



TRANSPORT COMMUNITY

TRANSPORT COMMUNITY
THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

The Transport Community is an international organisation in the field of mobility and transport, consisting the entire EU and the six Western Balkans regional partners. We are integrating Western Balkans' transport markets into the EU, by assisting the six Western Balkans partners to adopt and implement the EU legislation in the field of transport and by supporting projects that are connecting Western Balkans regional partners among themselves and with the EU.

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ACTION PLANS

ROAD • ROAD SAFETY • RAIL • TRANSPORT FACILITATION





The four Action Plans of the Transport Community are an instruction manual on all important steps and milestones, with accompanying timeframes, that will guide us on the path of delivering on concrete aims and ambitions: safer roads; reduced waiting time at border crossings; reliable and modern rail; and roads of the future with integrated green and digital elements.

The documents are aligned with the European Commission's Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans, which envisions EU investments in transport and connectivity projects that will contribute to further integration in the region and better ties with the EU.

The **Road Action Plan** aims towards development of climate resilient, intelligent, and resource-efficient TEN-T road network in Western Balkans by incorporating green and smart elements in road investments. Our final aim is to stimulate innovative, low emission and fit for digital age road transport operations.

Transport Facilitation Action Plan will further strengthen regional cooperation. Creation of joint "one-stop-go" at internal and external border crossing points, coupled with better interaction of different transport modes along will enable smoother, more efficient, and less costly logistic chains.

The **Rail Action Plan** provides the basis for deeper integration with the EU rail market. A rail system which is safe, inclusive, reliable, environmentally and socially sustainable, and inter-connected within the region and with EU is the overarching aim of the Transport Community.

Road safety Action Plan promotes safety management, safer infrastructure, and protection of road users. Its actions strive to support the "zero deaths" objective, and to encourage regional best practice examples. Transport Community's aim is to ensure that transport systems, no matter how they are configured, are safe, sustainable, and equitable.

This booklet is a collection of Action Plans as endorsed by the Ministerial Council of the Transport Community on 26th October 2020, and as such they represent crucial documents of the region, by the region and for the region.

ROAD ACTION PLAN



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ROAD TRANSPORT HAS BEEN AND WILL REMAIN THE MOST IMPORTANT MODE OF TRANSPORT FOR MANY YEARS. HENCE, WE NEED FORWARD - LOOKING POLICIES, ROADS FROM AND FOR THE DIGITAL AGE, ROADS THAT SERVE THE TRANSPORT OF GOODS AND PASSENGERS IN THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND USER-FRIENDLY MANNER.

THE ROAD ACTION PLAN AIMS TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT OF CLIMATE RESILIENT, INTELLIGENT, AND RESOURCE- EFFICIENT TEN-T ROAD NETWORK IN WESTERN BALKANS BY INCORPORATING GREEN AND SMART ELEMENTS IN ROAD INVESTMENTS. OUR FINAL AIM IS TO STIMULATE INNOVATIVE, LOW EMISSION AND FIT FOR DIGITAL AGE ROAD TRANSPORT OPERATIONS.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the document is to provide a list of short- and medium-term activities aiming at addressing road maintenance, tolling, ITS deployment and network resilience and use of alternative fuels.

Some of the proposed measures are already taken commitments by the relevant authorities of the SEE parties under the Western Balkans Six process, monitored earlier through the Connectivity Reform Measures Management Plan, and broadened in view of recent studies and assessment needs which have been carried out in meantime. Hence, they have their sound basis in already established legal and coordination mechanisms.

It is a rolling plan and it will assist the Road Technical Committee members in their efforts to align the SEE parties' agendas with the Transport Community priorities for the road sector.

Road Action Plan is referring to the following documents:

1. Transport Community Treaty
2. Terms of reference and mandate of the Road Technical Committee
3. Study on preparation of 5 Year Road Maintenance Plan (EC-CONNECTA)
4. Study on the Strategic Framework for the deployment of ITS on the indicative extension of TEN-T Road Network in the Western Balkans (EC-CONNECTA).
5. European Green Deal

2. ROAD ACTION PLAN - CONTENT

The Road Action Plan for the Western Balkans is divided into four types of actions: Establishing functioning and efficient road maintenance system, ITS Deployment on the Core/Comprehensive Road Network, Enhancing road transport resilience and use of alternative fuels, and Enhancing regional cooperation and experience exchange.

The 2020-2024 Road Action Plan was adopted in principle at the 3rd Road Technical Committee.

2.1. ESTABLISHING FUNCTIONING AND EFFICIENT ROAD MAINTENANCE SYSTEM

- Adopt multiannual maintenance plan
- Establishing Road Asset Management System (RAMS)
- Signing of Service Level Agreement between Ministry of Transport and Road Authorities/Public Enterprises
- Adopt an efficient strategy on the funding sustainability for road maintenance

| ACTIONS | SEE PARTIES CONCERNED + DEADLINE FOR | | SUPPORT ACTION ASSISTANCE |
|---|--|--|---|
| | Preparation | Implementation | |
| Adopt multiannual maintenance plan | All RPs Q3 2020 | All RPs Q1 2021 | TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |
| Establishing road asset management system (RAMS) | ALB, BIH, SRB Q2 2021 | ALB, BIH, SRB Q3 2021 | IFI support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |
| | KOS*, MNE Q4 2021 MKD Completed | KOS*, MNE Q1 2022 MKD Completed | |
| Signing of service level agreement between ministry of transport and road authorities/public enterprises/public enterprises for maintenance | ALB, BIH, SRB Q1 2021 | ALB, BIH, SRB Q2 2021 | IFI support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |
| | KOS*, MNE Q4 2021 | KOS*, MNE Q4 2021 | |
| Adopt an efficient strategy on the funding sustainability for road maintenance | All RPs Q4 2021 | All RPs Q2 2022 | IFI support TC Permanent Secretariat in cooperation with IFIs |

