

F10224.00

22.08.02 RS/JC

# Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> TransNet Meeting of 15 August 2002

**SDC Ausserholligen, Bern, 13:30 – 17:00**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Agenda:** See annex 1  
**Participants:** 15 TransNet members and invited guests (refer to list of participants in annex 2)  
**Chair:** Jürg Christen (Skat Consulting)  
**Minutes:** Roger Schmid (Skat Consulting)

---

## **1. Welcome of participants and presentations**

**Marco Rossi**

Marco Rossi, head of the Social Development Division (SoDev) of SDC, welcomed all the TransNet members and invited colleagues. A warm welcome was addressed to Priyanthi Fernando and Kate Czuczman (both IFRTD) for their special coming from London to contribute to this thematically very wide-ranging meeting. Thanks went to the Skat team for organizing this meeting.

In his introduction of the meeting, Marci Rossi affirmed that transport interventions dealing with mobility issues continue to play an important role in the SDC strategy – a strategy with its main orientation sustainable development taking into account social, economic and environmental dimensions in a balanced manner. He underlined that SDC counts on TransNet as a forum for reflecting on mobility issues and sharing valuable experiences.

He finally presented Thomas Zeller, a well known TransNet member, as the new person in charge of the transport desk within SoDev from the beginning of 2003. Thomas Zeller will however take over his new responsibilities gradually from now onwards. The redefinition of desks within SoDev leads also to a rather innovative approach within which both Marco Rossi and Thomas Zeller will share the management duties of the division in the future.

## **2. Introduction and agenda of the meeting**

**Jürg Christen**

Jürg Christen took over the facilitation of the meeting by giving a brief overview about the rationale of TransNet as well as the various agenda points. He also shortly introduced the different presenters of the event.

## **3. Presentation of IFRTD**

**Priyanthi Fernando**

Priyanthi Fernando presented the International Forum for Rural Transport Development (IFRTD), a network of more than 2'000 people (in over 80 different countries) and 20 national networks committed to satisfy the accessibility and mobility needs of women, men and children in rural areas of developing countries. The Forum started its activities in 1992 with the financial support of NORAD, CIDA, SDC and SIDA. ILO and ITDG shared the activities of the Secretariat, before this got fully financed in 1995.

The main agenda of IFRTD is eradication of poverty, reduction of inequity, improvement of livelihoods as well as improved access and mobility. Priyanthi Fernando further presented the functioning of the network (members' contributions), a sample of activities performed or ongoing, some achievements and impacts of the interventions in addition to the different means for learning and sharing provided by IFRTD and its secretariat. The slides presented to the meeting are compiled in the attached document "**1-IFRTD.pdf**". See also under <http://www.ifrtd.org>.

The new book "**Balancing the load – women, gender and transport**" published in June 2002 by IFRTD (co-edited by Priyanthi Fernando and Gina Porter) was also briefly presented. The publication summarises local level research from 15 countries across Asia and Africa, to help understand how gender affects men and women's access to transport, and what steps can be taken at community, provider and policy levels to improve the situation. The publication can be ordered through <http://www.zedbooks.demon.co.uk/>.

#### **4. Toolkit for sustainability of rural transport infrastructure**

**Laurent Thévoz**  
**Roger Schmid**  
**Kate Czuczman**

---

Inspired by their successful experience in Bolivia, SDC has developed "The Toolkit for Promoting Sustainability of Rural Transport Infrastructure". Its aim is to strengthen the sustainability of rehabilitation and maintenance systems serving rural mobility by enabling decision-making leaders and rural development practitioners to gear community level investments to meet local capacities. The background, the problems to be addressed, the approaches used and the toolkit's content have been presented by Laurent Thévoz (author) and Roger Schmid.

The toolkit focuses on the need to replace the 'vicious cycle of infrastructure deterioration' with a more sustainable dynamic. At the forefront of the approach is an awareness of the socio-political factors underpinning any community driven initiative. Participation is highlighted as key to the appropriation of the project by local stakeholders and vital in the mobilisation of local resources. Maintenance is tackled as an integral part of any infrastructure intervention and a product of empowerment and development processes rather than just a technical or financial issue. Through a series of steps, questions and useful suggestions the toolkit guides the user through an analysis of their particular situation, examining strengths and weaknesses, defining realistic objectives and asking relevant questions to choose the best possible options. The toolkit is based on case studies from the IFRTD network.

