



ERA-NET TRANSPORT (ENT) is a cooperation platform for national transport research programmes.

ENT news is a quick overview of some of the latest activities in the trans-national consortium.

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For more information please visit our website

www.transport-era.net

ENTrada

- a database on national transport research programmes. The idea is to map the national funding landscape for transport research in Europe.

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SURPRICE

- a trans-national funding cooperation on road user charging. The vision is to improve the scientific base for road user charging in order to reduce CO₂ emissions and congestion.

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EXISTING RESEARCH FUNDING ACTIONS IN BRIEF

Concrete research funding cooperation in ERA-NET TRANSPORT is organised in Action Groups.

The following trans-national funding cooperations are ongoing or have been carried out under the umbrella of ERA-NET TRANSPORT.

NAME AND LAUNCH	COUNTRIES	OUTCOME AND CONTACT	BUDGET	PROJECTS
Intelligent logistics (ENT 2b) Joint call launched in September 2006	AT, DE	Three R&D projects and one clustering project received funding in this first trans-national cooperation in ENT heimo.aichmaier@bmvit.gv.at	4.3 M Euros	4 projects funded Start: January 2008
SURSHIP (ENT 5) - A Strategic European Research Cooperation on Maritime Safety Launched September 2006	DE, DK, FI, FR, NL, SE, UK	Successful trans-national cooperation. Research results presented for the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) www.surship.eu	13 M Euros	Cluster of programmes
Tracking and Tracing of Dangerous Goods (ENT 12) Joint study launched January 2008	AT, FR, NL	A joint preliminary study started in 2008. Three teams are working together paving the way for a trans-national funding cooperation olivier.hartmann@i-carre.net	150,000 Euros	Joint preliminary study
Safety and Security Across Modes (ENT 13) Joint call launched in June 2008	FR, NO	Trans-national call successful. A possible continuation and enlargement is being investigated fleur.breuilin@developpement-durable.gouv.fr	400,000 Euros	1 project funded Start: January 2009
KEEP MOVING (ENT 14) - Mobility and Demographic Changes First call launched in February 2007	DE, FR, NL, SE	First trans-national call successful. The Action Group is preparing a next call on "Sparsely populated areas and growing cities" miriam.stephan@de.tuv.com	2 M Euros	2 projects funded Start: Autumn 2008
Sleepiness at the Wheel (ENT 15) Call launched in February 2008	FR, NL, NO, SE	Trans-national call successful. A dissemination event is scheduled for 2010 olivier.hartmann@i-carre.net	1.4 M Euros	3 projects funded Start: Sept. 2008
Intermodal Freight Transport (ENT 16) Call launched in May 2007	AT, FR, NO, SE, SU	Trans-national call successful. walter.wasner@bmvit.gv.at	2.3 M Euros	5 projects funded Start: April 2008

FIRST ENT PLENARY GROUP MEETING

ENT Plenary Group is a forum for networking, dissemination and info exchange.

About 50 stakeholders from transport-related ERA-NETs, European Technology Platforms and representatives from national programmes, EC and further European networks attended the first ENT Plenary Group meeting in Cologne on 1-2 December 2008.

There has been interesting presentations and fruitful discussion about current and forthcoming trans-national cooperation activities and best practice during the Plenum at first day. Moreover, the three workshops, which were each targeted to a specific audience: transport-related ERA-Nets / stakeholders of the ERA / potential new ENT partners, provided a unique platform for dialogue.

Building on the successful concept of the first meeting, the second Plenary Group meeting is scheduled for 30 November – 1 December 2009 in Cologne.

FIRST ENT HIGH LEVEL GROUP MEETING

The High Level Group of ENT is a forum for key national players to exchange information on national research priorities in transport, to explore opportunities for trans-national research cooperation, and to play an active role in the identification and support of future joint actions.

In November 2008 about 30 programme representatives and directors met in Paris to discuss the perspectives and expectations towards trans-national research funding cooperation. The fruitful discussions included the added value of trans-national cooperation, the commitment for further developing the strong cooperation as well as concrete topics for future trans-national cooperation.

A second High Level Group meeting is scheduled for 13-14 May 2009 in Stavanger, Norway. Here, discussion will include the new initiatives in ENT, large scale cooperation actions, a foresight for transport research in Europe and the future of ENT.

