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# Inland Navigation in Crisis Times

13.10.2021 Danube Business Talks

# REWWay – research cooperation

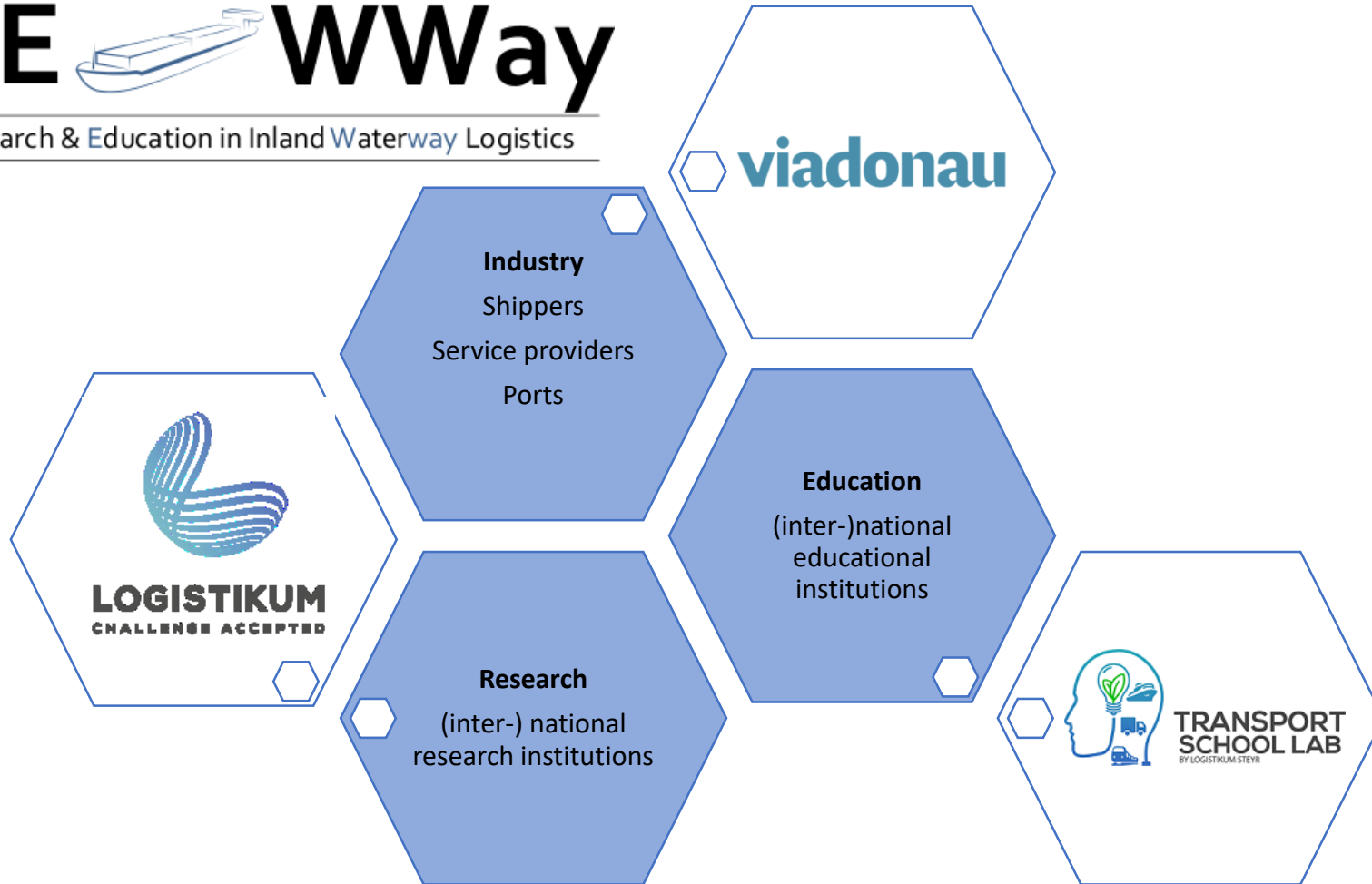


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RE WWay  
Research & Education in Inland Waterway Logistics