IFRTD is developing an interactive version of the toolkit on CD-Rom. A draft edition of this support has been presented by Kate Czuczman and shared with those interested in evaluating it and providing feedback. Information about workshops for dissemination of the toolkit will be shared and the TransNet members were invited to test and use the tool in their respective work. A reworked version of the presentation including the inputs of the three presenters is given in the attached document "**2-Toolkit.pdf**".

#### **5. Urban traffic planning in Africa - Transitec**

**Pascal Christe**

---

Pascal Christe presented a study on urban traffic planning of Cotonou city (Benin) Transitec performed in 1996. The analysis showed that 2-wheelers were the most prominent means of transportation in the city (2/3 of all persons conveyed), that transit traffic is insignificant, that 3/4 of all movements happen in the Western part of this city (divided by the Lagoon of Cotonou) and that the actual transport system would not be able to meet the future demand. A new traffic concept reorganizing the road network by taking into account a multimode transport scheme was then defined.

The evaluation of the transport system and its economics revealed that complementarity of the 3 modes of transport has to be promoted: car traffic (increase has to get under control), 2-wheelers (regulations are needed) and public transports (being economically viable). Pascal Christe presented the concept elaborated, the pre-feasibility study and the proposed transport master plan. Implementation of the plan is currently ongoing by retaining the multimode concept and by developing in parallel the different means of transport. A recompiled version of the presentation made is given in the attached document "**3-Transitec.pdf**".

## **6. Technology transfer as seen by PIARC**

**André-Gilles Dumont**

André-Gilles Dumont started his presentation with an introduction to LAVOC, the Laboratory for traffic facilities belonging to EPFL. The core competencies of LAVOC are road and pavement design, maintenance of roads, telematics and road construction laboratories with a focus on rural roads. The activities include most prominently teaching & lectures, research & application, and, in a minor degree, advices and expertise.

The presenter is a member of one of the 20 different committees of PIARC (World Road Association), namely of the C3 committee of PIARC dealing with technological exchanges and development. The C3 committee aims at identification of methods for successful technology transfers, facilitating the identification of needs among developing countries and supplementing training of road engineers. Recent technology transfer actions like the provision of useful documentation, the World Exchange Network (WIN) initiative, the building up and operating of technology transfer centres (TTC) worldwide, the promotion of seminars as well as the provision of a special fund for developing world practitioners to participate in PIARC activities were presented.

The slides presented are reproduced in the attached document "**4-PIARC.pdf**". Links to the PIARC **institution**, the WIN **network** and the 22<sup>nd</sup> PIARC World Road Congress **event** in Durban (October 2003) can be found on the [TransWeb](#) site. The introduction of the SDC toolkit (see 4.) during the Durban congress was suggested by IFRTD. The presenter will also make available the comprehensive list of the 20 PIARC committees to TransNet.

## **7. TransNet – possibilities to contribute to improved knowledge sharing**

**Urs Egger**

The aim of Urs Egger's presentation was to show the usefulness and importance of so-called Communities of Practice (CoP) in improved knowledge management by explaining their nature exploring TransNet from a knowledge management perspective. CoPs belong to the new generation of knowledge management and are "groups of people who share a concern, a set of problems, or a passion about a topic, and who deepen their knowledge and expertise in this area by interacting on an ongoing basis". The presenter revealed then the principles for cultivating CoPs and their success factors.

Tools for storing, exchanging and assessing knowledge, tools for learning as well as signposts to existing knowledge resources make CoPs run. Typically the regular face-to-face meetings of TransNet and the TransWeb Internet site are two prerequisites for TransNet being a functioning CoP. The presentation finally showed the expected benefits of such communities of practice in the perspectives of the CoP itself, of the community and, most prominently, for the individual.

