ERA-NET ROAD
Coordination and Cross-Border Funding of Road Research in Europe

Martin Steward - ENR Coordinator - Highways Agency, UK
Overview

• Who - Project and Participants
• Why - Objectives and Benefits
• How - Key Success Factors
• Achievements:
  - Toolkit - Models of Collaboration - Projects completed and ongoing
• Strategic Research Opportunities
  - First Programme Call
• Future – ERA-NET ROAD II and beyond
• Summary
The 11 participants

- Department for Transport (Highways Agency) with the support of TRL
- Finnish Road Administration (FinnRA)
- Directorate-General of Public Works and Water Management (Rijkswaterstaat)
- Swedish Roads Administration (SRA)
- Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Affairs (BASt)
- Norwegian Public Roads Administration (NPRA)
- Federal Department for Environment, Transport, Energy & Communication (ASTRA)
- Austrian Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT) supported by FSV
- General Directorate of National Roads and Motorways (GDDKiA)
- Directorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Roads (DRSC) supported by ZAG
- Danish Road Directorate (DRD)
The benefits:

- International best practice
- Reduced duplication of research
- Improved quality of research
- Wider choice of supplier
- Exchange of knowledge
- Better value for money
The key steps:

Trust.
Understand.
Commit.
The achievements so far...
The achievements so far...

- ERA-NET ROAD “Toolkit” developed
- 2 Fast Track Pilots (FTPs) completed successfully
- 3 further Trans-National Research Projects ongoing
- 7 Strategic Research Opportunities (SROs) identified
- 1 Cross-border funded Joint Programme established
  (Joint Call for Proposals announced on 31 March 2008)
ERA-NET ROAD “Toolkit”

- Coordination Procedure
  - What to do?
- Management Procedure
  - How to do it?
- Monitoring Procedure
  - When to do it?
  - Quality assurance
Coordination Procedure

- The ENR approach:
  - First, identify Common Road Research need
  - Then identify who will benefit by participating

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Identify Road Research Need

Has it been done elsewhere?

Yes

Can Results be Used to Avoid New Project?

Yes
Use Work already undertaken

No

European-wide interest/need?

Yes
EC or other Platform Project

No

Trans-National interest/need?

Yes
ERA-NET ROAD Project

No
Undertake NATIONAL project
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Management Procedure

• Collaborative Projects or Programmes
  - National funding: “Joint Activity”
  - Cross-border funding: “Common Pot”

Funding

Project-Leader (PL)

Coordinator

AT SE CH NL

€ € € € €

AT SE CH NL

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UK SE NL

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2 Fast Track Pilots

• “Open-Graded Asphalt Pavements”
  - €96,000 -- 🇩🇪 🇨🇭 🇨🇭
  - Common Project - national funding

• “Management of Low Noise Pavements”
  - €100,000 -- 🇫🇷 🇨🇭 🇬🇧 🇳🇴 🇸🇪
  - Common Obligation - cross-border funding
3 Further Research Projects

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3 Further Research Projects

• “Optimisation of Thin-Asphalt Layers”
  - €110,000

• “Maintenance Backlog”
  - €126,000

• “Performance Based Contracting”
  - €204,000

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7 Strategic Research Opportunities
7 Strategic Research Opportunities

ERA-NET ROAD Strategic Research Opportunity

Research Programme 1

Research Project 1

Research Project 2

Research Project 3

Research Project 4

Research Project 5

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7 Strategic Research Opportunities

1. “Safety in Road Design”
2. “Holistic Approach to Sustainable Roads”
3. “Getting to Grips with Climate Change”
4. “Asset Management meets Future Challenges”
5. “Innovative Procurement Concepts”
6. “Road Pricing meets Social Needs”
7. “Technologies Underpinning Service Providers”
1 Joint Call for Proposals

• “Road Owners Getting to Grips with Climate Change”
  □ Climate impact on road infrastructure
  □ Road capacity for climate change
  □ Risk Management Options

• 3 years - 10 partners - €1.35 million
• 5 to 15 projects

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The Way Forward

ERA-NET ROAD II

- Broaden collaboration within Europe
- Further Joint Calls
- Strengthen Dissemination of Road Research
- Structure Joint Programming Systems
- Liaise and align with European stakeholders (Transport Research)

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The Way Forward

Road technical issues

Common issues

Transport issues
The Way Forward

COLLABORATIVE ROAD RESEARCH ANNUAL SPEND

- Million Euros: 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18

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Conclusions

• ENR developed Trust, Understanding and Commitment between NRAs
• ENR successfully developed cooperation models, identified research priorities, and made a Programme Call
• Trans-national collaboration is beneficial
• Need to embed the culture
• Think collaborative first, national second
• Aim for “business as usual”
Thank you

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- http://www.era-road.net/