

Green infrastructure & circular economy at work

Urban logistics



Traffic jams make every planning unreliable. Urban waterways can ship goods from distribution centres outside cities right into the city centre. The last mile is ensured by clean vehicles, be it electric vans or cargo bikes. Urban waterways are also the ideal way to ship waste out.

Eco-industrial parks on water



Waterway managers turn waterside brownfields into new carbon neutral industrial zones for renewable energy, the bio-based and circular economy. Transport is optimised with cluster quays for in- and outbound inland goods flows, plus a zone for smart logistics and city-regional distribution.

Circular sediment use



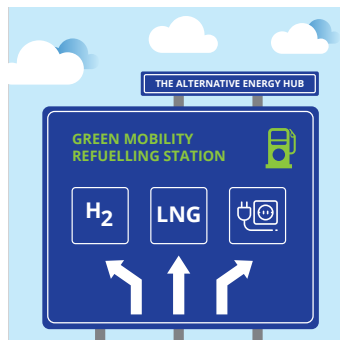
Waterway, waste treatment and environmental agencies join forces to manage and recycle sediments in a smart way and to facilitate its re-use in the building industry. Two EU projects, first PRISMA and now USAR unites waterway managers in Belgium, France, the Netherlands and UK.

Carbon neutral ports



Inland ports are striving to become CO2 neutral. The EU capital, Brussels, will achieve this end of 2018. Apart from slashing its own emissions, partner businesses are encouraged to follow suit with tax breaks and lower rents as rewards. Where zero emission is impossible, compensation schemes are set up.

Fuel of the future



The refuelling stations of the future will be multi-fuel and provide more than one source of energy: shore side electricity, liquid gas, compressed gas and hydrogen to power the next generation of clean vessels.

Power of water and wind



Lock complexes are becoming hubs for renewable energy. Pump installations that ensure sufficient water supply work also hydro-electric plants. Together with windmills, they produce enough power to operate the locks and supply an increasing number of households in the region with green power.

Working with nature



Waterways are arteries of life. Inland waterway projects develop 'win-win' solutions that benefit nature and transport. With stakeholder engagement, win-win options are identified. Next to improving navigability, river branches are reconnected and river banks are renaturated to protect wetland habitats.

Fish pass



Locks are no longer barriers. Migratory species can freely move between river sections thanks to the installations of fish passes which monitor the development and behaviour of fish stocks in Europe's rivers.

Whole life cycle management



The barriers between maintenance works and upgrading begin to fade. Waterway managers use maintenance interventions to enhance next generation enhancement across borders. Digitalisation helps with prediction of works and (failure) prevention.