

#### TRB 2013 Annual meeting Session 329: International Research Collaboration and cooperation January 14th, 2013

Themes and priorities for international transport research cooperative work: results of the 1<sup>st</sup> year EUTRAIN project work

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### Main Project Objectives



- Identify research capabilities, themes of interest, future priorities, potential for cooperation in major countries and regions around the world;
- Discuss current practices for research governance, management, barriers, gaps and diversions for international transport research cooperation;
- Assess the benefits or added value from closer international cooperation;
- Investigate alternative cooperation models and tools;
- Disseminate European transport research know how and practices;
- Recommend a framework for international transport research cooperation.

#### 1st Year main activities



- Technical Work along the 7 main axes of interest:
  - 1. Programming and governance issues in target countries, including joint programming experiences
  - 2. Research infrastructures and their networking possibilities
  - 3. Information and data sharing issues
  - 4. Research training and human resource issues mobility of researchers and networking
  - 5. Institutional cultures and research governance regimes
  - 6. Pre-standardization activities and interoperability (of research results) issues (harmonizing of approaches and practices)
  - 7. Intellectual Property regimes and follow-up actions
- Bilateral Meetings in 10 countries (questionnaire local workshops)

. China

ii. Egypt

iii. India

iv. Japan

v. Russia

vi. South Africa

vii. Tunisia

viii. Turkey

ix. Ukraine

x. USA

- 2 Regional Workshops (Athens focused on Mediterranean Countries, and Beijing on Asia-Pacific)
- One Deliverable report (450 pages)

#### Most common forms of international cooperation



- Participation in international committees and Conferences;
- Technical visits and scanning tours;
- Information exchanges (in few cases also data exchanges);
- Participation in internationally funded research projects planned and administered by the international funding source (usually the EU Commission, the US/DoT, and National research programmes of major research providing countries);
- Participation in jointly funded research in the framework of bilateral country agreements;
- International synthesis studies (in the frame of international Organisations e.g. OECD);
- Use of R&D facilities by foreign researchers.

### Main hindering factors



- Lack of open, timely and reliable information about the various calls and networking with other partners and teams (from donor countries);
- Too cumbersome and complex administrative procedures;
- High co-funding percentages;
- Lengthy turnaround times (proposals evaluation contract signature);
- Need for capacity development for appropriate research personnel in some recipient countries;
- Need for "reciprocity" all around:
  - collaboratively setting of the research content i.e. to be of interest for both sides,
  - collaboratively leading the research effort i.e. existence of at least one "leading" research and academic institution per side - and these "leaders" must be identified and supported to "lead",
  - joint outreach to co-funding sources and laying the foundations for supporting sustainable (i.e. long term) ways of funding international collaborative research.

# Main themes of research interest (results from 2 workshops)



#### Asia-Pacific region:

- Social aspects of transport (infrastructure and service provision),
- Efficient and sustainable mass public transport services,
- traffic safety with emphasis on information exchange and prevention,
- Energy and environmental aspects of transport,
- Vehicle maintenance technologies.

#### **Mediterranean region:**

- Transport infrastructure development and maintenance,
- Institutional (re-) organization of the transport sector,
- Urban mobility,
- Public Transport operation,
- Demand management issues.

#### Other detailed results from the individual country reports

### Preliminary findings and suggestions (1/2)



- 1. Establish effective and multi-channel communication among the research communities internationally (explore capabilities of social media);
- 2. Introduce more simplicity, regarding the administrative processes for participation, monitoring, and financial reporting;
- 3. Relevance of research themes to the actual problems and policies of the countries involved;
- 4. Observe "equal" standing as regards the focus and work allocation of international cooperation programmes and projects;
- 5. Promote more sustainable and long term funding for international Cooperation programmes, join forces through "common pot" and joint programming;
- 6. Support the formation of *International Cooperation Promotion Centers ICPCs*, organised and run by the research community itself and fostering: international cooperation actions, human capacity building, information dissemination, researcher training and exchanges, research themes of common interest focusing on major global transport problems and issues.

