



## Workshops' takeaways

### **Which actions are required to convince new users to adopt inland waterway transport and to increase the filling rate of barges ?**

- Software solution for calculation of the total logistics cost from a shipper perspective.
- More consolidation and distribution centres enabling collaboration between shippers.
- Shippers' booking platform through the Internet.
- Increased numbers of small ships (max. 50 tons) for inner city distribution.
- Innovation in loading/unloading and more ships with own cranes.
- Media campaign on the advantages of inland waterway transport (reliable, congestion-free, cost-effective, less CO2).

### **What (technological) progresses can help the sector in the near term ?**

- Standardized and open data structure to improve the designs and operations of the infrastructures and barges.
- Open and real-time data to support the digitalisation of the sector.
- Design of barges using lightweight materials and new components.
- Further development of electric and CNG engines.
- Design & engineering adaptive to future needs.
- Uniform handling equipment to accommodate different type of containers.

### **How to facilitate the use of inland waterway transport for city distribution ?**

- Multi-actors involvement, coordination and cooperation:  
City authorities, citizens, local businesses and shops, non-profit organisations, urban planners, architects and real estate developers, shippers, transport companies, ports and logistics centres.
- Integrated data platform available to all stakeholders.
- Strong coordination with last-mile operators to ensure door-to-door services.
- Use of inner city hubs and micro terminals.
- Use of cellular barges, roboats and small size catamarans.
- Mixed-use development (residential, leisure, commercial, office, industrial) equipped with transshipment facilities.
- Technological innovation to overcome the lack of access points.
- More facilitating regulations and governmental incentives.
- Full internalisation of the external costs of transport modes.

**For more info:** <http://www.coventuris.com/portfolio/waterways-for-smart-transport/>



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