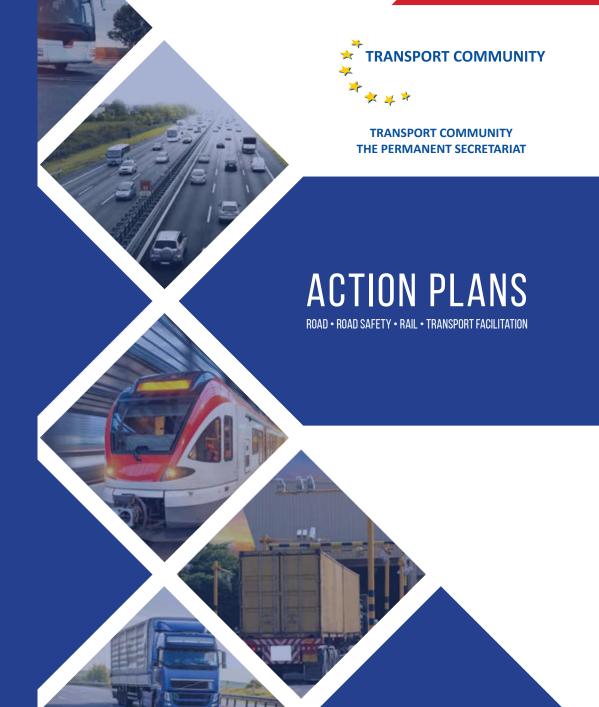


TRANSPORT COMMUNITY THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

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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### **OCTOBER 2020**

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.





TRANSPORT COMMUNITY THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT 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 indica-

tive 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
Actions	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 KOS*, MNE Q4 2021 MKD Completed	ALB, BIH, SRB Q3 2021 KOS*, MNE Q1 2022 MKD Completed	IFI support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination
Signing of service level agreement between ministry of transport and road authorities/ public enterprises/public enterprises for maintenance	ALB, BIH, SRB Q1 2021 KOS*, MNE Q4 2021	ALB, BIH, SRB Q2 2021 KOS*, MNE Q4 2021	IFI support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination
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)

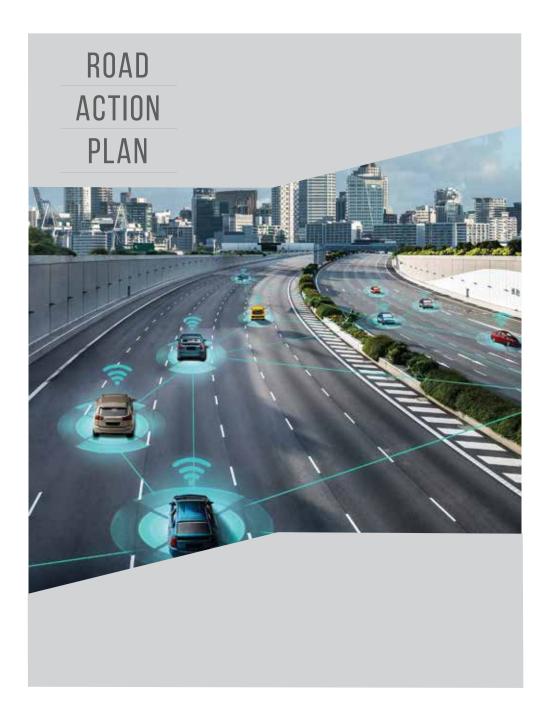
• Adopt and implement EU ITS standards for roads to ensure European standards and specifications for all new projects and for the upgrading of existing ones

• 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 <sup>1</sup> SRB- Q1 2022 <sup>2</sup> BiH, KOS*, MNE Q4 2021	ALB – Q4 2020 MKD – Q1 2022 SRB - Q2 2022 BiH, KOS*, MNE Q1 2022	IFIs support TCT Permanent Secretariat to ensure regional coordination
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 specifi- cations 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	ALB, MKD, SRB Q4 2021	ALB, MKD, SRB Q1 2022	IFIs support TCT Permanent Secretariat to
ensure compatibility of system and equipment	BiH, KOS*, MNE Q2 2022	BiH, KOS*, MNE Q3 2022	ensure regional coordination
Adopt a regional interoperability framework for the exchange of its data	AILINES	All RPs Q4 2022	TCT Secretariat RCC support, REA

\*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.



## 2.3. 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
Actions	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