**CAP/ASCAP** is a DFID-funded research programme aimed at helping African countries in sub-Saharan Africa to better understand the role of rural transport services in affecting rural development. The programme encourages collaboration between African countries, international donors and other research institutes. It was launched in 2008 and has since then been extended to include more countries in Africa. The programme aims to increase the understanding of rural transport services and their impact on development and the economy in Africa. Some of the key objectives of the programme include:

- Establishing a research agenda for rural transport services in sub-Saharan Africa
- Developing and implementing strategies for rural transport services research
- Enhancing knowledge sharing and collaboration between African countries and international research institutes
- Supporting capacity building and technical assistance in rural transport services research

The programme is currently funded by the DFID and is being implemented by the International Foundation for Research in Transportation (IFRTD) in partnership with the African Road Foundation (AFR). The programme has three main components:

1. **Research and Capacity Building**
   - The programme supports research projects that aim to address gaps in the understanding of rural transport services in sub-Saharan Africa. These projects are led by African researchers and contribute to the development of research capacity in the region.

2. **Technical Assistance**
   - The programme provides technical assistance to support the implementation of research findings and the development of policies related to rural transport services. This includes the provision of training and guidance to stakeholders on how to use the research findings.

3. **Knowledge Management**
   - The programme promotes the sharing of knowledge and best practices related to rural transport services among African countries and other stakeholders. This includes the publication of research findings and the dissemination of best practices through workshops, conferences, and other events.

**AFR** (African Road Foundation) is a non-profit organization located in South Africa that aims to promote sustainable transport solutions to improve road safety and reduce poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. The organization conducts research, provides technical assistance, and supports capacity building in the field of rural road safety. AFR is a member of the IFRTD and works closely with other stakeholders to advance rural transport services research in Africa. Some of the key initiatives of AFR include:

- **Rural Road Safety**
  - AFR conducts research and provides technical assistance to support the development and implementation of policies to improve rural road safety in sub-Saharan Africa. This includes the development of guidelines and best practices for the design and construction of rural roads.

- **Road Maintenance**
  - AFR supports the implementation of strategies to improve the maintenance of rural roads in sub-Saharan Africa. This includes the development of policies and guidelines for road maintenance and the provision of technical assistance to support the implementation of these policies.

- **Policy Development**
  - AFR provides technical assistance to support the development of policies related to rural transport services in sub-Saharan Africa. This includes the provision of guidance on how to use research findings to inform policy decisions.

AFR is committed to advancing the understanding of rural transport services in sub-Saharan Africa through research, capacity building, and technical assistance. The organization encourages collaboration between African countries and international stakeholders to promote sustainable transport solutions that are effective in reducing poverty and improving the quality of life for all.