“Greater trans-national collaboration is a must for prosperity in the new economy where specialization relative to the rest of the world is essential for winning in the global competition.”

The renowned Japanese innovation strategist and author of *The Next Global Stage*, Dr. Kenichi Ohmae

4 Themes for trans-national funding cooperation



INTERVIEW



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Themes for trans-national funding cooperation

A foresight analysis study has identified four broad areas for trans-national funding cooperation based on drivers and future trends in the transport sector.

Transport research provides answers to questions; questions of today as well as future questions. The Dutch ENT partner from the Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management (MinVenW) has made an analysis of forecast studies, which identifies main research areas and topics for trans-national cooperation. The areas, which each cover a number of topics, are:

- Seamless
- Green
- Reliable and
- Adaptive transport system

Common topics

Sieds Halbesma from MinVenW, who is leading the task, explains: “The goal is to find common topics for new joint initiatives, for example new joint programmes or connect existing national transport research programmes.”

“The themes for trans-national research cooperation are based on external drivers and main trends in the transport system towards 2030. Each trend provides a challenge for the future of transport, thus a question for research”, Sieds Halbesma continues.

The drivers and trends in the transport sector are based on reports and studies by various knowledge organisations, national governments, the European Commission and the industry-driven Technology Platforms.

Long-term trends

The long-term trends include new demands for personal mobility, increase in freight transport, growth of CO₂ emissions, new safety and security needs, and the movement towards a more complex transport system.

Though the trends may seem familiar, they are common for most European countries. As Sieds Halbesma explains: “We wanted to focus on the robust trends that could pave the way for new trans-national initiatives. The foresight analysis is an instrument to bring people together”.

For more information contact Sieds Halbesma, MinVenW, The Netherlands: sieds.halbesma@minvenw.nl



INTERVIEW



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ENTrada - developing a database on transport research programmes

Behind the acronym “ENTrada”, a database on national transport research programmes is being sketched by the partners in ERA-NET TRANSPORT. The idea is to map the national funding landscape for transport research in Europe.

Walter Wasner, from the Austrian Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, who is leading the task, explains: “The aim is two-fold: To empower national programme owners and managers to identify options for trans-national cooperation based on reliable information. And to provide an overview on national funding opportunities for European researchers heading for trans-national research projects”

Information gap

The background for developing the database is the information gap that exists in trans-national funding cooperation. Often programme managers and owners are faced with questions like: Which programmes operate in our field? How can we inform about our national programme? What are the options for cooperating trans-nationally? And whom shall we talk to?

Here, an information system can enable national programme owners and managers to set up joint activities. And enable mutual learning between European transport research programmes.

Developing phase

Several challenges remain, including how to develop a self-maintaining tool on a “see and be seen basis”, as Walter Wasner describes it. The goal is to a tool with sufficient information, which is still easy to maintain for the national programme owners and managers.

For more information contact Walter Wasner, BMVIT, Austria: walter.wasner@bmvit.gv.at

6 New trans-national cooperation actions

NEW COOPERATION ACTIONS

Concrete research funding cooperation in ERA-NET TRANSPORT is organised in Action Groups.

So far three new Action Groups have been approved by ERA-NET TRANSPORT in 2009:

- E-mobility (see below)
- Climate-friendly Freight Networks (see below)
- SURPRICE - Road user charging (see next page)

MORE TRANS-NATIONAL INITIATIVES

Several other options for trans-national cooperation are also being investigated. Topics and contact persons are:

- Road safety
Matthew White, DfT, UK
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- Inclusive mobility
Miriam Stephan, TÜV, Germany
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- Capacity management
Jessica Hop, MinVenW, The Netherlands
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- Transport and urban planning
Olivier Hartmann, ISTED, France
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- Railway research
Oliver Althoff, TÜV, Germany
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E-mobility

The Norwegian and Dutch ENT-partners are initiating a trans-national research funding cooperation on electric and hybrid vehicles.

A three step development of the cooperation action is foreseen: a comparative study focusing on the end user

needs, a joint call in 2009/2010, and possibly a lighthouse demo project.

The initiative will be further developed in the coming months. So far AT, CH, DE, NL, NO, PL, and SE have expressed an interest in the project.

For more information contact Floris Mulder, Senternovem, The Netherlands: f.mulder@sinternovem.nl

Expert workshop on Climate-friendly Freight Networks

To kick off a new trans-national funding initiative on climate friendly freight networks, the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi) is hosting an international expert workshop in June 2009.

