REPORT ON THE PROMOTIONAL AND RESEARCH PILOT CONTAINER CRUISE FROM GDAŃSK TO WARSAW
19-27 APRIL 2017

Activity: WP 5, Activity 5

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Report on the task titled: “The promotional and research pilot container cruise on Vistula River from Gdansk to Warsaw, April 19-27, 2017”.

The Kujawsko-Pomorskie region is a special place in the Polish waterways system, because it is the place where two International Waterways E 40 and E 70 intersect. The local government of the voivodship for many years has taken a number of actions and ventures towards the revitalization of waterways and restoring them to the proper role in the country’s transport system. One of them was the accession, together with the City of Bydgoszcz, to the international project "Increasing mobility of goods and logistics in the Baltic Sea Region by strengthening inland and maritime transport and promoting new international shipping services" - acronym - EMMA, which brings together 21 partners from five Baltic countries.

One of the tasks carried out under the project was a promotional and research pilot container cruise on Vistula River from sea ports into the country to Tczew, Grudziadz, Bydgoszcz, Sołęc Kujawski, Toruń, Włocławek, Plock, Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki and Warsaw. The aim of this task was to identify navigational difficulties on the Vistula waterway, which in the present navigational conditions, an operator needs to measure, transporting goods from seaports into the country and an increase in awareness of the need to include inland navigation into the country’s transport system. The cruise was carried out on 19-27 April 2017 and, in addition to the above, the study of the shipping route on the section Gdansk-Warsaw, which depicts the current state of the lower Vistula, will help in identifying the most rational solution for its full re-opening and locating in the region a multimodal platform based on water transport.

The genesis of the cruise:

- 2013 – the idea of organizing a promotional cruise on the Vistula River in the Kujawsko-Pomorskie region,
- 2014 – entering the event for the initial application of the EMMA project (Concept note),
- 2015 – talks with potential partners interested in the organization of the cruise,
- XI 2015 – joining the international EMMA project (Interreg BSR), in which the organization of the container cruise, implemented by the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship (technical part) and the City of Bydgoszcz (promotional part), has been registered,
- VI-XII 2016 – acquisition of co-organizers of the cruise - including, the Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation, Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz,
- X 2016 – development of the cruise concept in terms of costs, parking spaces, ships, barges and technical equipment, the scope of scientific research and accompanying events,
- I 2017 – gaining honorary patronage over the event,
- III 2017 – talks with the Port of Gdansk Maritime Authority regarding the Port’s involvement in the organization of the cruise,
- III 2017 – carrying out the request for proposal procedure for the contractor,
- III 2017 – the campaign promoting the cruise (printing posters and leaflets, media campaign, organization of accompanying events),
Organization of the cruise:

The following were responsible for organizing the container cruise:
- Marshal Office of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship - in terms of theme, program and logistics.
- The City of Bydgoszcz - in terms of media and promotion.

Implementation of the cruise plan:

- The contractor for the cruise organization was Trans-Wod Czesław Blocki, who for many years has been engaged in shipping services within the Sea Ports in Gdansk, Gdynia and Elblag, as well as throughout the entire Vistula section.
- The river set used to carry out the cruise consisted of a pusher and barge measuring 49.90 m x 9.03 m, loaded with 20 containers measuring 20 foot (12 cargo, 8 social and sanitary).
- The deck of the barge was specially adapted to the possibility of being on the outside of non-crew members during the whole trip - a conference room with facilities for 20-30 people was prepared, and accommodation and sanitary and technical facilities were also provided.
- During the cruise, on individual sections, meetings and thematic conferences devoted to broadly understood water management took place.
- Throughout the cruise, comprehensive hydrological investigations of the waterway were carried out, including in terms of depth and width of the waterway, navigation markings, waterfront management, as well as identification of obstacles and difficulties in the form of gaps under bridges, power lines passing over the river, shallows or river rapids. The research was carried out by a scientist from the Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz and employees of the Regional Water Management Board in Gdansk.
- Supervision over the safety of cruise passengers was carried out by water rescuers from the Water Voluntary Rescue Service in Włocławek.

