



News

gTKP Newsletter 28 – October - November 2007

Welcome

Welcome to Edition 28 of the gTKP Newsletter. We apologise for the slight delay in getting it to you. The new arrangements for the interim management of gTKP were not finalised as quickly as we had hoped, but normal operation should now be resumed.

The newsletter aims to pull together news from the community of transport practitioners. We actively welcome news of any forthcoming event, reports on meetings held, and recent findings or news updates relating to any of the areas of interest to gTKP members. Our main focus areas continue to be Road Safety, Rural Transport and Governance, though we intend to broaden these out to include Urban Transport and Climate Change in the near future.

General News

18th November 2007: World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims



Since 2005, the United Nations has designated the third Sunday in November every year as the official World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims. States are invited to implement recommendations in the *World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention*, compiled by the World Health Organization (WHO), and to establish national lead agencies on road safety, along with action plans to reduce road traffic injuries. The World Day is also the annual day of action to demand greater national and international efforts to reduce the tragic toll of death and injury on the world's roads.

The marking of this day has been spearheaded by many organisations, including the charity **RoadPeace**, which names and remembers the dead and injured victims of road crashes. The day is also being promoted by **Make Roads Safe** - a campaign supported by an international coalition of organisations, to put global road traffic injuries on the G8 and UN sustainability agendas.

Please refer to the **links** for information, resources and further details of how the day is being marked.

The **Practical Road Safety Guide** - a toolkit developed for use by the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies by the Global Road Safety Partnership - can now be downloaded in Arabic and Spanish (as well as French and English) from: <http://www.grsproadsafety.org>

gTKP supports continuity in road safety in the ASEAN region

With support from gTKP, the Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP) initiated and supported the GRSP/ASEAN + China Road Safety Seminar held in Bali, Indonesia, on the 6th and 7th of September. The seminar was hosted by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia through the Directorate of Land Transport.

The 2007 Seminar continued a tradition of previous regional road safety seminars conducted in Tokyo (2001), Hanoi (2002, "*Towards Sustainable Partnership in ASEAN*"), Bangkok (2003, "*Gearing up for Action*"), and Kuala Lumpur (2004, "*The Problem and Progress to Date*").

The theme of the 2007 Seminar, "*Challenges and Opportunities*" aimed to highlight the escalating disaster of road crashes, road crash injuries and fatalities in the region and as well as the opportunities created by the many new road safety initiatives in the region.

Click [here](#) to read more or refer to the **GRSP** website.

UN Road Safety Report

The UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-Moon, has published his first report to the UN General Assembly on progress in international road safety. The Report calls upon Member States to continue using the WHO-World Bank World report on road traffic injury prevention as a framework for road safety efforts and to pay particular attention to the risk factors mentioned in this report. It also calls on Member States to be cognisant of the safety needs of vulnerable road users, for example through improvements for public transport and separate road space for pedestrians and cyclists. In his report the UN Secretary-General calls for a ministerial conference on road safety to be held under the auspices of the UN in the near future and also stresses the need for an appropriate global tool to monitor progress.

Click [here](#) to read more



Road Safety Risk Reporter

The seventh issue of Australia's Road Safety Risk Report newsletter (ARRB Road Risk Report No 7) is now available. It is the latest in a series which describes the results of the Road Safety Engineering Risk Assessment project, funded by Austroads to assess risk involving the road, traffic and roadside environment. This issue analyses crash rates. The analysis enables comparisons between the relative safety of roads and intersections according to road stereotype, environment, function and various other attributes. It can assist policy makers and practitioners in tailoring road safety engineering programmes. The priorities for investment in safety improvements can therefore take into account relative crash rates as a key factor in decision making.

To access the full publication, please [click here](#).

Road Safety Award 2007

The International Road Federation is still requesting submissions for the 2007 Road Safety Award. The deadline has been extended to December 14th, 2007. Please submit your application form and projects to the IRF secretariat in Geneva, care of Ms. Maria Novikov

Click on the link for [Call for Submission & Application Form](#)

Readers' attention is also drawn to the **IRF Educational Foundation 2008 Essay Competition** - The Theme: Road Safety. The competition is open to full time students enrolled in accredited undergraduate or graduate transportation curriculum at IRF Member Universities or Research Institutes. Essays are to be submitted by May 31, 2008. Please see [link](#) for more details.

