

Promoting Cooperation & Coordination for the Corn Belt Ports

Advancing Smart Logistics – National Science Foundation

National Science Foundation (NSF) Engines Grant

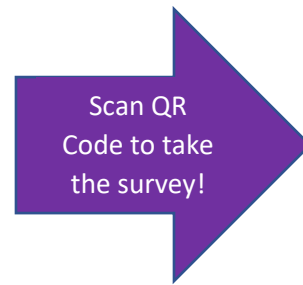
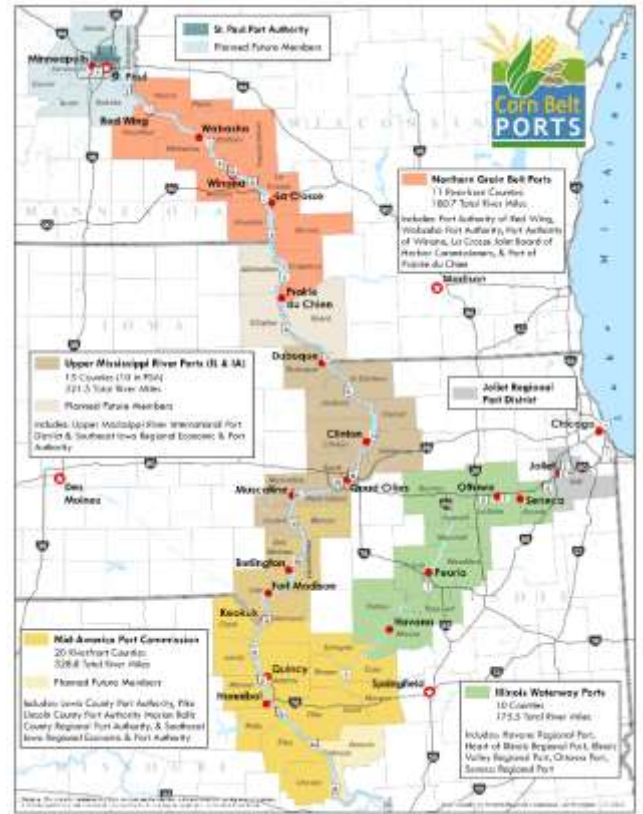
- **Recipients:** Corn Belt Ports, Western Illinois University (WIU), Illinois Innovation Network, and others.
- \$1,000,000 NSF Planning Grant – **Advancing Smart Logistics (ASL)** (awarded 2023-2025)

ASL project focuses on the rise of Industry 4.0 (I4.0) technologies and the impact on logistics and supply chain management.

- **Our portion of the project focuses on:**
 1. **Business Clusters:** Operation of **regional inland ports** as **business clusters** for increased competitiveness.
 2. **Smart Logistics:** Impact of base technologies for Industry 4.0 (cloud services, IoT, big data and data analytics) on regional ports, business clusters, and supply chain competitiveness.

Asking for your input on this initiative

- **Requesting 10-15 minutes to complete the anonymous survey**
- Seeking input regarding if and how stakeholders along the regional port *cooperate* to improve *coordination* along the supply chain to increase *investment* and economic *development*.
- Inviting input from representatives of any sector including but not limited to:
 - Transportation companies
 - Terminal facilities
 - Planning & economic development entities
 - Growers & producers
 - Public sector, governmental agencies, and elected officials
 - Supporters of the creation of new/expanded waterborne commerce and river-related businesses



Ultimate Goal: Spur *innovation* and increased Corn Belt Ports *competitiveness* while driving economic *development* in our region and enabling *investment* in our supply chain infrastructure.

The survey outcomes will be used as input into a larger \$160 Million NSF Grant proposal in 2024/2025.