Statistics of the cruise:

- The route Gdansk-Bydgoszcz-Toruń-Warsaw - approx. 440 km.
- River set - total length 72.3 m (pusher 22.40 m, barge 49.90 m).
- Number of 20 containers, including 8 social and sanitary, 12 transport 20 ‘.
- Number of locks - 3 (Lock Przegalina, Lock Włocławek, Lock Czersko Polskie).
- Number of stops - 9.
- Number of trans-shipments: 2 (barge-truck, barge-barge).
- Permanent crew - 3 people.
- Daily travel distance - 20-80 km (the set per day can cover over 100 km).
- Daily cruise time - 2-10 h (depending on the berths and the adopted program).
- On the barge, there were about 10 people in addition to the crew and guests.
- Throughout the cruise, not counting the above mentioned people, on the barge there was a total of about 500 guests.
- Approximately 25 people participated in the meetings each time.
The course of the container cruise:

- **12 April 2017 – loading of containers at the Port of Gdansk.**
  The loading of containers for the barge took place thanks to the support of the Port of Gdansk Maritime Administration, which for this purpose provided free access to its own containers, transshipment facilities and a place on the waterfront port. It should be noted that under the current conditions, seaports in Gdansk, Gdynia and Elblag are fully adapted and prepared to service inland waterways in handling cargo from and to the port.

- **19 April 2017 – Gdansk.**
  **Beginning of the cruise – Master’s office in port of Gdansk.**
  The ceremonial launch of the cruise along with a press conference in which the Marshal's Office of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship was represented by a Member of the Board - Mr. Sławomir Kopyść, and the Pomeranian Voivodship was represented also by a Member of the Board - Mr. Ryszard Świlski. The conference was one of the main events promoting the cruise and its objectives.

Section Gdansk-Tczew.

- Workshops "Development and service of seaports in the context of the use of inland waterways" and "Activation of the economic use of waterways in the area of Lower Vistula and the Vistula Lagoon".
  The meeting was organized by the Office of the Marshal of the Pomeranian Voivodship. The theme was the activation and revitalization of waterways in the Pomeranian Voivodship for the development of inland waterway transport and water tourism. During the meeting, the current situation, plans and investment activities were discussed in the seaports of Gdansk, Gdynia and Elblag, which will facilitate and enable wider access of inland waterway to service cargo in the aforementioned ports, as well as relieve rail and road transport in the region. The activities of RZGW in Gdansk regarding directions and activities in the area of maintenance and development of
waterways as well as aspects related to the improvement of navigational conditions for ports and marinas located on the Vistula Lagoon were also presented.

- **Przegalina Lock.**

- **Handover of the rudder by the Marshal of the Pomeranian Voivodship to the Marshal of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship.**

**Tczew – Port Tczew and the passenger and sailing harbor.**

- **Tczew – demonstrational reloading of the container from barge to truck and conference summarizing the first day of the cruise.**

The reloading of a container from a barge to a truck was presented in the river port of Tczew to show the possibility of reactivation of the river port in Tczew, which has the necessary infrastructure (however, it has remained unused for many years) and which in the context of seaports could become a direct base for reloading cargoes. Then, a conference on the development of inland waterway transport in Gdansk Pomerania and local investments in port infrastructure took place at a nearby passenger and sailing marina. The above-mentioned events were attended by the Secretary of State of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Construction - Kazimierz Smoliński, who emphasized in his statements that the adoption by the Government of the AGN Convention will allow the Vistula to be navigated from the river’s mouth to Warsaw through the construction of a cascade system.
20 April 2017 r. Tczew-Korzeniewo-Grudziądz.

Section Tczew-Korzeniewo.

- Meeting of the Marshal's Office of the Pomeranian Voivodship management.

During the first part of the cruise, on the section Tczew-Korzeniewo, a meeting of the Marshal's Office of the Pomeranian Voivodship management was held. Departmental directors gathered to discuss current issues related to water management in the Pomeranian Voivodship and topics related to the EMMA project and the economic use of Polish rivers, in particular, the Lower Vistula.

- Korzeniewo – port.

During a short stop at the waterfront of the Port in Korzeniewo a press conference with the participation of local authorities and participants of the cruise took place. In addition, a meeting was held with representatives of the local government and companies operating in Kwidzyn and the surrounding area, interested in using inland waterway for the purpose of transporting their own products (cellulose), based on the existing port and the reloading waterfront.

Section Korzeniewo-Grudziądz.

- Meeting of Working Groups for revitalization and promotion of International Waterways E40 and E70.

