

Editorial

Transport Research Board

Upon an invitation from the American Academy of Sciences, the Transportation Research Board (TRB) held a meeting in Washington D.C., January 11-15, 2009. This event gathered about ten thousand participants, experts, researchers, representatives of government and industry.

The spotlight theme of the meeting was sustainable transport, under a perspective of energy efficiency and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, it inaugurates a new era where innovating and improving are the center of public policies mobility.

The TRB develops close links with Asia, Europe, Africa and the Middle East Region.

The dark economic perspectives of this new year offer horizons of a great potential in transport research renewal.

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News of Association

Two new members

ISTED has the pleasure to add to its member list two new active ones the "Caisse des dépôts et consignations" (www.caissedesdepots.fr) and the "Académie de l'eau" (www.academie-eau.org), under a crossed adhesion.

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Internet: www.isted.com/membres/membre.htm

Programmes and activities

Road Safety in West Africa

The Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP) and ISTED are launching a survey of road safety data collection and analysis in four West African countries, with a view to prepare a catalogue of best practices. The survey will take place during the first quarter 2009, and its main findings and lessons will be presented during a meeting of the West Africa Road Safety Organisation (WARSO), scheduled to be held end of March 2009. The issue of availability of accurate data on road safety has been a long term concern of ISTED, which developed with the assistance of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs the BAAC database, dedicated to the capture, and subsequent analysis, of road accidents. BAAC has been implemented in several West and Central Africa countries.

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Urban governance and climate change in MENA Region

This workshop will be attended in line with the 5th World Urban Research Symposium of the World Bank that will be held in Marseilles by end of June 2009.

This event will gather researchers and decision-makers working on urban issues in both South and East Mediterranean and Middle East Region (MENA). It aims at identifying and promoting researches

involving climate change, urban development and monitoring local public policies.

Furthermore, this exchanges will be a good opportunity to share experiences and findings in order to contribute to the establishment of a multidisciplinary expert network that will be a support for actions of both local actors and populations.

A call for presentation was launched in January.

Steering Committee: Caisse des dépôts et consignations (CDC), World Bank/Marseille, City of Marseille, Établissement public aménagement Euroméditerranée (EPAEM), ISTED.
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Cities in Africa: two international meetings in 2009

Two appointments of international importance, will take place on the African continent at the end of 2009, the "Africities" summit organised by united cities and local governments of Africa on the topic of the economic development of the African local communities which must proceed at the beginning of December with Marrakesh (December, 1-5, 2009) and "World Town Planning Days" 2009 organised by the French Society of town planners, envisaged in November. They make as of now the object of a detailed attention of ISTED: it acts on these occasions to continue the work started on the constitution of networks of professionals for sustainable cities in Africa by preparing specific contributions through examples applied of urban governance (Cameroun, Ethiopia Mali).

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Lithuanian delegation visit

On February 2nd and 3rd, a delegation from the Central Project Management Agency came to France in order to develop its international cooperation strategy. The CPMA is a public agency established in 2003 by the Lithuanian Ministry of Finances dedicated to international programmes, and particularly PHARE projects; the CPMA is also an organism mandated by the European Commission to manage institutional twinning projects. This visit to France will be the opportunity to concentrate on twinings. and to work on cooperation building between the CPMA and ISTED.

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Current events

Villes en développement

• New acquisitions

State of the world cities 2008/2009, harmonious cities – UN-Habitat – Londres: Earthscan, 2008

This report adopts the concept of Harmonious cities as a theoretical framework in order to understand today's urban world and also an operational tool to confront the most important challenges facing urban areas and their development processes.

Internet: www.unhabitat.org

Understanding Your Local Economy: A Resource Guide for Cities – Cities Alliance – Washington: Cities Alliance, 2008

This Guide presents practical approaches to conducting citywide and regionwide economic and competitive assessments. It includes advice on how to choose local economic development (LED) indicators and tools that can assess a local economy's competitiveness.

Internet: www.citiesalliance.org

Gouvernance foncière et sécurisation des droits dans les pays du Sud. Livre blanc des acteurs français de la coopération. Synthèse – Philippe Lavigne Delville, Alain Durand-Lasserve, Comité technique foncier développement – Paris: AFD, MAEE, 2008

It is the fruit of an important work of the technical committee of land and development, co-presided by both the representative of the directorate of development policy from the ministry of foreign and European affairs and the representative of the French Agency for development. This white book suggests to the French Cooperation a study and some strategic lines to use during its actions in the land sector in South countries.

Internet: www.foncier-developpement.org

Energy efficiency in China's housing – Diane Szyrkier, Alain Ries, AFD – Paris: AFD, 2008 (Série évaluation et capitalisation ex post, n°17 septembre 2008)

The French Global Environment Facility (FFEM) has consequently been striving to improve energy efficiency in China's housing since 1999, this project is a part of a significant analysis on energy and construction management programmes, led by FFEM.

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