

# Research and Development



LAO PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Issue No.3

May 2006

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## PIARC Risk Management Workshop

For the purpose of the mitigation of various damages accrued by the road related risks, PIARC has been working to achieve common goals such as "improvement of the safe and efficient use of the road system" and "effective



management of the risk associated with road transport operations and the natural environment". The objective is to meet the ever increasing demand of risk management and to serve as a link between practice, sciences, policy making and decision making in the search for the risk management for roads.

- \* Risk management of man made hazards
- \* Risk management for projects and organizations

Also included on the agenda was an international workshop on tsunamis.

In line with this objective, an International Seminar on Risk Management for Roads was held in Hanoi from the 25th to 28th April, 2006. The key topics of the workshop included:

David Salter, Technical Manager for SEACAP gave a presentation on the SEACAP programme and its relevance to risk management. His paper focused on natural and man made disaster impacts on rural assessment and how SEACAP is addressing these issues. Mr. Salter illustrated his presentation with examples from Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Vietnam

- \* Risk management techniques in the road sector
- \* Risk management of natural hazards

*For further information on SEACAP risk management please contact David Salter at [davidsalter@online.com.kh](mailto:davidsalter@online.com.kh)*



## DISTRIBUTION

Research and Development will be distributed in electronic and printed versions within MCTPC and the DCTPC offices. If you wish to be included in the distribution list, please contact the publishers at the address shown on page 4, giving your name position and contact details.

## LSRSP3: Synergy Project Support

The Synergy Project Support Fund is an initiative supported by Sida through the Lao Swedish Road Sector Project III. The aim of the Synergy Project Support fund is to support other sectors with the transport infrastructure component to strengthen the poverty alleviation effect of rural development projects.

The synergy Project Support Fund provides conditional in-kind assistance by improving basic access in the poorest areas of the Lao PDR in the form of construction/upgrading of low volume roads, footpaths, structures, waterways and training in maintenance of the supported access improvements.

Construction works will be done predominantly through labour-based approach with some necessary equipment support.

The fund will target inaccessible villages where severe poverty prevails and remote villages with high economic potential in any of the poor NGPES-defined districts in the 8 northern project provinces: Luang Prabang, Oudomxay, Luangnamtha, Xayaboury, Bokeo, Huaphanh, Phongsaly and Xiengkhouang.

The pre-qualifying conditions for access to the funds are:

- (1) the eligibility of the proposed targeted area and activities,
- (2) a required co-funding of 30% of the total budget for road access improvement contributed by Synergy Partner(s), which can be made in cash or in kind (Tools, Food-For-Work, Works etc.). **Synergy Partners** comprise local

Authorities at district and provincial levels, Government sectors other than CTPC, projects/donors and private sector.

- (3) the existence of an area-based integrated, participatory development plan, approved by the Synergy Partners and endorsed by the District Governor
- (4) a minimum number of two to four Synergy Partners, except MCTPC that have committed to provide assistance to the communities living in the vicinity of the improved road link.

*For further information on Synergy Project Support, please contact Belal Hussain, Team Leader BAC-LSRSP3 at [bac-lsrsp3@laopdr.com](mailto:bac-lsrsp3@laopdr.com)*

## Sustainable Rural Mobility and Participation Project (SRMP)

SRMP commenced in January 2006. The specific objectives of the SRMP are to:

- Improve the local roads network, linking villagers to their homes and places of work and facilitating access to basic social and economic services.
- Target poor rural areas and key vulnerable groups, especially children and women.
- Build up the capacity of grassroots and local communities through: (i) promoting community based road construction and maintenance; (ii) improving local level dissemination of information on the road sector; (iii) participation of villagers in the planning and decision making process for community-based road maintenance systems.

- Support Lao PDR in the establishment of an effective rural transport policy framework.

The project will provide, over a two year period, support for improved accessibility to about 120 villages located in selected poor rural areas in the provinces of Luang Namtha, Luang Prabang, Savannakhet, and Champassak

The project will support the following components:

1. Technical assistance to develop capacity for organization and management of local roads and bridges at the village/district level
2. Routine road maintenance works on the rural roads identified by the villagers

3. One-time grants for spot improvements and rehabilitation works on local roads and bridges to upgrade sections to maintainable standards.
4. Support for the development of village-based roadwork groups and small contracting business.
5. Development and dissemination of proven workable systems for rural road maintenance at the local level.

The project will also consider the use of some of the trial pavements currently being investigated on SEACAP 17.



*For further information on JSDF please contact Sisomphone*

## REGIONAL PROJECTS

### Rural Road Surfacing Trials (Vietnam)

The completed Rural Road Gravel Assessment Programme (RRGAP) investigations (reported in Issue 1) suggests that the Vietnam road authorities should in future restrict the use of gravel in many rural road locations. These investigations were carried out as part of the Ministry of Transport Rural Road Surfacing Research (RRSR) programme supported by DFID and World Bank.

For locations where gravel is not appropriate, and as the principal RRSR initiative, the MoT Rural Road Surfacing Research programme aims to enable experience to be gained with a range of alternative road surfaces that



better use local resources in a sustainable way. This will allow revision of guidelines and the minimising of whole-life-costs for road upgrading. It will also support the Government's access improvement, poverty alleviation and road maintenance policies. Ultimately the National Standards for Rural Roads will be developed to include a full range of surfacing options and provide guidance on their suitability, based on local circumstances and materials availability.

