



# ASSIST

Final conference

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# Outline

- EU transport policy
- White Paper 2011
- Policy examples
- Need for analysis of impacts
- Raison d'être of ASSIST



## Background – EU transport policy

- Transport needs to perform its role in the economy smoothly (efficiency)
- This can only be achieved if there are no barriers to the optimal functioning of the internal transport market
  - **National systems need to converge**
  - **Interfaces between modes**
  - **Remove bottlenecks in the networks/infrastructure**
  - **Use of the most efficient technologies**
  - **Elimination of price distortions**



## White Paper 2011

- Adopted by the Commission in March 2011
- It aims at giving an answer to existing challenges for the transport sector
- It sets the Commission strategy on transport policy for the decade
- 1 target (-60% of GHG emissions) and 10 indicative goals/benchmarks to guide policy action.
- 40 initiatives to meet the goals



## Policies examples

- Complete opening of domestic markets (rail passengers, road cabotage)
- Technical compatibility throughout the EU and beyond (ERTMS)
- Implementation of the Single European Sky (FABs) to enhance capacity and reduce congestion
- Elimination of (E-W) missing links (CEF, TEN-T)
- Promotion of new technologies and safety (reduce externalities)
- Pricing, e.g. infrastructure or external cost charging
- Taxation of fuels or vehicles



## Need for impact assessments

Before making a proposal, the EC has to...

- Assess potential impacts of such policies (economic, social, environmental...)
- This requires the analysis and **quantification of** social and economic **impacts** – at European, national and regional levels.
  - **Quantification: allowing to understand policy effects in quantitative terms – comparability**
  - **Geographical scope: not only at aggregated level – little focus has been given to distribution effects of general policy**



## ... raison d'être of the project

ASSIST should be able

*"to assist the Commission in assessing and comparing the impacts of transport policy options."*

*Through*

- Handbook on socio-economic impacts of TPMs
- ASTRA-EC model