The next part of the cruise concerned the issues of two international waterways E70 and E40 and their role in domestic and international handling of cargo. The meeting was attended by signatories of inter-Voivodship agreements for the revitalization of the MDW E40 (Pomorskie, Warmińsko-Mazurskie, Kujawsko-Pomorskie, Mazowieckie and Lubelskie Voivodeships) and MDW E70 (Pomorskie, Warmińsko-Mazurskie, Kujawsko-Pomorskie, Wielkopolskie and Lubuskie Voivodeships). The purpose of the teams work is to increase the role of inland waterway transport and water tourism in the above-mentioned waterways, while maintaining and respecting the natural environment of rivers. The partners jointly apply to the central authorities and entities responsible for water management, making these activities more effective and better coordinated. Discussed, among others, actions on the implementation of agreements, as well as further cooperation plans as part of the revitalization and promotion of international waterways. The concept of solutions for the Vistula-Bug connection (as the missing element of the E40 road) and economic benefits resulting from the development of the lower Vistula are presented.
Grudziadz – Marina Grudziadz.

- Meeting with the city authorities and a summary of the second day of the cruise.

The modernized Port in Grudziadz is prepared for the reception of both large passenger and freight vessels, as well as yachts and motorboats. The affluent units were welcomed by the masses of the city's inhabitants, which are very much connected to the water transport. During the cruise, the barge was constantly accompanied by a river set with an oversized load intended for one of the Mazovian paper factories, which significantly emphasized the importance of transporting the river.

- 21 April 2017 Grudziadz–Chełmno-Bydgoscz.

Section Grudziadz-Chełmno.

- Field studies of students of the Revitalization of Waterways faculty at the Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz.

The first part of the cruise from Grudziadz to Bydgoszcz was dominated by practical classes organized for students of the Revitalization of Waterways faculty at the KWU in Bydgoszcz. Students were included in all activities related to the current organization of the cruise, including in carrying out hydrological surveys and inventory of the trail and managing the waterfronts. In addition, classes in the field of navigation and preparation of a water guide were held.
Section Chełmno-Bydgoszcz.

- Meeting of the Marshals of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship team for the revitalization of waterways.

The second part of the cruise was earmarked for the meeting of the Marshal's Team for revitalization of waterways - an interdisciplinary team of experts dealing with the broadly understood water management (scientists, local government, representatives of government administration units, business environment institutions, shipping companies, members of non-governmental organizations and associations, and environmentalists). During the meeting, the current activities of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship for the revitalization of waterways were discussed, including, first of all, the preparation of guidelines for the preparation of the Location Study for the multimodal platform in the region of Bydgoszcz-Solec Kujawski. The issues of the development of the Vistula river waterway, its cascadisation and the occurrence of possible protests of ecological environments in the scope of construction of another water level on the Vistula below Włocławek were also discussed.

- Bydgoszcz (the river Brda’s mouth) – demonstration of reloading of containers from barge to barge.

In the afternoon, a container barge sailed to Bydgoszcz – the river Brda’s mouth, the crossing point of two International Waterways E40 and E70, which was the beginning of the only connection of the two largest Polish rivers, the Vistula and the Oder. Here, in front of the Czersko Polskie lock, a demonstration of transshipment of cargo containers to a smaller unit took place, which sailed further to the center of Bydgoszcz and moored at Wyspa Młyńska. The event was attended by the authorities of the City of Bydgoszcz and the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship as well as gathered guests. Container reloading was supposed to point directly to the significance of the Bydgoszcz Water Junction in the waterway system in the country, as well as the need to restore the role of inland waterway in the freight services of the city of Bydgoszcz and the entire region.

- Czersko Polskie Lock.
• **22 April 2017 Bydgoszcz-Solec Kujawski.**

**Bydgoszcz – Marina in Bydgoszcz, Wyspa Młyńska.**

- Press conference and seminar "The future of inland waterway transport in Poland, challenges and development opportunities".

This event was an important part of the cruise, its meaning was to emphasize the role of water transport in the development of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie region, lying at the crossroads of two international waterways, which in the near future may become a direct base for seaports in Gdansk and Gdynia. The conference was attended by, among others authorities of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship and the City of Bydgoszcz, representatives of the Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation, parliamentarians from the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship, representatives of seaports, representatives of organizations and associations related to waterways and students of the Inland Navigation School in Nakło by the Noteć river and UKW in Bydgoszcz. During the meeting, the representative of the Ministry discussed current government activities in the field of restoring navigation on the Vistula, including planned investments (water stage and cascadisation of the Lower Vistula), as well as underlining the importance of cooperation between various communities, including the government and self-government cooperation. An important voice in the discussion was the presentation of a representative of the Seaport in Gdansk, which once again emphasized the role of inland navigation in the development of Polish seaports.

