

Commission for Global Road Safety

The report "Make Roads Safe" from the Commission for Global Road Safety that was launched on 8 June calls for action from G8 countries to support the new World Bank facility. gTKP's Kate McMahon, was one of the authors.



Kate, our work stream lead on vulnerable road users, worked alongside board member David Ward, from the FIA Foundation. The report makes the point that road deaths are now on the same global scale as malaria and tuberculosis in developing countries – and G8 leaders must tackle the problem as without new action road traffic deaths are projected to double by 2020.

The warning was delivered by former NATO chief Lord Robertson who called for a minimum of 10% of all funding for infrastructure projects to be committed to road safety. Prime Minister Tony Blair has replied positively to Lord Robertson's appeal. He issued a stark warning against failing to act on road deaths which – after HIV – are the biggest global killer of young men.

World leaders were also warned doing nothing will jeopardise their own health and poverty goals.

The report reveals that more than 85 per cent of the 1.2m people killed and 50m injured in traffic crashes, are from the poorest countries, which will double by 2020.

The report is highly relevant to the gTKP workstream on vulnerable road users. The majority of those killed or injured are pedestrians and other vulnerable road users. It is also a significant cause of poverty, when the family lose a breadwinner.

The report wants:

- G8 countries to support a \$300 million, 10-year action plan to improve road safety in developing countries
- Aid-funded projects in developing countries to include a 10 per cent costing for road safety improvements
- A new UN road safety summit to coordinate an international approach to injury prevention

Lord Robertson, who survived a serious car crash, said: 'Last year millions of people and the leaders of G8 responded to the call to make poverty history.' 'But many of the gains will be at risk if action is not taken to reverse the growing epidemic of road traffic death and injury, with its terrible human and economic cost. Every day 3,000 people are killed in road crashes.'

Formula One champion Michael Schumacher, a commission member, added: 'We need to make people aware of the human cost of road injuries – 500 children die every day and thousands more injured.'

David Ward, FIA Foundation Director General, said: 'The five main development lending banks fund \$4 billion of road projects a year. Yet they only have two road safety specialists. 'The G8 has approved major development funding for new roads in Africa, but road safety is not part of the package.

'Unless we make roads safe in Africa, Asia and elsewhere, a generation will suffer the human tragedy and economic cost of rising road deaths.'

The report was also presented by Lord Robertson at the GRSP meeting in Moscow on 22 June and it is hoped that it will be drawn to the attention of the G8 leaders when they meet in St Petersburg in July. [Click here to see the full report.](#)



Special Report

4th UN Road Safety Collaboration Meeting

gTKP board member David Silcock, from the Geneva-based [Global Road Safety Partnership](#), reports from Bangkok on the 4th UN Road Safety Collaboration Meeting:

It was a good conference, which grows in confidence and influence every time it meets.

We followed on from a UN-ESCAP Expert Group meeting on road safety, and invited its delegates to join us – to share their knowledge because it's about collaboration.

Many already know about the work of gTKP and are keen to know more, so expect a few more hits on our website.

The UN Road Safety Collaboration meets once a year in Geneva and in the intervening six months it rotates around the world. It stems back to a UN resolution asking WHO to co-ordinate road safety efforts at the global level.

A key product of the Collaboration is to be a series of good practice guides, which – like gTKP – will share and distribute knowledge.

The how to manuals, which are user-friendly and provide step-by-step guidance, are aimed at cutting down the number of road traffic injuries.

The four partners – FIA Foundation for the Automobile & Society, World Health Organization, World Bank and my own Global Road Safety Partnership – will all take a lead. All Guides will be jointly produced and carry the four partners' logos.



Six are planned: four will be on key factors identified in traffic injury prevention – helmets, seat-belts & child restraints, speed and drinking & driving.

The other two will set up a lead agency on road safety, traffic and injury data collection – with additional manuals to follow later.

Earlier UN-ESCAP – United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific – met to come up with new ideas to finance highway infrastructure and improve road safety.

