

We welcome you to the first issue of the Co-Cities Newsletter. A new issue will be published every 6 month from now till the end of the project with the primary aim to inform you about the progress and the results produced, as well as related and interesting activities undertaken during the course of the project. Each issue will be available in both pdf and accessible html format, from the project website: www.co-cities.eu

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Co-Cities - an European initiative

Co-Cities (Cooperative Cities) is a CIP project co-funded by the European Commission within the objective 1.3: Energy Efficient Co-operative Transport Management Systems. The Co-Cities project was launched on January 1, 2011 and will finish in December 2013 (36 months).

Co-Cities is based on the principle of transport information services for all modes which are coherent with the overall policy strategy and at the same time adaptive to changing dynamic traffic conditions as well as "interactive" with travelers. This pilot project will set up a mobile reference platform in cities and urban areas in order to introduce and validate cooperative mobility services. It will develop a dynamic "feedback loop" from mobile users and travellers to the cities' traffic management centres, and add elements of cooperative mobility to traffic information services. These software extensions are based on the **In-Time Commonly Agreed Interface (CAI)**, and the pilots will be run in the cities of Bilbao (ES), Florence (IT), Munich (DE), Prague (CZ), Reading (UK), and Vienna (AT).

The Co-Cities team consists of 14 companies, research organizations and cities, including AustriaTech, Brimatech Services and Fluidtime Data Services from Austria, Softeco Sismat, Regione Toscana and MemEx from Italy, Telematix Software and The Regional Organiser of Prague Integrated Transport from the Czech Republic (CZ), TomTom from The Netherlands, POLIS from Belgium, Atos and Asociación Cluster del Transporte y la Logística de Euskadi from Spain, PTV Planung Transport Verkehr from Germany and Reading Borough Council from United Kingdom.



Many European cities have invested in traffic information and integrated traffic management solutions starting 15 years ago, the most advanced in the different modes of transport PT with rail, busses and trams and for vehicles and private cars in traffic control and management systems. Today the most advanced cities have in their traffic management centres a real time image of the main traffic flows and a detailed monitoring for detection of incidents and disruptions. Current EU cooperative systems projects have demonstrated technical feasibility and positive user acceptance of cooperative mobility services. These common mobility services include dynamic navigation and intermodal routing and advice in real time but deliver no information from the traveler to traffic management.

Co-Cities addresses both aspects by providing one standard interface, the In-Time Commonly Agreed Interface (CAI), between city traffic management information and the Transport Information Service Providers (TISPs). Co-Cities offers cooperative mobility services that include dynamic navigation and intermodal routing and advice in real time and additionally provides the possibility for the traveller to deliver traffic relevant information to the traffic management.

