

## gTKP Tunis Workshop update

The Tunis workshop is now just three weeks away. We currently have over 60 registered delegates for what promises to be a productive and engaging workshop. A summary of the proceedings will be made available on the gTKP website.

## gTKP Website

Some users have had difficulty opening documents on the website. This due to high security settings on individual PCs. In order to override this and allow documents to open in a separate window it is necessary to press and hold "Ctrl" when clicking on the link until the document is open.

## New SEACAP documents added to gTKP website

New updates from the SEACAP project have been added to the gTKP website. Presentations and summaries of the South East Asia Community Access Programme are available from the special SEACAP area of the website:  
<http://www.gtkp.com/SEACAP/SEACAP.aspx>

## Adding Value to Transport Investment in Africa

Transaid hosted an event to discuss how transport investment in Africa might be made more efficient and effective, at which the UK's Princess Anne (the President of Save the Children) spoke of her own experiences in travelling around Africa and the problems associated with emergency relief logistics.

Other speakers from industry and academia raised that whilst 90% of goods and services in Africa are delivered by road, unit freight costs are 250% higher than in industrialised countries. Causes include the quality of the infrastructure itself, poor maintenance and overloaded vehicles. DHL also raised the issue of driver training and using more advanced logistics and freight distribution systems to improve efficiency. Discussion centred around how best practice might be shared and whether aid or donor investment should be linked to improved training and standards.

A copy of the presentations given and a summary of the meeting can be found [here](#) and [here](#). Chris Saunders, the Chief Executive of Transaid, will be attending the Tunis workshop at which there will be a specific session devoted to discussion of the issues surrounding Transport and Governance.



## New EU Infrastructure Trust Fund

Members of the European Commission and the European Investment Bank (EIB) have signalled their approval a new EU Infrastructure Trust Fund. The new initiative would finance transport infrastructure as well as energy, water and telecommunications. The final steps to its approval are due to be taken on 9 February and it is expected to be operational by June 2006.

## Feedback from Users on Rural Access

gTKP rural access workstream leader Mike Dyson has compiled an assessment of feedback following the Siem Reap seminar at the end of last year. The process identified scope for “gap filling” initiatives. Key areas identified are rural transport planning and prioritisation guidelines; best practice examples of rural policies and strategies and how best to leverage road funds and local community finance.

Other significant results were that there is need for clarification of what works, as well as what does not and enforcement of legal and regulatory systems. Of particular relevance to gTKP was that access to knowledge in appropriate and timely formats was identified, as was a need for improved communication and networking at all levels. These findings are being fed back into gTKP in order to guide the direction of future work.

## International Transport Workers' Federation

gTKP recently met with the head of the information and policy department from the International Transport Workers' Federation to discuss their work particularly in employment, tackling exclusion and health, and how they might work with gTKP on the four ‘breadth’ and ‘depth’ workstreams. The International Transport Workers' Federation is a Global Federation Union, bringing together over 600 unions which represent 4.5m transport workers worldwide – from small specialist unions representing rickshaw workers in India to large industry-wide unions like the South African Transport & Allied Workers' Union. The ITF has offices in Nairobi, Ouagadougou, Tokyo, New Delhi, Rio de Janeiro, Georgetown, Moscow and Brussels as well as its head office in London.

ITF has a particularly active section on tackling HIV/AIDS, with a quarterly [newsletter](#) and a [manual](#) particularly for trade unionists in the transport sector suggesting positive actions that they can take with employers to support the health of their workers. The ITF's website on HIV/AIDS can be found [here](#). gTKP and ITF agreed that they should be involved in: employment and income opportunities – particularly good employment practice and equal opportunities; tackling exclusion; urban demand management – particularly as they have an urban transport committee; vulnerable road users – including linking to their campaigns on safer driving; governance and tackling corruption.

ITF have now been added to the gTKP directory and a representative from ITF will attend Tunis. If you would like further information about the ITF or to meet their representative at Tunis, please contact the gTKP office.



## Transport and Health

For many years it has been recognised that inadequate transport imposes severe constraints on improving health, particularly for the poor. Various specialist organisations have sought to tackle aspects of the problem and in 2005 the World Bank's Transport for Social Responsibility thematic group (TSR) facilitated the identification of good practice amongst both health and transport specialists. The TSR is now focusing on the key issues to prioritise guidance on interventions and it recently hosted a seminar and discussion on "Transport for health in developing countries: an overview to improve health access".

Presentations from the World Bank and from ITDP-Europe covered a number of transport and health related issues, including:

- Causes and extent of child health and maternal mortality.
- The role of transport in access to and delivery of health services.
- Transport-related barriers to improving the health of the poor.
- Transport interventions to improve health access and reduce costs.
- Institutional implications for transport in the health sector.
- Update on current transport alternatives to improve access to health services in Africa.

Both presentations can be seen through the Transport and Social Responsibility website

<http://www.worldbank.org/responsibletransport> or directly [here](#). A preliminary knowledge-base of sources and resources can also be accessed. IFRTD, ITDP, IT Transport, Transaid and Cornell University are amongst the specialist organisations which have contributed in addition to the World Bank. The TSR and some of the above organisations have also been addressing issues for the Transport Sector in respect of reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS and other diseases (MDG 6). These issues differ in important ways from those for MDGs 4 and 5 - relevant presentations and a recently updated knowledge base can be seen separately on the TSR website above.

ITDP-Europe has been added to the gTKP Directory. We shall provide information on significant developments as this initiative progresses. At the Tunis Workshop, attendees will be able to hear about specific projects that TRANSAID have run on health transport, reducing costs and improving effectiveness. Members are also invited to share their experience of transport and health issues and projects by contacting the gTKP team.

### Forthcoming Events:

#### TED 2006

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual conference on Transportation and Economic Development will be held in Arkansas, USA and will discuss both national and international perspectives. 28-30 March 2006. For more information see [here](#).

#### Velo Mondial 2006

Cape Town, South Africa is host to one of a series of conferences organised by Velo Mondial to promote the use of the bicycle in all aspects of life. From 5 – 10 March 2006. For more Information see [here](#).

#### Second International Symposium on Transportation Technology Transfer

From 30 July to 3 August, the 2006 International Symposium will provide the opportunity to learn, share and build on the latest in innovative transportation technology transfer methods. The event takes place in St Petersburg, Florida, USA. For more information see [here](#).