# RE WWay

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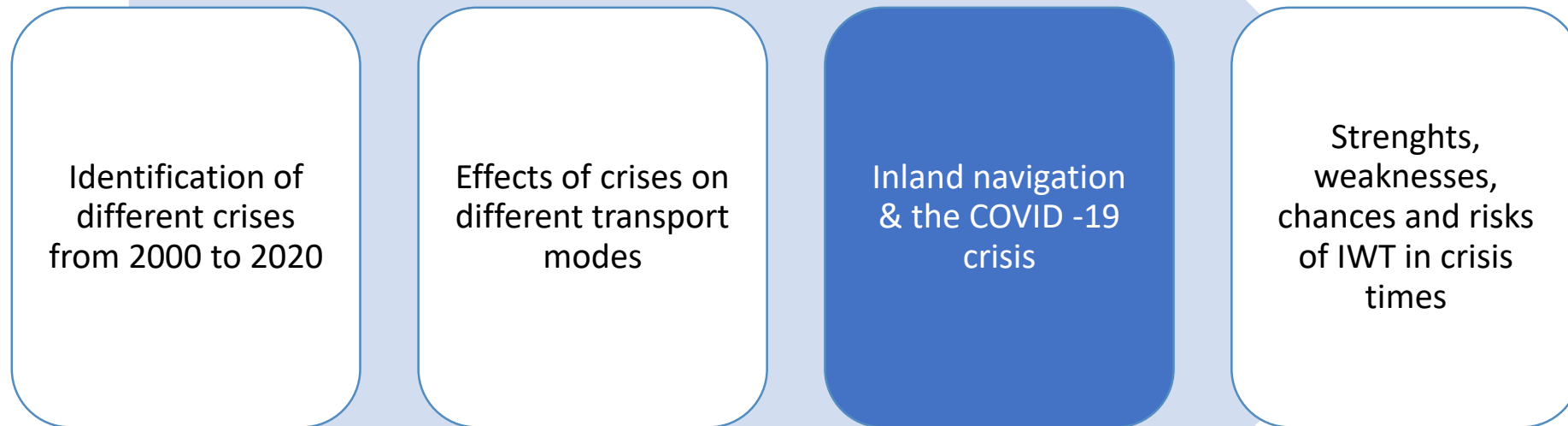
# Inland Navigation in Crisis Times