- Exhibition "Economic use of rivers".

The conference at Marina in Bydgoszcz was accompanied by the presentation of an exhibition about the economic use of rivers, which aimed to bring closer the subject of revitalization of waterways to the society of the region. The exhibition was accompanied by the promotion of the cruise, implemented by the students of the Inland Navigation School in Nakło by the Noteć River, studying in the field of inland waterway techniques.
Section Bydgoszcz-Solec Kujawski.

- Press conference of the Marshal of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship. The section from Bydgoszcz to Solec Kujawski was intended for a special press conference of the Marshal of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship - Mr. Piotr Całbecki, to which all national and regional media were invited. The aim of the conference was, first of all, to present the achievements of the region and its activity in the field of water management, with particular emphasis on the Vistula, as well as media promotion of the event. Particular attention has been paid to the located on this section, place of the potential location of the first multimodal platform in the country based on water, rail and air transport, including the river port and logistics and warehouse center.

- Conference on the activity of the City and Commune of Solec Kujawski for the economic use of the Vistula River. Summary of the next day of the cruise took place at the Sports and Recreation Center in Solec Kujawski, in which the local government authorities presented investment plans in the field of water management, including in particular the location of the multimodal platform, the Solec Kujawski-Czarnowo ferry crossing and the construction of a new marina.

- 23 April 2017 Solec Kujawski-Toruń.

Toruń – Philadelphia Boulevard.

- Meeting with the city authorities and visiting the barge. The barge stop at the Philadelphia Boulevard took place during the Festival of Science and Arts held in Toruń, which caused that large group of Toruń residents took part in a visit to the barge and familiarized themselves with the issues of the organization of the cruise and its technical solutions. During the meeting, the organizers of the cruise presented the cruise plan, its importance for the revitalization of inland waterway transport on the Vistula and the role of water transport.
- **24 April 2017 Toruń-Włocławek.**

  **Section Toruń-Włocławek.**


  During the meeting of the Council, the subjects related to the need of revitalization of E40 waterways, the axis of which is Vistula and E70, connecting Western and Eastern Europe, as well as the role of water transport as a transport of the future and an opportunity for economic development and water tourism. The environmental conditions for the water level below Włocławek and the multimodal platform were also discussed.

- **Włocławek – Marina by Vistula.**

  - Włocławek – press briefing for the media.

  The modern Marina in Wloclawek is prepared for servicing both large passenger and cargo vessels, as well as yachts and motorboats, and the industry located here is very interested in transporting goods by water. High interest in the cruise by the local authorities and the public is also the result of the operation of the only water stage on the Lower Vistula River in Włocławek, which in the 1970s began (not continued) the construction of the Lower Vistula Cascade.

- **25 April 2017 Włocławek-Plock.**

  **Section Włocławek-Plock.**

  - Włocławek Lock.
Meeting of Signatories of the Agreement on the development of the Włocławek Tank.

The aim of the Project Partners' Meeting was primarily to discuss current activities for the economic (mainly tourist and recreational) use of the Włocławek Tank, which despite good navigation conditions to conduct cargo and passenger navigation, as well as water tourism, primarily nautical and motorboats, remains still unused. Participants of the meeting, in addition to economic issues, discussed the environmental condition of the tank and the need to extend the cooperation of local governments with subsequent units.

Plock – meeting with the city authorities.

During the stop at the waterfront in Plock, the organizers of the cruise met with representatives of the local authorities of the city of Plock regarding the course of the cruise and the "aquatic" tradition of Plock. During the meeting, the role of shipping in Plock, the accessibility of the Plock port together with all necessary infrastructure and information about the re-launch of the river shipyard in Plock (construction and renovation of inland vessels) was emphasized.

- **26 April 2017 Plock-Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki.**

Section Plock-Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki.

Practical classes of UKW students in Bydgoszcz.

The cruise from Plock to Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki was again reserved for UKW students in Bydgoszcz, who were involved in conducting hydrological and inventory surveys.

- **27 April 2017 Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki-Warsaw.**
Section Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki-Warsaw.

- Meeting of the Working Group at the Committee on Investment in Inland Waterways.

