

North Sea Commission seminar on transport projects under the new North Sea Programme, Aalborg 9 February 2007 – notes from the freight transport session

General

The first call for application is tentatively set for September, with deadline in November

Projects on the development of alternative fuels could fit into all the priorities 1, 2 and 3, depending upon the aim and profile of the projects

More information on the expected budget and size of individual projects are needed in order to develop good proposals

Freight transport session

All presentations of project ideas are attached in separate files or to be found at the web site of the North Sea Region Programme, except for one idea – Effective ports, which is described below.

Effective ports

The idea was presented by Tommy Madsen, North Jutland Region. Madsen emphasised that this is more an idea for a work package than a proposal for a full project. The idea originates from the Nordic Transportpolitical network project – NTN. The focus of the idea is to find ways of improving efficiency in ports, including both Ro-Ro and container traffic. Ro-Ro and container operators will be consulted about the further development of the idea. Madsen informed that a description in English will be put forward at a later stage.

Conclusions from Freight transport session

- New projects should build upon and further develop the results from current projects. Important that new projects demonstrate a potential of improvement in relation to running and completed projects. There should be no automatic in extending current projects into phase II, III and IV etc. Also necessary that proposals are defining the challenge & problem that intend to solve more precisely
- Improving intermodality and promoting modal shift are common denominators between the different project ideas.
- The focus & perspective of the ideas are differing, some are focusing on developing D2D corridors, whereas others are focusing on the hub (port, dryports). There is however a potential scope for synergies and complementarities between the ideas
- Should consider to merge, integrate several of the ideas being presented into one common proposal, where some of the different ideas could constitute work packages
- A challenge to translate long-term environmental objectives into short- / medium term actions

- The North – South dimension of the NMC project should be extended with an East – West perspective
- Important to involve key industry actors (cargo owners, forwarders, transport operators etc) at an early stage of project development in order for the projects to match the needs of the industry
- Agreement to organise a new project development seminar when the NSP is final, including budget, and the ideas are more elaborated & mature