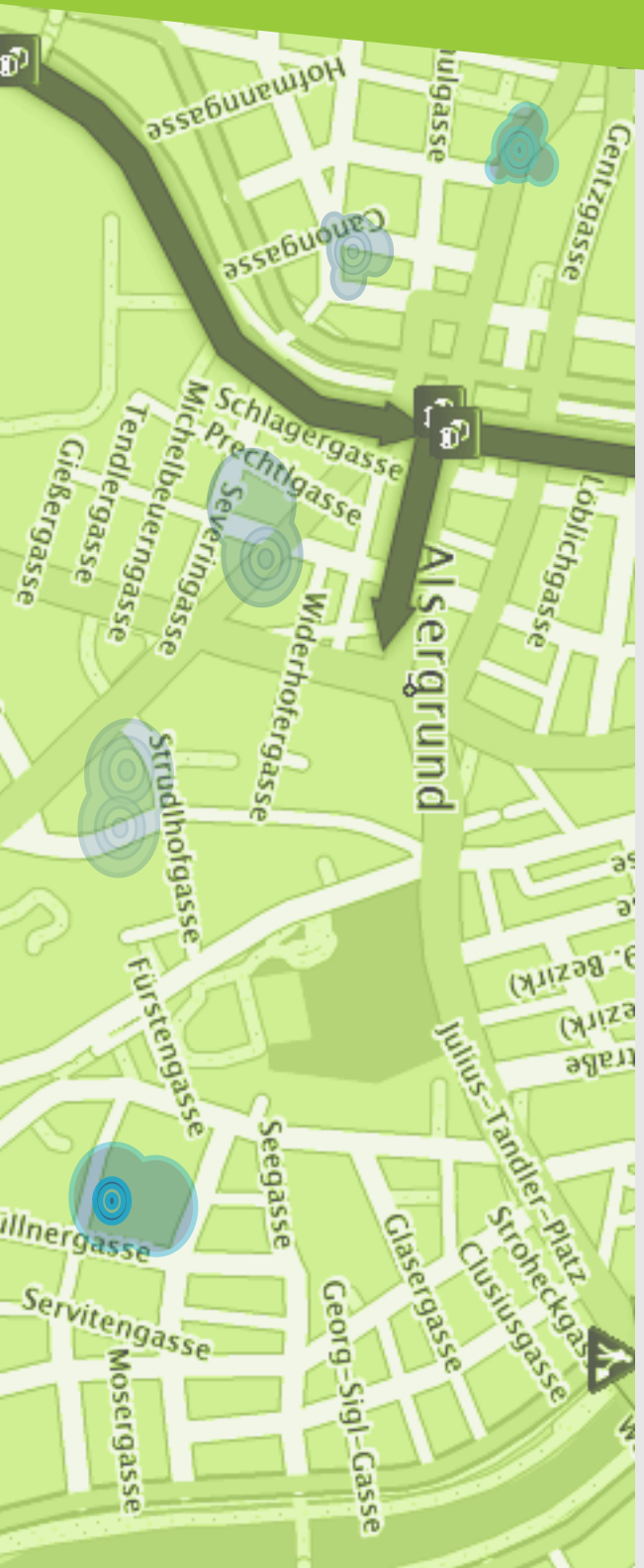
The latter is the actual novelty about the Co-Cities services: a cooperative feature permits the end users of the services to report their feedback to the traffic management centres via the reference platform serving as a standard interface for everybody. In this way, the Co-Cities project will develop a dynamic **feedback loop** from mobile users and travellers to the cities' traffic management centres, and add elements of cooperative mobility to traffic information services.

Using this feedback loop Co-Cities extends and validates existing mobility services and enhances the service quality for all users.

During its lifecycle, Co-Cities aims to achieve a number of objectives envisioning to improve the traffic information distribution and to adapt it to the users' needs:

- O1** **Objective 1.** Extend the **In-Time Commonly Agreed Interface** with a **“feedback loop”** to enrich mobility services with cooperative elements.
- O2** **Objective 2.** Extend the **number of cities** which install this interface and connect it to the traffic management centre for a regular feed of data and information.
- O3** **Objective 3.** Develop a **fast and reliable validation process** for cooperative traffic information services by using a “reference platform” based on the users' feedback.
- O4** **Objective 4.** Contribute to the objectives of improved road safety, increased **energy efficiency**, **higher comfort** and **sustainability** of transport in urban areas.
- O5** **Objective 5.** Make transport information services more **attractive** and appealing to users in urban areas.

Feedback loop
number of cities
higher comfort
sustainability
attractive
fast and reliable
energy efficiency



