

## The European project “Harmony” was launched in London

*Harmony envisages the development of a new generation of harmonised spatial and multimodal transport planning tools which comprehensively model the dynamics of the changing transport sector and spatial organisation, enabling metropolitan area authorities to lead the transition to a low carbon new mobility era in a sustainable manner.*

Barcelona, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**Harmony** is a European project funded by the European Commission within the programme **Horizon 2020**. Its name stands for “Holistic Approach for Providing Spatial & Transport Planning Tools and Evidence to Metropolitan and Regional Authorities to Lead a Sustainable Transition to a New Mobility Era”. Its consortium gathers 21 members from 9 different European countries that will be working together for the three and a half years to come.

Against the background of expanding urbanisation and evolving transport challenges, Harmony will support **public authorities** and **service providers** in **transport and spatial planning**. As such, Harmony will be cooperating with **CIVITAS**, a network of European cities committed to testing and implementing urban transport solutions for a more sustainable mobility.

More specifically, it will elaborate a **model suite**, i.e. a platform bringing together not only transport and spatial planning models but also regional community growth models. For example, it will address challenges related to land use, passenger and freight transport, multimodal mobility and so on. Consequently, these models will inform suitable **recommendations** to be implemented in different urban scenarios. Harmony will test its **solutions** in 6 different cities and metropolitan areas, namely Rotterdam - NL, Oxfordshire - UK, Athens - GR, Turin - IT, Trikala - GR, Katowice - POL. Real-life testing will include demonstrations with **drones** and **autonomous vehicles** at the service of citizens’ needs. In addition, Harmony will provide a platform for multi-stakeholders’ partnerships and appropriate training for public officials in order to close the gap between understanding and planning the mobility of the future.

The whole consortium gathered for the **kick-off meeting** at UCL in London, UK, on 5th and 6th June 2019. After a general overview of the project by the coordinator Dr Maria Kamargianni, each member of the consortium introduced its work package and explained its role within the project. Furthermore, the consortium had the pleasure of hosting the **project officer** from the European Commission, Dr Octavia Stepan, who underlined the meaningful impact Harmony will produce in addressing **travelling demand** and **CO2 reduction** at a regional level.

The meeting was followed by the public **launch event** on 7th June, with more than 150 participants registered. It was structured in three main panels of experts, each one focusing on a different aspect: innovation proposed by industries, challenged faced by urban authorities, spatial and transport planning. Finally, a cross-session discussion wrapped up the event and shed some light into future developments.

The **role of Significance in Harmony** is to provide its expertise in developing operational transport planning models in different European countries. In **HARMONY** Significance will contribute to Workpackage 6, the tactical freight simulator, in close cooperation with TU Delft and University of the Aegean. Significance will lead on the implementation of the tactical freight simulator to ensure a practical and applicable result is delivered. Significance

will use its position as a leading transport modelling company to ensure the state-of-the art developments resulting from HARMONY will be utilised beyond the scope of the project.

You can follow Harmony on [Linkedin](#) and [Twitter](#) to keep updated with its next developments.

## Project Factsheet

Duration: 1 June 2019 - 30 November 2022

Total cost: 7 649 645,25€

EC contribution: 7 430 894,50€

Coordinator: University College London

Partners: TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITEIT DELFT, PANEPISTIMIO AIGAIU, UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON, INSTITUTE OF COMMUNICATION AND COMPUTER SYSTEMS, AIMSUN SL, TRT TRASPORTI E TERRITORIO SRL, ENIDE SOLUTIONS SL, SIGNIFICANCE BV, AIRBUS DEFENCE AND SPACE GMBH, ARRIVAL LTD, NEDERLANDSE ORGANISATIE VOOR TOEGEPAST NATUURWETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERZOEK TNO, MOBY X SOFTWARE LIMITED, ASSOCIAZIONE URBAN LAB, GRIFF AVIATION AS, OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, ANAPTYXIAKI ETAIREIA DIMOU TRIKKAION ANAPTYXIAKI ANONYMI ETAIREIA OTA - E-TRIKALA AE, COMUNE DI TORINO, GEMEENTE ROTTERDAM, ORGANISMOS ASTIKON SYGKOINONION ATHINON AE, GORNOSLASKO-ZAGLEBIOWSKA METROPOLIA

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Project Consortium, 05/06/2019, London, UK.



Panellists at the launch event, 07/06/2019, London, UK.



The project coordinator Maria Kamargianni introducing the consortium members at the kick-off meeting, 05/06/2019, London, UK.