

NEWSLETTER 3

JULY 2012

EDITORIAL

With only two months to go until the end of DETRA (end-September 2012), one of the key aims of the project to create the basis for a permanent platform for European transport research organisations to be known as the European (surface) Transport Research Alliance (ETRA) is in the process of being realised. The Alliance will be dedicated to the needs of European research organisations composed of Research and Technology Organisations and academia. This Alliance will complement the existing structures in Europe by bringing a multi-modal and research-led forum to contribute to important debates on the future of transport research. In this respect, it complements the European Technology Platforms.

Earlier this year, Jean-Pierre Médevielle, President of DETRA partner HUMANIST VCE (IFSTTAR), produced a proposal on the 'ways and means' of this Alliance which has been circulated to all the partners and discussed at DETRA's final integration conference at TRA2012 on Wednesday 25th April 2012 (see related article). This proposal was shaped up into the Terms of Reference (ToR) for ETRA by the partners at the 9th DETRA Project Management Group meeting and subsequently developed to form the basis for moving forward.

In a nutshell, the ETRA aims at:

- » Providing a structure for the interchange of knowledge/joint efforts to foster research results through to full implementation,
- » Promoting the setting of joint transport research priorities and coordinating research programmes and initiatives,
- » Promoting cooperation in all relevant areas and developing cross-modal/interdisciplinary joint research activities (including JRIs),
- » Preparing common position papers on key transport related issues for added value to the transport users and community,
- » Joint strengthening of the European research expertise, research infrastructures and mobility of researchers through specific joint actions and initiatives,
- » Promoting the uptake of European transport expertise and innovation internationally,
- » Supporting the continued development of TRA as the major European and international conference.

Read more details about the September launch event for ETRA, the DETRA final integration conference at TRA2012 and some Working Group (WG) updates such as the launch of the mobility web portal in this newsletter.

Steve Phillips,
DETRA Project Coordinator
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ETRA LAUNCH EVENT



The official launch reception of the European Transport Research Alliance (ETRA) will take place for DETRA partners and selected potential ETRA partners and other key stakeholders on 20th September 2012 from 6 p.m. onwards at the hotel Le Plaza in Brussels.

This reception will include presentations by Dr. András Siegler, Director of the EC's DG Research & Innovation Directorate H - Transport and FEHRL President Joris Al. It is also an opportunity to say farewell to Jean-Pierre Médevielle, the driving force behind the original Lyon process, who retires at the end of October 2012.

For more details on this event, contact Isabelle Lucchini at isabelle.lucchini@fehrl.org.

Read more about DETRA at <http://detra.fehrl.org>

FINAL INTEGRATION CONFERENCE AT TRA2012



The DETRA final integration conference was held at Special Session 18 (SPS18) at the TRA2012 conference on Wednesday 25th April 2012 (from 6.15-7.30 p.m.) in Athens, Greece for around 25

people. Moderated by DETRA Project Coordinator, Steve Phillips, the conference began with FEHRL President, Joris Al, who gave the "background to the DETRA project". Neil Paulley of ECTRI then presented the "Benefits of the Transport ERA". He was followed by Patrick Mallejacq of IFSTTAR, in place of Jean-Pierre Médevielle (who was ill), who, in his presentation entitled "Next steps towards the Transport Research Alliance" gave more concrete details on the proposal for ETRA (which has since been worked up by the DETRA partners into the ToR for ETRA).

A lively discussion followed these presentations, which raised several relevant questions and comments. These discussions were then reviewed by the partners at the 9th DETRA Project Management Group meeting on 16th May 2012 and will now form the basis of the updated ToR and the final report giving recommendations to the EC moving forward (in the form of Deliverable 7.3: Cooperation Agenda which is due to be submitted shortly and will be printed out and distributed at the ETRA launch event on 20th September 2012).

Click here to read the full article about the session and here to take a look at the presentations and other materials from the DETRA final integration conference.

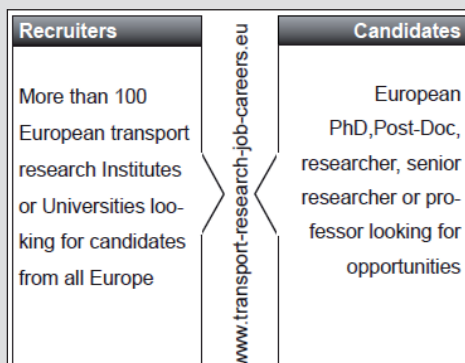
Selected Work Package updates Also as part of the conference, Evangelos Bekiaris of CERTH presented an outline of the status of the work to date entitled "Optimizing research programmes and identifying priorities", which aims to result in a joint research programme for pan-European adoption and its key priorities using the four major categories of transport: Safety & Security, Congestion & Capacity, Environment & Energy and Globalisation. This will be presented in Deliverable 5.2 – "Pan-European transport research work programme and priorities. And Wolfgang Steinicke of EURNEX outlined the status of the "Strengthening Research Institutions" work with the recommendations/requirements so far to focus on research expertise, procurement, legislation, economics, networking, communication, recruitment and language.



Delegates at the Final integration conference

ECTRI LAUNCH OF THE TRANSPORT RESEARCH JOB AND CAREERS WEB PORTAL

Trans-national mobility of European researchers in transport



DETRA's work under "Mobility for researchers" aims to encourage researcher mobility in Europe. As this needs a strong commitment of research organisations to open part of their positions to trans-national mobility, a dedicated mobility web portal will be launched at <http://www.transport-research-job-careers.eu> that gathers PhD, post-doc and researcher positions from the organisational members of the DETRA partners.

Candidates and recruiters are welcome on this portal, which offers the possibility to:

- » Search for job positions proposed by more than 100 European transport research institutes or universities
- » Publish your CV online and make it available for recruiter consultation
- » Publish job offers for free
- » Consult the online CV database and find the best candidate

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