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PROMOTING GREEN AND SMART PORT HUBS IN THE ADRIATIC SEA

NEWSLETTER #1

DECEMBER 2025



Innovating port sustainability and digital transition in the Adriatic

PRESPORT - Promoting Green and Smart Port Hubs in the Adriatic Sea

is a new **Operation of Strategic Importance (OSI) co-funded by the Interreg Italy–Croatia Programme 2021–2027.**

PRESPORT marks an important step forward in bringing Italian and Croatian ports together to jointly accelerate the twin **green and digital transition**, strengthening port efficiency, competitiveness, and environmental performance across the Adriatic.

Why PRESPORT? Context and challenges



>>> Maritime transport remains the most sustainable way to move large quantities of goods and an essential catalyst of economic growth. The Italy–Croatia Programme Area is strategically positioned, crossed by **four TEN-T Core Network Corridors** **MEDITERRANEAN / BALTIC–ADRIATIC / SCAN–MED / WESTERN BALKANS–EAST MED** making its ports vital gateways for European and global trade.

Yet port operations, like all activities that depend on fossil fuels, generate **air pollution and CO₂ emissions**, which is particularly critical in Italy and Croatia where ports are located very close to urban centres.

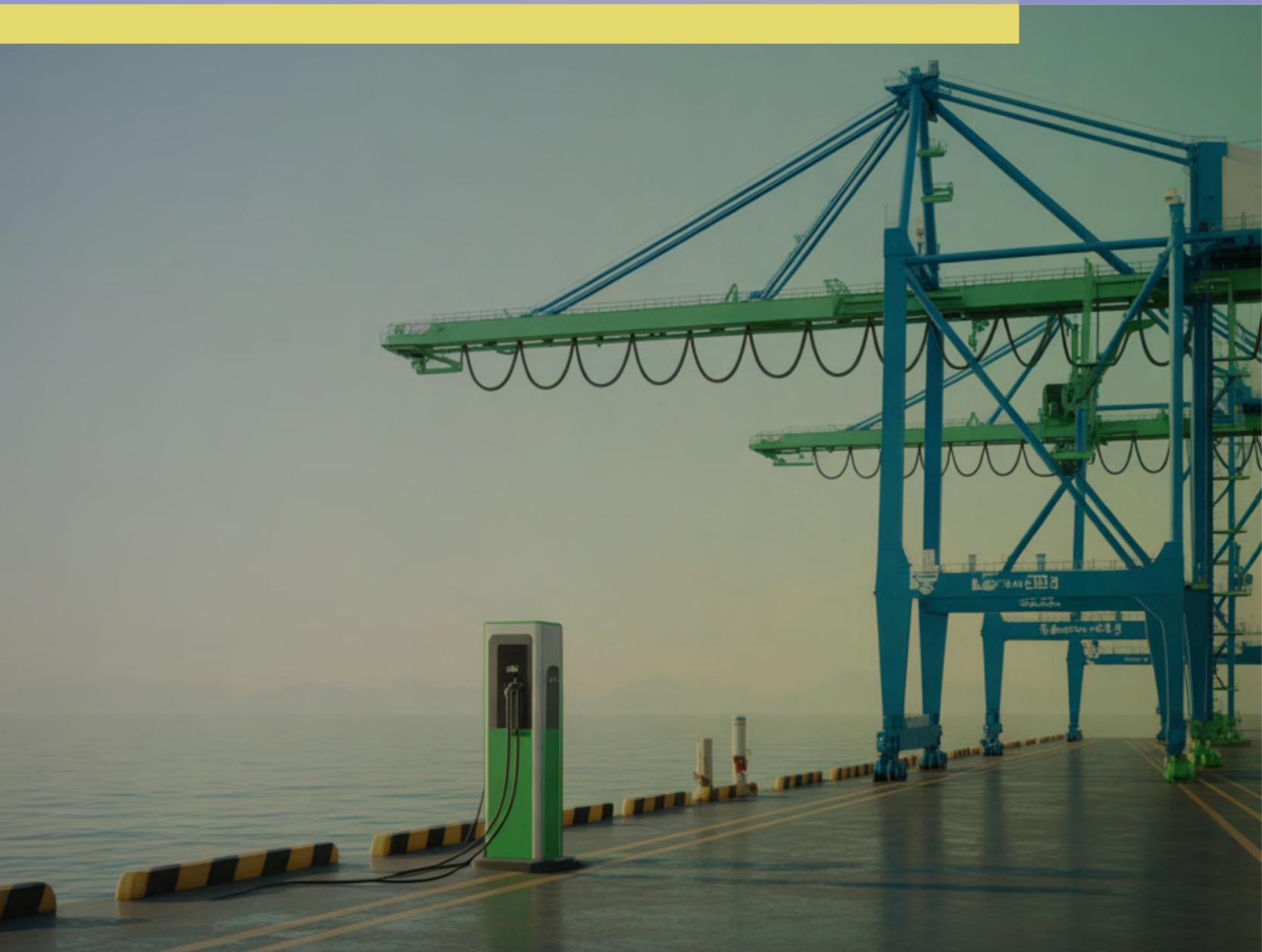
Why PRESPORT? The need for action

At the same time, although **digitalisation** can greatly improve coordination, traffic management and environmental performance, its potential in the port sector is still far from fully exploited.

PRESPORT responds to these challenges by integrating **decarbonisation and digital innovation**, treating them as two interlinked dimensions of a modern, resilient and efficient port system.



