

## NEWSLETTER 2

NOVEMBER 2011

### EDITORIAL

Welcome to the second issue of this newsletter, which is aimed at giving you an update on the Developing the European Transport Research Alliance (DETRA) project. DETRA was officially launched on 1st June 2010 by the Lyon Declaration Signatories FEHRL, ECTRI, EURNEX, Humanist, FERSI, ISN and NEARC-TIS. Much progress has been made during the first year across the seven Work Packages (WPs), including the following highlights:

- » **WP1 (Mobility for researchers):** the development of a mobility portal that can currently be accessed under <http://detra.ifsttar.fr>.
- » **WP2 (World-class transport research infrastructures):** the development and launch of an online Research Infrastructures catalogue at <http://detra.fehrl.org/index.php?m=25>, which is now undergoing further refinement. Key input was given to Gunilla Franzen, the WP leader, at the latest DETRA workshop for WPs 2, 4 and 5 held here in Brussels on 2nd September (read more about this in the separate article).
- » **WP3 (Strengthening research institutions):** the organisation of two workshops and a further one in Prague on 26th September focusing on Central and Eastern Europe (see separate article). The workshops are aimed at identifying the constraints and barriers to make any future recommendations in a report that will drafted and the top three priorities discussed in December, as well as at TRA2012 in April 2012.
- » **WP4 (Sharing knowledge):** the production of a 68-page report on Sharing knowledge that was presented at the Brussels DETRA workshop on 2nd September (see separate article) and will now be further refined and distributed at TRA2012 in April 2012.
- » **WP5 (Optimising research programmes and identifying priorities):** the development and launch of a transport research database (<http://160.40.63.90/detra/>) for the different modes of transport which was discussed in detail at the latest Brussels DETRA workshop on 2nd September (see separate article). A draft report is due to be produced later this year.
- » **WP6 (International cooperation):** the holding of a workshop at the FEHRL Road Research Meeting (FeRRM11) in Brussels on 18th October (click for more details), following the second expert workshop with key partners on 21st June in Athens.

Of course there is still a lot to do in a short time but I am convinced the DETRA partners will collaborate in the right way to make the project happen.

Steve Phillips, DETRA Project Coordinator

### OTHER NEWS

- » On Friday 20th May, the DETRA project consortium submitted its response to the European Commission consultation on the Common Strategic Framework (CSF).
- » More than 1300 responses to the online questionnaire on the Green Paper on future EU research and innovation were received, including more than 750 written responses.
- » The European Commission has analysed the responses and a summary analysis has been made. DETRA's response can be found by clicking [here](#). The EC analysis can be found on the [europa website](#).

### WP2, WP4 AND WPS WORKSHOPS

BRUSSELS, 2 SEPTEMBER 2011

The DETRA Workshop "World class transport research infrastructures, Sharing knowledge and Optimising research programmes and identifying priorities" contained three sessions:

#### 1/ Transport Research Infrastructure

The aim of the session about Research Infrastructure (RI) was to discuss the optimisation of existing RI and need for additional RIs to meet future challenges within the transport area. The session started with a presentation of available RIs, identified needs based on available strategies/documents and results from previous workshop about RI.

This workshop will result firstly in the identification of emerging missing RIs in Europe and secondly, in the production of recommendations on how to develop missing RIs in Europe and optimise the use of existing ones. This will be compiled in the project deliverables.

#### 2/ Optimising research programmes and identifying priorities

The aim of the session was to comparatively study and benchmark all transport related research programme draft and Roadmaps on National, European and International level and, in conjunction with all key stakehol-

der representatives, to result in a joint research programme for pan European adoption and its key priorities. This will be realized through these following tasks:

1. Research Programmes and Roadmaps Benchmarking: current and emerging transport research programmes of EU and other countries have been gathered and comparatively analyzed and are continuously updated.

2. Stakeholders Consultation: contribution by relevant stakeholders (including Research, Industry, Public Authorities, Member States, EC Directorate representatives, MEP's, User Representatives etc) on a common research programme.

3. Towards a modular, pan-European transport research programme. Based upon the benchmarking database results of Task 5.1, initially a set of commonalities and differences between the transport research work programmes has been structured, accompanied by an attempt to explain these differences. The set of commonalities has led to the first list of priorities, to be discussed with all stakeholders.

4. Implementation of Electronic Template for the collection of Research Work Programmes

The electronic template for the collection of the research work programmes has been created since month 2 of the project by CERTH. This online database for the collection of Research Programmes has been developed and gives all the partners the opportunity to both search and insert information about their desired Research Programme and roadmap. The Database can be found on the DETRA website (<http://160.40.63.90/detra/>).

5. Analysis of roadmaps and research programmes and conclusion on future Research Priorities

Research priorities for all transport fields have come up during the analysis of the research programmes collected and they concern the following main domains of transport which have been defined by the DETRA partners: Congestion and Capacity, Environment and Energy, Safety and Security, Globalization, Proposal on Research Work Programmes.

Since the list of the documents that are being included in the Database and used for the Research Work Programmes Report is continuously updated, there are many more documents that need to be added.

This workshop will help, by the end of the project, to go towards an optimised pan-European Transport Research Work Programme, Roadmap and priorities.

### 3/ Sharing knowledge in research: strategies and recommendations

During this session, strategies and tools used by research organizations to share knowledge with stakeholders were presented and analyzed.

Discussions covered potential barriers for optimized exchanges and possible recommendations to improve the process.

More precisely, the session aimed at:

- » Examining how knowledge is shared in the European Research and Innovation area
- » Identifying bottlenecks and barriers, and producing recommendations for sharing knowledge in the future
- » Identifying the "Sharing Knowledge Strategy" of each DETRA partner

The outputs of this workshop will be used to produce recommendations for sharing knowledge in the future and these recommendations will be presented during the TRA 2012 conference.

More information: <http://detra.fehrl.org>

## WP 3 WORKSHOP

PRAGUE, 26 SEPTEMBER 2011

Identification of how research institutions already have realised the policy for ERA overcoming fragmentation and transport sector research integration. Followed by identifying barriers causing weaknesses and/or characteristics successful contributing to strengthen research institutions.

Recommendations agreed upon will be accompanied by lead criteria and trends permitting a regular assessment of progress. The WP will consider the requirements of all modes of transport.

This workshop focused on how CEEC research organization can be supported to better adapt to the ERA objectives and the actions still to be taken to become mid-21st century excellent research organisations (scientific excellence, relevance excellence, governance excellence) providing high quality services for the Knowledge Triangle.

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