

RITS-Net

Final Conference

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Development of ITS Regional Plans

Vidzeme Planning Region

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Introduction – Overview of Vidzeme Planning Region

- **Area: 15 246 km²**
- **Population: 234 thousand people**
- **25 rural municipalities and one city**
- **Low population density – 13.8 people/ km²**
- **Accessibility with public transport in rural areas is limited**
- **Public roads network longer than in other regions, but number of private cars - smaller**
- **Considerable state subsidies needed**

Transport challenges and priorities

- **Institutional development.** Development of institutional capabilities for efficient and coordinated transport management
- **Public transport.** Provision of sufficient and available public transport services in every settlement
- **Other local transport services.** Facilitation of the economic development through improved transport and logistics services

Transport Priority Measure – Demand Responsive Transport (I)

- DRT is included in the regional planning documents 2014 – 2020
- Survey of municipalities and inhabitants on transport needs (2014)
- Elaboration of a feasibility study and action plan (2014)
- DRT pilot projects in Vidzeme (2016 – 2017)
- Introduction of DRT on a wider scale in Vidzeme and Latvia

Transport Priority Measure – Demand Responsive Transport (II)

- Evaluation of the legal framework for introduction of DRT
- Calculation of costs (introduction, annual costs, passenger co-financing, different scenarios, etc.)
- Practical recommendations (roadmap, technical facilities, **ITS solutions**)
- Evaluation of DRT impact on existing public transport services

Main ITS applications in Use

- Data about the traffic intensity and restrictions on state roads <http://www.lvceli.lv/traffic/>
- Road weather information system www.balticroads.net
- Single system for the trade, booking and accounting of public transport tickets (VBTS) – under development
- Online systems with information about the timetables of the public transport services, e.g., www.1188.lv , www.bezrindas.lv
- Solutions developed by individual transport operators (e.g., in Riga) outside the Vidzeme region

ITS for future implementation

- ITS in Latvia are in the development stage and currently there is no single strategy about the development of countrywide ITS
- Latvia is focused on a creation of unified ITS solutions
- Planning regions of Latvia are involved in traffic and travel data ITS only as a users or data providers, but not as developers

Feasibility Study

- Current situation regarding the deployment of the Intelligent Transport Systems in line with the RITS-Net topics
- Survey of ITS solutions developed and used in Latvia
- Current situation in the Vidzeme Planning Region

Lessons Learnt

- A lot of new information on ITS solutions
- Good practice examples from the partner regions
- Involvement of the national authorities
- Possibility to develop further the DRT initiative