

## Collaboration in Connectivity: Focus on Regions

How can an adequate governance structure be designed to develop and manage a seamless transport project across metropolitan areas or between border cities?

**Friday, 4 May, 10:15-11:45**

### SESSION OUTLINE

Providing a seamless transport system between cities in large metropolitan areas, or across borders, requires responses to a number of technical, institutional and financial issues regarding the planning of projects, the provision and maintenance of infrastructure and the operation of public transport systems. A variety of stakeholders, from both public administrations and private sectors need to be engaged in a co-ordinated way to deliver the option that best serves transport users, while maximising the use of scarce financial resources.

Providing more seamless transport options is expected to have positive effects on the daily travel of citizens; however careful overall impact assessment is required to delineate the scope of regional projects and maximise societal benefits. Transparent methodologies to assess the options and well-defined decision making processes are important in gaining acceptance for projects that can have significant environmental and distributional impacts. Particular attention is needed to identify funding mechanisms acceptable to service providers and establish who ultimately pays for investments in infrastructure and services that cross jurisdictions.

Based on practical case studies in major metropolitan areas or of cross-border projects, this session will look at how these issues can be addressed across administrative levels. The session will in particular explore the following issues:

- How has improved transport connectivity engendered more sustainable growth in cities and regions?
- In relation to establishing effective governance structures, who are the key actors in decision-making processes and what are their roles in defining the project? Who is accountable for the delivery of the transport system?
- What are the best methodologies to assess different options in terms of their overall societal benefits?
- How to agree on funding and financing mechanisms and on-cost allocation across a region or between cities?

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