



Overview

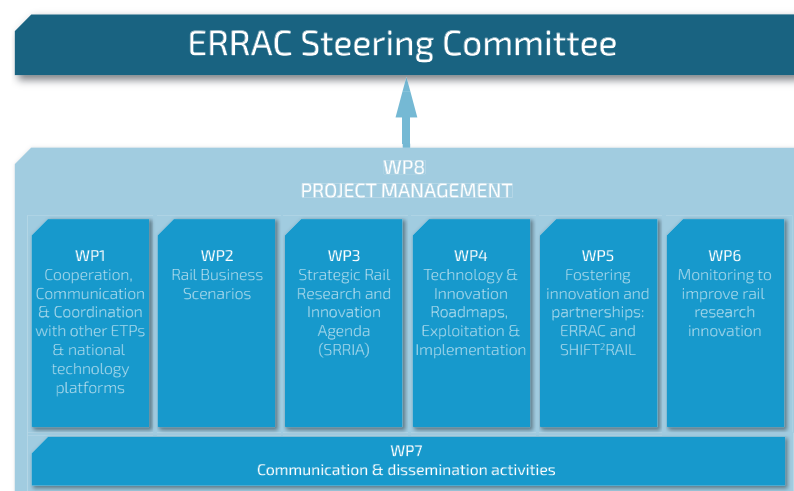
FOSTER RAIL assists ERRAC and the other transport-related European Technology Platforms (ETP) in defining research needs for their strategies and programmes in order to realise the objectives of the Europe-2020 strategy and further on the vision of the White Paper 2011 for a competitive and resource-efficient future transport system.

On the basis of the previous ERRAC-ROADMAP project, FOSTER RAIL continues to support and enhance cooperation between stakeholders, including decision-makers, as well as the definition of strategic research and innovation needs. As regards research and innovation targeting co-modality and other multi-modal issues, FOSTER RAIL addresses them in supportive cooperation with other transport modes.

This project is an essential support tool to provide ERRAC with a relevant Strategic Rail Research and Innovation Agenda as well as a Rail Business Scenario for 2050. These documents shall finally be the reference for the future technology roadmaps to be developed.

Organisation

The FOSTER RAIL work plan has been structured into 8 Work Packages (WP) which correspond to a series of logical steps with a certain degree of inter-relation that ensures the successful outcome of the project.



Impact

Investment in rail research and innovation represents a major stake for the future of the European Union in meeting the main challenge of providing the EU citizens with an efficient, comfortable and sustainable mobility.

FOSTER RAIL aims at ensuring a complete coherence of the strategic research and innovation developments within the European rail sector. Alongside the launch of the new EC Framework Programme for Research, Horizon 2020, the European rail sector has recognised the huge challenges it faces but also the significant opportunities that this programme offers.

FOSTER RAIL is expected to deliver sustainable solutions to the rail transport sector in and for Europe. Aside from solutions, FOSTER RAIL will pay attention to standardisation as one of the main assets in developing an efficient, competitive and safe rail system. Building on ERRAC's roadmaps and working groups while at the same time engaging with the relevant stakeholders and ETPs (ERTRAC, Waterborne, ACARE) will lead to an enhanced definition of the sector's strategic and innovation needs.

FOSTER RAIL will deliver updated technology roadmaps by filling the gaps with the recommendations provided by the 2050 Rail Business Scenarios and the new Strategic Rail Research and Innovation Agenda (SRRIA). Finally, FOSTER RAIL is also supporting the development of the Joint Undertaking, SHIFT²RAIL.

A strong European railway system and market is one key to a sustainable mobility in a low-carbon society. To meet the challenges for the transportation sector in the European Commission's 2011 Transport White Paper, adequate investments in targeted research and innovation are necessary.

Ensuring the relevance and applicability of the rail research activities requires effective support to prioritise innovative methodologies and technologies for more competitive rail transport operations.

FOSTER RAIL will guide rail research and innovation efforts in order to provide solutions which will strongly contribute to the attractiveness of the railway sector to the European society, and support the European leadership and competitiveness of the sector at the world level.

Partners



More information on the project:

www.errac.org/foster-rail

Contact:

Mr. Dennis Schut (FOSTER RAIL Project Manager)

UIC Research Manager

schut@uic.org

Mrs. Léa Paties

UNIFE Project Manager

Lea.Paties@unife.org