Dear Colleagues:

Partnering and joining efforts with other organisations is a win-win situation for all parties involved.

AFCAP has been busy partnering and joining hands with other organisations in order to achieve specific goals. It is supporting the formation of an African Road Transport Research Forum -ARTReF. AFCAP also partners with SLoCAT for rural transport advocacy. And continuing with research, both on infrastructure issues and on rural transport services, AFCAP has associated with IFRTD and other research organisations.

If you need information on Rural Access, AFCAP/ASCAP has made it possible to search its library database online.

Please give us your feedback and let us know if you are interested in sharing information about your rural transport projects. Please contact Ana Bravo at ana.bravo@ifrtd.org

Ana Bravo (Editor)

AFCAP support to the formation of an African Road Transport Research Forum (ARTReF)

In February 2015, AFCAP supported a meeting of African Research Centre Managers in South Africa. The main purpose was to discuss the establishment of a Road Research Centre forum for Sub-Saharan Africa and to provide feedback on the draft AFCAP strategies for research and capacity building. The meeting was attended by participants from Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe as well as representatives from CSIR (South Africa), CRRI (India), and TRL (UK). The main outcome of the meeting was a decision to launch the African Road and Transport Research Forum (ARTReF) with the aim of promoting research and innovation in roads and transport for sustainable development in Africa.

For further information, please contact the interim ARTReF Secretariat at bverhaeg@csir.co.za

AFCAP/ASCAP partners with SLoCAT for rural transport advocacy

AFCAP/ASCAP is supporting the partnership on Sustainable Low Carbon Transport (SLoCAT) in an effort to contribute towards a better integration of rural transport in the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals and to promote a prominent place for rural transport in the implementation of the post-2015 development framework. Through various activities, such as interventions and dedicated dialogues at high-level transport forums, the partners aim to raise awareness about the importance of sustainable rural access and have multi-lateral institutions and governments commit to support rural transport infrastructure and services.

For more information, please be referred to the SLoCAT website: www.slocat.net or contact Caroline Visser at caroline.visser@bluewin.ch
Use of DCP for quality control during construction in Malawi

The use of the Dynamic Cone Penetrometer (DCP) for pavement design of Low Volume Sealed Roads (LVSR) is now relatively well known. The method is detailed in the Malawi manual entitled Design Manual for Low Volume Sealed Roads using DCP Method, published as an official Government document in 2013. One significant area of LVSR design and construction using the DCP Method, which remains to be tackled, is the use of the DCP for quality control during construction supervision. To enable collection of credible evidence on long-term performance of LVSR, attainment of high quality in all aspects of design and construction is essential. To that end, the Malawi Roads Authority has requested further AFCAP support towards development of procedures for quality control using the DCP, followed by a period of training in order to transfer the required skills to the appropriate technical and site staff. This will culminate in the preparation of a generic guideline for use by practitioners within Malawi and elsewhere.

Technical auditing at different stages of the project cycle will identify issues and deficiencies in the design and construction and serve as a guide to the consultant and contractors to achieve high quality end products.

For more information, please contact Nkululeko Leta at nkululeko.leta@cardno.uk.com

Learning with older people about their transport and mobility problems in rural Tanzania

HelpAge International is a global network with a vision of a world in which all older people can lead dignified, active, healthy and secure lives.

Drawing on previous experience of involving older people as co-investigators, HelpAge will conduct a study in Kilolo District, Tanzania, to build a baseline data to promote and monitor mobility-focused interventions for rural older people and those living under their care, to achieve better health and well-being. The findings will relate to the national context in Tanzania and sub-Saharan Africa. A detailed gender, age and disability sensitive case study as well as differentials on older people's care giving and receiving role will be gathered to understand how access to transport shapes their right to health services and economic empowerment. It will recommend how transport services could be improved to enable older people living in rural areas to access better health care and services, thus more effectively supporting themselves and those in their care. Through replicable methodology of data collection and analysis we will assess future changes in transport availability, mode etc., and in service access and the impact this has on the lives of vulnerable older people.

A study in Kilolo district, with funding from AFCAP, will provide significant complement to HelpAge's earlier findings from the Kibaha study by bringing new insights from a very different location and context to support older people's health and well-being related mobility needs.