The Asian highway network now has more than 141,000 kilometres of standard roadways, spanning 32 countries linking into Europe.

But there is still \$18 billion shortfall required to improve the priority sections.

During the conference experts examined both public and private sector financing and analysed accident trends.

In 2005, at least 440,000 people died and more than 2m were injured in road accidents in the region.

By 2020, two thirds of the world's road deaths – 610,000 – are expected to be in the Asia-Pacific region.

There are now 28 signatories – 19 who are parties – to the intergovernmental agreement on the Asian Highway Network, which stipulates that parties shall meet the new standards, including road safety.

What do you think – is public or private sector cash the best finance option? Are drivers or roads the danger? Tell us on info@gtkp.com

Click [here](#) for more information about the UN Road Safety Collaboration.



Free Hard-Copy gTKP Resources

International Road Maintenance Handbook Volumes I and II

The 3rd Edition of the International Road Maintenance Handbook is now available and can be ordered from gTKP. Volume I: Maintenance of Roadside Areas and Drainage, and Volume II: Maintenance of Unpaved Roads, have been updated and reprinted by popular demand. The new editions incorporate more information on labour and tractor-based techniques, the development of manpower management and the issue of safety at work. Contact info@gtkp.com to order your free copy.

Road Engineering and Planning for Development CD-ROMS still in stock

This gTKP-funded resource contains reports and guidelines produced by the DfID and TRL under the themes of: Road Safety, Transport Planning and Economics, and Urban Transport. They also contain the TRL Overseas Road Notes, the 2nd Edition of the International Road Maintenance Handbooks and the Cost and Safety Efficient Design Notes.

To obtain your free copy, please contact info@gtkp.com. All documents can also be accessed via the [gTKP website](http://www.gtkp.org) by typing “road planning for development” or “road engineering for development” into the search window.



Knowledge Exchange

Ekiti Rural Access Programme Profile

Ogunsakin Olatunji Rufus nominated the Ekiti Rural Access Programme (ERAP) Annual Report for the Tunis Workshop Knowledge Exchange Session, but was not able to share it personally. As part of the continuing Knowledge Exchange, he has offered this short profile of ERAP.

The Ekiti Rural Access Programme (ERAP) was created to improve rural livelihoods by providing better access to economic and social services. The Programme aims to demonstrate a sustainable system for achieving this working through the Local Government Area (LGA) administrations and local communities. In particular, the Programme has strived to address the concerns of immigrant farmers who have been identified as most affected by lack of access and also increase awareness of and sensitivity to environmental and social concerns related to improved access, particularly HIV/AIDS and gender equity. ERAP has established sustainable systems for the maintenance of rural access through institutional reform, capacity building, physical infrastructure provision and pilot initiatives in mobility and accessibility planning. The Programme does not have a website, but Ogunsakin Olatunji Rufus, ERAP Resource Officer, can be contacted at ogunsakinor@yahoo.com for more information.

This organisation is just one of the 230 entries currently in the [gTKP Directory](http://www.gtkp.org). To add your organisation, or suggest changes to an existing entry, contact us at info@gtkp.com



Website Highlights

How a Road Agency Can Transform Force Account Road Maintenance to Contracting

This week, the World Bank published a report proposing a strategic approach to facilitate the shift from force account maintenance to contracting.

The paper urges governments to prepare their central departments for a different strategic role once they have agreed to change, and then to look for ways of utilising government staff and equipment (eg. training, transfers to local government) once the change is underway. It also encourages governments to nurture small and medium sized local contractors, and to realise the benefits in terms of devolving power and responsibility to the lowest appropriate level.

In general, case studies highlighted the following problems that had been encountered in making this change: surplus staff and equipment were neglected; new central road agencies created to manage contractors tended to duplicate functions, which led to management of local roads being neglected; and capacity building of local private contractors and consultants was left to the market, resulting in domination by foreign firms.

The [full paper](#) is available on the gTKP website, as is a briefer [technical note](#) outlining the key recommendations.

When Do Rural Roads Benefit the Poor and How?

