

OUTPUT FACT SHEET

Trainings

Version 2

Project index number and acronym	CE1332 SMACKER
Output number and title	O.T3.3-9 Transnational TRAININGS to 10 non-partner CEU Authorities - Moravske Toplice
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	PP9 BOKU Support: PP2 ITL
Project website	https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/SMACKER.html
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Summary description of the implemented training measure(s), explaining the specific goal(s), target groups and transnational added value

The transnational trainings consisted of three different training events that helped the non-partner public authorities to gain new knowledge and exchange ideas on how to create Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) solutions or improve existing DRT services in peripheral and rural areas. The first training event focused on understanding innovations and technical solutions, ICT opportunities for public transport policies and measures, and case studies on flexible solutions for sustainable passenger mobility in rural and low-density areas. Due to the COVID -19 measures, the event had to be held online. The second training, in the form of a webinar, was dedicated to technical aspects and experiences related to the development/improvement of DRT services in rural/peripheral areas, as well as to the activities of SMACKER under the Enlarged Transfer Programmed (ETP). The third event was organized in the framework of the SMACKER final conference (hybrid event), where the results of the project were presented. Most importantly, the panel shared and discussed experiences of setting up DRT in rural areas followed by presentation of SMACKER Toolbox and guidelines.

The trainings were conducted as a combination of online trainings and face-to-face events. The main objective of the trainings was to enable stakeholders (mainly public authorities) to be able to analyse and understand the existing mobility situation in their area and to be able to plan and implement the DRT service in a way that best suits their specific situation.

The trainings were developed in close cooperation between the partners of SMACKER, who each brought different perspectives and ideas and had the opportunity to involve technical external experts. This has ensured transnationality, but more importantly, the trainings have enabled participants to understand the challenges of the different CE regions, learn from experts and share

their experiences. This transnational exchange among participants is the greatest added value of the trainings.

The main target groups of the trainings were local public authority and NGO for ETP follower region Moravske Toplice.

NUTS region(s) where training(s) have been conducted (relevant NUTS level)

Participants from region Moravske Toplice and Gornja Radgona (both SI031) took part in the transnational trainings.

Expected impact and benefits of the trainings for the concerned territories and target groups

The transnational trainings address the S.O.1 “To grow capacity of SMACKER regions in better plan, deliver, integrate and communicate transport services in their areas”. By delivering it, the capacity of authorities, infrastructure and public service providers and other stakeholders to plan and implement DRT services was significantly improved.

The Municipality of Moravske Toplice SMACKER ETP follower used the knowledge gained in the trainings to develop the State-of-the-Art report (D.T3.2.3) and the Action Plan (D.T.3.2.7) regarding the DRT improvement action: one that is building on and complementing the service developed within the SMACKER project pilot action for the City Municipality of Murska Sobota, to make public transport in the region more accessible, flexible, and attractive to the users. Apart from the establishment of a DRT bus service primarily for tourism purposes, parallel measures, such as ICT-assisted DRT app and a complementary micro-mobility scheme that upgrades the backbone; and promotional and communication activities are envisioned.

The trainings allowed to identify the existing problems and opportunities in terms of development/improvement of a demand responsive transport (DRT) service in rural/peripheral areas in a narrow valley. So, the effects of the SMACKER trainings were to provide qualified and technical answers from the project’s and from selected external experts on how to improve existing DRT services and how to create new reliable and effective DRT services in low density areas.

Sustainability of the training(s) and developed training material(s) and their transferability to other territories and stakeholders

Recordings of all trainings and all presentations are publicly available to all interested parties, reports on each training are official SMACKER deliverables uploaded in the project website. All the events were also registered and uploaded on YouTube. Moreover, all the training materials were uploaded in the SMACKER Toolbox (<https://www.smacker-toolbox.eu/>) that will be available also after the project conclusion.

All the institutions and organizations interested in increasing accessibility, especially in low population density rural and peri-urban areas, can use the SMACKER LTG training materials. This possibility can be exploited also by the Target Groups outside the SMACKER ones (ref. AF, page 86).

A number of lessons were learnt by participants from Gornja Radgona (SI031), that were stated in the “Action plan”. Among them:

- Ongoing communication is important: The ETP follower region of Moravske Toplice ensured all the parties that all the identified stakeholders will be included throughout the process in different stages of the implementation of the DRT service, in order to achieve all the specific objectives as defined by the Action Plan
- Importance of stakeholder identification and their role: Besides these local administrations, other relevant stakeholders have been involved, including tourist info centres, accommodation providers, bus service operators, development and sectoral agencies, etc. The role of each individual stakeholder depends on the phase of the implementation of actions and steps.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

The main relevant related project deliverables for the ETP followers’ training are:

- D.T3.2.1 - Guidelines for Enlarged Transfer Programme (ETP) for Central Europe Policy Makers and stakeholders
- D.T3.2.3 - State of the Art Report about mobility problems and policy challenges within ETP follower regions
- D.T3.2.4 - ETP Training Curriculum
- D.T3.2.5 - Enlarged Transfer Programme (ETP) webinar training Implementation (event registration available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXartQYyDy0&t=7654s>)
- D.T3.2.6 - Enlarged Transfer Programme (ETP) transnational event in Maribor-SI (event registration available at <https://youtu.be/uaHzwq5J2wM?list=PLha-31ncctcCPdHZFa2T7ldKE-U1MVmgP&t=10270>)
- D.T3.2.7 - Enlarged Transfer Programme (ETP) transnational event in Vienna-AT, which paper report contains the ETP followers’ Action Plans (event registration available at <https://youtu.be/YgVlWYLTZ3Q?t=8795>)
- D.T3.4.1 - Toolbox for DRT services, behaviour change and smart mobility practices, available at <https://www.smacker-toolbox.eu/>