

## Launch of gTKP website in Spanish

Core content from the gTKP website is now available in Spanish thanks to our translation partners, the Cuba Technology Transfer Centre, led by Fidel Delgado.

## gTKP at TransNet, Bern

gTKP Governing Board Chairman, Peter O'Neill, will be attending the 10th Transnet event in Bern, Switzerland, on 19 May 2006. The theme for this event is "Rural road maintenance and financing" and the overall aim of the event is to provide a broad overview of the "state-of-the-art" in the subject and to pinpoint critical issues and challenges. Peter will be discussing the role of gTKP and highlighting the success of regional programmes such as SEACAP and AFCAP. This event will be used to help the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) define a regional exchange and learning workshop to be conducted in Africa later this year. For more information on TransNet visit [www.Trans-Web.ch](http://www.Trans-Web.ch); the knowledge portal to mobility and access of the SDC.

## gTKP at ICEE 2006

Peter O'Neill will also be presenting a paper on gTKP at the International Conference on Engineering Education in Puerto Rico (23-28 July 2006). The main objective of the conference is the promotion of international collaboration in the field of engineering education. The paper, and a short report of the event, will be available on the website following the conference.

## World Bank Transport Forum and Learning Event

The World Bank Transport Week, held in Washington USA during the week of March 27 2006, was attended by Peter O'Neill. Peter presented on the gTKP, SEACAP and AFCAP initiatives at the donor coordination meeting.

This meeting provided an opportunity for key actors from the Transport and Development donor community to evaluate the contribution of transport to the broad development agenda and the achievements of the MDGs.

Although the organisations' approaches differ - some giving priority to infrastructure and others organising their work around cross-sectoral themes, such as Governance - all organisations recognised the importance of growth and the critical contribution of infrastructure to the MDGs.



There was consensus amongst donors on major policy issues such as the role of the private sector, affordability, attention to environmentally responsible investment, inclusive transport services, the importance of access to all weather roads in the rural areas and affordable and reliable transport in urban areas.

Knowledge building and sharing was identified as an area in which synergy between donors could be reinforced, particularly amongst client and beneficiary partners. Some of the key topics mentioned were externalities, environment and road safety.

During the Transport Week, it was agreed that there would be closer cooperation between the World Bank's transport and Africa section and gTKP.

## Consultation period on World Bank Transport Policy now over

Following a decision in May 2005 to realign its transport strategy, the World Bank have released a consultative draft version of their 2007-2015 Transport Strategy, an update which will describe how the Bank's approach to transport and development is evolving. The deadline for comments has now passed, but we look forward to seeing the finalized version of the strategy, which will be available later in 2006. Please click [here](#) to see the draft version.

## Knowledge Exchange reviews

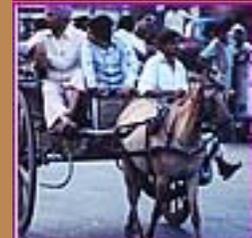
As a follow-up to the Tunis Workshop, delegates who brought papers to the Knowledge Exchange sessions have been asked to provide a short introduction summary of the document they nominated. Reviews and nominations are welcomed on an ongoing basis and will appear in the newsletter and on the website. The first is an outline of an IRAP study in Rajasthan and has been provided by Professor Ashoke Sarkar, Professor of Civil Engineering at the Birla Institute of Technology and Science in India. Click [here](#) for the full paper. To contribute your own paper and summary, please contact [info@gtkp.com](mailto:info@gtkp.com)

### Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning: Application in Rajasthan (India)

Eliminating poverty requires the reduction of isolation and social exclusion. As the factors affecting rural access are interactive and cannot be considered in isolation, an integrated approach is most suitable for effective accessibility planning. Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning (IRAP) is a need-based, multi-sectoral, sensitive methodology for local level planning for developing infrastructure and services.

A study was conducted on the application of IRAP in a selected block in Jhunjhunu District in Rajasthan (India). Simple techniques have been suggested to quantify accessibility and rank the villages based on needs and to identify interventions to improve the accessibility situation using participatory approach. The study was funded by ILO ASIST AP.

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## Website Highlights

### Innovation and Research Focus

Innovation and Research Focus is an online newsletter produced by a group of organisations in the British construction industry. Brief articles on current research are written for practising engineers, architects, surveyors and their clients with the objective of disseminating research news as widely as possible. Issue 65 contains an article on rural road surfacing, which focuses on the work of the South East Asia Community Access Programme (SEACAP). This newsletter can be found on the gTKP website [here](#) or you can sign-up to receive it directly from [www.innovationandresearchfocus.org.uk](http://www.innovationandresearchfocus.org.uk).

### Forthcoming Events

#### CODATU XII

**Lyon, France, 5-7 July 2006**

Celebrating CODATU's 25th anniversary, this conference will bring together representatives from local government worldwide to discuss decentralized co-operation for urban transport.

#### ICEE 2006 – International Conference on Engineering Education

**San Juan, Puerto Rico, 23-28 July 2006**

#### International African Conference on Gender, Transport and Development

**Port Elizabeth, South Africa, 27-30 August 2006**

The focus of the conference, hosted by the South African Department of Transport and The South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL) in partnership with the Gender and Development Unit of the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) will be on bridging the divide between development goals, research and policy in developing countries. Registration before 26 May 2006 benefits from a discounted fee.

#### Intelligent Transport Systems in Road Network Operations

**Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 14-16 August 2006**

An international seminar organised by PIARC. The event will comprise of four technical sessions, which will cover: network operations; information management and the public interest; appropriate use of ITS; challenges in implementing ITS. There will also be a workshop and a field trip.

#### 22<sup>nd</sup> ARRB Conference

**Canberra, Australia, 29 October – 2 November 2006**

The theme of the conference is the application of research into practice. Abstracts have been received from researchers and practitioners in over 30 countries covering a wide range of topics in roads and transport. Invited speakers include Tony Bliss (World Bank), Susan Sharland (TRL) and Ian Johnston (Monash University Accident Research Centre).