Rural Transport

As we mentioned a few months ago, the **IFRTD Opinions Fair** welcomes contributions from its members, inviting them to enter a monthly writing competition. Opinions published online can win prizes. Each month, the International Forum for Rural Transport and Development posts a new rural transport and development theme and invites you to submit a short opinion piece examining the issue from the perspective of your own working experience or studies. Themes covered so far include Bicycles, Rural Transport Safety, Transport and Governance, Rural Transport and Employment.

November's theme is 'Rural Transport and Health', while that for December will be Rural Transport and Education. Please click on the link [here](#) for the competition link. There is still time to enter for the November competition; and you can read winning entries via the [web link](#) given.

Bicycle Ambulance Initiative in Namibia

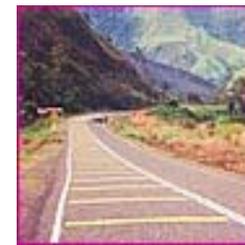
Design For Development recently announced the launch of a bicycle ambulance initiative in Namibia. Together with project partners, the Bicycling Empowerment Network Namibia (BENN), Design For Development will enable the manufacture and delivery of more than 60 bike ambulances to communities in Namibia over the next 12 months. For more information visit the [Design For Development](#) website.

Climate Change and Transport

The **Commission for Integrated Transport (CfIT)**, the UK Government's key transport advisor, unveiled a major report on climate change and transport in September. It recommended a mix of practical, cost-effective measures to reduce transport's impact on the environment. The combined effect of CfIT's recommendations would be to reduce carbon emissions from UK transport by 2020 by 71% over current plans.

The report, ***Transport and Climate Change***, recommends five packages of reinforcing measures across the transport sector, which would see transport emissions fall against 1990 levels. The packages include:

- A mandatory EU target for new car sales of 100g CO₂/km (by 2020) that allows a more cost-effective response by the industry, combined with measures to stimulate demand for lower-emission vehicles;
- A carrot-and-stick approach to promoting more efficient use of cars through the price of fuel, greater promotion of eco-driving and better enforcement of speed limits;
- More intensive promotion of Smarter Choices to encourage take-up of alternatives to car travel, supported by improvements to the carbon performance of public transport;
- Measures to capture the significant opportunities for carbon reduction in the van and lorry fleets; and
- Measures to supplement the move towards emissions trading to stimulate carbon savings in aviation.



EU must work harder and faster on climate change

The second edition of "European Development Days" was held in early November in Lisbon, with the impact of climate change on developing countries top of the agenda. Around 1000 decision-makers and stakeholders on development issues attended the 3-day event in the Portuguese capital. This year's forum focused on climate change issues and how to respond to the needs of already vulnerable countries hardest hit by the impacts of climate change.

President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso said: "Climate change is the greatest challenge of our generation. Developed countries have a special responsibility to take the lead in cutting emissions and pushing a comprehensive, global agreement on future climate action, in the UN framework. Last week in Lisbon, we launched the International Carbon Action Partnership, an initiative of pioneers from around the world to develop a global carbon market. Focusing the second edition of the European Development Days on climate change stresses this sense of global responsibility in tackling this issue. We are determined to help developing countries to face the impact of climate change on the environment and on human and social development."

Sessions were held on: Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change; Protecting and Empowering the Poorest; Global Public Goods and Climate Change: Moving the Global Interest forward; Poverty, Human Settlements and Migration: Promoting a Human-Centred and Holistic Approach; and Climate Change Mitigation, Opportunities and Financing: Combining the Fight against Poverty and Climate Change.

Refer to the [link](#) for more information on the Conference and Sessions:

The Gender and Urban Transport module of GTZ's "**Sustainable Transport Sourcebook**" for policy makers has recently been published. It is available as a download at: <http://www.sutp.org/content/view/427/73/lang.en>

Details of more than 30 modules are grouped into 7 thematic areas. Training and planning source materials are also available from this website.

Bus Rapid Transit

Bus Rapid Transit has become an important global phenomenon in urban transport - with BRT systems ongoing or planned in many cities in developing and developed countries around the world.