For more information contact Amleset Tewodros at Atewodros@helpagetz.org

Study to examine training needs and gaps for motorcycle riders in Tanzania

Motorcycle taxis, often known as bodabodas, have emerged in Tanzania as a key feature of rural, inter-urban and urban transport services. They play an important role in allowing people to access vital services such as health care, markets and education. However, there are increasing road safety concerns about the rise of bodabodas in Tanzania and increasing efforts by the Government of Tanzania to start regulating them. It is predicted that a level of regulation, support to bodabodas associations, efforts to professionalise and provide quality training for the riders and owners, improved service for the users and a review of the processes for testing and licensing acquisition have considerable potential for positive change. Within this context, Transaid is conducting an applied research project to understand the current training available for motorcycle riders in Tanzania, reviewing the existing curricula and materials and making propositions for adequate training programmes, with particular consideration to bodaboda riders. The findings will include recommendations for training programmes and on licence acquisition and testing. Consideration will also be given to the specific needs of vulnerable users and how training standards can be harmonised across the region.

For more information contact Caroline Barber at barberc@transaid.org
The AFCAP/ASCAP online Rural Access Library

A revamped and restructured Rural Access Library is now online on www.afcap.org. The repository, holding close to 500 knowledge items produced under the AFCAP programme, was restructured to improve access and user-friendliness. A search engine has been added for ease of use and the knowledge items are clearly summarised and categorised along with a set of descriptive information. The Library will continuously be updated; the latest additions can be found on the AFCAP homepage.

The Library is freely accessible for anyone with an interest in rural road and transport services research; no registration is needed.

Please have a look at the new repository here. You can forward your feedback to Caroline Visser at caroline.visser@bluewin.ch

AFCAP Workshop on Rural Transport Services
Bagamoyo, Tanzania, April 21-23, 2015

7th Africa T2 Conference
Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, May 11-15, 2015

Transportation Research Board 11th International Conference on Low Volume Roads
Pittsburgh, PA, United States, July 112-15, 2015

RESOURCES

IFRTD's baseline study on First Mile transport of tomatoes

Concurrently with the study on rural transport service indicators, IFRTD is carrying out a short survey in Kilolo District, Tanzania, on the transport challenges experienced in moving tomatoes between the small holder farms and the first point of commercial interface (collection point, motorable road, or primary market). This initial transport segment is critical to farmers’ income, especially where perishable produce such as tomatoes, vegetables, fruit and milk are involved. We refer to this transport segment as the First Mile.

For more information contact Peter Njenga at peter.njenga@ifrtd.org

ADB supports gender integration in Lao PDR’s public works, transport sector

Technical assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB) has helped the Lao People's Democratic Republic Ministry of Public Works and Transport mainstream gender-sensitive planning, monitoring and evaluation in the sector.

Under the project, the ministry has produced and disseminated nationwide the first-ever Strategy for the Advancement of Women in the Public Works and Transport Sector; and Guidelines for Integrating Gender into Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation.

In February 2015, a knowledge sharing workshop was carried out to discuss ways of implementing the gender integration strategy supported by the project. The workshop was co-chaired by Vilaykham Phosalath, Lao PDR vice minister of Public Works and Transport and Sandra Nicoll, ADB Country Director for Lao PDR.

Read more...

CALL FOR PAPERS AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Call for papers: Transport and Global Poverty

The role of transport infrastructure in the global challenge of poverty eradication is essential. This call for papers is for the themed issue on transport and global poverty. Papers are sought on the planning, design, procurement, construction and maintenance of transport infrastructure and transport services that relate to rural and urban poverty in the UK and overseas.

Topics to be covered could include the following: Urban transport, Trade and transport corridors, Low-volume rural transport, Global road safety, Sustainable and low-carbon transport solutions, Transport planning.

KEY DATES: Deadline to submit abstracts: 10th April 2015. Deadline to submit papers: 25th September 2015. Papers should be broad in their approach to poverty eradication. To submit an abstract contact: E. agnes.alvite@ice.org.uk
Call for contributions to the *Journal of Sustainable Mobility* Issue 4, November 2015

The deadline for submissions to Issue 4 is 31st June 2015.

Four types of submissions are invited: research papers, policy debates, case studies, and research notes. We encourage submissions from academics with a research-orientation and also business practitioners and policymakers, from the public and private sectors.

Submissions should be made via the online submission system. To submit a paper and view author guidelines, visit [http://www.greenleaf-journals.com/index.php/ism](http://www.greenleaf-journals.com/index.php/ism). To discuss contribution ideas contact the Editor Michael Zhang at michael.zhang@ntu.ac.uk.

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For further information visit: [https://www.linkedin.com/groupItem?view=&gid=5026568&type=member&item=5969061794956734468&trk=groups_items_see_more-0-b-ttl](https://www.linkedin.com/groupItem?view=&gid=5026568&type=member&item=5969061794956734468&trk=groups_items_see_more-0-b-ttl)

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