



Press Release

PLOTO joins the ALICE liaison programme

Brussels, 1 June 2023. PLOTO has signed a partnership agreement with the European Technology Platform (ETP) ALICE to join their liaison programme, which will support the dissemination, cross-fertilisation and outreach of PLOTO, as well as help to promote the exploitation of PLOTO's technological innovations and support their market uptake.

PLOTO project is proud to announce its new collaboration with the ALICE Liaison Programme.

The project “**Deployment and Assessment of Predictive modelling, environmentally sustainable and emerging digital technologies and tools for improving the resilience of Inland WaterWays (IWW) against climate change and other extremes**”, or PLOTO, works to accelerate the freight transport and logistics sectors’ shift to greater automation, digitalisation, standardisation, and interoperability of processes, technology, and logistics. Demonstrating and testing the technologies in three pilot sites in Belgium, Hungary and Romania, the project’s objective is to increase the resilience of inland waterways transport and land-connected infrastructures. The newly established liaison agreement will maximise the capabilities of the project, facilitating the exchange of expertise between the parties, while enhancing the external visibility of the project’s innovations.

The [European Technology Platform ALICE](#) is set up to develop a comprehensive industry-led strategy for research, innovation and market deployment of logistics and supply chain management in Europe. ALICE is devoted to transitioning, in an affordable way, towards zero emissions transport & logistics operations, by supporting supply chain and logistics innovations among experts and companies. ALICE's core is based on collaboration between logistics actors and its members, thereby enabling the implementation of the principles of the Physical Internet defined in its roadmap.

The liaison agreement mirrors the dedicated vision of integrating the logistic networks, focusing on interconnectivity and interoperability of transport processes and equipment. It appears appropriate to integrate the PLOTO project into its programme, since ALICE is a partner of the [CRISTAL](#) and [ReNEW](#) projects among its liaised EU-funded initiatives. The combination of PLOTO with the sister projects ReNEW and CRISTAL provides a real opportunity to enhance results and promote cross-fertilisation in order to generate more impact for the benefit of the projects and the IWT.



"Including PLOTTO as a liaised project is a real opportunity for the CRISTAL and ReNEW projects to strengthen their impacts by benefiting from experience feedback and knowledge, and vice versa. This will indeed allow us to jointly achieve the objective of encouraging the shift to IWT, thus reducing CO₂ emissions generated by transport. This collaboration is a real chance to jointly address the logistics challenges of tomorrow, while making IWT more attractive and resilient" says Elvina Nowak, CRISTAL project manager at ETP-ALICE.

"Inland waterway transport as such does not have to be decarbonized, as it already is a "greener" mode of transport. What needs decarbonizing are the overall supply chains and logistics operations; this can be achieved by shifting to inland waterways. In that regard, attracting cargo to inland waterways and securing operational resilience are crucial. The liaison with PLOTTO closes the loop between Cristal and ReNew to ensure innovation uptake within our ALICE programs and projects related to them. We intend to collaborate on aspects that reduce externalities wherever possible, and contribute to a more sustainable future in Europe" points out Dr Tomas Ambra, Programs Manager at ETP-ALICE.

"The importance of this liaison is due to the rising demand of agility for freight transport in the European market. Combining the know-how within the PLOTTO consortium with the network of ETP-ALICE will further promote the integration of inland waterways transport services across Europe, while respecting the supply chain requirements and diverse customers' needs" concluded Dr Dimitrios Liparas, PLOTTO project coordinator.

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