

LNG Masterplan Rhine-Main-Danube

The project deals with the implementation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) as a fuel and transport good for shipping and develops a master plan for the necessary steps for its implementation. The project consists of a series of feasibility studies, technical concepts, training courses and pilot applications for ships and terminal infrastructure. It is an international project involving 33 companies and institutions from 12 EU Member States.

LNG is an attractive energy source for the European market due to numerous advantages. However, the use of LNG requires the development of an infrastructure in all areas of the supply chain. It is also important to define uniform and regulatory framework conditions and safety standards. This requires a European strategy and close cooperation between the public sector and private companies.



To promote this development, the LNG Masterplan project has been developed within the framework of the TEN-T Multi-Annual Programs - Call 2012 "Priority Projects", Priority Project 18 "Rhine-Main-Danube" of the European Union. The project involves 33 beneficiaries and more than 50 associated partners, with Pro Danube Management GmbH being responsible for overall coordination.

The LNG Master Plan aims to create a platform for cooperation between authorities and stakeholders in the industry, with the objective to promote the creation of a single European legal framework for LNG as a fuel and as a freight in inland waterway transport. In addition, the integration of industrial partners is to drive the use of LNG as an energy carrier for industrial applications. Technical concepts for new or retrofitted LNG-driven vessels as well as for the transport of LNG are also part of the plan, as are a considerable number of pilot projects for ships and terminals.

A comprehensive strategy, together with a detailed plan for the implementation of LNG, is to be developed in accordance with the objectives of the EU transport, energy and environmental policy. The master plan is also to serve as a trailblazer for cost-effective supply to customers along the inland waterway, whether in the fuel or the energy sector. In doing so, the inland ports along the Rhine-Main-Danube axis are to serve as key distribution centers for LNG, in order to provide the hinterland and any pioneer users with LNG.

The aim is to enable a broad-based development of LNG as fuel and as a source of energy. The project has a term of three years and runs from 1. January 2013 to 31. December 2015.



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