



7th Framework Programme
SST.2013.6-2. Towards a competitive and resource efficient port transport system
Collaborative Project
Grant Agreement no. 605176

Deliverable 12.7

3rd EPPC and final event

DOCUMENT ID

PORTOPIA|D|12.7|DT|2017.11.29|V|01

LAST UPDATE OF THE DOCUMENT

2017.11.29

DISSEMINATION LEVEL

PU (Public)

AUTHORSHIP

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Issue Date	2017.11.29
Revision	2017.11.29
Status	Final
Contributors	Bruno Moeremans, Michaël Doms
Pages	7
Figures	0
Tables	0
Annexes	10

SIGNATURES

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REVISION

Revision Date	Reviewer Name	Reviewer Signature
2017.11.29	Michaël Dooms	MD

HISTORY

Version Date	Version Id	Status	Comment
2017.11.29	V.1.0.	[FINAL]	[FINAL]

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1 INTRODUCTION

Deliverable 12.7, titled “3rd EPPC and final event”, with submission deadline Month 51 of the project timing, had as its goal the organisation of the third conference (EPPC3), which also served as the final event in light of the 4-year European FP7 Research and Innovation project initiative PORTOPIA. This project gathers academics, research institutes and Europe’s leading industry organization for ports (ESPO), and aims to develop insights into the overall performance of the industry in various domains (market, economic, social, governance, environment, operational), leading to identifying tendencies on the industry level. The main idea, next to delivering useful and cost-efficient ICT tools to help ports calculate and develop indicators, is to assist ports in a meaningful way to compare their performance with industry averages and to create a learning environment. In particular smaller and medium sized ports are targeted.

2 PORTOPIA FINAL EVENT

The third European Port Performance Conference has been organised jointly with ESPO (The European Sea Ports Organisation) in Brussels, Belgium on the 9th of November 2017. Preparations for the event started during early 2017, in order to be able to disseminate the date at the ESPO conference in Barcelona (June 2017). ESPO is also the main partner in charge of dissemination. The motivation to hold a joint event is related to the fact that the PORTOPIA platform will be developed and exploited further by ESPO after the closing and finalization of the project, while the VUB (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) has been the coordinator of the PORTOPIA project since its start and beginning in 2013. Both entities are located in Brussels and, Brussels being the capital of Europe, it is an obvious place to hold the final event. Furthermore, given the policy-oriented nature of some results, it allows an easy reach-out to EU policy makers and stakeholders. The event was also planned next to 2 other major events i.e. the ESPO Award Dinner and General Meeting, as well as the meeting of the Economic Analysis & Statistics Committee, to facilitate presences of international guests.

3 FINAL EVENT SCHEDULE

A large panel of experts from all around the world have been invited to gather in Brussels on the 9th of November, the day of the final event. The purpose of the event is to conclude the project in a good formalized way. Convincing people about the potential behind the PORTOPIA platform is one of the main aspects and purposes of the event. Furthermore, promoting the PORTOPIA idea and creating brand awareness amongst all port stakeholders around the world is of terrific importance. The conference gives a chance to the consortium partners of the PORTOPIA project to provide an overview and a detailed explanation of the work they performed on the project. Next to the consortium partners, a panel of experts have been requested to jointly discuss some important and future topics related to the project. The chance is given for all present participants to connect with each other and exchange ideas which can only lead to reciprocal benefits. In total, the event gathered 95 people from inside and outside the port industry from all around the globe (registrations list can be found in annex 10 – 116 people registered whereof 95 attended the event). The agenda of the PORTOPIA final event is the following:

9:00 – 10:30 Opening session

Welcome and presentation of main achievements by project coordinator Prof. Dr. Michaël Dooms, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)

Presentation of the four main PORTOPIA components:

- Rapid Exchange System+ (RES+): Prof. Dr. Theo Notteboom, Shanghai Maritime University, Ghent University, University of Antwerp, Antwerp Maritime Academy
- Environmental dashboards: Prof. Dr. Rosa Mari Darbra, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
- Port governance: Isabelle Ryckbost, Secretary General, ESPO
- User perception measurement tool: Dr. George Vaggelas, University of the Aegean
- Live demonstration of the PORTOPIA Service Cloud by Pedro Santos, Glintt

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 Inside the European Port Industry

Setting the scene: Aernoud Willeumier, Chairman of ESPO's Economic Analysis and Statistics Committee, Manager Business Analysis & Intelligence within Commercial department, Port of Rotterdam Authority

Panel discussion with port professionals, moderated by Aernoud Willeumier:

- Stefano Bonaldo, Economist, North Adriatic Sea Port Authority
- Maria Dolors Lloveras, Market analysis manager, Port Authority of Barcelona
- Eamonn O'Reilly, ESPO chairman, CEO of Dublin Port Company

12:30 – 13:45 Lunch

13:45 – 15:30 Beyond the European Port Industry

Presentation by Prof. Dr. Theo Notteboom, Shanghai Maritime University, Ghent University, University of Antwerp, Antwerp Maritime Academy, A global analysis of port industry performance indicator availability

Panel discussion with port industry stakeholders:

- Dr. Jan Hoffmann, Chief, Trade Logistics Branch, UNCTAD
- Victor Shieh, Appropriate Communications & Editor at Portoverview.com
- Linda van Waveren, Program Manager CSR, Port of Amsterdam, IAPH/PIANC Working Group 174 on Sustainability Reporting

15:30 – 16:00 Closing session

Christos Pipitsoulis, Innovation and Research Unit of Investment, Innovation and Sustainable Transport at DG Mobility and Transport

Konstantinos Rigas, Ports & Inland Navigation Unit, DG for Mobility and Transport, European Commission

4 CONCLUSION

The different topics and presentations can be found in the annexes of this deliverable. The final event is the conclusion of the four year project, with intense interactions between various stakeholders. The overall conclusion of the event was that the main desired targets have been reached, but that there is a long way ahead. It was agreed that the project has set a global benchmark for transnational inter-port collaboration on the level of performance data exchange. The deliverables have been provided in time and valuable feedback has been heard. PORTOPIA builds towards a brighter future for the European ports industry. Future prospects around a global or international PORTOPIA platform received attention and positive feedback (e.g. UNCTAD, IAPH). Many partners and stakeholders from the industry committed to keep the 'PORTOPIA' spirit alive and integrate the findings and lessons learned in their future developments. One of the tangible outputs linked to the conference and the project is the publication of a 2nd European Port Industry Sustainability Report, which is likely to be annually repeated.

5 ANNEXES

Annex 1: 9h00-M-Dooms-PORTOPIA-FinalEventMD

Annex 2: 9h00-T-Notteboom-9nov17-RES-presentatie

Annex 3: 9h00-RM-Darbra-PORTOPIA-Conference-Environmental-Dashboards

Annex 4: 9h00-I-Ryckbost-Presentation-Trends-in-EU-Ports-Governance-2016

Annex 5: 9h00-G-Vaggelas-WP6-presentation-User's Perceptions

Annex 6: 11h00-A-Willeumier-Presentation-AEW-Portopia-Event-9-Nov-2017

Annex 7: 13h45-T-Notteboom-9nov17-international-benchmarking

Annex 8: 13h45-Jan-Hoffmann-Portopia-2017-11

Annex 9: 13h45-V-Shieh-all

Annex 10 - Copy of Registrations-2017.11.07