



MAGPIE

SMART GREEN PORTS

Press release

MAGPIE Port City Workshop

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**Funded by
the European Union**

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 (MFF 2014-2020) research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement 101036594

Press release

MAGPIE PORT CITY WORKSHOP:

“Sharing MAGPIE’s innovations and results with Portuguese ports”

Matosinhos, Portugal - October 2nd, 2025

In collaboration with its consortium members, the MAGPIE project hosted the third MAGPIE Port-City Workshop in Matosinhos, Portugal, on the 2nd of October. The gathering was steered by the project leader, the Port of Rotterdam and the AIVP - International Association Cities and Ports, in strong cooperation with the Portuguese members of Magpie, the Port of Sines, The Porto Institute for Systems and Computer Engineering, Technology and Science (INESC TEC) and Energias de Portugal (EDP). The event was warmly hosted by the APDL - the Port Authority of Douro and Leixões in its Auditorium Infante D. Henrique. Presenting the MAGPIE project and the Portuguese partners specificities the workshop aimed to provide an opportunity for interaction between the consortium partners and stakeholders from the local ecosystem of the port city.

More than 60 participants from across Europe gathered for this public workshop to learn and discuss digitalization, decarbonization and sustainable green ports. The focus of the workshop was on the use of digital tools in the governance of the energy transition, the decarbonisation of port modalities and the role of alternative fuels in port greening strategies. The discussion also addressed how to overcome non-tech barriers to MAGPIE innovations.

Event Overview:

- **Date:** October 2nd, 2025
- **Location:** Auditório Infante D. Henrique, in Leça da Palmeira, Matosinhos, Portugal.

The workshop was designed to be an inclusive platform, welcoming all interested parties to contribute with their perspectives. The day presented synergies between MAGPIE and Portuguese stakeholders, the results of different demonstrators as well as their scaling up in European ports and Portuguese ports, such as the ports of Sines and Leixões. The aim was to obtain perspectives on how the MAGPIE’s innovations can be of interest to Portuguese stakeholders in local and regional actions. The workshop was introduced by the hosting partners the Port Authority of Leixões and the Port of Rotterdam, setting the stage for a series of insightful discussions.

Summary of the Program:

Morning Sessions: The morning sessions featured a presentation of the synergies between the project and its Portuguese stakeholders, the role of the Port of Sines within the project and its vision of the transition, as well as a presentation of the Municipality of Matosinhos masterplan for the transition. Speakers included Dr Marta Moura Laranja Pontes, Councillor for Tourism and Economic Activities at the Municipality of Matosinhos; Jaime Puna, Executive Member of the Board of the Port of Sines; Oscar van Veen, Director of Innovation at the Port of Rotterdam; and Hugo Batista, Marketing & Communication lead at the Port of Leixões. The day continued with an introduction to the Port of Sines Innovation Roadmap by Cláudio Pinto, Director Innovation and Information Systems.

The first discussion after this focused on the governance of digitalization of ports, outlining the challenges, barriers and accelerators involved. These were illustrated with examples from the Port of Sines and the Port of Lisbon. Speakers included Zenaida Mourao (INESC TEC), Haydee Sheombar (Erasmus University Rotterdam), Ana Rita Martins (Port of Sines), and Paula Sengo (Port of Lisbon). Paula Sengo also gave insights into the general state of digitalization in relation to the energy transition in European Ports through her insight gained from her work with the European Sea Port Organisation (ESPO) as well.

The morning ended with a session on the decarbonization of port multimodalities. The session shared insights on challenges for inland shipping, road transport, and cruise tourist transportation. It presented MAGPIE's perspectives on opportunities for business process redesign, through demonstrators such as MAGPIE autonomous barge or green connected truck. The session also presented one of the MAGPIE sister project PIONEERS' demonstrator, the Maas app designed for the demonstrator "Mobility as a Service for a Better Port-City Accessibility", an aggregator of mobility services designed for the Cruise Port of Barcelona. The contributions were from Gunnar Platz (Planco Consulting), Jaco van Meijeren (TNO), Reyer Will (Port of Rotterdam), and Christoph Vollath (RACC), representing PIONEERS.

Afternoon Sessions: The workshop resumed with a discussion on the role of alternative fuels in port greening strategies. The session focused on local specificities for ports such as Sines and Leixões, their respective roadmaps, the role of renewables and electrification, and plausible scenarios for electricity development within their premises in the near future. Speakers included Kennard Brandenburgh (Distro Energy), Neda Vahabzad, (TU Delft), Miguel Castro (Port of Sines) and Hugo Lopes (Port of Leixões).

Following was the last session of the day, an interactive discussion on how to overcome non-tech barriers in ports. The participants split into smaller groups to collect input, particularly from ports, on the barriers and ways to scale up MAGPIE innovations, as well as any other solutions the project may have overlooked. Larissa van der Lugt (Erasmus UPT), Hannah Mosmans, (Erasmus UPT) and Carlos Pinho (Forum Oceano) led the discussions.

Highlights:

- **Collaboration between various stakeholders:** In the sessions of governance of the digitalization and the decarbonisation of multimodalities, it became clear that it was crucial to involve various actors in the process as they each have different priorities, responsibilities, and capacities to support the energy transition. Digital tools can help in this multi-stakeholder governance model; however, it is necessary to cooperate between these stakeholders to obtain data. In regard to decarbonising existing multimodalities, it is necessary to collaborate with the various owners.
- **Regional Development:** A strong focus was placed on highlighting the ports of Sines, Leixões and Lisbon roles in providing testing grounds for new technology of use in the national energy transition.
- **Green Port of the Future:** During the alternative fuel session and the interactive session on non-technological barriers, it became clear that port authorities need to modify their classic systems of operation to prepare for the mixity of energies and be able to facilitate the implementation through economic, policy, and social incentives. The port authorities need to take a more active role to become the European green ports of the future.

As the MAGPIE project enters its final year and the project's demonstrators come to fruition, the Port-City Workshop in Matosinhos shed a light on the upcoming developments of the project that can benefit fellow European ports and stakeholders. The discussions on digitalization, decarbonisation strategies, and the cooperation they demand to be implemented namely offered a glimpse in the future of port operations. The project now looks forward to the steps to engage with the wider public, the MAGPIE exhibitions taking place in Le Havre, France, between March and August 2026 and Rotterdam, Netherlands between April and September 2026. The exhibition in Le Havre will present four of the project's demonstrators and allow visitors to explore these developments, shaping the port-city of tomorrow. In the exhibition of Rotterdam, three demonstrators will be presented as models, allowing visitors to scan them with tablets to learn more about the invention and the MAGPIE project. Interested parties are invited to come learn more about the project through these exhibitions or join us at the closing conference, which will take place in September 2026 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

About MAGPIE:

Our project has the ambition to force a breakthrough in the supply and use of green energy carriers in transport to, from and within ports. We create energy efficiencies and support developments that make green energy carriers available to the users. By demonstrating and implementing smart solutions in the realm of digitalization and automation, we facilitate and contribute to the decarbonization of port related transport.

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