The Bus Rapid Transport Planning Guide, published by SUTP (available at <http://www.sutp.org/content/view/427/73/lang.en>) provides a wealth of information on this topic.

The **International Road Transport Union (IRU)** recently held its General Assembly in Geneva. Mr Janusz Lacny was elected new IRU President. He will take up his post in January 2008. At the Assembly, the IRU honoured outstanding drivers. The outgoing President, Paul Laeremans, presented the IRU "Diplôme d'honneur" to 1336 professional drivers from 23 countries. This prestigious award honours long-serving, safe, loyal and upstanding professional drivers. It is awarded to international goods or passenger drivers who have performed to the satisfaction of current and previous employers, by driving commercial vehicles professionally and safely for at least 20 years, 15 of which must have been in international service. In so doing, they must have driven a minimum of 1 million kilometres, without causing any serious accident involving bodily harm in the last 15 years. In addition, the driver must have committed no serious violation of traffic, customs or administrative regulations during the last five years in any of the countries in which he/she has driven.

EVENTS

The **GTZ SUTP** project will be delivering a training course on **non motorised transport planning** in Rio de Janeiro during November 26-27, in cooperation with ITDP (Institute for Transportation and Development Policy), I-ce (Interface for Cycling Expertise), as well as the local Instituto Municipal de Urbanismo Pereira Passos – IPP. A preliminary program and more information is available [here](#). Updates of the program will be available via the website.

GTZ SUTP held a training course on **sustainable urban transport** with Corpaire in Quito, Ecuador, during October 23-24, 2007. It focused on basic measures of sustainable urban transport and implementation aspects of such measures, applying it in specific cases to the situation in Quito. The event had 42 participants from the local government and other related organizations from the city and country. The program of the event can be downloaded [here](#). A full report on this training course is available upon request.



The **SSATP Annual Meeting 2007** was due to be held in Ouagadougou, 5-7 November. The main theme is: "Fostering Sound Policies and Strategies contributing to Africa's integration, economic growth and poverty reduction". The purpose of the annual meeting will be to launch DP-2 (its second long term development plan 2008-11) and agree on priority actions for 2008. SSATP is a partnership of 35 Sub Saharan African countries, Regional Economic Communities, numerous public and private sector sub-regional organisations, and a number of international agencies. The partners share a vision that the implementation of sound transport sector policies will lead to poverty reduction and economic growth. To learn more, visit the [SSATP website](#).

The **Second Development Plan (DP2) 2008-2011** can now be downloaded (in French and English) from the SSATP website. Please follow the [link](#).

IFRTD Asia held its 6th Annual Regional Meeting 2007 in September. in Hanoi, Vietnam

The key areas of issues highlighted in the meeting were; Road Maintenance, Rural Transport Safety, Lobby for better strategies and policies for rural transport development, IMTs and Transport Services, Mobility of persons with disabilities, Inland Water Transport, Transport and Employment.

Hon. Dr. Ha Khac Hao, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Transport, Vietnam was the Chief Guest and delivered the Key Note speech. Representatives from National Forum Groups in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka attended and officials from Ministry of Transport and Transport Development and Strategic Institute (TDSI) in Vietnam and Department of Roads in Bhutan also participated. Donor organisations present were DFID UK, DFID Nepal and World Bank. Representatives from Practical Action, ILO ASIST and SEACAP also took part. The Meeting Proceedings will be made available soon. Please refer to [link](#) for more information.

Road Safe is a road safety partnership of leading companies in the motor and transport Industries in Britain, the Government and road safety professionals. It has announced that it will hold the **SafetyNet Conference 2008** on the 17 - 18 April 2008 in Rome. The Conference will provide the opportunity to showcase the European Road Safety Observatory and the main results of the SafetyNet project. More info from [Road safe](#).