What Will PRESPORT Do? Project focus areas



For the first time, Italian and Croatian ports will work together to design, test and compare **new approaches** that support both greener operations and smarter port management. PRESPORT's activities are organised into **three interconnected topics**:

- >>> **Green port solutions**
- >>> **Digital port solutions**
- >>> **Transfer of green & digital port experiences**

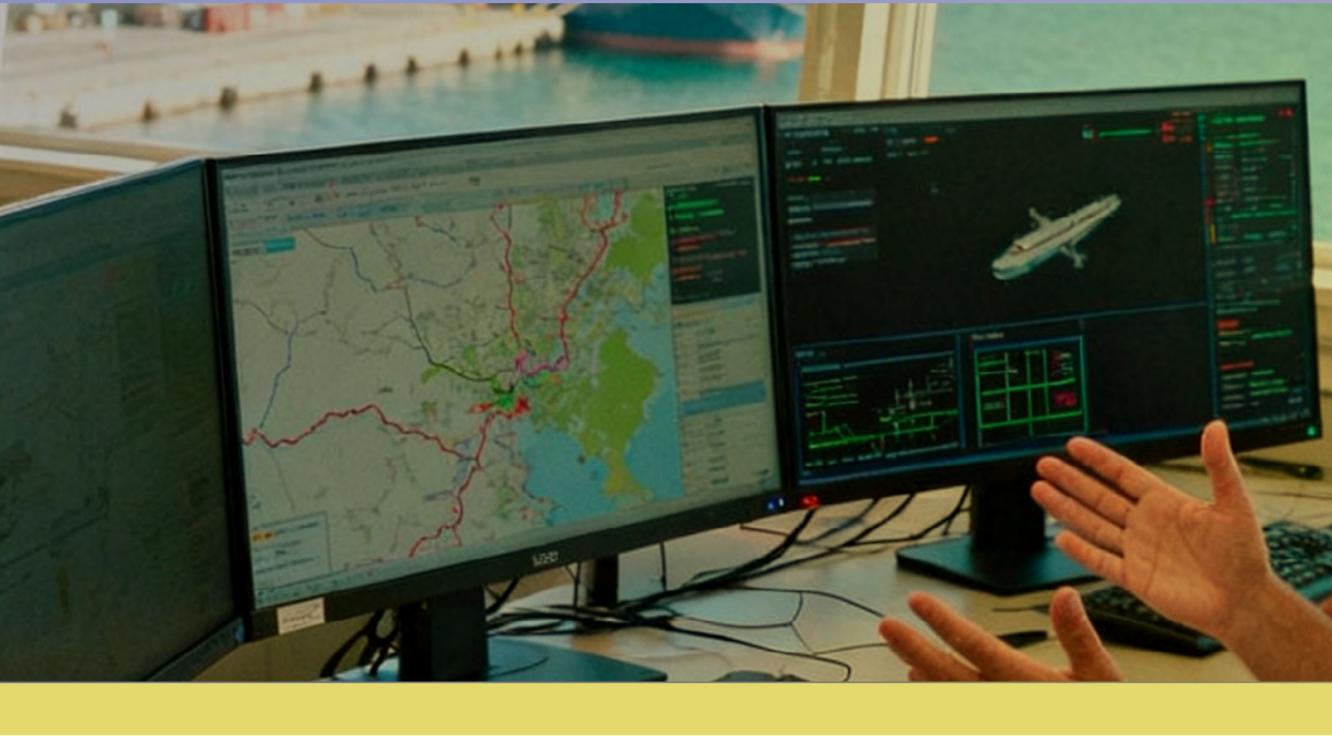
1. Green port solutions



Partners will assess the current environmental performance of the participating ports and develop a joint **cross-border decarbonisation strategy**.

Pilot actions will include:

- >>> **improving energy efficiency and alternative energy production**
- >>> **efficient lighting and climate-resilient infrastructure**
- >>> **new e-mobility solutions**



2. Digital port solutions

A shared digitalisation strategy will be developed.
Testing will include:

- >>> **digital twins**
- >>> **multimodal travel-planning tools**
- >>> **innovative digital platforms for security and efficiency**

3. Knowledge transfer



>>> **Outputs and lessons** learned will be shared through a **cross-border training programme, an e-learning platform and a series of transfer events, conferences, workshops and fairs.**

By the end of the project, port authorities, logistics operators and policymakers will have access to **practical planning tools and evidence from real pilot cases** to enhance operational efficiency, support climate-mitigation efforts and improve air quality in port cities.

As an OSI, the project emphasises **communication, visibility and the capitalisation of results** to ensure that tools, outputs and knowledge are widely shared and generate **long-lasting impact** across the Programme area and beyond.

Project partnership

PRESPORT involves **port authorities, public bodies and universities** from Italy and Croatia, including:

- >>> **Port Network Authority of the Eastern Adriatic Sea** / Lead Partner
- >>> **Municipality of Monfalcone**
- >>> **Friuli Economic Development Consortium**
- >>> **North Adriatic Sea Port Authority – Ports of Venice and Chioggia**
- >>> **Port of Ravenna Authority**
- >>> **Central Adriatic Ports Authority**
- >>> **Abruzzo Region**
- >>> **Southern Adriatic Ports Authority**
- >>> **Regional Port Authority Rovinj**
- >>> **Port of Rijeka Authority**
- >>> **University of Rijeka – Faculty of Maritime Studies**
- >>> **Port of Zadar Authority**
- >>> **Port of Split Authority**
- >>> **Vela Luka Port Authority**
- >>> **Port of Dubrovnik Authority**

Meetings & Events (first 6 months)



TRANSPONEXT Mid-term Conference

Zadar – 2 July 2025

Kick-Off Meeting

Zadar - 3 July 2025

OSI Lead Partner Seminar

Forte Marghera – 18/19 September 2025

ECOMONDO Fair

Rimini - 5 November 2025

2nd Steering Committee Meeting

online - 19 November 2025

CLICK THE LINKS OF THE SINGLE EVENTS FOR DETAILS

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