



DETRA
Developing the European Transport Research Alliance

Mobility for researchers

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What is ECTRI ?

- Non-profit organisation established in 2003 to
 - Promote integrated transport research and development in Europe
 - Tie together the foremost multi-modal transport research centers across Europe
 - Promote the excellence of European transport research
- 28 major transport research institutes from 20 European countries
- More than 4,000 research staff
- Brussels based organisation

2000 - Concept of the EC's initiative for realising a European Research Area (ERA):

- the creation of an 'internal market' in research - an area of free movement of knowledge, **researchers** and technology - with the aim of increasing cooperation, stimulating competition and achieving a better allocation of resources;

2007 - Green paper aiming to deepen and widen ERA:

- Removing the institutional and national barriers hampering free movement of researchers
- improving their working conditions and widening their career prospects

Statutes in 2002 puts as objective for the association to “participate in the structuring of the European Research Area (ERA) by networks of mobility and training”

Strategic paper in 2008 sets up that « ECTRI will facilitate the mobility and exchange of researchers between European research institutions »

Establishment as from 2002 of a **Working Group on Mobility and Training**

Objective to promote human resources and mobility by:

- Tackling with the attractiveness and the preparation of next steps for the mobility and training of transport scientists (including the next generation);
- Discussing all the elements of “actions to promote human resources and mobility” through participation in Marie Curie programme, exchanges of researchers, post-doc and PhD students;
- Defining the most suitable areas for short, medium and long terms actions.

Organisation of Young Researchers Seminars (YRS) –

Jointly with  & 

- Objective: giving young researchers the opportunity to present the results of their researches during multicultural and interdisciplinary European tutorials
- Research domains:
 1. Transport economics, policy and transport behaviour
 2. Transport sustainability and environment
 3. Transport safety
 4. Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) & Traffic
 5. Transport Civil and Road Engineering
- **5th YRS to take place in Copenhagen at DTU, from 8 to 10 June 2011**

More information: <http://www.ectri.org/YRS11/>

Participation of ECTRI Members in 6 Marie Curie and People actions

In FP6, Marie Curie Actions related to Transfer of Knowledge (TOK) and International Reintegration Grant (IRG) i.e:

- TRANS-AID (TOK) : Transfer of Knowledge in Transport Infrastructure financing (INRETS, HIT, BUTE)
- TITaM (TOK): Transport Infrastructure technologies and Management (CDV, TRL, BAST)
- VUDEGFEM (IRG) : Vulnerable road users: detailed geometry and finite element models for impact conditions (INRETS)

In FP7, People actions related to Initial Training Network (ITN)

- ADAPTATION “Driver’s Behavioural adaptation over the time in response to ADA use” – ITN
- VECOM “Vehicle Concept Modelling” – ITN

Contribution in 2005 to FP7 « PEOPLE » Specific Programme

I. Initial training of researchers

Marie Curie trans-national networks

Early stage researchers



PEOPLE
7FRDP Specific Programme

ECTRI INPUT

II- Life-long training and career development

III- Industry-academia pathways and partnerships

IV- The international dimension

V- Specific actions (genuine European labour market for researchers)



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WP1 – Mobility for researchers

Main scope:

- To build up a new generation of transport researchers in the European Union and its Associated States,
- To increase their skills, to improve their employability and
- To favour their trans-national mobility in a multicultural and multidisciplinary context

Expected outcomes:

- A further step towards the implementation of EC recommendations on Mobility of researchers (Vision 2020)
- Paving the way to propose complementary actions that could be included in the future EC programmes and actions related to Mobility

Main tasks of WP1

TASK 1 - Analysing the actions conducted in Europe regarding Training and Mobility in the transport domain in order to make **recommendations** to get them improved and to help in the **shaping of future EC programmes** in this domain

Inclusion of 3 initiatives to converge towards a joint action plan, and some methods and tools to improve education, training and mobility in transport domain i.e.:

TASK 2 - Designing of a **European PhD in Transport**,

TASK 3 - Organising an “**ad hoc**” training program,

TASK 4 - Setting up of a **dedicated Mobility web portal in transport**

Building up a new generation of transport researchers in the European Union is a challenging task

Several important and relevant initiatives....

- EU initiatives like European Charter of Researchers (set up some principles supporting their mobility and favouring young researchers), scientific visa, researchers recognition, Mobility centres network, European portal for researchers mobility (euraxess)
- A number of support schemes for early stage researchers exist in the ERA, e.g. two of the major international schemes are the ERC (European Research Council) Starting Scientists Grants and the Marie Curie Scheme as well another scheme from COST programme
- Initiatives have been set up by NoEs-VCEs (HUMANIST, EURNEX, NEARCTIS) and Associations (ECTRI)
- Initiatives set up in the education: ex. Erasmus exchanges, Erasmus Mundus, etc.

... but not coordinated

- Common points in the above initiatives
 - Main focus on young researchers:
 - preparation of project to be funded, favouring young researchers
 - giving prizes to young researchers for research projects or articles in conferences
 - Training schools in different context: Marie Curie projects, COST Actions, BUT without any synergy among them
 - At university educational level: exchange of educational programme at master level, joint courses, double degree, Erasmus exchanges

- What is missing ?
 - Promotion of exchanges of researchers between universities, research centres, industries , etc. **not on project basis** (EU project, COST actions), **but related to common research interests** → usually these are made on personal initiative by the researchers
 - Support **Joint PhD programme on big themes** (as transport) to give a common language and a common approach to the research in the different countries
 - Facilitate the **exchange of senior researchers** and the transfer of knowledge, with adequate family policies
 - Promoting a **transfer of knowledge programme**
 - Support the **exchange between academic and industry** worlds, valorising the PhD students

1. Collect the different experiences overall Europe through a questionnaire sent to a large audience of universities, research organisations, industries, public administration, paying attention to their needs and “dreams”
2. Analyze the results, highlighting strengths and weaknesses
3. Propose a programme covering the “missing points” envisaged:
 - promoting the culture of “exchange” through a reciprocal understanding of needs
 - fixing some basic rules to facilitate the exchange (best practices)
 - avoiding the initiatives related to assigning prizes to young researches: more image, not strong effect on researchers career

3. Propose a programme covering the “missing points” envisaged:
(continued)
- set up a programme to define the “frontier research topics” and, on this basis, to design a training programme for:
 - young researchers to get a common background related to:
 - basic research (mathematics and statistics methods)
 - skills in managing complex problems;
 - a good communicative ability
 - ability to cooperate and to work in team
 - senior researchers to transfer their knowledge through ad hoc training programme

Upcoming concrete step (Task 4)

Implementation of a dedicated mobility
web portal to European Transport Research

www.transport-research-job-careers.eu

Objective:

- Encourage DETRA partners and their members to open part of their job positions to trans-European mobility
 - Support them in disseminating widely these job opportunities to recruit students and researchers from all Europe
- **Providing a centralized access to PhD, post-doc and researchers positions opened in Europe**
- **Expected to be operating mid-end 2011**

Upcoming concrete step (Task 4)

Web portal Scope

- Job announcement website
- Focus on scientific employment
- Concerned positions like PhD, post-docs, researchers, both on permanent and fixed-term contracts
- Targeted users:
 - Job providers: DETRA partners, their research Institutions and universities members
 - Job seekers: all students and researchers looking for a position in European transport research institute or University



Thanks for your attention

More information

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