The Investment Committee on Inland Waterways is an advisory board appointed by the Minister of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation, aimed at supporting the Ministry in the area of interdisciplinary revitalization of Polish rivers. Voivodships located on the Vistula River were represented by the Marshal of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship - Mr. Piotr Calbecki. The Working Group operates at the Committee and deals with organizational and substantive matters and supervises current activities. During the cruise, another meeting of the Working Group was held, under the chairmanship of the Secretary of State in the Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation - Mr. Jerzy Materna, during which the matters related to the progress of work on the preparation of feasibility studies for the E30 and E40 waterways, use of the Vistula for transport purposes and construction of the Lower Vistula Cascade.

Warsaw – Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie.

- Press conference summarizing the cruise.

The end of the cruise took place at the Kosciuszko Coast in the very center of Warsaw. For this purpose, on the initiative of the cruise organizers and the Secretary of State in the Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation - Jerzy Materna, a conference summarizing the entire cruise was organized, during which the most important objectives, achievements and statistics of the cruise were presented and reminded, as well as special thanks to all those involved in its implementation.

The research

On the barge were students and employees of the Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz and employees of the Regional Water Management Board in Gdansk, who conducted comprehensive waterway research, including:
• Bathymetric (depth) sounding of the navigable route with the use of LOWRANCE HDS-5 Gen2 single-beam sonar with built-in GPS positioning, in order to develop a longitudinal profile of the entire section with high detail;
• Inventory of spatial development, with particular emphasis on the infrastructure related to the operation of the road and inventory of the shipping markings on the waterway;
• Identification of navigational obstacles limiting the navigable route, i.e. power lines, heating lines, telephone lines, bridges, sluices, weirs, ferry crossings, dangerous places and other obstacles important for inland navigation and nautical infrastructure facilities (ports, harbors, piers);
• Hydro-morphologic assessment of the waterway. This assessment is one of the basic elements of the assessment of the ecological status of surface water, compliant with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive, enabling the quantification of the degree of water environment transformations (measurements of waters disturbance in the Vistula longitudinal profile using the HACH-LANGE 2100QIS01 turbid meter).

The collected data was used to prepare a final report containing, among others, waterway map showing the detailed depth of the route, marking places dangerous for navigation, hydro-morphological assessment, condition of the infrastructure on the waterway, conclusions and recommendations from the conducted research to the location study for the multimodal platform between Bydgoszcz and Solec Kujawski.

**Promotional activities:**

Meanwhile with the organizational and technical activities carried out by the Marshal's Office of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship, activities aimed at promoting the cruise were carried out. The entity responsible for the implementation of the promotional campaign was the self-government of the City of Bydgoszcz. Among the promotional activities undertaken were:
- Development, printout and distribution of a poster informing about the cruise,
- Developing, printing and placing banners promoting project partners on the barge,
- Development, printout and distribution of information leaflets about the EMMA project, cruise and benefits resulting from water transport, in Polish and English version,
- Acquisition of media patrons - TVP 3 Bydgoszcz, Radio PiK, Newspaper Pomorska, Express Bydgoski, News, Newspaper Wyborcza Bydgoszcz,
- Production and broadcast of advertising spots on the cruise,
- Preparation and presentation of an outdoor exhibition entitled Economic use of rivers,
- Renting an example container for teaching purposes,
- Organization of the 2nd National Contest on knowledge about shipping and waterways (Bydgoszcz 6.04.2017),
- Organization of the thematic conference "The future of inland waterway transport in Poland, challenges and development opportunities" (Bydgoszcz, 22/04/2017).
In addition to the above-mentioned activities, the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship applied for entering the plan of events of the nationwide Vistula River Year 2017, as well as granting honorary patronage over the event. Among the acquired patrons were the following institutions:

- Representation of the European Commission in Poland,
- Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation,
- National Water Management Board,
- Maritime and River League,
- Association of the Vistula Cities,
- Global Compact Poland Foundation
- The year of the Vistula River.

In addition, the self-government commissioned and supervised the preparation and implementation of a promotional film and photographic documentation from the entire cruise. The film is available on the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Water Forum channel on YouTube:

- Polish version
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u7lbclVTnnk
- English version
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=91a0ygxLOm4
The container cruise was favorably received among decision makers at various levels and among the public on all sections and was widely commented on in the national, regional and local media. Below are some examples of links to reportages, film materials and press releases regarding the cruise:

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b-Zbziwb_XU
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46Aqm1zSIGRE
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOlZumLuSi4
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cNuexjGCC1w
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJYdugdlXp0
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocWe4Fzs-pM
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G6mfUdZi-UW8
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AkQ8hqqaPZc
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xv3fWYx8cwM
- http://www.soleckujawski.pl/pl/content/rejs-kontenerowy-wis%C5%82%C4%85
- http://grudziadz.pl/pl/contents/content/69/10979
During the cruise, dozens of presentations, lectures and speeches were presented. Among them:

1. **Activities of the Pomeranian Voivodship regarding the development of waterways and maritime economy** - Ryszard Świlski, Member of the Board of the Pomeranian Voivodship.

