

Project title Harmonized Inland Navigation Transport

through education and information technology

Acronym HINT

**Funding Programme** South East Europe

Transnational Cooperation Programme

**Priority Axis** Improvement of the accessibility

**Area of intervention** Develop strategies to tackle the "digital divide"

Project ID SEE/D/0080/3.2/X

**Duration** 24 months (December 2012 - November 2014)

**Total budget** 1,655,955.36 euro

ERDF Funds: 1,276,682.12 euro
IPA Funds: 259,006.24 euro
ENPI Funds: 120,267.00 euro

**Project Coordinator** CERONAV (Romania)

**Consortium** 18 partners from 8 Danube countries











































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"When more than one nation face the same problem, people should join efforts to find and implement the best response possible for all involved"

**HINT** partners

The Danube is the second longest European river uniting ten nations strung for miles and miles along its banks. It has certainly shaped their destiny and has silently witnessed their conflicts, moments of glory and turmoil, times of friendship and times of wrath. Time has come however for the Danube to bring these nations together and have them dance Strauss' Blue Danube waltz!

Arrangements are made by HINT consortium to set up an online consultation platform named Danube Knowledge Network aimed at bringing together education providers, administrations, industry and business partners for an immediate exchange of knowledge and experience.

# Integration of Danube Region into the European harmonized education process

The emergence and implementation of harmonized European standards for training and certification of river personnel call for collective drive and determination. HINT project partners are committed to work closely with relevant European organizations in charge with the development of such standards in order to promote benefits thereof at both national and transnational level. An impact study highlighting the importance of common standards as well as the promotion strategy and the ensuing campaign are HINT's contribution to this endeavour.

### Development of training and assessment IT applications and tools

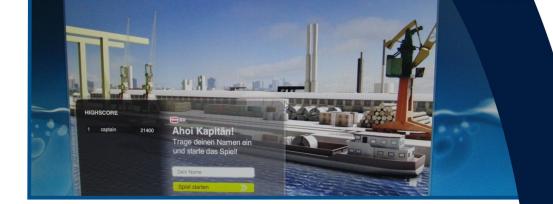
Although information technologies are no novelty for most European countries, this is certainly not the case of South East region which still experiences a significant digital gap. It is this very digital divide that HINT project partners set out to mitigate by a series of actions facilitating access to information and advanced ICT such as: set up of a self assessment platform for certification of personnel transporting dangerous cargoes (ADN), development of multimedia learning materials and new learning modules for the INeS Danube e-learning platform within a holistic deployment approach.



### Further development of framework conditions for transnational cooperation

Recent European-wide focus on shifting road and rail transport to inland waterways brought forth underlying problems in terms of infrastructure, connections of transport routes but also issues concerning professional competencies of nautical, port and logistics personnel.

To attend national decision makers with regard to training and certification of inland workforce, eighteen specialized institutions from eight Danube riparian countries joined into one transnational working team with a view to support, develop and implement innovative solutions leading to improved and harmonized education approaches by means of the collaborative network consisting of education, administrative and Danube navigation business representatives – Danube Knowledge Network.



# Development of concepts for onboard and simulator practical training

Knowledge has always been a factor of production and a driver of economic and social development. Improved skills and competences of inland nautical and logistics personnel are therefore crucial for the progress of the Danube region. To this end, HINT partners engaged in configuring practical training patterns aimed at producing qualified personnel both on board ships and in ports by developing business and technical concepts for a Danube school ship as well as navigation and port logistics simulators. Their performance indicators will be then highlighted in a conclusive study on practical training.

### **Promotion of IWT jobs**

The social dimension of people's mobility in the Danube region is a major issue which needs immediate attention and consideration. Identification of relevant workforce on one hand and career opportunities on the other constitutes one step towards Danube-wide unification of labour market. Although the unique character of the Danube culture lies in its very diversity, transnational campaigns undertaking to raise awareness about job opportunities and career possibilities in Danube navigation are a must in an ever-changing environment. The four Danube Navigation Information and Training Centres in Romania, Austria, Croatia and Hungary will offer the most appropriate means of disseminating information on labour market dynamics. Built up in a former transnational project the further development and cooperation of these centres is another common goal of HINT.

