



News

**gTKP Newsletter 31
February 2008**

Quick, easy & free: become a member of gTKP

By going to www.gtkp.com, you can become a member of gTKP and have access to information, knowledge, technical advice from experts, discussion groups, our newsletter, the option to have information about what interests you emailed to you and much more. It's quick, easy and free.

Welcome

As Newsletter 31 reaches you, these are busy and exciting times within gTKP. We are expanding rapidly and covering ever broader issues in global transport. Our central commitment to our users, however, remains to disseminate the best, most relevant and most current transport news, information, experience and events, and to link practitioners, organizations and experts around the world.

Please send details of your news, events and reports to info@gtkp.com and visit us regularly on www.gtkp.com.

Changes to website coming soon...

Regular readers of our newsletter will be aware that we are working hard to introduce a refreshed version of the gTKP website, planned for late February. We are particularly looking forward to this as it will make it much easier and faster to use with slow internet connections. It will also host improved discussion groups, newsletters and content.

gTKP welcomes new theme champions...

Peter Midgley – Urban Transport

Former World Bank Transport Adviser Peter Midgley has joined gTKP as our Urban Transport Theme Champion. Peter tells us, "I am honored to take up the position of Urban Transport Theme Champion. From my experience, the key ingredients for success in dealing with urban transport problems are "leadership and management". Neither is possible without

"learning by doing" and this requires information and knowledge sharing. As Urban Transport Theme Champion, my mission is to encourage and enable knowledge sharing among urban transport practitioners, professionals and stakeholders." Peter can be contacted on peter.midgley@gtkp.com.

Jeff Turner – Social Development

We also welcome Jeff Turner as our newly appointed Social Development Theme Champion. Jeff is an expert in the interplay of transport and social development – including health, gender, poverty reduction and numerous other issues – and will play a strong role in shaping gTKP's social development knowledge and in ensuring that it is integrated into other themes where appropriate. In Jeff's words, "Social development is one of those areas that relates, at least to some degree, to almost all other aspects of transport so I'll be working to develop strong links with the other themes. I'll also be working closely with my international colleagues in social development and transport to ensure that a range of experience is shared through gTKP."

Jeff can be contacted on jeff.turner@gtkp.com.

...but is still seeking champions in other areas...

We are still seeking "Theme Champions" for the new theme areas of Climate Change and Finance and Economics. If you are interested, please email us on info@gtkp.com for more information on how to apply.

First Steering Group meeting a success

The newly convened gTKP Steering Group met in January. Professor Tony Ridley of Imperial College was elected Chair. Group members came from as far away as Nigeria and Cambodia to attend while others joined via video and phone links. The SG will be instrumental in helping to shape advise gTKP as it evolves and expands. More information about the Steering Group can be found on <http://www.gtkp.com/Pages/Theme.aspx?id=109>

3rd Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum to be held

The 3rd Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum will be held in Singapore on 17-19 March 2008. The event is jointly organised by the UN Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) and the



governments of Singapore and Japan. Twenty-two South and Southeast Asian countries will attend the Forum which will be host to government representatives and EST experts.

The Regional EST Forum provides a strategic and knowledge-based platform for sharing experiences and disseminating best practice, policy instruments, tools, and technologies in relation to various aspects of EST among Asian countries in accordance with the *Aichi Statement* and the *Kyoto Declaration*. The Forum has a broad membership of international, inter-governmental, donor and national organizations.

More details about the conference can be found on <http://www.uncrd.or.jp/env/>.

gTKP to be topic at Women in Transport Workshop, London, 26 February

The workshop will discuss gTKP and cover key issues in gender and transport in the developing world, including transport accessibility and maternal mortality, and supporting women workers tackling HIV and AIDS. The workshop will also look at the work of the International Forum for Rural Transport, including an innovative project in Makete, Tanzania which has transformed the local community. For further information or to register, please go to: http://www.wtslondon.org/news_&_events

Road Safety

International Roundabout Review Released

The Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) has released an international review of roundabout design standards and guidelines. This report was undertaken to inform the revision the UK Geometric Design Standard for Roundabouts (TD 16/93 at the time of this review). Provisions for pedestrians and cyclists were of particular concern.

http://www.trl.co.uk/store/report_detail.asp?srid=6277&pid=220

TRL has been working on international road safety projects for over 35 years and was a founding partner of gTKP. It has built and continues to maintain relationships with the UK DFID, World Bank and Asian Development Bank. For more information go to www.trl.co.uk.