**This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.*

2.2. ITS DEPLOYMENT ON CORE/ COMPREHENSIVE ROAD NETWORK

- Adopt ITS Strategy and Action Plans aligned with regional ITS Vision and strategic objectives
- Transposition of Directive 2010/40/EU
- Transposition of Directive 2004/52/EC - Interoperability of electronic road toll systems (amended)
- Adopt and implement EU ITS standards for roads to ensure European standards and specifications for all new projects and for the upgrading of existing ones
- Adopt and implement EU ITS Framework Architecture for roads to ensure compatibility of system and equipment
- Adopt a regional interoperability framework aimed to establish a mechanism for the exchange of ITS data at regional level through TCT Information System

| ACTIONS | SEE PARTIES CONCERNED + DEADLINE FOR | | SUPPORT ACTION ASSISTANCE |
|--|---|---|--|
| | Preparation | Implementation | |
| Adopt its strategy and action plans aligned with regional its vision and strategic objectives | ALB completed MKD - Q4 2021 ¹ SRB- Q1 2022 ² | ALB – Q4 2020 MKD – Q1 2022 SRB - Q2 2022 | IFIs support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |
| | BiH, KOS*, MNE Q4 2021 | BiH, KOS*, MNE Q1 2022 | |
| Transposition of the directive 2010/40/EU | All RPs Q4 2021 | All RPs Q1 2022 | EU DEL to assist in the process |
| Transposition of the directive 2004/52/EC - interoperability of electronic road toll systems (AMENDED) | All RPs Q4 2021 | All RPs Q1 2022 | EU DEL to assist in the process TC to provide inputs |
| Adopt and implement eu its standards for roads to ensure european standards and specifications for all new projects and for the upgrading of existing ones | All RPs Q4 2021 | All RPs Q2 2022 | IFIs support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |
| Adopt and implement EU its framework architecture for roads to ensure compatibility of system and equipment | ALB, MKD, SRB Q4 2021 | ALB, MKD, SRB Q1 2022 | IFIs support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |
| | BiH, KOS*, MNE Q2 2022 | BiH, KOS*, MNE Q3 2022 | |
| Adopt a regional interoperability framework for the exchange of its data | All RPs Q4 2021 | All RPs Q4 2022 | TCT Secretariat RCC support, REA |

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ROAD ACTION PLAN



2.3. ENHANCING ROAD TRANSPORT CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND USE OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL

- Adopt guidelines and methodologies for climate change and natural hazard road network vulnerability assessment
- Development of Resilience Action Plan for Road Core/Comprehensive Network
- Undertake risk-based vulnerability interventions for the most vulnerable sections of the indicative extension of Core/Comprehensive TEN-T Networks in Western Balkans
- Enhance use of alternative fuels (e-charging stations etc)

| ACTIONS | SEE PARTIES CONCERNED + DEADLINE FOR | | SUPPORT ACTION ASSISTANCE |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| | Preparation | Implementation | |
| Adopt guidelines and methodologies for climate change and natural hazard road network vulnerability assessment | All RPs Q3 2021 | All RPs Q1 2022 | IFIs support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |
| Development of Resilience Action Plan for Road Core/Comprehensive Network | All RPs Q4 2021 | All RPs Q4 2022 | IFIs support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |
| Undertake risk-based vulnerability interventions for the most vulnerable sections of the indicative extension of Core/Comprehensive TEN-T Networks in Western Balkans | All RPs Q1 2022 | All RPs Q1 2024 | IFIs support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |
| Enhancing use of alternative fuels to Western Balkans (extend charging stations to main corridors etc) | All RPs Q2 2021 | All RPs Q2 2023 | IFIs/Private sector support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |

2.4. ENHANCING REGIONAL COOPERATION AND EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE

- Establishing a regional network of road authorities/public enterprises for regular consultation and coordination at the regional level before adoption maintenance plans, deployment of ITS etc
- Identify the areas of capacity building needs/experience exchange/organise stakeholders' workshops to accommodate the broad range of technical experiences

| ACTIONS | SEE PARTIES CONCERNED + DEADLINE FOR | | SUPPORT ACTION ASSISTANCE |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| | Preparation | Implementation | |
| Establishing a regional network of road authorities/public enterprises for regular consultation and coordination at the regional level before adoption maintenance plans, deployment of ITS etc | All RPs Q1 2021 | All RPs Q2 2021 | TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination |
| Identify the areas of capacity building needs/experience exchange/organise stakeholders' workshops to accommodate the broad range of technical experiences | All RPs Q4 2020 | All RPs 2021-onward | TC Permanent Secretariat to support and share examples and best practices |