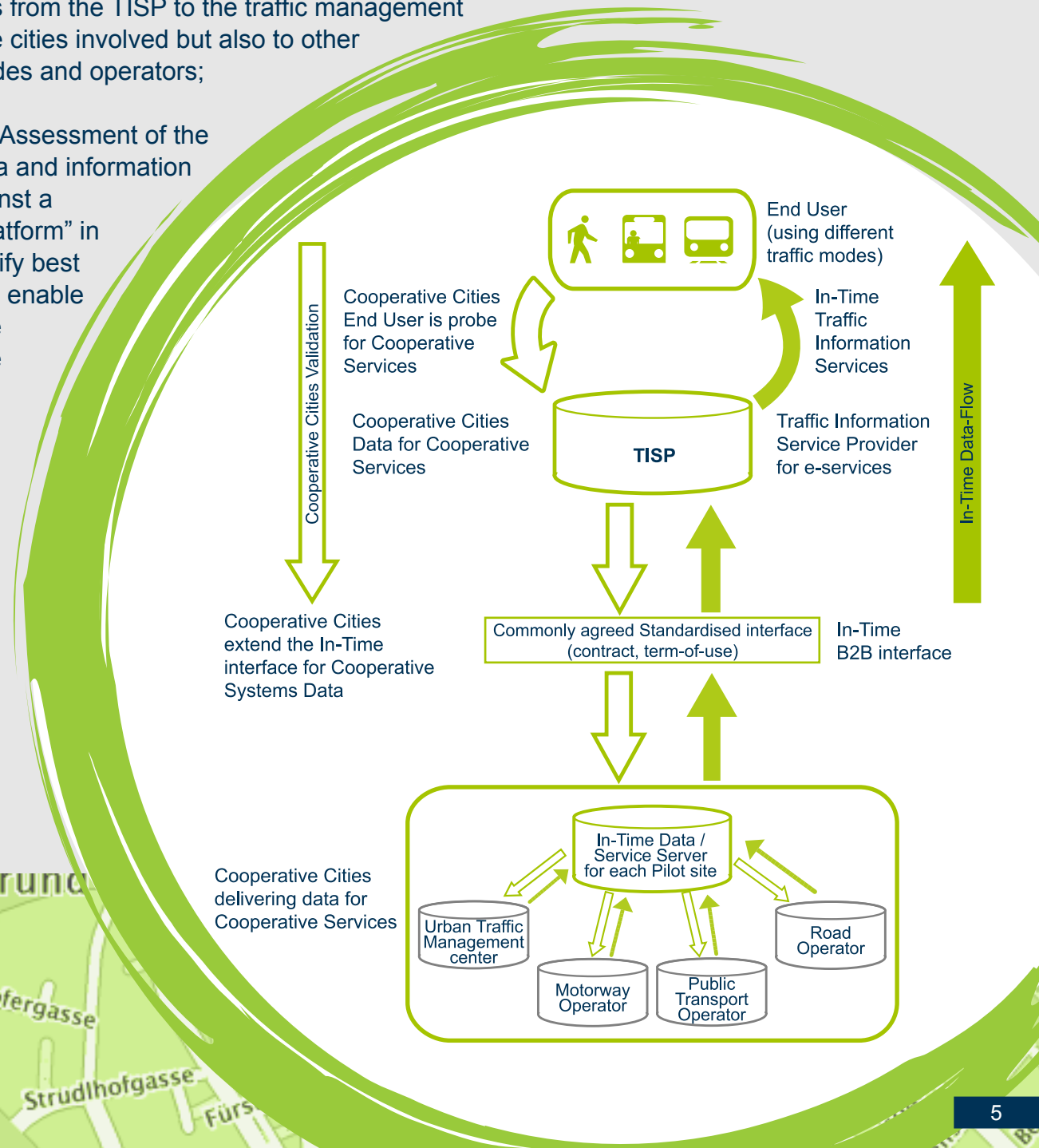
The real challenge for cooperative cities and service providers is the accuracy and quality of the services delivered together with an attractive delivery to the end user in an integrated and consumer friendly way with the option to directly feedback traffic related events to the cities' traffic management centres. With this establishment of an automated "feedback loop" from the users to the traffic management Co-Cities can react to changing traffic conditions and adapt their traffic management and control plans faster than before, communicate changes dynamically to travellers and people on the move and enhance mobility in urban areas.

The result of Co-Cities will on the one hand be interoperable and multimodal RTTI (Real time traffic information) services to end-users using different hardware and software platforms such as personal navigation devices, smart phones and web services and develop Europe-wide services based on regional traffic and travel data. On the other hand Co-Cities will offer Business-to-business services which enable Europe-wide Traffic Information Service Providers to cooperate with regional and urban authorities in fields such as strategy-based routing and adaptive mobility services.