The initiative is based on a need for cross boarder approaches, since international logistics cannot be built on stand-alone systems. "Improvements in international freight transport are requiring trans-national measures as there is a strong influence from foreign fleet operators," Andreas Liessem from Germany's Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology reflects.

Technology-oriented Research

The foreseen cooperation is aiming at technology oriented projects and demonstration projects. Though the initiative is still in the developmental stage, the focus of the funding activities sketched could include the following areas: innovative vehicle technologies; organisational models for

intermodal and climate-friendly freight transport corridors; demonstration of vehicle technologies for trucks; or international freight transport chains that combine railway transport for longer distances and trucks with alternative propulsion systems for short road distances.

Triple Helix

Using a triple helix approach, the involved experts are foreseen to represent industry, operators as well as academia.

The coordinator of ERA-NET TRANSPORT, Oliver Althoff from TÜV Rheinland explains: "The aim of the workshop in Bonn is to bring together researchers and industry with policy makers and programme managers from interested European countries. The objective is to validate the basic idea and to prepare a dedicated funding initiative of interested countries".

A draft time schedule foresees a joint funding of trans-national projects from early 2010.

For more information contact Oliver Althoff, TÜV, Germany: oliver.althoff@de.tuv.com



INTERVIEW

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SURPRICE - a strategic research funding cooperation on Road User Charging

SURPRICE is a group of research programme representatives and experts interested in road user charging. The vision of the group is to improve the scientific base for road user charging in order to reduce CO₂ emissions and congestion.

Christine Wallgren from VINNOVA, Sweden, who is leading the group, explains: "Though much work has been done already, further efforts are needed in order to reduce the negative external effects from road transport. The partners are convinced that these problems can be reduced via pricing instruments."

"The actions in SURPRICE will focus on charges for passenger vehicles", Christine Wallgren says and continues: "However, there may be overlapping issues common for both freight transport and passenger vehicles, which could be interesting to address in order to develop standardised systems."

What research can offer policy making

The aim of the joint action is to create a joint research package including different national projects on road user charging as well as to initiate joint projects. The partners

are convinced that interoperability within Europe is an important aspect of road user charging. An indicative budget from the partners compiles to 1-1.5 million Euros for trans-national actions.

To facilitate the use of research results, 'The SURPRICE bank of Knowledge' has been sketched, which will include results from closed and ongoing national projects as well as results from joint projects. To disseminate research results, the group also plans for yearly seminars under the headline of 'What research can offer policy making'.

Nine countries involved

The cooperation consists of a core group of five partner countries (DK, FI, FR, SE, SU) and four observers (DE, NL, NO, UK). ERA-NET Road and the Stockholm Group – a platform of national public authorities – will probably also be involved as stakeholders or observers.

The group has drafted a Letter of Intent and have held their first meeting in March 2009 to initiate the cooperation. A kick-off meeting is scheduled for June in Zurich.

For more information contact Christine Wallgren, VINNOVA, Sweden: christine.wallgren@vinnova.se

ERA-NET TRANSPORT in short

ERA-NET TRANSPORT brings together programme owners and managers of national transport research programmes from twelve countries, representing an annual public funding volume of around 300 million Euros.

The vision behind ENT is to supplement and enrich national transport research programmes through

trans-national cooperation.

ENT is based on the principles of:

- Voluntary participation
- Variable geometry of cooperation actions
- Acceptance of national and regional sovereignty
- Openness to new partners

Since 2003, ERA-NET TRANSPORT has facilitated several successful and valuable cooperation actions among national transport research programmes. The existing framework for trans-national transport research programming is presently being developed by:

- Having more intensive and comprehensive cooperation actions between national research programmes with focus on joint calls and joint programmes
- Increasing the information and knowledge base of the network and enhancing cohesion among the network partners
- Streamlining support measures to ensure smoother processes both nationally and trans-nationally
- Developing the cooperation between national research programmes and EC research support schemes
- Actively contributing to the development of the European Transport Research Area
- Broadening the geographical scope by including more European Countries in ERA-NET TRANSPORT

CONTACT INFO

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Please find more information on our website

www.transport-era.net

- Basic information about ERA-NET TRANSPORT
- Action Groups
- Research calls
- Dates and events
- Latest news and links
- Links to other transport research related sites