2. **Discussing plans and undertaken investment activities by the Port of Gdansk Authority SA. in the context of the use of inland waterway transport** - Marcin Ossowski, Port of Gdansk Authority SA.


4. **Improvement of navigational conditions to the ports and marinas of the Vistula Lagoon** - Anna Stelmaszczyk-Świerczyńska, Maritime Office in Gdynia.

5. **Port ambitions of Tczew** - Józef Ziółkowski, Fabryka Sztuki in Tczew.


9. **Lower Vistula! What’s next? The E40 revitalization concept on the Brześć-Vistula section** - Urszula Kowalczyk, the Maritime Institute in Gdańsk.


11. **Second water stage below the Włocławek Tank necessary or unhelpful?** - prof. dr hab. Zygmunt Babiński, dr Michał Habel, UKW in Bydgoszcz.

12. **Feeding or demolition of the barrage in Włocławek** - prof. dr hab. Zygmunt Babiński, dr Michał Habel, UKW in Bydgoszcz.


15. **In the lower Vistula valley** - RDOŚ in Bydgoszcz.

16. **The concept of development and spatial development of the areas around the Włocławek Tank** - dr Zbigniew Brenda, Kujawsko-Pomorskie Office of Spatial and Regional Planning in Włocławek.

17. **Plans for the development of waterways and inland waterway transport** - Przemysław Daca, Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation.

18. **Activities of the self-government of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship regarding the use of the economic potential of the lower Vistula** - Sławomir Kopyść, Member of the Board of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship.

19. **Market perspectives of using the Vistula River through the port of Gdansk** - Ryszard Mazur, Port of Gdansk Authority SA.

Cooperation:

Implementation of the project was possible with the cooperation and help of:

1. Regional Management of Water Management in Gdansk,
2. Office of Inland Navigation in Bydgoszcz,
3. Office of Inland Navigation in Gdansk,
4. Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz,
5. Bydgoszcz Shipping Sp. z o. o.,
6. Water Volunteer Ambulance Service Włocławek,
7. Vistula Shipping Company,
8. The self-government of the Pomeranian Voivodship.

And the contractor of the contract subject for the Trans-Wod company, Czesław Błocki.

Conclusions and recommendations:

- The pilot container cruise proved the possibility of water transport on the Vistula River on the section Gdansk-Warsaw. At the same time, it indicated bottlenecks on the waterway limiting the conduct of water transport.
- The observations collected during the cruise and the results of the research were used to develop a description of the subject of the contract for the task titled Location study for a multimodal platform based on water, rail, road and air transport with a logistic and storage center on the river port located in the indicated area of the left bank of Vistula (km 766 -771) including the area of the City of Bydgoszcz and Solec Kujawski.
- The cruise was widely commented in the national, regional and local media, which contributed to the success of the media event and the promotion of inland waterway transport.
- Promotional cruise popularized public knowledge about the economic use of rivers and inland ports, including construction between Bydgoszcz and Solec Kujawski and a multimodal platform, i.e. connected transshipment hubs: water, rail and car.
- The promotional film from the cruise is presented on many meetings, conferences and trade fairs, where it successfully promotes water transport on Vistula.
- The flowing barge clearly indicated that such a means of transport is important, and indeed indispensable in servicing the mass of goods in our country. A particularly important aspect is the possibility of facilitating the export of cargo from sea ports of Gdansk and Gdynia, using inland transport, which on one hand will relieve road and rail transport, and on the other hand will give new opportunities for the development of both ports. Seaports are the starting point for the export of goods, which through the region of Kujawsko-Pomorskie
region will go further into Poland, and at the same time are the destination of cargo from the center of the country directed for export.

✓ It is worth mentioning that in the section Gdansk-Plock, along with the container cruise, an oversize load was transported, which transported the cargo to Plock and continued by road transport to one of the Mazovian companies. The accompanying river set even more highlighted the fact that transports using inland waterways are an indispensable link in the country's transport network.