



Draft outline for the mapping of the uptake of innovative mobility solutions in the North Sea Region

- Discussion paper for the transport group meeting on the 19th of February 2020 in Aberdeen

24. January 2020

1. Background

There are megatrends like digitalisation, automation and clean fuels/electrification, in addition to societal changes such as an increasing awareness of climate changes and sharing economy, that are expected to radically change the transport systems in the future.

The regions are faced with the impacts of such trends, and they constitute both opportunities and challenges. There are for instance wide beliefs that new technology such as autonomous transport, will contribute to greater road safety, efficiency, mobility and accessibility for new groups in society, cheaper mobility and cuts in the emission of CO₂ from transport. But there are at the same time challenges related to autonomous transport, if not regulated, it could lead to an increase in transport movements made by car, which is a problem in urban areas suffering from congestion and capacity problems in the roads. This is just an illustration of dilemmas that authorities need to consider, and act upon in the future. The regions are playing an important role in the development and uptake of innovative mobility solutions in their various roles such as planning authorities, road owners, organisers of public transport etc.

The initiative of mapping the uptake of innovative mobility solutions in the North Sea region aims to help regions be pro-active and make use of the opportunities arising from such solutions. Such a mapping could also enable regions to mitigate risks and avoid pitfalls related to the introduction of new transport technologies, e.g. when it comes to autonomous vehicles. The initiative also proposes that regions could and should play a role in policy development around innovative mobility solutions.

The EU has an ambitious agenda in relation to harvesting the benefits of the development of innovative mobility technologies in the EU, both in terms of creating new jobs and economic growth, but also reaching political goals of sustainability. Therefore, this is an area where the European Commission is actively working on establishing policies, regulations and industry standards. For the purposes of the study it is relevant to monitor and analyse the policy and

regulatory developments at EU, and national levels. It is also relevant to connect and exchange experiences with the Art-Forum (Interreg-project focusing on autonomous transport), <https://northsearegion.eu/art-forum/>

1.2 Purpose and objective of the initiative

The purpose of the study is to:

- benchmark/ learn from each other
- explore the possibilities for cooperation and identification of partners for EU-projects in the field of innovative mobility solutions
- influence policy and regulation at the EU, national and regional levels
- showcase the North Sea region as a frontrunner in terms of developing or applying innovative mobility solutions

The overall objective is to:

- contribute to the development and uptake of innovative mobility solutions that contribute to transport and spatial development in line with the political goals in the regions of sustainability, efficiency and transport safety.
- achieve appropriate policies and regulations in line with the position of the North Sea Commission (NSC) and its members in this field, and an EU «level playing field» in the market for innovative mobility solutions.
- position the regions as attractive partners for activities and investments in the field of innovative mobility solutions.

1.3 What do we mean by «innovative mobility solutions»?

The mobility solutions do not have to be technology intensive (e.g. like autonomous transport), but just innovative and smart – representing new ways of solving transport needs in a more efficient or sustainable manner.

The terminology and definitions of the EU will be applied for the purposes of the study.

Some of the technologies, solutions and concepts that will be relevant for the purposes of the study are:

- Autonomous/automated transport on road (trucks, cars, public transport, etc), rail, water/ maritime/ harbour/ inland waterways, air. The vehicles can be partially or fully automated.
- Connected modes of transport (Cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems C-ITS, which means digital connectivity allowing vehicles and infrastructure to cooperate).
- Innovative mobility concepts: Mobility as a Service, shared vehicles, shared micro-mobility (e-scooters, e-bikes...) etc.
- Intelligent transport systems – Road use charge as opposed to road tolls (for ex. geofencing) etc., digital parking ecosystems etc.
- New transport modes (hyperloop/ pipeline, cable, drones etc.)

1.4 Scope and demarcation

By mobility we mean the transport of persons, freight and goods.

The mapping is not meant to be limited to the plans and activities in which the regional authorities are involved or responsible for, but should also include relevant activities on the part of other actors in the regions, such as state agencies, municipalities, technology developers and business organisations etc.

The report is proposed to be held at a strategic, high-level.

2. Questions for member regions

Please elaborate on the answers (not just «yes/no»)and provide links to underlying documentation if available. If your region is involved in different forms of innovative mobility solutions, please structure the description according to the categories under the section «what do we mean....» above.

1. Does your region have plans, strategies or measures for testing or rolling out innovative mobility solutions in the transport system?
2. Have your organisation or other actors in the region conducted tests or implemented innovative mobility solutions? What is the experience of the project owners, users, society (evaluations, impact assesments etc.)?
3. Are there significant vehicle manufacturers and/ or technology developers/providers within innovative mobility solutions operating in your region?
4. Is there a regulatory framework, or incentives in place to manage/support the uptake of innovative mobility solutions in your country/ region?
5. Other comments?

3. Timeline and proress

- Deadline for responses from members to the task holders: 1st of June 2020.
- Tentative date for publishing the report?
- How to use the results of the mapping exercise (within in the NSC/ CPMR, externally)?
- Plan for launch of the report and communication?
- Other issues?

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