-modality. Another area of interest was that of freight transportation where participants tackled issues such as the safety in the transportation of hazardous substances, optimizing freight flows and increasing legal and administrative cooperation across regional and European borders.