

IMPRINT-NET

Expert Group 3 - Maritime

Workshop 1

The aim of Imprint-Net and our meetings

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AIM & OBJECTIVES

- Seeking methodological consensus on the identification and calculation of social marginal costs in maritime and inland waterway transport;
- Analyse and interpret implemented practices and actual barriers to pricing reform.
- Highlighting peculiarities and likely impacts of reform policies for the new Member States.

BACKGROUND

- Infrastructure costs
Infrastructure costs largely not dependant on use
- Externalities
Congested ports
Contribution to pollution
- Current pricing
Port charges vs. handling charges
Non-transparency of current charges
- Implementation aspects
Legal framework: International / intercontinental
Public (municipal or central) vs. Private ports
Acceptability in the light of modal shift objectives

PLANNING

First two meetings: focus on identifying and comparing current cost accounting and allocation practices in different ports in the EU.

Third and fourth meeting: major barriers for implementing social marginal cost based pricing reforms in maritime transport will be identified, and critical success factors to break these barriers will be pinpointed, based on implemented (best) practices.

PLANNING MEETING 1: Overview and state-of-the-art

- Review of current port pricing strategies and financing of infrastructures
- State of the Art in terms of methodologies for valuing actual costs (per user category). What does social marginal costs mean in the maritime sector, which are important categories?
- Possible pricing strategies, externalities to focus
- Identification of possible improvements for charging scheme

PLANNING FUTURE MEETINGS

- Meeting 2: Costs measurement and accounting practices
- Meeting 3: Impacts
- Meeting 4: Implementation issues (enabling factors and barriers)

TIMING

The planning of the meetings is as follows:

Meeting 1: 7 February 2006

Meeting 2: September 2006

Meeting 3: March 2007

Meeting 4: September 2007

DETAIL MEETING 1

- Objectives:
 - Highlighting gaps, uncertainties and areas of disagreement
 - Reach consensus about the arguments and external cost categories for social marginal cost based pricing reforms
- Presentations:
 - Introductory presentation: setting the framework
 - State of the art of research on costs measurement
 - Current cost components in maritime sector