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Key Outputs
Vital Nodes aims to contribute to the success of the European Year of Multimodality 2018. It will develop a comprehensive approach analysing the needs of the urban nodes and develop tools that will be applied in the urban nodes through the step-wise growth model.

Vital Nodes will deliver four key results

✔ A self-sustaining network of networks consisting of experts, end-users and case owners that will form during the Vital Nodes workshops.

✔ A proven Vital Nodes approach consisting of an enriched and fine-tuned toolbox of methods and measures that can be applied in the urban nodes and a comprehensive fingerprint on the urban nodes.

✔ Validated recommendations on the integration of urban nodes in the TEN-T core network corridors.

✔ Representation of the urban nodes at the TEN-T days and various other professional events.
Dimensions

The Vital Nodes approach integrates six dimensions of mobility, land-use and infrastructure planning to exploit synergy effects.

- **Spatial Dimension**: Spatial concepts with synergetic effects on accessibility
- **Network Dimension**: Multimodal network optimisation at various spatial scales
- **Time Dimension**: Time linkages and shift to strategy driven planning
- **Value Dimension**: Combined value creation and capturing
- **Institutional Dimension**: Organisational empowerment for integrated planning
- **Implementation Dimension**: Implementation drivers for integrated planning

**VN Spatial Scales**

The Vital Nodes approach focuses on integrating land-use and infrastructure planning, as both planning sectors can have a considerable impact on each other. It approaches them on three geographical scales (levels):

- **Local**: Intra-urban locations
- **Urban-regions**: Level of the Daily Urban System, peri-urban and regional level
- **International**: (TEN-T) corridors
What is Vital Nodes

The objective of Vital Nodes is to improve European interconnection while developing sustainable mobility within the urban nodes of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T). Vital Nodes will deliver evidence-based recommendations for effective and sustainable integration of the nodes into the TEN-T network corridors.

It addresses specifically the multi- and intermodal connection between long-distance and last-mile freight logistics. It will also support the deployment of innovative measures in the urban nodes while establishing a long-lasting European expert network.

The project started in November 2017 and will run for two years.
The Vital Nodes Approach

The Vital Nodes approach builds upon the proven Networking for Urban Vitality (NUVit) methodology, a successful approach based on integrated spatial and infrastructure analysis and planning. It addresses in 88 urban nodes of the TEN-T in a stepwise approach, starting in a pilot city, Vienna, redefines the methodology in eight focus nodes, consolidates the concept in further nine urban nodes, before it scales up to the remaining 70 nodes.

Step 1
Pilot City: Vienna

Step 2
8 Focus Nodes

Step 3
Approach consolidation in 9 nodes

Step 4
Scaling up to all nodes of TEN-T

TEN-T and the Urban Nodes

Cities are at the core of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T). The TEN-T will improve goods flow across Europe. However, at the urban nodes of the network, increasing freight traffic can lead to congestion, poor air quality, noise, and road safety risks. Cities and regions need to develop sustainable freight transport systems, mitigating the negative consequences of traffic in order to benefit from the improved European interconnection.

Planning such a system requires the integration of different levels, such as the European, regional and urban scale. It also needs the involvement of all stakeholders – a.o. freight carriers and infrastructure providers – to enable sustainable policymaking.
Get Involved
As a stakeholder in one of the urban nodes, you may be a public authority, a network, an NGO, a research institution or a private company, you can participate in the project. We will announce the workshops in the urban nodes on our website and our newsletter. Please also get in touch if you would like to cooperate with the project.
Contact us if you are interested, we will be happy to discuss the details with you.

The Partnership
The project consortium consists of experienced organisations that represent stakeholder of all levels, cities, regions, national and TEN-T corridors.

More Information
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Visit the project website and sign up for the newsletter:
vitalnodes.eu

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