

**Interreg - IPA CBC**  
Italy - Albania - Montenegro



**SAGOV**

**CONFERENCE**

**BLUE BALKANS: MARITIME CONNECTIVITY  
IN SOUTH ADRIATIC**

***19 DECEMBER 2022***

***VENUE: ALEKSANDER MOISIU UNIVERSITY, DURRËS***

**Disclaimer**

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## CONFERENCE ON BLUE BALKANS: MARITIME CONNECTIVITY IN SOUTH ADRIATIC 19 DECEMBER 2022

Under the framework of SAGOV Plus, Cooperation and Development Institute organises the Conference “On Blue Balkans: Maritime Connectivity in South Adriatic” on 19 Dec. 2022 from 10:30 to 15:30 in the premises of Aleksander Moisiu University, Durrës. The event will focus on the Western dimension of the WB European Transport Corridor and will target maritime connectivity in the South Adriatic area. In this event, will be discussed the cooperation amongst Italy, Albania and Montenegro in the maritime transport sector, as the western component of the Adriatic – Black Sea connectivity through Corridor VIII.

The **first panel** will start with a presentation of ports in the eastern coast of South Adriatic - Port of Bar in Montenegro and Port of Durrës, Vlore, Shëngjin etc in Albania. A presentation of maritime ports in the Puglia Region will be included as well. This panel will also serve to update specific components of the study published in September 2022 "Blue Balkans: Waterborne Connectivity in Balkans Peninsula"<sup>1</sup>.

The **second panel** will focus on the regional and EU dimension of the waterborne sector. Transport Community Permanent Secretariat and European Commission representatives will explain the place of waterborne transport in the new Regulation of the European Parliament and of the on Union guidelines for the development of the Trans-European Transport Network<sup>2</sup>; the implications for WB6 institutions in charge of country input to EC; and the way ahead until full approval of the regulation in 2023. This panel will continue with emphasising the interconnectivity (especially with rail) and green credentials of waterborne transport covering also railway, digital infrastructure, and climate change offering a cross-cutting perspective.

Both panels aim to raise awareness and promote WB6 waterborne connectivity with the goal of reaching decision-makers in national institutions, regional ones and in EU, international financing Institutions, as well as academia and other students involved in the connectivity sector.

By advocating and supporting regional connectivity in the rail and maritime transport, and reinforcing the position of the Centre of Excellence for Maritime Affairs, SAGOV Plus Project contributes to the capitalization of the achievements of SAGOV project.

SAGOV Plus is a 6-months project supported by the Interreg-IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro co-funded by the European Union. The project is led by Cooperation and Development Institute and implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Capital Investments of Montenegro and the Special Structure for Territory Cooperation of Puglia Region.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://tiranacconnectivityforum.org/blue-connectivity-maritime-and-inland-waterways-in-the-balkans-peninsula/>

<sup>2</sup> amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1153 and Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulation (EU) 1315/2013, COM/2022/384 final

## PROGRAMME

**19 DECEMBER 2022, AT ALEKSANDER MOISIU UNIVERSITY, DURRËS**

**Venue: Street Currila, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Conference Room**

(draft)

TIME (CET)	TOPIC	SPEAKER
10:30-10:35	Welcome Note and Presentation of SAGOV Plus	Stela Ademi, Project Manager, CDI Albania
10:35-10:45	Short Presentation of the Interreg IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro	Davide Marciànò / Legal Officer, Joint Secretariat of Interreg IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro (tbc)
10:45-11:00	Welcome address – The Port and the City	Emiriana Sako, Mayor of Durrës
11:00-11:15	Keynote address – Link between Academia and Ports	Osman Metalla, Dean of Professional Study Faculty, Aleksander Moisiu University Durrës

<b>Panel 1 on: WATERBORNE CONNECTIVITY IN BALKAN PENINSULA</b>		
11:15 - 12:30	<p>The panel will start with a presentation of main developments affecting the ports in the eastern coast of South Adriatic - Port of Bar in Montenegro and Port of Durrës, Vlore, Shëngjin, Saranda etc in Albania. A presentation of maritime ports in the Puglia Region will be included as well.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Ardian Hackaj, Director of Research, CDI Albania</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bledar Karoli, Head of Unit, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Albania</li> <li>• Djorde Otasevic, Advisor, Ministry of Capital Investment, Montenegro (online)</li> <li>• Sander Marashi, Director, Port of Shengjin</li> <li>• Representative of Port of Vlora</li> <li>• Malvina Jani, Deputy Director, Port of Saranda</li> <li>• Massimo Lupis, Coordinator, Regional Mobility Agency, Puglia Region</li> </ul>
12:30-12:50	Q & A	
12:50-13:00	Panel Conclusions	Ardian Hackaj, Director of Research, CDI Albania

13:00-14:00	Buffet Lunch
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Panel 2 on: RAISING CONVERGENCE WITH EU, REGIONAL INITIATIVES AND OTHER SECTORS		
14:00- 15:00	<p>The panel will focus on the regional and EU dimension of the waterborne sector. Transport Community Permanent Secretariat and European Commission representatives will explain the specificities with regard to the waterborne transport in the new Regulation of the European Parliament and of the on Union guidelines for the development of the TEN-T; the implications for WB6 institutions in charge and on the dynamics of the negotiations. This panel will continue with emphasising the interconnectivity dimension (especially with rail) and green credentials of waterborne transport covering also railway, digital infrastructure, and its impact on climate change.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Stela Sefa Lector, Aleksander Moisiu University, Durrës</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elson Thana, Desk Officer, Transport Community Permanent Secretariat</li> <li>• Nexhat Kapidani, Deputy Director, Administration for Maritime Safety and Port Management, Montenegro</li> <li>• Fotjon Kosta, Head of Unit, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Albania</li> <li>• Rezart Kapedani, Deputy Team Leader, Project “Supporting Albanian Negotiations in Environment, Chapter 27”</li> </ul>
	Case study: The example on the railway line linked to port facilities.	Dritan Spahiu, Administrator, ALBRAIL shpk
15:00-15:15	Q & A	
15:15-15:30	Conclusions	Ardian Hackaj, Director of Research, CDI Albania