



Regulation Framework for Freight Transport and Distribution in Suceava's Open Markets

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New regulations regarding freight distribution (access, weight, time window) connected to the 3 main open markets in Suceava city, Romania.

In October 2017 Suceava Municipality developed a new set of local regulations to reduce the impact of freight (traffic congestion, noise and air pollution) on citizens living in residential areas near the markets; and to increase the efficiency of business activity connected to the open markets.



Differentiated tonnage specifications established for freight vehicles



Delivery-time window regulation introduced

Some partial and total access restrictions introduced

Penalties and disincentives put in place to address regulation non-compliance

Scope of works

Currently in Suceava there are three main open markets in the important neighbourhoods: Centru, G Enescu and Burdujeni, operating daily from 8 am to 6 pm. The shop owners and vendors deal with a wide variety of goods (fruits, vegetables, meat, local handicrafts products, clothes, etc). These markets are located near residential areas where the roads are very narrow, and traffic volumes are very high.

A set of regulations was designed in co-operation with the local stakeholders including vendors, local producers, residents, public servants; communicated; and implemented for these three main market areas in January 2018. The new regulation framework was designed to improve the traffic conditions, improve the conditions for market businesses, facilitate the access for customers and increase general accessibility.

Traffic sign posts were installed with information regarding access (whether areas of temporary, or total access restrictions), delivery time window (fixed outside the road traffic rush hour between 5-8am and 6-8pm) and vehicle weight (different weights based on location and final destination of deliveries).

Markets managers worked closely with local traffic police and shop owners in order to verify regulation compliance. Penalties and disincentives introduced to address non-compliance.

New parking places for market traders created, with 54 specifically reserved for alternatively fuelled vehicles. Charging facilities for electric vehicles installed near the markets.

Rehabilitation of the access roads and sidewalks is expected to be finalised by June 2018.

Outcomes

It is expected that these measures will lead to the following outcomes: significant improvement of the quality of life in the city with fewer heavy-goods vehicles in residential areas; reduction in harmful emissions; noise and traffic accidents as a result of fewer HGVs in the city centre; increased accessibility; and savings for local companies.

Lessons learnt

- When drafting a regulation involvement of all economic operators (suppliers of goods, carriers, customers) is key to account for all relevant aspects and interests
- Stringent and strictly applied freight transport regulations should assist compliance
- A good communication strategy is essential
- Promote positive environmental effects and economic benefits for transporters to raise public awareness and achieve a positive stakeholder perception.

Future of the project

Similar regulations will be designed and implemented for the main shopping area in the city centre by 2020. This is in line with recent traffic calming measures, and the improvement of public space and pedestrian areas.



Working group set up to involve the interest groups that may be affected by the regulation

Negotiation and coordination meetings to define regulations to ensure acceptance among carriers and others

Long period of stakeholder coordination, cooperation and negotiation scheduled



Impact and process assessment planned from the outset, to monitor progress and guide the policy



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[Freight TAILS Integrated Action Plan for Suceava](#)