



## *Press release*

Friday 04/03/2016, Volos, Greece

### **The ALLIANCE project: Enhancing excellence and innovation capacity in sustainable transport interchanges**

A new project on sustainable transport interchanges commenced on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016, financed by the European Union under the HORIZON 2020 Research and Innovation Programme.

ALLIANCE aims at developing advanced research and higher education institution in the field of smart interconnecting sustainable transport networks in Latvia, by linking the Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TTI) with two internationally recognized research entities, University of Thessaly (UTH), Greece and Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation (Fraunhofer), Germany. Close collaboration of TTI with UTH and Fraunhofer will enable the achievement of the project's goals through several activities, including the organization of young researchers' seminars, workshops and training schools, the development of an educational programme for PhD and post-doctorate students, the facilitation of short-term staff exchanges with the aim of international collaboration, the creation of an educational platform as an on-line tool for continuing education distance learning and knowledge sharing, etc.

The overall methodology of ALLIANCE is built around the analysis of the needs of Latvia and the surrounding region of the Baltic area (Lithuania, Estonia, Poland) on knowledge gain about intermodal transportation networks and the development of the tools to attain this knowledge, providing at the same time excellence and innovation capacity.

ALLIANCE will deliver a coherent educational/training program, structured around three main pillars: governance/policy, smart solutions and decision-making, and addressed to enhancing the knowledge of current and future researchers and professionals offering their services in Latvia and the wider region.

The first official event, the kick-off meeting of ALLIANCE took place in Riga on January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The two-day meeting agenda included among other, technical presentations given by the responsible partners and discussions to set the methodologies to be followed during the project lifecycle. A list of key dates and forthcoming activities was also decided by the members of the Project Management Board.

For further information about the project, please contact:

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