CIECA: improving driver testing standards

CIECA is the international commission for driver testing authorities. It is

active in the fields of road safety and driver testing. CIECA members include driver testing authorities from 32 countries worldwide. CIECA aims to play a strong role in enhancing road safety and encouraging high common standards for driving licences in its member countries. Since 1993, CIECA has been a leading project partner of the European Commission's Energy and Transport Directorate, issuing "best practice" recommendations for driving qualifications for the EU and beyond and participating in numerous research studies and projects. See http://www.cieca.be/organisation_en.pp for more information.

UN Road Safety Conference to be debated

The UN General Assembly will at the end of March debate the Make Roads Safe campaign's proposal for a UN Conference on Road Safety. Lord Robertson, Chair of the Commission for Global Road Safety, which originally called for a UN Conference, in its 'Make Roads Safe' report will attend to urge governments to back the proposal. The Russian Federation has offered to host a governmental conference if the UN approves. UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon has urged UN member states to support the proposal. Read more about this on:

http://www.fiafoundation.com/policy/road_safety/news/UN_to_debate_road_safety_on_31st_March.html

Road Safety: focus on Asia:

Vulnerable road users

The safety theme pages of our website <http://www.gtkp.com/Pages/Theme.aspx?Id=23> contain much useful information on real experiences of managing road safety in Asia, notably interventions to make vulnerable road users safer. Among many available resources is **Vulnerable Road Users in the Asian and Pacific Region** published by gTKP partner ADB in 1996. The guide is linked to the ADB Road Safety Guidelines for the Asian and Pacific Region, and is a source of reference and guidance to senior decision makers in road safety. Read the guide on:

<http://www.gtkp.com/Pages/ResourceDetail.aspx?ResID=1246>

Training Course: scholarships available

A training course: "Road Safety in Asian countries: Principles and Approaches" will be organized by the Transportation Research Institute of Hasselt University, Belgium from 13-24 October 2008. Part one of the



course focuses on situation analysis for improved understanding of problems. Part two covers measures and strategies to improve road safety.

Twelve scholarships are available but applications must be made by 15 May. Find out more by email to nadine.smeijers@uhasselt.be or on: <http://www.imob.uhasselt.be/index.php?page=115>

gTKP to present at 9th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion..

gTKP will be presenting two papers at the conference, to be held in Merida, Mexico from 15-18 March 2008. Find out more on <http://www.safety2008mx.info/>

Kate McMahon, gTKP adviser will propose a new safety management system designed to achieve ambitious safety performance targets through effective institutional management functions and comprehensive interventions. A full report will be available on our web site next month. GRSP adviser José Cardita will present a paper on the road safety partnership strategy in Brazil, covering good practice manuals

Our Road Safety Theme Champion is Adrian Walsh. He can be contacted on adrian.walsh@gtkp.com.

Rural Transport

If you would like to comment or contribute on this or any other Rural Transport issue, please contact Rob Petts, Rural Transport Theme Champion on rob.petts@gtkp.com

In the last Newsletter [No 30](#) we looked at the significant challenges of [Road Maintenance](#) and a [General Road Maintenance Retrospective](#) of developments over the last 30 years. This month we are focusing on the [Tertiary and Access Roads](#) and their particular maintenance problems in developing countries and those in transition. The above topic pages have been updated on the [gTKP](#) website.



A further topic of [Low Volume Rural Road Maintenance](#) has been added to the website. These lower category roads present particular technical and management challenges in the face of limited resource availability and other constraints. However their very existence and condition can significantly encourage or hamper local social

and economic development, and hence influence the impact of all rural poverty alleviation initiatives.

A full briefing on [Community Maintenance](#) has recently been added to the website.