## Overview



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# Transport performance

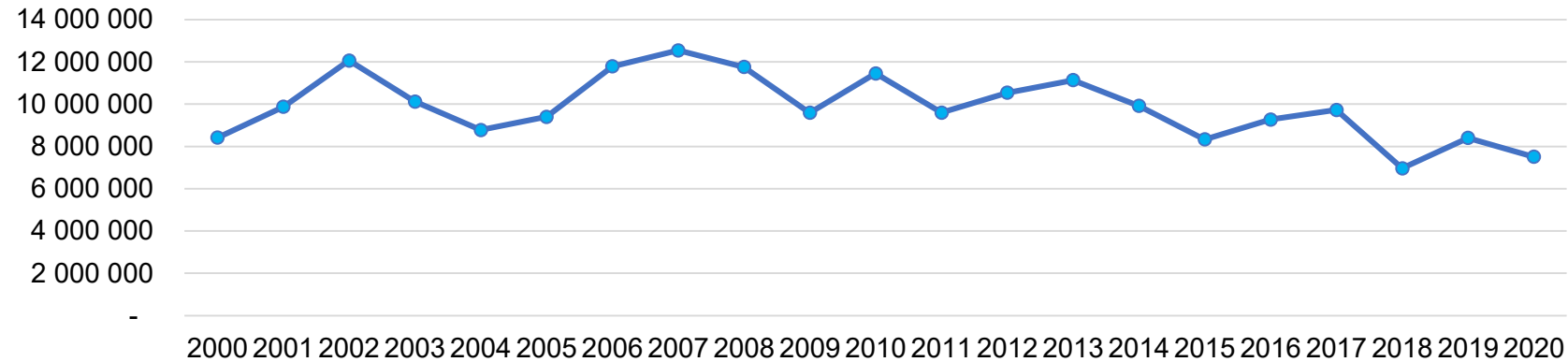


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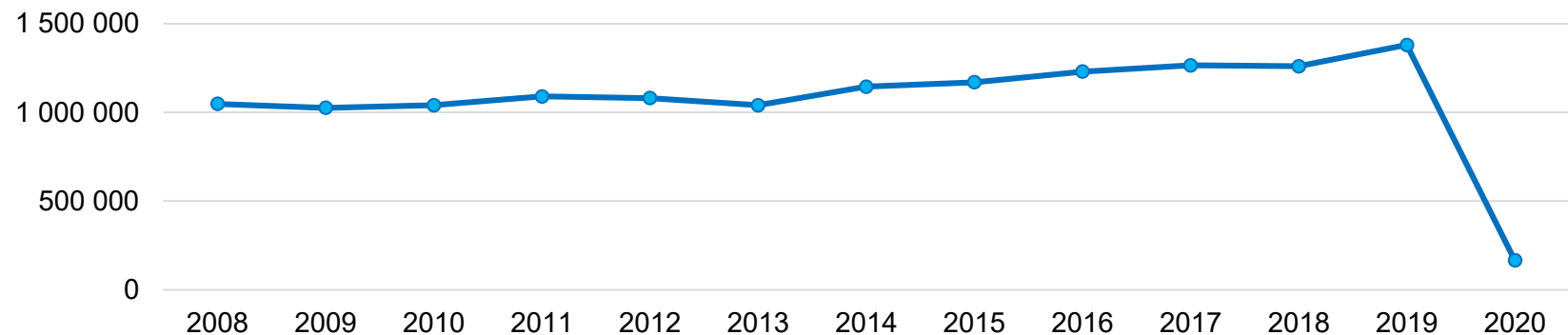
## Transport performance - freight transport using IWT

total ton kilometres from 2000 - 2020



## Transport performance - passenger transport using IWT

number of passenger from 2008 to 2020



# Impacts of COVID-19 on Passenger & Freight transport



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## Positive impacts

- Strengthening of **customer bonding** (FT & PT)
- **Experience and know-how** for future crises (FT & PT)
- **Reorganisation** of processes possible (PT)
- **Modal Shift towards IWT** through additional storage at ports and lacking waiting times at borders (FT)

## Negative impacts

- **Change of crew** was difficult (FT & PT)
- „**Regulatory jungle**“ (FT & PT)
- **Temporary suspension** of passenger navigation (PT)
- **Personnel bonding** (PT)
- Lacking **tourists** (PT)
- Missing **events** (PT)
- **Berthing bans** → Program changes (PT)
- **Limitations** on passengers and crew members (PT)
- **Decreases in turnover** (FT)

# Lessons learned out of the COVID-19 crisis



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- ✓ *"... recall the actions of an honourable merchant"*
  - Stable financial situation
  - Weigh investment in new ships carefully
  - Build up financial reserves
  
- ✓ There is hardly any representation of interests for IWT (internationally).
  - Individual parties are at the countries' mercy
  - Cooperation in future crises important
  
- ✓ Flexibility available for timetable changes (PV)

# Conclusions



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## Freight transport

- Besides the general **worldwide reduction of transport demand** resulting in a reduced transport volume on waterways, other negative impacts on IWT were largely due to **inconsistent regulations** on an international basis.
- A positive impact was the **higher demand for IWT at the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis** due to a higher demand for RoRo transports in order to avoid border waiting times.

## Passenger transport

- Passenger transport suffered **tremendous losses** due to the governmental decision to suspend traffic for several months.
- Hardly any positive effects were observed for passenger transport. Experts named an **increase in experience and know-how for future crises** and the possibility to analyse and optimize internal processes as positive impacts.



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