



Opportunities

- Multimodality is a key tool to fight climate change and to promote modal shift;
- Multimodality helps create better customer service and offers;
- Sharing of knowledge and best practices amongst sectors can serve as good benchmarking indicators.

Challenges

- National legacy systems slow down innovation and interconnectivity uptake;
- Cooperation between all transport modes requires IT systems to be compatible with each other;
- Individual legal and fiscal environments create an unequal level playing field amongst the different modes.

MULTIMODALITY

Objective

Individual transport modes, such as aviation, waterways, rail and road are becoming increasingly interconnected to form a seamless, multimodal transport network. The added value for society and industry consists in a greater service offer amongst different modes of transport, depending on the environmental footprint, convenience, offer, speed, distance, cost, etc.

The EU has developed various legislative and policy initiatives to foster a multimodal transport network, e.g. via the 'Year of Multimodality in 2018'. A key enabler in this regard is digitalisation in the form of asset data, information systems, etc.

By the same token, the EU co-finances multimodal infrastructure and innovation via its funding programmes, such as the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and in particular the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF).

Rail Infrastructure Managers (IMs) play a crucial role in multimodal transport systems, given their strategic location at urban nodes or multimodal hubs as well as their low environmental footprint and their interconnectivity at e.g. stations, terminals, ports and airports.

Involvement of Infrastructure Managers

Rail Infrastructure Managers are aware of their increasing role as multimodal managers. Therefore, they have engaged individually, amongst peers or via EIM to prepare for and exchange on multimodal opportunities and challenges:

- EIM signed a cooperation agreement with its road peers from the Conference of European Directors of Roads (CEDR) to exchange best practice on multimodality and infrastructure-related topics;
- EIM has joined the Electromobility Platform, bringing together a large variety of transport and energy-related stakeholders;
- The members of EIM have also engaged in an internal dialogue related to stations and their role as multimodal hubs.

EIM in action

- EIM fosters a regular and constructive dialogue with other transport modes;
- EIM closely monitors EU activities and initiatives for a multimodal transport system;
- EIM cooperates with all EU institutions and market stakeholders to address interoperability issues hampering seamless transport flows.