

## 1. Publishable summary

The main objective of **ETNA Plus** for the first project period was – in accordance with the general project objective – to **foster innovation in trans-national cooperation in Transport** with a focus on promoting the active participation of new actors and regions in EU research calls and projects. In doing so, ETNA Plus built upon the activities and the knowledge acquired in its precursor ETNA - the Transport NCP Network project - adopting a new and wider approach reflecting the priorities set by Europe 2020 and the Innovation Union. This was made possible thanks to the results acquired via the **ETNA satisfaction analysis** carried out at the very beginning of the project.

A major leap forward was made with the design and implementation of **searchable Web-Based Tool** aimed to enable users to identify appropriate transport research and innovation funding sources. The searchable Web-Based Tool has been filled with all the data related to H2020 (across all three Pillars), to all the relevant non-H2020 EC and MS/AS public sector funding initiatives and programmes, as well as to all the relevant debt and equity funding financing opportunities. This result was made possible by the interactions of all the partners involved, which drew primarily upon existing databases and information sources developed by the TRIP portal ([www.transport-research.info/](http://www.transport-research.info/)) and the European Commission (e.g. CORDIS, STTP - Strategic Transport Technology Plan, etc...) as well as information collected for a number of projects and initiatives, such as TransNEW and MARKET-UP. The gathering of information also benefited from the fact that the coordinators of TRIP (PANTEIA) and TransNEW (UNEW), as well as an NCP beneficiary in MARKET-UP (UNIZA), are strongly involved in WP2. The testing of the Web-based tool was carried out by all the Beneficiaries.

A different contribution to trans-national cooperation in the EU Transport research landscape was also sought by learning from the **Innovation strategies implemented in industrialised Countries (EU and non-EU)**, and by identifying their weaknesses and strengths.

Countries to be analyzed were thus selected both at EU and non-EU level; accordingly, country reports were drafted thanks to the active involvement in the survey process of research program owners, policy makers dealing with the elaboration of national innovation strategies, Transport NCPs.

Activities aimed at supporting national/regional research stakeholders in identifying and cross-linking partners from EU Member States and Associated Countries in view of **building trans-national consortia** for EU research and innovation projects under Horizon 2020 were also carried out. Initially, feasible interactions with CORDIS PS were explored without success. Subsequently, it successfully turned to the IDEALIST system as a feasible model for the partner search service to be tailored to transport calls (<http://www.ideal-ist.eu/partner-search/pssearch>), exploring new ways of collaboration with the latter. In parallel, several **brokerage activities** were organised and

executed in cooperation with the European Commission and other transport-related initiatives at EU and regional levels.

**Transport NCPs professional development** was also pursued through different activities. In particular, NCPs were provided with hands on material (**11 factsheets**) and **two trainings** on Horizon 2020.

An **ETNA Plus accreditation procedure**, aiming at creating a group of certified trainers-NCPs which will then provide training to researchers and other stakeholders, was also developed. **Twinning opportunities**, especially conceived for newcomers NCPs, but opened to everyone, were also launched. The **ETNA Plus Academy** selection procedure, meant to offer free of charge training for EU13 potential coordinators, was also discussed and agreed upon.

A series of the dissemination activities were put into place. An ETNA Plus **branding tool box**, including logo, flyer, roll ups, standard ppt presentation, was developed. Two periodic **newsletters** were distributed both among Transport NCPs and at national level.

ETNA Plus **visibility** at EU level was also ensured via an ex ante identification of suitable dissemination events, and thanks to the engagement of partners which have participated and presented the network at a variety of events covering a wide spectrum of multidisciplinary transport related activities.

The project **public website** (<http://www.transport-ncps.net/>) created under the ETNA project has been professionalized, both in terms of graphical layout and content. It is constantly updated with transport related news and events, as well as ETNA Plus initiatives.