

## Editorial

### Strengthen institutions

The ability of the National and local institutions to deal with the complex areas spanned by their qualifications is the main requests of the partners and constitutes the most important cooperation activities led by Isted. This is shown by the improvement of the road safety policy in Morocco, the development of railway management in Estonia and, the capacity of various actors to contribute to the improvement of cities governance in southern countries. For that, the association relies on both the know-how which is developed in France and the contribution of the European authorities and other member countries of the European Union working with them.

## News about the association

### Executive Board: Yves Cousquer appointed as president of Isted

During the Executive Board held on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007, a new president was appointed: Yves Cousquer, General Engineer from *Ponts et Chaussées* and coordinator of the international support mission in CGPC. The beginning of his professional path coincided with the creation of the Infrastructure Ministry; at first, he worked in urbanism and planning sector in both central administration and cities committee. From 1975 to 1981, he became an operator manager of the Marseilles port authority, then joined the "Lyonnaise des Eaux Group" as a general director of Degremont, before returning to the civil service as the head of the economic and international affairs directorate (1984-1989) and also the director of BCEOM. He was general director then president of "La Poste" from 1989 to 1994. M. Cousquer had been in Brussels for five years heading the European posts group. He was elected president of Paris airport (1999-2001). He was the manager of the French section of the European center for public enterprises and as the president of the association of *Ponts et Chaussées* engineers he dealt with different labor-union activities. Since 2002, the new president of Isted is a permanent member of CGPC, focusing on China and Morocco activities.

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### Olivier Hartmann, new adviser

Olivier Hartmann, transports economist who was running the association of Eastern and Southern African ports and than was a consultant for the World Bank, has joined Isted team as transport adviser. He is working on urban transports and road safety thematic.

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## Programmes and activities

### Supporting the local governance in PSZ countries

The main important PSF ambition is to strengthen the local governance and development both in Africa and in some countries of the priority solidarity zone (PSZ). The project is dealing with three components to be implemented by the following three structures:

- Supporting African actions/ municipal developing programme (MDP);
- Supporting decentralization policies and sustainable development in western and central Africa / urban and united local government of Africa (CGLUA);

- Supporting urban governance / Isted.  
This latter theme will be dealt according to three kinds of activities: the support to the definition of the urban governance strategies; the support to establishing the urban governance strategies; the support to accumulating, improving and disseminating.  
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### **France-Morocco Cooperation Programme 2007**

The 2007 cooperation programme between France and Morocco in the road infrastructure, road transport and safety road sectors, includes technical and decentralized administration components.  
The informal technical committee (ITC) meeting was held on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Paris. The priority identified was Road Safety, in line with the decision of the ministers: M. Perben and M. Ghellab adopted during the intergovernmental meeting held on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The actions that will be implemented in the 2007 programme and within the limits of the foreign department grant were reviewed during this meeting.  
A grant application is under preparation by Isted with a target for launching the activities by mid-march.  
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### **New institutional twinning**

France has been assigned the Estonian light twinning, dealing with the railway sector. The twinning convention is about to be signed and the first expert missions will start in April  
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## **Current events**

### **Internet**

#### **• Publications: "Tourism at an international level"**

From 2004 to 2006, Isted has facilitated and coordinated a workgroup dealing with the international French offer in tourism engineering. This workgroup was created at the request of the tourism department of the ministry of infrastructure and its final report is available on line.

Internet: [www.isted.com/pole-transport/groupe-tourisme/tourisme\\_rapport\\_dec2005.pdf](http://www.isted.com/pole-transport/groupe-tourisme/tourisme_rapport_dec2005.pdf)

#### **• Urban agenda**

The agenda of conferences, congress and events in the urban sector has just been updated.

Internet: [www.isted.com/agenda/agenda.htm](http://www.isted.com/agenda/agenda.htm)

### **Villes en développement**

The bulletin *Villes en développement* number 75 of March 2007 is dedicated to the urban development strategies, with an editorial from Elisabeth Gateau, general secretary of CGLU.

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Internet: [www.isted.com/periodiques/villes-developpement/bulletin.htm](http://www.isted.com/periodiques/villes-developpement/bulletin.htm)

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