This recent publication, produced by the Asian Development Bank, focuses on the transport-poverty linkages in rural road investment. It provides an assessment of the impacts of past road investments, using secondary statistics, traffic and passenger surveys, household surveys, participatory rural assessments and feedback workshops. The report draws on data from six case-study villages that have been affected by Asian Development Bank-funded roads. Click [here](#) to access the report and information on obtaining a hard copy.

SEACAP: Calls for Expressions of Interest in Cambodia, Lao and Vietnam

On behalf of DfID/SEACAP, Crown Agents are inviting Expressions of Interest from individual consultants, firms and organizations to conduct research projects in the areas of rural transport infrastructure and rural accessibility. Expressions of interest must be submitted by 21 July 2006. Click [here](#) for a full list of eligible research areas, selection criteria and application requirements. Other enquiries can be directed to seacap@crowngagents.com.vn. Further information on SEACAP, and selected outputs, can also be accessed via the gTKP website.

Event Highlights

The [Events](#) section of the gTKP Portal currently contains details of more than 40 forthcoming events. These are some highlights that we have selected for this issue.

ICEE 2006 - International Conference on Engineering Education

23 – 28 July 2006. San Juan, Puerto Rico

A forum for knowledge exchange and dissemination, this event will also be attended by gTKP Chairman, Peter O'Neill.

Clean Air Initiative for Latin American Cities (CALAC) 2006

25 - 27 July 2006, São Paulo, Brazil

The event will focus on the theme of "Sustainable Transport: Linkages to Mitigate Climate Change and Improve Air Quality".

Second International Symposium on Transportation Technology Transfer

30 July – 3 August 2006, St Petersburg, Florida, USA

This symposium aims to provide the opportunity for delegates to learn, share and build on the latest in innovative transportation technology transfer methods.



Event Highlights continued...

International African Conference on Gender, Transport and Development.

27 August – 30 August 2006, Port Elizabeth, South Africa

The focus of the conference will be on bridging the divide between development goals, research and policy in developing countries.

3rd IRF/SARF Regional Conference for Africa

11 – 13 September 2006, Durban, South Africa

IRF's 3rd regional conference in Africa will be themed "The Contribution of the Road Industry to Social and Economic Growth in Africa".

UITP Seminar: Roles and Responsibilities of Transport Organising Authorities

18 – 23 September 2006, Nairobi, Kenya

Towards Carfree Cities VI

20 – 24 September 2006, Bogotá, Colombia

This event promises interactive workshops and inspiring speakers, such as Enrique Peñalosa, ex-mayor of Bogotá. Key themes include: sustainable cities; alternative and human mobility; security and citizen behaviour; and the environment.

CIVITAS Forum 2006

25 – 27 September 2006, Burgos, Spain

This year's Forum is entitled: "Cities in Motion: Towards a New Role for Cities in European Transport Policy". Only cities that have signed the CIVITAS Declaration can participate in the Forum.

3rd International Symposium – Networks for Mobility

5 – 6 October 2006, Stuttgart, Germany

This interdisciplinary forum, organised by the University of Stuttgart, will focus on the themes of: transportation system planning; traffic control and telematics; and transportation and the environment.

13th World Congress and Exhibition on Intelligent Transport Systems and Services

8 – 12 October 2006, London, UK

The goal of this annual conference is to encourage the exchange of information on every aspect of ITS deployment.

22nd ARRB Conference

29 October – 2 November 2006, Canberra, Australia

The theme of the conference is the application of research into practice.

Dubai Road Safety Conference – Road Safety Without Borders

6 – 7 November 2006, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

This multidisciplinary event will be hosted by Dubai's Road and Transport Authority and will focus on innovations in road safety technology, infrastructure and traffic management systems and road user behaviour.

57th UITP World Congress & Mobility and City Transport Exhibition

21 – 24 May 2007, Helsinki, Finland

The UITP (International Association of Public Transport) Helsinki event combines the annual world congress with an exhibition space devoted to mobility and city transport and forum. A call for papers will be made later this month.

