Thematic Research Summaries

25 March 2009 - Brussels - Transport research results from the TRKC database have been analysed among 30 transport relevant themes. The policy implications of research projects are compiled into Thematic Research Summaries. These reports are regularly updated as more information from completed projects from both European and national research programmes becomes available.

We are happy to announce the publication of five new Thematic Research Summaries, the first batch from a series of new updates on all transport themes. They are available for download in the 'Publications' section of the TRKC website:

- The Thematic Research Summary on the “Environmental Aspects of Sustainable Mobility” addresses the adverse effects of transport on the environment, including air and water pollution, noise, vibration, visual impacts, social impacts and waste disposal. The contribution of transport to climate change is also included.
- The theme “Economic Aspects of Sustainable Mobility” deals with investigating the ways in which economic efficiency and beneficial development impacts can be pursued, as well as of the ways in which they are measured and assessed.
- “Safety and Security in Mobility” focuses on the level of danger that is socially acceptable in a real-life situation, taking into account other factors such as efficiency, cost, liberty and comfort, as well as systems, rules and procedures aimed at preventing, discouraging and detecting negligent, irresponsible or malicious human acts which threaten safety.
- Road transport dominates the European transport scene, serving Europeans every day. The “Road Transport” Thematic Research Summary provides a review of research relating to road transport carried out in EU-funded research projects.
- The Thematic Research Summary on “Efficiency in Sustainable Mobility” concentrates on the minimisation of the resource costs of a given transport system and the maximisation of its performance.

Further publications and details for projects, programmes, analysis, compendia, etc. can be accessed via the TRKC portal www.transport-research.info. It is funded by the European Commission's Directorate General for Energy and Transport, aiming to support professionals of the sector in its work.
About the Transport Research Knowledge Centre

The Transport Research Knowledge Centre (TRKC) is a project of the European Commission’s Directorate General for Energy and Transport (DG TREN) and is funded under the Sixth Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6).

The primary aim of TRKC is to disseminate and promote the results of transport research activities at European and national level. It also illustrates how transport research programmes and projects help to develop guidelines and innovative tools to support European transport policy for sustainable mobility.

Like its predecessor project EXTR@Web, TRKC has the ambitious objective of stimulating knowledge transfer in the European Research Area (ERA). The project is collecting transport research information across a range of 30 countries (EU 27 + Norway, Switzerland and Iceland), from a large variety of sources. The information covers both intermediate project results, as well as final results.

TRKC is also making more than 5500 projects searchable on the TRKC web site, providing a comprehensive insight to on-going and recent transport research activities in the ERA. More importantly, it links each project with its parent programme, assigns projects to themes, and provides accurate links or contact details, where possible. In this sense, it is a unique pool of information on ERA-wide transport research projects.

Transport Research Knowledge Centre partners are:
- GOPA-Cartermill SA, Belgium (Project Co-ordinator);
- Industrieanlagen-Betriebsgesellschaft mbH (IABG), Germany;
- Egis Mobilité, France;
- Università di Roma - La Sapienza, Dipartimento Idraulica Trasporti e Strade (DITS), Italy;
- University of Leeds, Institute of Transport Studies (ITS), United Kingdom;
- CDV (Transport Research Centre), Czech Republic.

What is the European Research Area?

The European Research Area (ERA) was launched at the Lisbon European Council in March 2000 and has rapidly become the central pillar of EU activities in the field of research, and the reference framework for European research policy issues. ERA objectives include improved coordination of national research initiatives between member countries, establishing genuine co-ordination of national research policies in order to create a European research policy, and creating an ‘internal market in research’.

The ERA comprises all EU Member States, accession countries and other associated states (e.g. Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, etc).

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