

## **Interchangable Mobility. New Form of Tourism on Elblag Canal**

**Elblag Canal is a 150-year-old unique water system with original working 19th century inclined planes and abundant natural and regional architectural heritage.**

The aim of this project is to introduce a new tourist programme in this rather neglected waterway that is unlikely to be restored to its original shape. The programme should replace loud, old fuel-consuming passenger ships currently carrying large groups of tourists between the inclined planes.

The first stage of the project mapped the region in order to create a network of tourist attractions, for years hidden from the world due to their considerable distance from the waterway and lack of places to disembark along the canal. The programme assumes travelling by smaller boats between harbours located

in the previously selected points and further exploring terrains along the canal on foot or by bicycles. The vessels are designed especially for this waterway and equipped with battery powered paddle wheel; they can accommodate up to four people and allow four bicycles to be taken on board.

The ports are located within a few hours' distance from each other, which represents the autonomy of the boats, and offer easy access to tourist tracks and bicycle paths. They provide a shelter during the day, a camping site and the opportunity for charging batteries. Moreover, the noiseless and odour-free drive is ideal for shallow eutrophic canal waters - it will not frighten away the animals living in closest proximity of the canal and, simultaneously, will supply water plants and fish with oxygen •

