

## New gTKP Workstreams to commence shortly

Following the Governing Board Meeting on May 24, 2005, it was decided to incorporate four 'depth' areas as sub-themes for Workstream activities:

- Rural Accessibility
- Urban Demand Management
- Vulnerable road users
- Transport and governance

Board Champions will be twinned with CMG staff and industry professionals to identify both the requirements of core users as well as any knowledge 'gaps' that exist. The CMG is aiming have material to present to the Assembly at its next meeting, which has been earmarked for February 2006.

We would like to get Members involved with the development of the Terms of Reference, as this initiative is targeting the needs of core users. The CMG is contacting members with regards to this, but in the mean time we would like to hear any expressions of interest from you.

Please send your thoughts to [Yann Abraham](#), who will in turn forward them to the relevant leader.

## gTKP welcomes the appointment of Peter Njenga of The International Forum for Rural Transport and Development (IFRTD) to its Governing Board

IFRTD is a global network of individuals and organisations working together towards improved access and mobility for the rural poor in developing countries. In his role as IFRTD Coordinator for East and Southern Africa, Peter liaises with NFG's from 7 countries as well as various Institutional partners based in the region. As a member of the Governing Board, Peter is looking forward to the opportunity to bring a southern perspective into the deliberations of the Board. For further information regarding the work carried out by the IFRTD, please refer to their [website](#).

## New Partner website featured on [www.gtkp.com](http://www.gtkp.com)

We've changed the 'Featured Website' on the gTKP Home Page. The [Global Road Safety Partnership \(GRPS\)](#) is a Swiss-based organisation whose objective is sustainable improvement of road safety in developing and transition countries. They are currently looking to recruit a Regional Coordinator for the ASEAN region, based out of Bangkok. For further details email [grsp@ifrc.com](mailto:grsp@ifrc.com).



## Floods devastate India's financial capital

Record rainfall at the end of July has caused massive destruction and loss of lives in the Indian state of Maharashtra. The state capital, Mumbai, received more than 65cm (26in) of rain in a single day - the heaviest recorded in India's history. More than 20 million people have been affected by the floods and officials fear that the death toll could rise to 1000. The full cost of the floods is yet to be determined, but estimates vary from 30 to 40 billion rupees (\$690 - \$890 million). The effect on local industry is likely to be severe, as the area is a large producer of sugar and is also a hub for the pharmaceutical and automobile industries. The local media has been critical of city officials for failing to act effectively in the aftermath of the disaster, and fear that Mumbai's reputation as the financial powerhouse of south Asia has been damaged.

Schools and offices have since reopened after almost ten days of havoc, with Mumbai's streets once again choked by cars, buses, taxis and three-wheelers. However, rural parts of the state are still a disaster area. Rail and road links continue to be disrupted and up to 60,000 villagers are living in temporary camps.

## News Bulletin Comments

If you have any suggestions or comments regarding this news bulletin? Please do not hesitate to contact [Yann Abraham](#) of the Core Management Group.

## World awaits results of new Asia-Pacific Environment Pact

There has been much discussion regarding how effective the Kyoto Protocol could possibly be when the world's leading polluter, the United States, has refused to sign the treaty. It now appears that the US has teamed up with another noticeable absentee from the Treaty, Australia, in forming the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate. This six nation partnership also includes India and China, who are both exempt from the reduction targets set down by Kyoto. Both countries are enjoying strong economic growth but booming car ownership is producing a massive increase in greenhouse gas emissions and respiratory illnesses in urban areas. For more details on the environment and economic issues, please visit World Business Council for Sustainable Development's [website](#).

## Forthcoming Events

- **Transport Health and Climate Change 12 September 2005** is being held at Churchill College, Cambridge, UK
- **Scientific Approach to Traffic Engineering 6 – 7 January 2006**. To be held at the India International Centre, New Delhi

## Website

The newly launched website is constantly being updated with new content. Your assistance would be appreciated with this task, particularly with populating the Directory. If there are organisations or links to documents you'd like to see on the site please e-mail [Lucy Richmond](#).