The presentation helped to give a better understanding how TransNet works and provided some useful hints how to further develop and improve knowledge exchange within the group. Unfortunately time was too short for an in-depth discussion of the topic, but the issues raised

will certainly accompany TransNet in the future. The slides presented by Urs Egger can be found in the attached document "**5-CoP.pdf**".

## **8. Varia**

***Various***

- Thomas Fislser informed the audience about the forthcoming "Sustainable Slope Risk Management for Roads" seminar to be held in spring 2003 (end of March or beginning of April) in Kathmandu. For more information please refer to the events page of **TransWeb** at [www.skat.ch/transweb](http://www.skat.ch/transweb).
- TransNet members will be contacted for topics for a next meeting in time. Gender & Transport was suggested as a possible theme for the next event.

## **9. Meeting closure**

***Thomas Zeller***

At 5pm Thomas Zeller closed this very interesting meeting and thanked all the participants for their coming and all the presenters for their outstanding contributions.

## 5<sup>TH</sup> TRANSNET MEETING

Thursday, 15.08.02, 13.30 at SDC

Room 2019, Freiburgstrasse 130, Bern Ausserholligen

### Agenda for the Meeting

Time	Item	Duration	Responsible
13.30	□ <b>Welcome of participants and presentations</b>	5 min.	M. Rossi (SoDev – SDC)
13.35	□ <b>Introduction and agenda of the meeting</b>	5 min.	J. Christen (Skat Consulting)
13.40	□ <b>Presentation of IFRTD activities</b> 20 min. presentation incl. questions	20 min.	P. Fernando (IFRTD)
14.00	□ <b>Toolkit for sustainability of rural transport infrastructure – rehabilitation and maintenance:</b>  Context, content and dissemination 40 min. presentations, 30 min. discussion	70 min.	P. Fernando K. Czuczman (IFRTD)  L. Thévoz (ENAC-EPFL)  R. Schmid (Skat Consulting)
15.10	□ Break	10 min.	
15.20	□ <b>Urban traffic planning in Africa - Transitec</b> 20 min. presentation and 10 min. discussion	30 min.	P. Christe (Transitec)
15.50	□ <b>Technology transfer as seen by PIARC</b> 15 min. presentation and 5 min discussion	20 min.	A.-G. Dumont (LAVOC-EPFL)
16.10	□ <b>TransNet - possibilities to contribute to improved knowledge sharing.</b> 20 min. presentation, 10 min discussion	30 min	U. Egger (Skat Foundation)
16.40	□ <b>Varia</b>  □ <b>Proposition of Topics for the next Meeting</b>	5 min.	J. Christen (Skat Consulting)
16.45	□ <b>Meeting Closure</b>	-	M. Rossi (SoDev – SDC)

