



Port Network Authority  
of the Eastern Adriatic Sea  
Ports of Trieste and Monfalcone

## PRESS RELEASE

### **FINAL CONFERENCE OF SMARTLOGI PROJECT LED BY THE PORT OF TRIESTE: WORKING FOR SUSTAINABLE AND SMART CROSS-BORDER LOGISTICS**

Trieste, 25 April 2021 - Sustainability and innovative solutions in freight transport are increasingly becoming topical issues. They are the focus of the on-line final conference of SMARTLOGI project - *sustainable cross-border logistics* - which will be held tomorrow, Monday, 26 April, at the end of a three-year activity.

SMARTLOGI, led by Eastern Adriatic Sea Port Authority, was co-financed by the cross-border Italy-Austria Programme, with a budget of 1.3 million euro. The Italian-Austrian partnership, besides the Port of Trieste, also includes the Veneto Region, IUAV University of Venice and EURAC, Fürnitz Interport, the University of Klagenfurt, and the EGTC "Senza Confini". With a view to enhancing operational and institutional cooperation on sustainable options in multimodal freight transport, the project covered administrative and technology issues hampering the modal shift and actions aimed at reducing the impact in terms of emission of polluting gases, CO<sub>2</sub> and noise in the Alps, all along the axis from Brenner to Tarvisio.

This was a fully-fledged cross-border action plan, shared and assessed with feasibility studies and tested with joint pilot actions between the Port of Trieste and the Austrian Interport of Fürnitz, resulting into a common strategy to enhance cross-border multimodal transport. This strategy will be adopted at operational level by all partners and at institutional level by the two EGTCs of the Programme Area to create a longterm institutional cooperation on sustainable freight transport.

Additionally, the final conference will also be an opportunity to debate the prospects of freight rail transport in the Alpine area together with primary stakeholders of the sector, in synergy with the COMODALCE project "*Enhancing Coordination on multiMODAL freight transport in CE*", co-financed by the Central Europe Interreg Programme, also led by the Trieste-based Authority.

SMARTLOGI is one of the 16 projects launched by the Port of Trieste and co-financed with European funds for a total amount of over 30 million euro. In this framework, the Port Authority is active in a variety of areas: new infrastructures, environmental sustainability and energy efficiency, implementation of innovative technology solutions and culture.

"Smartlogi is particularly important, because it was the first of a new series of projects that we are implementing to work out innovative solutions in the intermodal sector", noted the President of the Port Authority, Zeno D'Agostino. "In this area, the Port of Trieste is leading at national level, not just for its performance in terms of traffic, but also in terms of investments and future revitalisation policies based on the railways as the engine of the logistic development of our Port".