The Rural Road Surfacing Trials (RRST) are testing and demonstrating a range of techniques (which have been proven elsewhere) for use in various Vietnam conditions. Phase 1 of the trials are nearing completion in the Mekong and Central



Coastal Regions of Vietnam. World Bank and DFID have supported MoT to extend the trials into the Central Highlands, Northern Highlands and Red River Delta regions .

37 No. trial roads will be constructed in 8 new provinces under a tight construction timescale. These are effectively "roll out" trials of existing and some new paving options, and are intended to more closely reflect the normal operational environment for rural road construction.

*For further information on the RRST-II please contact Rob Petts at [intech-trl@fpt.vn](mailto:intech-trl@fpt.vn)*

### International Guidelines

There are many guidelines and information booklet published internationally that are of great benefit to developing countries. However one of the difficulties facing regional staff is the often complicated technical language.

To overcome this difficulty, SEACAP is looking to translate key documents to make them more readily accessible to practitioners in the region..

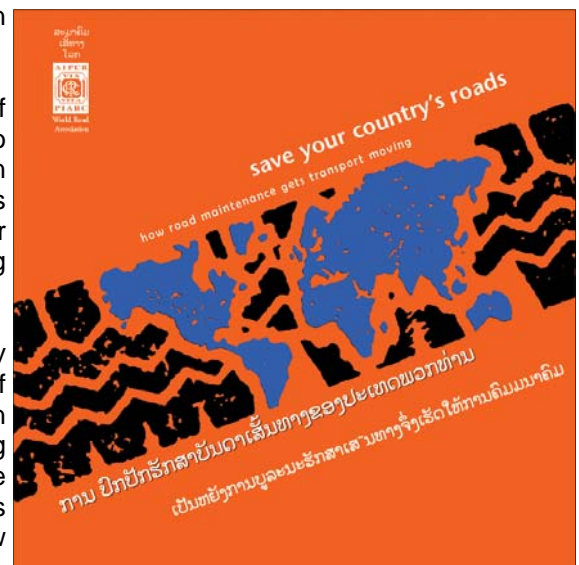
SEACAP has recently published and distributed the TRL Road Note 20 'Rural Road Management' in Vietnamese.

SEACAP 17 has translated the PIARC booklet 'Save Your Country's Roads' into Lao but it has not yet been published. Soft

copies are available on request.

The main purpose of these translations is to make useful and often essential publications available to a wider audience in developing countries.

If you know of any publication that will be of benefit to MCTPC in developing and managing rural access, please contact us giving details of the publication and how you think it can help.



*For further information on this topic and to submit any suggestions for document translation, please contact Mike James at [roughton@laopdr.com](mailto:roughton@laopdr.com)*



### CNCTP Web Site



CNCTP is a partnership of organisations and individuals that share a concern for good management and use of rural road network assets in Cambodia and whose interests are best served and developed through a common platform that has strong government recognition.

The CNCTP is also a network of transport development stakeholders seeking to accelerate the implementation of effective, efficient and equitable transport services in Cambodia through broader integrated information and communication of transport knowledge.

CNCTP is a transport sector stakeholders' knowledge forum committed to the provision of sustainable transport access for the rural poor. CNCTP seeks to foster collaborative efforts amongst members, donors and other organisations that encourage management and dissemination of transport

knowledge so as to participate in improving transport policies and decision-making.

The CNCTP web site provides useful information about transport developments in Cambodia and the region and includes:

- \* A library of reports on transport and research issues
- \* Downloadable reports (including this newsletter)
- \* Links to other web sites
- \* Themes and a forum currently under construction

The site also includes details of recent international seminars held in Cambodia including PIARC, the Sida/ADB Regional Meeting on Road Safety and the SEACAP Transport Infrastructure Management Workshop. These provide details of each workshop and allow you to download papers presented at the workshop.

*More details can be found on the CNCTP web site at [www.cnctp.info](http://www.cnctp.info)*

### USEFUL WEB SITES

#### GOVERNMENT

DfID: Department for International Development  
[www.dfid.gov.uk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk)

DfID Transport Links  
[www.transport-links.org](http://www.transport-links.org)

#### SEACAP

South East Asia Community Access Programme (SEACAP) web page on [www.mt.gov.vn](http://www.mt.gov.vn)

Roughton International  
[www.roughton.com](http://www.roughton.com)

#### RESEARCH

Global Transport Knowledge Partnership [www.gtkp.org](http://www.gtkp.org)

ID21: Development Research organisation sponsored by DfID.  
[ID21.org](http://ID21.org)

#### INSTITUTIONS

World Road Association (PIARC) [www.piarc.org](http://www.piarc.org)

Institution of Civil Engineers UK (ICE) [www.ice.org.uk](http://www.ice.org.uk)

Innovation and Research Focus Magazine (published by ICE)  
[innovationandresearchfocus.org.uk](http://innovationandresearchfocus.org.uk)

International Forum for Rural Transport and Development - [www.ifrtd.gn.apc.org](http://www.ifrtd.gn.apc.org)

### ABOUT RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT FOCUS

Research and Development is a newsletter developed under the SEACAP 17 project and will be issued quarterly. The purpose of the newsletter is to disseminate information about ongoing and future research relating to the road network. This will include projects in Lao PDR, the SE Asia region and worldwide. The articles will be both informative and designed to stimulate discussion on topics relevant to rural transport issues in Lao PDR.

The publishers of the newsletter welcome any comments, feedback and contributions to the newsletter. Also let us know if you want to receive regular copies of the newsletter.

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