



The objective of the CRISTAL project is to increase the share of freight transport on inland water transport by a minimum of 20% and to demonstrate on its three pilot sites (Italy, Poland and France) strategies to improve reliability by 80%. CRISTAL project will assure IWT capacity at 50% even during extreme weather events.



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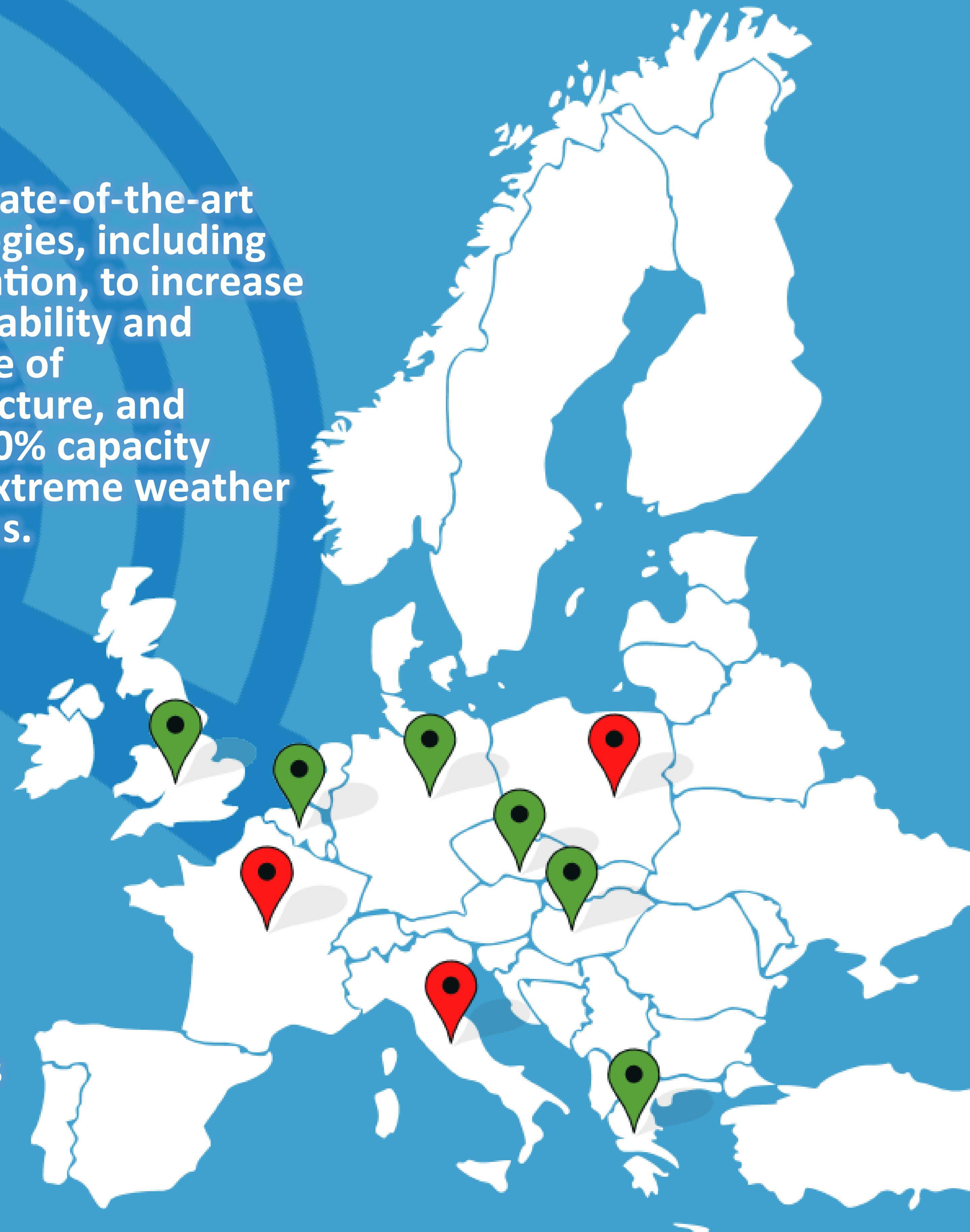
Objectives

1 Development of pathway towards 20% market share increase and 80% reliability.

2 Use of state-of-the-art technologies, including digitalization, to increase the operability and resilience of infrastructure, and assure 50% capacity during extreme weather situations.

3 Implementation of state-of-the-art technologies (objective area 2) and market share increase strategy (objective area 1) in the pilots` regions as basis for further Europe-wide roll-out for increased market share of IWT.

4 Exploitation on local as well as European level and beyond.



Challenges

- Navigational condition: IWT must cope with varying water levels limiting ship payloads due to insufficient air draught under bridges and raised transport costs at low water. Volatile water levels and ever-changing riverbed conditions impede optimal river navigation and cause time losses.
- Waterways infrastructures and resilience: engineering standards, maintenance, procurement rules and the governance challenges are needed and new infrastructure must be built to ensure long term sustainability and economic validity.
- Environmental aspect : biodiversity safeguard, water quality improvement and safeguard, as well as free stream condition restoration need to be integral part of IWT improvements.
- Socio-economic issues: conflict management of different water uses need to be addressed; river transport for goods (logistic) and for passengers (mobility) need to be coordinated with a solid governance structure.



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