

C-ITS Deployment Platform: The Context

- **Why to establish a C-ITS Platform right now?**

During the last ten years, developments in telecommunication technologies have brought us a reality of almost "permanent connectivity". However, we are far from using their full potential as transport users nowadays, despite the benefits that Cooperative ITS would bring in terms of improving road safety, reducing congestion, optimising the performance and available capacity of existing transport infrastructure, enhancing mobility in a multi-modal transport chain, increasing travel time reliability, improving the efficiency of logistic operations and thus reducing energy use as well as diminishing the environmental impact of road transport.

At the moment of facing the deployment of Cooperative Systems, there are many important standing issues of different nature still unresolved, such as legal, organisational, administrative, governing aspects, technical and standardisation issues or implementation issues. Yet scalability is clearly an obstacle, and the decision to invest in Cooperative Systems has to be based on sound and convincing business cases which give sufficient confidence to the core stakeholders to invest in their part of C-ITS.

The Commission has decided to take a more prominent role in the deployment of cooperative systems. To that end, DG MOVE is setting up a C-ITS Deployment Platform, conceived as a cooperative framework including national authorities, relevant C-ITS stakeholders and the Commission, in view to provide policy recommendations for the development of a roadmap and a deployment strategy for C-ITS in the EU and identify potential solutions to some cross-cutting issues.

- **What are the objectives of the C-ITS Platform?**

The platform will address the main barriers and enablers identified for the deployment of C-ITS in the EU, in relation to the services likely to be introduced in the first stage (Day 1 applications) in view to provide policy recommendations to the European Commission for the development of a Communication on the Deployment of C-ITS in the EU by the end of 2015.

The task of the C-ITS Platform is, therefore, to assist the Commission in the development of a shared vision and a roadmap for the deployment of C-ITS in the EU. In this respect, in addition to the Directorate General for Transport and Mobility (DG MOVE), all the relevant Commission services, such as the Directorate General for Communication Networks Content and Technology (DG CNECT), the Directorate General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD), the Directorate General for Enterprise and Industry (DG ENTR) will be associated to the Platform.

- **What will the platform be doing?**

In order to provide a framework to the work to be undertaken by the Platform, a draft work programme "*Gap Analysis: What is to be done for C-ITS Deployment*" has been developed on the basis of extensive informal discussions held with key stakeholders during the past months. The work programme presents a wide picture, and outlines the main areas in which these barriers/enablers exist, identifying critical questions to be looked at. The draft work programme is published as a background document to the call for applications to select members of the Platform.

The Platform will have Sub-Groups that are likely to be structured following the breakdown of work packages included in the draft work programme. The first task of the Platform will be to prioritise the issues to be addressed within each of these Sub-Groups in order to focus and to streamline their future work.

The C-ITS Platform and/or its Sub-Groups will integrate inputs from relevant on-going initiatives on C-ITS in Europe supported at European, national, regional or local levels, in order to bring in the knowledge and experience into the development of the Deployment strategy in the EU.

The Chair and the Secretariat of the Platform and all its Sub-Groups will be ensured by the European Commission services, who will lead and steer the action of the platform, in order to find solutions to existing barriers, and paving the way for an effective development and implementation of Cooperative Systems in the EU.

The Directorate General for Mobility and Transport in close cooperation with the other Commission's services involved in the Platform, will ensure that the outcome is feed-in into the CAR2020 Initiative, the "Digital Agenda", the TEN-T policy, the future work to be undertaken within the framework of Horizon 2020, and other relevant fora.

- **What type of experts are expected as members?**

The Platform is conceived as an operational framework at a working level. Therefore, it is not aiming to have senior representatives of industry and relevant sectors, but experts representing public and private organisations active in the C-ITS related areas.

In this respect, Member States are invited to nominate experts from their respective ITS authorities, while a call for applications is launched for experts representing relevant C-ITS industries, associations, or local and regional authorities. A detailed, but non-exhaustive, list of possible stakeholders is included in the text of the call for applications.

Since the group of experts will have to be limited in size (see full details in the call), stakeholders are invited to express their preferences on the two areas of the draft work programme, in which they would prefer to be involved.

- **What is the expected timeframe?**

The call for applications to select members of the platform, as well as the invitation to Member States to nominate their representatives is launched mid-July, with an approximately two-month delay until 15 September to present the applications.

Applications will be assessed by DG MOVE, and a decision on the membership of the platform shall be published around week 42 (13-19 October 2014).

The first meeting of the Platform is tentatively scheduled for week 45 (3 to 9 November 2014).