The central part of the Co-Cities concept is an interoperable and multimodal Regional Data/Service Server (RDSS), which is a service-oriented middleware infrastructure providing a number of data/ services. These cover and enable the operation of end-user applications through Traffic Information For the validation of cooperative service concepts, Co-Cities covers the full feedback loop from the end users to the TISPs and regional and local authorities. This includes:

- ▶ User acceptance of the delivered and piloted services in the pilot cities of Co-Cities;
- ▶ Data services from the TISP to the traffic management centres of the cities involved but also to other transport modes and operators;
- ▶ Comparative Assessment of the delivered data and information services against a "reference platform" in order to identify best practices and enable the exchange of experience between stakeholders.



Joining forces with other Projects



Co-Cities is strongly related to the **In Time project** (www.in-time-project.eu), whose results are being extended in the project. The In-Time CAI is a standardised harmonised interface between operators and service providers (B2B interface). Different operators can continuously provide updated data which is then translated into a standard format. Transport Information Service Providers (TISPs) have access to this data via the CAI and can use it to generate their services.



Co-Cities is committed to work with projects running under the Theme 1 (Low carbon) of the program “ICT for a low carbon economy and smart mobility”. In this way, Co-Cities has established a strong liaison with COSMO (Cooperative Systems for Sustainable Mobility and Energy Efficiency). COSMO (www.cosmo-project.eu) is a 32 month pilot project whose aim is to demonstrate in realistic conditions the benefits of integrating advanced cooperative traffic management services and to quantify their impact in improving energy efficiency and reducing the carbon footprint.

Events relevant to Co-Cities thematic areas

Co-Cities presented at the 8th ITS European Congress June 2011

The 8th ITS European Congress (<http://2011.itsineurope.com/>) took place in Lyon on the 6th and 9th of June, 2011. The congress was structured in different types of sessions (Technical/scientific,

executive, special interest and interactive sessions), according to the attendees' needs and expectations. All attendees were welcome to the Plenary Sessions (Opening and Closing Ceremonies) in which key personalities from today's world of ITS presented their personal views on key ITS issues.

Co-Cities in the FISTS Conference Vienna, 29th June - 1st July

The FISTS Conference (<http://www.ieee-fists.org/>) was successfully concluded on July 1, 2011. It brought together about 150 participants from 25 countries. The first day opened with a keynote by Martin Wachs from the RAND Corp., University of California Los Angeles, who gave an overview on the different ways of and motivations for mobility around the globe, covering different viewpoints from the most industrialized to the least developed countries.

The first conference-day was split in four panels on

the topics of Policy Issues, Strategies, Technology, and Integration and Logistical Issues for Sustainable Transportation.

The course of the second day was dedicated to present about 100 scientific papers in four parallel sessions and the Electronic Interactive Information Marketplace (EIIM), presenting issues in the broad range of sustainability within the global transportation system.

The third day was split in two parts, highlighting “Global Challenges - Global Actions” and “Roadmap Towards a Sustainable Transportation System”.

1st Co-Cities forum workshop

One of the main activities of the Co-cities project is the establishment of a forum that will allow the Co-Cities team to collaborate with other similar groups by disseminating the project knowledge and gathering opinions and comments on the project. To achieve this, the project plans to organise several forum workshops. In this way, the first Co-Cities forum workshop

was organised by Polis in Brussels on the 11th of October. This first workshop provided information on the project and allowed to build a core group. The first projects activities, in particular the selection of use cases, were presented and reviewed. Inputs from the forum were gathered for the future definition of the reference platform.

Co-Cities organises a Workshop in eChallenges 2011

The eChallenges e-2011 Conference took place in the beautiful city of Florence, Italy (26-28 October, 2011). This was the twenty-first in a series of Annual Conferences supported by the European Commission and hosted by national governments, which regularly attracts over 600 delegates from leading commercial, government and research organisations around

the world to share knowledge and experience, lessons learnt, good practice and innovation (www.echallenges.org/e2011/).

Co-Cities organised a joined workshop with the projects COSMO and In-Time on **Smart Cooperative Mobility Services**. Additionally, a paper was submitted on the topic “**Multimodal Real-Time Traffic Information in urban areas, is the future cooperative? The Co-cities project.**”