Some briefing notes on various [Surface Options](#) using [natural stone](#) have been added to the [Innovations](#) section. These are all suitable for construction using labour based methods, particularly where stone is available locally.

Events

An International [Seminar on Road Asset Management](#) will be held in Chandigarh, India between 19 and 21 March 2008, organised by the World Road Association, Indian Roads Congress and Department of Public Works Punjab.

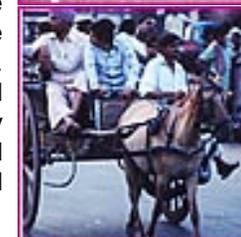
Recommended Websites

The [IFRTD](#) website connects to a worldwide network of people interested and active in improving the local transport sector in developing countries.

The [ILO-ASIST](#) website provides access to a wide range of documents on local resource based road works.

Looking Ahead

In future Newsletters we will be looking at the topics of **Basic Access** and



Gender and Vulnerable people in Rural Transport. Any contributions and comments on the existing gTKP website pages and these topics in particular will be welcome and should be directed to rob.petts@gtkp.com . If you feel there is any **Rural Transport** topic that we are not adequately addressing, then please also write to this address.

Governance

Governance “knowledge gaps” now available on gTKP website

gTKP’s Governance in Transport theme hosted discussions in Manila, Arusha and at the World Bank headquarters in Washington, DC in mid-2007 to assess knowledge gaps and the gTKP Governance Theme workplan.

Participants discussed specific areas where knowledge about governance in transport could be better understood and shared. A number of ways to exchange this knowledge were recommended, including:

- Case studies. This was a topic of Newsletter 30 which can be viewed [here](#). We are still seeking your case studies/experiences with improving governance in transport to governance@gtkp.com.
- Establishing road sector benchmarks (see below).
- Writing a book about road infrastructure for non-road sector specialists (see below).
- Further workshops. Regional workshops are planned in Asia and Africa later this year. More detail will be given in future newsletters when final arrangements are made.

A summary of these discussions, and the resulting work plan, can be found on [“Assessment of Knowledge Gaps and Proposed Annual Workplan for the Governance Theme”](#)

gTKP developing road benchmarks for governance in transport – comments welcome

A set of benchmarks is being developed to assist in determining where governance in transport improvements can be made, and to allow comparisons between different countries. They are intended to be straightforward. In some cases, where adequate data is not available, they will initially need to be obtained through experience and refined through discussion.

The initial draft can be found at: www.roadbenchmarks.com

Please take a look and comment directly on the site. Comments on the

overall structure of the benchmarks, on the definition of each individual benchmark, and on potential methods of measuring and updating these benchmarks would be very welcome.

Back to basics: gTKP developing book on road knowledge for non-roads specialists

During the discussions last year the observation was made that many people affected by poor governance in transport, and those who could play a role in improving it often lack basic knowledge about the road sector.

Non road sector specialists play an important role in improving governance in transport so they need to know how the sector operates. Road users need to know enough to see when the wrong things are happening. The media needs to concentrate on reporting what matters and make realistic and constructive comments about where improvements can be made. Politicians need to know that their actions are being scrutinized.

To address the need for basic road knowledge for non road-specialists, gTKP governance theme is developing a book provisionally titled “Road Basics”. For more details and an outline, see: www.roadbasics.com. Please leave your comments directly on the site.

This work will be ongoing for the next few months and constructive comments would be greatly appreciated!

Events: Regional Seminar & Workshop on Performance-Based Management and Maintenance Contracts, Arusha, Tanzania, 25-29 February 2008

This Seminar addresses performance based road maintenance, a practice with the potential to improve the quality of results and value for money of road maintenance activities. Payments are made at regular intervals based on the overall condition of the road rather than by adding up the costs of individual repairs. Contractors make more profit if repairs are carried out quickly, before damage to a road becomes more serious and repairs become more expensive. There is a strong incentive to do the job well.

[Click here for more details](#)

Our Governance Theme Champion is Stephen Vincent. He can be contacted on stephen.vincent@gtkp.com.

Thank you for your interest in gTKP

