

7th Framework programme project
Call: TPT.2010-8

Theme: Strengthening the European
Research Area and encouraging participation

Starting date: 1st June 2010

Duration: 28 months

<http://detra.fehrl.org>

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DEVELOPING THE EUROPEAN TRANSPORT RESEARCH ALLIANCE



The research leading to the results
has received funding from the
European Community's Seventh
Framework Programme (FP7/2008-
2013) under grant agreement
n°266051

PROJECT GENESIS



After the signature of the Lyon Declaration in December 2008 a Task Force is created between the declaration signatories ECTRI, FERSI, FEHRL, HUMANIST, ISN, EURNEX and NEARC-TIS.

This Task Force aims at working on the European

Research Area concept (horizontal, governance, administrative and financial issues including instruments) and delivering some first thoughts concerning transport related research.

It results in a report entitled “Creating a European Transport Research Alliance (ETRA) - Towards MERITE: Main European Research Initiative in surface Transport”.

The report consisting of preliminary thoughts towards FP8, CIP2 and the joint programming also sets the scene vision and scenario, lists gaps and recommendations for the surface transport ERA and for the thematic issues at a macro level.

PROJECT CONCEPT

The concept of DETRA derives from the Lyon Declaration in which the project partners organisations committed themselves to work together on the deepening of the European Research Area objectives in transport in order to address the Grand Challenges.

From this commitment grew the objective to create a European Transport Research Alliance (ETRA) that could strengthen the transport domain.

KEY PRIORITIES

Key priorities of this Alliance are to examine the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the domain and develop common understanding and approached to reducing fragmentation and overcoming barriers.

The approach of the DETRA project is to build on an understanding of the transport ERA to develop recommendations for the EC, member states and other stakeholders as well as for the DETRA partners organisations themselves.



EXPECTED RESULTS



» Evaluate progress towards the realisation of the ERA in the transport sector.

» Identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of, and to, research in this domain.

» Evaluate the specific barriers impeding the realisation of ERA in the fields of Mobility for researchers; Worldclass research infrastructures; Strengthening research institutions; Sharing knowledge; Optimising research programmes and identifying priorities, and International cooperation.

» Reduce fragmentation of effort between the different transport research organisations involved in the project.

» Provide a sound basis for the strengthening of the European Transport Research Alliance which will in turn strengthen ERA progress.

» Strengthen a cohesive influence of the DETRA partners on the various stakeholder bodies with the Transport ERA such as ERTRAC, ERRAC and others.

» Work towards the creation of a structure based on the principles of the METAFORON architecture

» Establish TRA as THE Transport research conference for European and the ERA.