In May 2008, the UK Highways Agency and Transit New Zealand (with WDM Ltd) will host - in the UK - the second International Conference on surface friction of road surfaces. The theme **Reducing Accidents, Saving Lives** is a global issue and of vital interest to all those involved in:

- Highway design and maintenance
- Runway design and maintenance
- Road network management
- Skid resistance
- Accident reduction
- Law enforcement
- Contracting and supply of materials
- Motoring and transport and Transport Research organisations

This is the first major conference of its kind in Europe since 1998 and will feature leading keynote speakers, innovative and informative conference papers, dynamic breakout sessions and workshops on: managing road and runway surfaces, applying good practice and improving safety. For more information click on the [link](#).

SDC is hosting IFRTD's Executive Committee Meeting and Mobility and Health workshop

Preparations have started for this year's Executive Committee meeting which will be held 5th-7th December in Berne, Switzerland in recognition of IFRTD's long-term relationship with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The annual meeting is the cornerstone of IFRTD's participative governance structure where the Secretariat are accountable to representatives from the wider network. Donors, National Forum Groups, Communities of Practice, partners and institutional members will all be attending the 3 day meeting alongside the London Secretariat and the regional coordinators from East and Southern Africa, Central and West Africa, Latin America and Asia. It is an important opportunity for regional members of the network not only to feed into the international work programmes but also to learn from and support each others work. Please note that attendance at the events are strictly by invitation only.

This year will see a continued focus on IFRTD's new 5-year **strategy** -2007-2011, which was adopted last year. To take the strategy forward, especially in light of IFRTD's imminent independence from its host Practical Action, the network has been working with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) to carry out a capacity assessment. The assessment looks into IFRTD's systems, processes, structures (both staff and governance) currently and those that are required for an independent IFRTD. Divided into two phases, IISD will present the results from the first



phase during the ECM focusing on new governance structures. The Executive Committee will consequently have to adopt a new structure that best reflects IFRTD's values and principles.

Please visit the IFRTD [website](#) for more information on the specifics of the meeting and Mobility and Health workshop.

Consultative NFG meeting in Ethiopia

The Ethiopian National Forum for Rural Transport and Development (ENFRTD) recently organised a one-day Consultative Meeting with the main objective to obtain important and useful inputs from members, potential members, development partners, NGOs and other stakeholders to further strengthen and ensure the local network's sustainability. The meeting aimed at having an exploratory, brainstorming and experience sharing session to help the National Forum Group in its strategy formulations and in initiating, planning and implementing projects. Participants came from the World Bank, Economic Commission for Africa, ILO, Initiative Africa and HELVETAS, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport, different NGOs and Board Members.

For more information and the full report please click [here](#).

OTHER NEWS

IRF World Road Statistics 2007 Data 2000-2005 is now available for order from the IRF: Please click on the [link](#) for more details.

IRF World Road Statistics is the only global compilation of road and vehicle statistics. It is based on data compiled from official sources within national statistics offices and national road administrations in more than 185 countries. It also benefits from increased IRF cooperation with international institutions such as Eurostat and Afristat, and the UN Economic Commissions for Europe and for Africa. Since it first appeared in 1958, World Road Statistics has been an indispensable reference tool for road professionals, statisticians, economists, journalists and development specialists around the world.

A New IRF publication, **Maintenance of Road Signs, Markings and Other Safety Assets : A Cost Effective Means of Optimising Road Safety** is also available (free of charge) from <http://www.irfnet.org> :

PIARC Congress Update

At the time of the last Newsletter, the 23rd PIARC Conference had just taken place in Paris, attended by more than 5000 delegates. It focussed on four main themes: Governance, Sustainable, Road Safety and Quality. GTKP operated a stand and was pleased to welcome many existing and new members.

PIARC's strategic plan for 2008-2011 was discussed at the Congress and is currently being finalised. Its main lines of action will be: **sustainability** of road transport networks, improving provision of **services**, **safety** of road networks and **quality** of road infrastructure.

The proceedings of the congress will be available on line at the beginning of 2008. A list of delegates and other information relating to the congress are available on the PIARC [website](#).

...and finally:

We always welcome your comments on the newsletter, or indeed any aspect of gTKP. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any suggestions, opinions or feedback, via email at: info@gtkp.com or via the website at: <http://www.gtkp.com>. If you are not yet registered, we invite you to do so.

Registration is very straightforward and is free. You can read more about the themes covered in gTKP and participate in discussions on issues of interest. We look forward to hearing from you.

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