**Transnational cooperation project**

**„Air traffic and logistics development between the EU rural areas and China“**

Summary of the Zoom meeting on Wednesday, 3rd June 2020

at 12:30-2:00PM CET time

**Participants:** Kristiina and Heliise (Tartu, Estonia), Nicola and Michela (Pisticci, Italy), Tasos (Greece, Lesvos), Goran (Maribor, Slovenia), Jukka and Chen (EU-China, Finland), Elisabet (Seinäjoki, Finland).

PTS Clas representatives joined our meeting:

Tatiana Cini (project manager), Roberto Zucchetti (scientific referent), Giuseppe Siciliano (senior advisor), Alessandro Cresta (junior advisor).

**Meeting agenda:**

1. Introduction

2. Progress of the work under each work package

3. Project budget design - situation with offers, partners' inputs for calls for offers related to consultancy services

4. Next steps and planning of the coming meetings

Summary of meeting by agenda points:

1. **Introduction**

Kristiina gave short overview about the work that was done after the last Zoom meeting (09.04). We have been working with preparing call for tenders for consultancy services to be provided for involving Chinese partners.

We also proposed some amendments to PTSClas offer, which is now final and was sent to you. Heliise collected information for aviation training consortium through Google questionnaire; altogether we have 7 partners who are interested to participate in joint programme.

1. **Progress of the work under each work package 1-6 - WP leaders will give an overview about their WP work**

**WP 1 (management)** – we are working with budget and have agreed the sharing of common expenses between partners. We expect to share these expenses as follows:

* General coordination of the TNC project (WP 1) – covered by Estonian partner;
* Feasibility study (WP 2) – covered by Italian partners;
* Building aviation training consortium and drafting incubation plan (WP 3) – covered by Estonian partner;
* Consultancy services involving Chinese side and their inputs (WP 2 and WP 3) – covered by Estonian partner;
* Consultancy services involving Chinese side and their inputs (WP 4 and WP 5) – covered by Finnish partner;
* Building business platforms for European and Chinese partners and companies (WP 4) – covered by Finnish partner;
* Feasibility study (WP 5) and building joint tourism platform [www.visitruraleurope.com](http://www.visitruraleurope.com) - covered by Slovenian and Creek partners (needs to be discussed and agreed);
* Project homepage [www.airtrafficnetwork.com](http://www.airtrafficnetwork.com) - covered by Slovenian partner;
* Interpretation costs in China – covered by Creek partner;
* Travel costs for Jukka and Chen – shared between partners according to the eligibility rules.

**WP 2 (Feasibility study)** – Tatiana from PTSClas introduced their offer, methodology and the next steps related to collecting information about partner airports. Tatiana also shared ppt presentation, which is enclosed to the summary. PTSClas will now continue with drafting the questionnaire to collect all necessary data from partners about their airports and will send it to us in a couple of weeks. At next Zoom meeting we will discuss the questionnaire.

**WP 3 (Aviation training consortium and incubation plan)** – Heliise gave an overview about the responses and it can be summarized that the expertise of educational partners is mainly in the field of technology, logistics, telecommunications, economy, environment, etc and not in traditional aviation training (except Estonian Aviation Academy).

We asked from partners how we should proceed? - To try to extend the consortium and find additional partners with expertise in traditional aviation training or we rather continue with existing partners and try to establish training consortium that provides joint training programme in the field of “Innovation & Technology”?

Partners suggested taking focus on innovation and technology, which actually can very well support building incubation plan and also support providing aviation training at later phase combining traditional aviation training with innovative technologies training. This is also good to start involving businesses related to aviation industry. Partners were also interested in focusing on throne technology. Summary of the Google questionnaire is enclosed.

**WP 4 (Business platform development)** – Elisabet and Jukka are preparing to start building communication via e-platform Ding Talk. They are thinking about sector specific discussion groups where European and Chinese partners and stakeholders can establish multilateral cooperation relations. Elisabet and Jukka first test e-platform and then give guidance to other partners. Slides about the WP 4 activities and example on businesses directory are enclosed.

**WP 5 (Tourism platform development)** – Goran prepares baseline survey to collect tourism related data from partners and will send soon the questionnaire for partners’ feedback. The survey is expected to include: general tourism data, information about tourism capacity, certificates and schemes, promotion campaign issues, etc. Goran will send the survey questionnaire for partners’ feedback in a couple of weeks.

Goran informed partners that their ministry confirmed the amendments of their local development strategy and their TNC project costs are now eligible and they can start working with tasks under WP 5. Partners were very happy to get to know that!

Since the beginning of TNC project we have shared leadership of work packages between partners so that all partners are actively involved. Greek partners joined a little bit later and therefore until now they didn’t have certain role in the leadership of work packages. Kristiina suggested Tasos to consider in which work package Greek partners would like to take bigger role.

Tasos let partners know that they would like to share leadership in WP 5 with Slovenian partners. Partners welcomed that proposal! Tasos and Goran will discuss among theirselves which tasks and how they share the leadership in WP 5.

**WP 6 (Involvement of Chinese partners)** – Jukka and Chen described the need to build e-communication possibilities between European and Chinese partners for activating dialogue. They start with WP 4 and then moving forward with other WPs. It is unclear can we travel this year, so all the relations building work has to be done via e-solutions. Focusing on innovation and technology is good idea in their opinion.

**3. Project budget design - situation with offers, partners' inputs for calls for offers related to consultancy services**

Situation with offers and contracts related to the common activities is following:

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| --- | --- |
| Feasibility study (WP 2) | Offer submitted, the Contract will be signed with PTS Clas |
| Building aviation training consortium and drafting incubation plan (WP 3) | Offer submitted and the Contract was signed with Estonian Aviation Academy |
| Consultancy services involving Chinese side and their inputs (WP 2 and WP 3) | Call for tenders was prepared and it is launched in June |
| Consultancy services involving Chinese side and their inputs (WP 4 and WP 5) | Call for tenders was prepared and it is launched in June |

In addition it is needed to receive offers for building joint tourism platform [www.visitruraleurope.com](http://www.visitruraleurope.com) and project homepage [www.airtrafficnetwork.com](http://www.airtrafficnetwork.com) and interpretation costs in China.

According to the agreement to focus more on innovation and technology we also need to check the call for tenders for consultancy services from that perspective and make necessary amendments before we are launching the call for tenders in June.

**4. Next steps and planning of the coming meetings**

Next Zoom meeting will be on **1st of July at 1.00-3.00PM Brussels time**. Main topic of the meeting is PTS Clas questionnaire and next steps related to the feasibility study.

We keep the face-to-face meeting dates 6-9th of October in Lesvos. Decision about travelling to Lesvos will be done in August.

**Annexes of the summary:**

1. PTS Clas ppt slides;
2. Summary of training consortium partners prepared by Estonian Aviation Academy;
3. Slides about WP 4 activities and example on company’s directory.