

Function and Role Expert Working Group (EWG)

Function

According to Article 3.3. of the EGTC Statutes, the Assembly has the ability to establish expert committees. In conjunction with the founding of the EGTC Rhine-Alpine, two expert committee groups were established: "Spatial and Transport Planning; Economic Development and Logistics" and "Environment and Energy". The tasks of these groups encompassed the elaboration of proposals for projects, the writing of position papers, support work with the EGTC in thematic fields, establishing reports to the General Assembly and aiding with organisational issues.

Development

With the 2019 – 2022 Action Plan, the two groups were split into six working groups, each with a designated theme: Green Corridor, Cross-Border Issues, Noise Reduction, Smart Mobility / Digitalisation, Resilience, and Communication. With the onset of the pandemic in 2021, the thematic focus groups laid dormant, restarting only in 2023 as EWG with the purpose of supporting the EGTC strategy development within the context of recent developments in transport policy (e.g. TEN-T revision) and related evolving priorities.

Composition

The Expert Working Group (EWG) consists of EGTC Members, however external experts may be invited when required. Meetings take place at least twice a year. The EWG is composed of member staff and is responsible for determining the requirements and proposing plans for the implementation of the operational steps that make up the strategic goals.

Role

The Expert Working Group acts as an enabler for members to shape and communicate their requirements and goals - while also facilitating the implementation and sharing of ideas to fulfill these aspirations. The EWG plays a pivotal role in future strategic development within the EGTC Rhine-Alpine Corridor, effectively addressing key current themes. With these efforts we hope to significantly shape corridor development, leading to enhanced cross-regional collaboration, sustainable transport solutions, and technological advancements for our members. The focus for 2024 is on the themes below.

**GREENING THE
CORRIDOR**

**REMOVE PARAMOUNT
BOTTLENECKS**

**SHAPING THE
MERGER**

**DRIVING MODAL
SHIFT**

**FOSTER SPATIAL
INTEGRATION**

**COMMUNICATION AND
SYNERGIES**

Summary

The Expert Working Group is a cornerstone in the Rhine-Alpine Corridor's continuous evolution. The group's efforts are instrumental in realizing the corridor's strategic goals and adapting to new challenges. It represents the key working forum and exchange format for members and is central to the work of the EGTC. By steering strategic developments and fostering collaboration across diverse themes, it ensures that the corridor remains a leading example of interregional cooperation and sustainable development in Europe. Moving forward the EWG's role in shaping the corridor's future in response to emerging challenges and opportunities will be crucial.