#### Preliminary findings and suggestions(2/2)



- 7. Research system governance, research programming, as well as funding needs to become more transparent open sustained and decentralised in most of the countries surveyed;
- 8. Transport does not seem to be a priority in many of the lesser developed countries surveyed (the opposite is true for the more developed regions);
- 9. Transport Research Infrastructures and their cooperative use a major issue and desired objective;
- 10. Training and human resource issues enhancement in transport research is a major pre-requisite;
- 11. The Intellectual property and how it is shared between stakeholders in international research collaborations is a major issue that needs to be addressed properly in the relevant contracts;
- 12. Post-project cooperation, knowledge development, and deployment of research results need to be included in international cooperation programmes and contracts.

## Future work (2<sup>nd</sup> year)



- WP3: Research topics, capabilities, investment and future priorities
- WP4: Synthesis of recommendations towards a framework for International Cooperation in Transport Research
- Two more regional workshops:

	Month	Location	Focus on	
Workshop 3	(took place on December 5 <sup>th</sup> 2012)	Russia (Moscow)	Russia, Balkan, CIS and Black sea countries	
Workshop 4	7-8 March 2013	Brazil (Sao Paolo)	Latin American countries	

- Final Project Conference September 2013
- Final project recommendations and conclusions October 2013

### **EUTRAIN Final Conference**



	Month	Location	Objective
Final Conference	September 2013	Brussels	Disseminate and promote a wide "evaluation" of the results of the EUTRAIN work to all members of the identified target groups at International level

#### This conference will aim to:

- Gather together all entities involved with the project, as well as other relevant stakeholders and provide a forum for interactions and exchange of experiences.
- Examine and debate all project results and findings so far.
- Provide new inputs and experiences that can be further utilized in the project for the finalization of its conclusions and recommendations.
- Disseminate European experiences and know-how.



# Thank you for your attention

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### Consortium

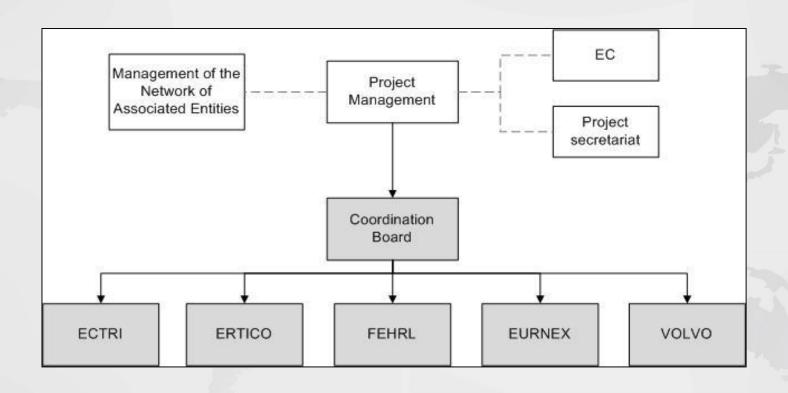


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### **Project Structure**



#### **Management structure**



### **Project Structure**



#### "Network of Associated Entities - NAE"

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Transportation Research Board – National Academies (TRB), U.S.A.



Center for Transportation Studies, University of Minnesota, U.S.A.



Petersburg State Transport University, St. Petersburg, Russia



**Beijing Transportation Research Centre, China** 



Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile



Korea Transport Institute (KOTI), Korea



Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa



Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), U.S.A.



Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), U.S.A.



ARRB Group (former Australian Road Research Board), Australia



PWRI - Public Works Research Institute, Japan



CRRI - Central Road Research Institute, India

### **Project Structure**



#### "Network of Related Entities - RE"

Organizations with which the project will create contact and keep correspondence as a way of sounding their opinions, views and reactions to the project's findings and proposals, i.e. as a kind of "Advisory Board"

#### Organizations from:

_2	Russia	-\	Argentina
*)	China	*	Canada
•	India	<b>**</b> *	Korea
	U.S.A.	•	Mexico
	Japan	<b>®</b>	Portugal
*	Australia		South Africa
	Brazil		Switzerland
	United Kingdom		