**Participants list of the 5<sup>th</sup> TransNet meeting – SDC, Bern, 15.08.02**

Name	Organisation	Address	Contacts
Mrs PRIYANTHI Fernando	<a href="#">IFRTD</a>	113 Spitfire Studios 63-71 Collier Street London Ni 9BE, U.K.	Phone: ++ 44 20 7713 6699 Fax: ++ 44 20 7713 8290 e-mail: <a href="mailto:ifrtd@ifrtd.org">ifrtd@ifrtd.org</a>
Mrs CZUCZMAN Kate	<a href="#">IFRTD</a>	113 Spitfire Studios 63-71 Collier Street London Ni 9BE, U.K.	Phone: ++ 44 20 7713 6699 Fax: ++ 44 20 7713 8290 e-mail: <a href="mailto:kate.czuczman@ifrtd.org">kate.czuczman@ifrtd.org</a>
Mr. ROSSI Marco	<a href="#">SDC</a> , Social Development Division	Freiburgstr. 130 3003 Bern, CH	Phone: ++ 41 31 323 02 55 Fax: e-mail: <a href="mailto:Marco.Rossi@deza.admin.ch">Marco.Rossi@deza.admin.ch</a>
Mr. GAEHWILER Franz	<a href="#">Helvetas</a>	St. Moritzstr. 15 Postfach 181 8041 Zürich, CH	Phone: ++ 41 1 368 65 00 Fax: e-mail: <a href="mailto:franz.gaehwiler@helvetas.ch">franz.gaehwiler@helvetas.ch</a>
Mr. WIRZ Werner	<a href="#">SDC</a> , Asia II	Freiburgstr. 130 3003 Bern, CH	Phone: ++ 41 31 325 91 63 Fax: e-mail: <a href="mailto:werner.wirz@deza.admin.ch">werner.wirz@deza.admin.ch</a>
Mr. FISLER Thomas	<a href="#">SDC</a> , Kathmandu	P.O. Box 113 Kathmandu, NEPAL	Phone: ++ 97 771 264 394 Fax: e-mail: <a href="mailto:dorsmd@wlink.com.np">dorsmd@wlink.com.np</a>
Mr. BUGNON Pierre- Charles	<a href="#">CSD</a> Ingénieurs Conseils S.A.	P.O. Box 113 C.P. 60 1007 Lausanne, CH	Phone: ++ 4121 620 70 00 Fax: ++ 41 21 620 70 01 e-mail: <a href="mailto:pc.bugnon@csd.ch">pc.bugnon@csd.ch</a>
Mr. MOR Christoph	<a href="#">Iteco</a> Engineering Ltd.	P.O. Box 8910 Affoltern a. A., CH	Phone: ++ 41 1 762 18 18 Fax: ++ 41 1 762 18 30 e-mail: <a href="mailto:cmor@iteco.ch">cmor@iteco.ch</a>
Mr. ZELLER Thomas	<a href="#">SDC</a> , East and Southern Africa	Freiburgstr. 130 3003 Bern, CH	Phone: ++ 41 31 322 34 42 Fax: ++ 41 31 324 16 95 e-mail: <a href="mailto:Thomas.Zeller@deza.admin.ch">Thomas.Zeller@deza.admin.ch</a>
Mr. THEVOZ Laurent	<a href="#">CEAT</a> - EPFL	14, Av. de l'Eglise Anglaise 1006 Lausanne, CH	Phone: ++ 41 21 693 41 65 Fax: ++ 41 21 693 41 54 e-mail: <a href="mailto:laurent.thevoz@epfl.ch">laurent.thevoz@epfl.ch</a>
Mr. CHRISTE Pascal	Transitec	17, Av. des Bouveresses 1010 Lausanne, CH	Phone: ++ 41 21 652 55 55 Fax: ++ 41 21 652 32 22 e-mail: <a href="mailto:pascal.christe@transitec.net">pascal.christe@transitec.net</a>
Mr. DUMON André-Gilles	<a href="#">LAVOC</a> - EPFL	Bâtiment GC Ecublens 1010 Lausanne, CH	Phone: ++ 41 21 693 23 45 Fax: e-mail: <a href="mailto:andre-gilles.dumont@epfl.ch">andre-gilles.dumont@epfl.ch</a>
Mr. CHRISTEN Jürg	<a href="#">Skat Consulting</a>	Vadianstr. 42 9000 St. Gallen, CH	Phone: ++ 41 71 228 54 54 Fax: ++ 41 71 228 54 55 e-mail: <a href="mailto:juerg.christen@skat.ch">juerg.christen@skat.ch</a>
Mr. EGGER Urs	<a href="#">Skat Foundation</a>	Vadianstr. 42 9000 St. Gallen, CH	Phone: ++ 41 71 228 54 54 Fax: ++ 41 71 228 54 55 e-mail: <a href="mailto:urs.egger@skat">urs.egger@skat</a>
Mr. SCHMID Roger	<a href="#">Skat Consulting</a>	Vadianstr. 42 9000 St. Gallen, CH	Phone: ++ 41 71 228 54 54 Fax: ++ 41 71 228 54 55 e-mail: <a href="mailto:roger.schmid@skat.ch">roger.schmid@skat.ch</a>

**Excused:**

Balsiger, Laurent	Beusch, Andreas	Engler, Markus
Fahmi, Markus	Gruber, Beat	Hartmann, Armon
Kilchenmann, Patrick	Meyer, Werner Paul	Python, Roland
Schaffner, Urs	Scheuermeier, Ueli	Tschumi, Peter
Wennubst, Pius	Winkelmann, Peter	Zimmermann, Josef