

Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) for Road

Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) are essential to achieving the EU's vision of seamless transport for both passengers and freight. The availability of 'open' and high quality transport data will provide substantial improvements in performance of transport networks, operations and services, whilst fostering their connectivity and facilitating collaboration.

In recent years ITS have been playing a crucial role to achieve the EU objectives for transport safety and sustainability. ITS services are now widely used across Europe and they drive transport efficiency at both local and international levels.

When ITS are applied to road transport, also linking it with other modes, they increase safety and capacity through higher interoperability and better use of the existing infrastructure, with subsequent financial and environmental benefits.

Through the harmonisation and continuity of pan-European services across Member States, ITS contribute substantially to the creation of the single European Transport Area.

EUROPEAN UNION FUNDING for ITS

ITS projects receive European support from a number of different sources. Two of these are directly managed by the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA):

Connecting Europe Facility

CEF Transport supports trans-European infrastructure and new technologies. CEF has already provided over EUR 700 million of funding for ITS, triggering investments of more than EUR 1.7 billion for the deployment of ITS and C-ITS services in Europe. The EU will continue to make ITS one of its priorities in the future, in line with its commitment to making the road sector safer, greener and more competitive through smart solutions.

> 2021-2027 CEF budget for transport:
EUR 25.8 billion

Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe is the EU's ambitious research and innovation (R&I) programme. CINEA implements the funding under Cluster 5 'Climate, Energy and Mobility'. Between 2014 and 2020, EUR 98 million was made available under the EU research programme for ITS projects. In the current funding period 2021-2027, ITS R&I activities are mainly funded within the areas of Multimodal and Sustainable Transport Systems for passengers and goods, and Cooperative, Connected and Automated Mobility (CCAM).

> 2021-2027 Horizon Europe budget for Cluster 5 (Climate, Energy, and Mobility):
EUR 9.6 billion

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CEF ITS

The Connecting Europe Facility supports the implementation of ITS Corridors and the deployment of harmonised Cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems (C-ITS) services across the EU. It also contributes to the implementation of EU policies and regulations (i.e. the ITS Directive and its delegated acts), for example the eCall service.

Interoperable and seamless ITS services imply a continuous cooperation among EU Member States and other stakeholders, technical harmonisation, and investments in ITS infrastructures that are stimulated and supported by CEF funding managed by CINEA.

C-Roads

The C-Roads platform is a joint initiative of European countries and road operators that deploy C-ITS services.

The C-Roads platform supports the deployment of C-ITS services (notably along highways and in urban areas) ensuring they are harmonised and interoperable across all the countries involved. C-ITS services improve significantly the safety and efficiency of road transport, thus contributing to the EU Green Deal objectives and helping cities to address the problems associated with growing urbanisation.

There are already [more than 2,000 C-ITS stations in operation](#) in the EU!

The project deploys a broad range of ITS services to improve the efficiency, safety and sustainability of road transport along the Mediterranean, Atlantic and North-Sea Mediterranean TEN-T corridors, covering also several urban areas and cross-border sections in France, Italy, Spain and Portugal. MATIS uses advanced ITS solutions to tackle road congestion and bottlenecks, as well as to enhance road safety and multimodality. It will ultimately reduce the environmental pollution of road traffic and contribute to EU transport objectives through the wider deployment of ITS and C-ITS.

MATIS

Funding:
EUR 62 million

January 2023 → December 2027

eCall (emergency call from vehicles) is a mandatory safety system that will reduce the number of fatalities as well as the severity of injuries caused by road accidents. These three projects ensure that the European public emergency Services (PSAPs) are able to handle eCalls across Europe and that vehicles can be retro-fitted with this system.

I HeERO, sAFE & eCall NG

I_HeERO Funding:
EUR 13.1 million

January 2015 → March 2018

sAFE Funding:
EUR 2.7 million

January 2019 → December 2021

eCall NG Funding:
EUR 9.6 million

March 2024 → February 2027

DELPHI aims to revolutionise the ITS environment by integrating passenger and freight transport data into a unified system. By focusing on both technical and governance/regulatory enablers, and applying cutting-edge technologies such as UAS-powered monitoring and AI/ML-powered algorithms, DELPHI seeks to create a federated network of platforms for multimodal transport. This will facilitate seamless and secure sharing of cross-sectoral, multimodal transport data and traffic management information.

DELPHI

Funding:
EUR 5 million

July 2023 → June 2026

SYNCHROMODE aims to improve the management and coordination of transport operations through data-driven ICT tools. It introduces predictive and network optimisation capabilities to balance transport supply and demand and respond to various planned and unplanned events. It offers a suite of ITS services including a network-wide data exchange and integration system, a cooperative dashboard for real-time monitoring and prediction, and a resilient multimodal transport network and traffic management support tool.

SYNCHROMODE

Funding:
EUR 4.5 million

May 2023 → April 2026

Horizon Europe

Building on the successful outcomes of Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe's ITS research and innovation initiatives aim to facilitate the integration of new mobility solutions in the transport system, as well as support the transition towards multimodal traffic management systems for both passengers and goods across Europe. The projects explore and test the integration of advanced technologies, including Artificial Intelligence, Digital Twins, C-ITS, and Connected, Cooperative, and Automated Mobility (CCAM), to enhance the sustainability, efficiency, reliability, and resilience of mobility and transport systems.

IN2CCAM

IN2CCAM seeks to accelerate the integration of Connected, Cooperative and Automated Mobility (CCAM) technologies and services into the transport system. IN2CCAM is exploring the potential of combining optimisation, Artificial Intelligence tools and digital-twins, with data and information originating from Cooperative ITS (C-ITS) infrastructures. The goal is to facilitate seamless traffic management across Europe, ultimately making our transport systems less congested, more inclusive, safer, and more sustainable.

Funding:
EUR 5 million

November 2022 → October 2025