

Background and Objectives

The Action Plan issued within the European Strategy for the Danube Region highlighted that “Danube navigation is currently experiencing a shortage of nautical personnel, which is also caused by limited training and education opportunities in the Danube countries. In order to facilitate labour availability and mobility at the European level, common education and training profiles should be pursued. Within this framework, the Danube countries should attract and educate young people for the profession of Danube crewman. Companies involved in inland waterways transport (ports, shipping companies, customers, etc.) and educational and research bodies should establish educational platforms and networks to increase competitiveness and competence of all actors.”

NELI (www.neliproject.eu/ SEE 1st Call for projects) with its comprehensive inventory of status quo on education and training in IWT in SEE and setting up of a transnational action plan for a harmonized approach to IWT education has not only identified all the needs and requirements in this sector but has also come up with specific concrete mitigation steps and first joint activities (e.g. IT based common learning tools, conception and piloting of information and training centres) intended to **harmonise and improve education & training in the field of inland navigation**.

Capitalization of NELI outputs and experience, cooperation and synergies with institutions and projects made a follow up project if not imperative at least a demanding necessity and hence the birth of **HINT** which will foster and enlarge transnational partnerships among stakeholders in inland navigation education & training, administrative and transport sectors in the South East Region and endeavour to reach the following objectives:



Integration of Danube Region into the European harmonized education process by supporting and promoting emergence and implementation of harmonized European standards on training of river personnel;

Development of training and assessment IT applications and tools by set up of a self-assessment platform for ADN certificate, development of case studies, related multimedia materials, new learning modules within INeS Danube Platform (e.g. RIS);

Creation of framework conditions for transnational cooperation by set up of a cooperation platform for all IWT involved actors (E&T providers, stakeholders etc.), upload of IWT E&T materials, Danube related event calendar, relevant networks, projects and initiatives, identification and implementation of cooperation actions;

Development of business and technical concepts for a Danube school ship, a navigation simulator and ports/logistic simulator resulting in the ultimate development of a harmonized concept for onboard vs. simulator training.;

Promotion of IWT jobs and careers via a transnational IWT jobs campaign and pilot actions organized in the new Information and Training Centres being developed/extended during the project in BG, SK, RS, HR, RO and UA.

Duration, geographical coverage and consortium

- The project duration will be 24 months (09/2012-08/2014)
- 18 project partners from 8 countries: 10 Research and education training partners / 1 Transport organisation / 6 Public organisations working in the field of IWT / 1 Local Public Administration
- External supporting organisations:
 - (1) Project observer
 - (2) Project stakeholders, beneficiaries and users: a) Education & Training sector, b) Administrative/ public sector, c) Danube navigation transport sector.



• Lead partner: **CERONAV – Romanian Maritime Training Centre**, Constanta, Romania; www.ceronav.ro

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Consistency with local, regional and national policies of Romania

- Sector Operational Programme - Transport (SOP-T 2007-2013) demands skilled labour force with good education, available for meeting the transport user demands.
- The Romanian National Plan on Danube navigation (NAP) promotes the application of modern traffic management and IT system to improve transport logistics.
- The Romanian Strategy for a Sustainable Transport for the period 2007-2013 and 2020, 2030 aims to improve the national transport system standards to European level.

CERONAV is member of the national association ITS Romania (supporting the implementation of intelligent transport systems) and RIA (Romanian Intermodal Association) - common interests are in the field of IT applications and deployment (ITS) and the Danube Knowledge Network (RIA) for a better integration of inland navigation (knowledge) in multi-modal operations.

Budget and financing

Total budget	2 515 276 EUR
Total requested EC contribution	2 143 998 EUR
ERDF	1 645 460 EUR
IPA	390 297 EUR
ENPI	108 241 EUR
National total budget (Romania)	719 103 EUR
Total requested EC contribution (Romania)	611 238 EUR

Local project partners

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