SEE-ITS

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORT SYSTEMS IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE

NEWSLETTER (en)
Issue 1, April 2013

EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

I am pleased to introduce you to the first issue of the SEE-ITS newsletter, which features the latest developments and news of our "Intelligent Transport Systems in South East Europe – SEE-ITS" project. SEE-ITS is funded by the "South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme".

The aim of SEE-ITS is to develop an institutional and technical framework, through which SEE organizations and countries can harmonize ITS specifications and define generic collaboration models. Policy guidelines, such as the published EU Directive on ITS deployment, serve as the main basis for all project activities. Furthermore, seven targeted ITS demonstrations will take place within the project, in order to assess the benefits and the impacts of harmonized and interoperable ITS deployment throughout the SEE area. SEE-ITS aims to establish a permanent cooperation framework for ITS activities in SEE, through expert groups and stakeholders' panels, as well as through the organization of thematic workshops and conferences in Greece, Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania.

Within the first six months, the existing status of ITS deployment in SEE area has been identified and best practices from all over Europe have been studied, in order to use this information as an input for the creation of National ITS Action Plans' Integration scenarios, for the impact assessment of ITS applications in the SEE area and for the development of long term ITS investment plans for the region. The first SEE-ITS workshop took also place within this period in Budapest, aiming to identify the various perspectives and views on ITS deployment by various entities related to ITS development not only in SEE area but within the whole EU as well. The event was successful and provided inputs for the activities that need to be executed by all partners during the next months.

In this newsletter you will find detailed information about the progress of the project within these first six months, as well as all about the various activities of SEE-ITS.

I very much look forward to our next activities. So please stay tuned to SEE-ITS future activities by visiting the website (www.seeits.eu) and note the next focused workshop in Sofia during September 2013 as well as the Final Conference planned in September 2014 in Thessaloniki!

Dr. Georgia Aifandopoulou
Project Coordinator
Vice Director of CERTH-HIT

PROJECT FACTS

Project title:
Intelligent Transport Systems in South East Europe

Project acronym:
SEE-ITS

Funded by:
South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme

Budget:
1.581.669,90 €

Project Leader:
Center for Research & Technology Hellas (CERTH) -
Hellenic Institute of Transport (HIT)

Duration:
01/10/2012 – 30/09/2014

Starting date:
October 1st, 2012

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PROJECT NEWS

1. Kick-off meeting

On Thursday 8th and Friday 9th of November 2012, the kick-off meeting of the "SEE-ITS: Intelligent Transport Systems in South East Europe" project took place in Thessaloniki, Greece. The meeting was organized by CERTH–HIT and its main scope was to discuss and achieve a common understanding of the SEE-ITS project objectives, perspectives and envisioned results, as well as to determine the next short and long term technical and administrative activities to be undertaken during the first period of the project.

2. Project website – Project communication material

The SEE-ITS project website is www.seeits.eu. Among others, it provides information on the project's vision, objectives, expected outputs and activities (demonstration activities, SEE Platform for ITS, Stakeholders Panel etc). The site is constantly updated in order to provide information on the latest news and upcoming events related to SEE-ITS. Under the "publications" section the poster and the banner of the project are now available. In the same section you will also find the electronic version of the initial brochure of SEE-ITS in 8 languages.

3. 1st SEE-ITS project meeting

The first SEE-ITS project meeting took place in Budapest, Hungary on the 20th of March 2013. The event was hosted by the Hungarian Transport Administration (KKK). During the meeting, the progress of the SEE-ITS project within the first six months of its implementation as well as the performed technical activities were discussed. The consortium also decided the following steps of the technical work that need to be followed by all partners and discussed the possibilities of creating a SEE ITS cluster/forum, consisting of all national ITS Associations of the SEE area.

4. Technical activities performed during the first reporting period

As the first period of the project came to an end, the first SEE-ITS deliverables have been finalized. Within this period, the current status of ITS deployment in all participating countries has been documented, together with the mapping of the European Best Practices on ITS and the definition of the EU policies and ITS Action Plans. Finally, the SEE platform for ITS has also been developed and is accessible through the project's website, in order to promote the exchange of knowledge and existing national road maps and planned activities within the SEE area. The requirements for further ITS deployment are currently defined, in parallel with the execution of studies for adopting the EU Directive on ITS.

5. Participation in conferences

Mr Panagiotis Iordanopoulos, representative of CERTH-HIT, presented the current status of ITS deployment in Greece during the 2nd International Conference on Traffic and Logistic Engineering that took place in Istanbul, Turkey on March 15-16, 2013.

Mr Robert Rijavec, representative of University of Ljubljana, presented the current status of ITS deployment in SEE area in the 21st International Symposium on Electronics in Transport that took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia on March 25-26, 2013. During both events, the consortium representatives had the opportunity to make the objectives of SEE-ITS widely known and to investigate possible ways of cooperation with other entities related to ITS deployment in the SEE area.

EVENTS

1st Workshop

The first successful SEE-ITS project workshop, co-organized by the Hungarian Transport Administration and CERTH-HIT, titled: "Moving towards an Integrated Europe: EU ITS Directive for Availability of Transport Data", took place in Budapest on March 21and 22, 2013. Its main focus was priority area 1 of EU Directive on ITS deployment (2010/40/EU) related to the optimal use of road, traffic and travel data.

Mrs Dorota Szeligowska, representative of the European Commission, gave a key note speech along with Mr Pierpaolo Tona, project manager of ERTICO, Mr Lajos Szűcs', President of ITS Hungary Association, and Mr Zoltán Schváb's, Deputy State Secretary for Infrastructure of the Hungarian Ministry of National Development.

Mrs Roberta Calcina representative of JTS of the SEE transnational cooperation programme and SEE-ITS project officer, Mr. Simon Atila, Deputy General Director of KKK and Dr Evangelos Mitsakis, researcher of CERTH-HIT welcomed the event.

The participants had the opportunity to receive detailed information about the current status and future planning of ITS deployment in SEE. Invited speakers from public authorities and private companies related to traffic data management from Hungary, Austria, Italy, Greece and Netherlands, described successful practices and cutting-edge technologies on traffic data management, stressed the drawbacks in the optimal use of data and provided possible solutions and sustainable models for the future. All presentations of the workshop are available on the SEE-ITS website (www.seeits.eu).

UPCOMING EVENTS (2ND WORKSHOP)

The second SEE-ITS workshop is going to be held in Sofia, Bulgaria, during September 2013. The main focus of this second workshop will be priority area 3 of EU Directive for ITS deployment, on ITS for road safety and security applications. More information will be provided soon on the project's website.
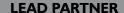
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- AustriaTech - Federal Agency for Technological Measures Ltd / Austria
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- Hungarian Transport Administration (HTA) / Hungary
  www.kkk.gov.hu
- Bulgarian Association Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS Bulgaria) / Bulgaria
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- Intelligent Transport Systems Romania (ITS Romania) / Romania
  www.its-romania.ro
- University of Ljubljana (UL) / Slovenia
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- Institute for Transport and Logistics Foundation (ITL) / Italy
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ASSOCIATED STRATEGIC PARTNERS

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