

ROUNDTABLE ON COASTAL SHIPPING AND COMBINED TRANSPORT

13-14 October 2022
OECD Conference Centre (CC20)
2 rue André Pascal
Paris, France

Coastal shipping is an important element of connectivity within domestic markets and integrated regional economies. The significant increase in the size of container ships in operation in recent decades and the concentration of the market mean that coastal shipping operations are becoming increasingly important as means of addressing first and last mile issues. Some regions have now maritime cabotage services that are fully integrated into door-to-door freight transport services. This Roundtable will seek to identify best practices and policies for the development of coastal shipping operations, as well as key impediments and risks. The Roundtable will include examination of efficient combined transport and research into possible ways to reduce the cost of multimodal freight transport, including reducing terminal/port costs and those of first and last mile transport. This is expected to reduce the carbon footprint of freight transport by encouraging modal shift from road freight toward rail and maritime freight.

PROGRAMME

Chair: Anastasia Christodoulou (World Maritime University)

13 October

9:30-10:00: Opening

- Tour de table

10:00-12:30: Session 1: Market developments in coastal shipping

Presenter: Mike Garratt (MDS Transmodal)

How have coastal shipping markets evolved? What are their main characteristics? What are the key factors driving the market's development, and how are they likely to change the sector in the future?

- What are the main coastal shipping sectors? What are the main regional markets? What are the goods they transport?
- How have ship types, ship size and propulsion developed in these sectors?
- How concentrated are the different regional coastal shipping markets?
- To what extent are coastal shipping sectors integrated with ocean shipping and with other parts of the freight transport chain?
- How will the decarbonisation agenda affect the outlook for coastal shipping?

12:30-14:00: Lunch break

14:00-16:00: Session 2: Coastal shipping and regional economic integration

Presenter: Lourdes Trujillo (University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria)

How could coastal shipping help foster regional economic integration? Would increasing regionalisation of trade increase the demand for coastal shipping?

- What are existing and projected intra-regional trade flows? Which supply chains are sustained through coastal shipping?
- To what extent does coastal shipping facilitate trade of the existing regional trading blocs?

16:00-16:15: Coffee break

16:15-18:15: Session 3: Coastal shipping and multi-modal freight transport

Presenter: Johan Woxenius (University of Gothenburg)

Under what conditions could multi-modal freight transport incorporating coastal shipping become a more attractive transport option? What policies have proved successful in this respect, or could potentially support the development of such multi-modal models in the future?

- What are the typical cost of coastal shipping and multi-modal freight transport, compared to competing freight transport modes? How have these costs developed over time? To what extent are external costs internalised in the price of coastal shipping and multi-modal freight transport? How could these external costs be better internalised?
- To what extent is coastal shipping connected to multi-modal land transport? How adequate are the connections in ports? How effective are dedicated short sea shipping, barge, rail and intermodal terminals?

- How can smooth first- and last-mile connections between coastal shipping and multi-modal freight transport be facilitated?
- What have been the effects of modal shift policies? Which decarbonisation benefits did they achieve?

14 October

8:30-10:30: Session 4: Decarbonising coastal shipping and combined transport

Presenter: Anastasia Christodoulou (World Maritime University)

How can coastal shipping and multi-modal freight transport be decarbonised?

- What are the appropriate technologies to decarbonise coastal shipping and multi-modal freight transport? What are the technology gaps? How to deploy promising technologies more widely? To what extent are decarbonisation pathways for ocean shipping different for coastal shipping?
- Which onshore infrastructure would be needed to decarbonise coastal shipping and multi-modal freight transport? Who should provide this, who should pay for it?

10:30-10:45: Coffee break

10:45-12:45: Session 5: Lessons from coastal shipping reforms

Presenter: Ana Casaca (Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa)

What are the lessons that can be learned from coastal shipping reforms over recent decades?

- What are existing coastal shipping policies? What is the effectiveness of these policies?
- Which liberalisation reforms related to coastal shipping have taken place over the last decades? What were the outcomes of these results?
- What have been the effects of subsidies and incentives to stimulate coastal shipping?

12:45-14:00: Lunch break

14:00-15:30: Concluding session

What are the main take-aways from this Roundtable? What is the assessment of the state of coastal shipping and combined transport? What are policies and reforms that deserve consideration? What are best practices?

ITF Roundtables

The International Transport Forum (ITF) at the OECD is an intergovernmental organisation with 64 member countries. It acts as a think tank for transport policy and organises an annual summit of transport ministers. Its mission is to foster a deeper understanding of the role of transport in economic growth, environmental sustainability and social inclusion and to raise the public profile of transport policy.

As part of its mission, the ITF regularly organises expert Roundtables under the direction of our member countries. ITF Roundtables are closed events (under Chatham House rules) designed to provide a forum for experts in a specific area of transport policy to exchange views and ideas in depth.

To motivate Roundtable discussions, introductory papers are prepared by “rapporteurs” and shared with all participants in advance. At the Roundtable, rapporteurs present their papers, after which participants will respond to the issues raised by the papers to highlight points of agreement and disagreement. The discussions aim to identify a way forward for policy.

Roundtable discussions are synthesised in a Roundtable report prepared by the ITF secretariat following the event. A compiled publication including final papers and the synthesis will subsequently be published by the ITF secretariat. To reach the largest audience possible the Roundtable proceedings might also include videos of all four presentations on the introductory papers, as well as the concluding remarks by the Roundtable chairperson.