

Senior Road Executives Programme

Run by



University of Birmingham

in association with

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

The International Road Federation

Background

The road sector is going through an unprecedented period of change. Countries are restructuring the way they manage their road networks, improving management of their road assets, introducing private sector financing and off-budget financing mechanisms, and changing the way they procure road maintenance and control its quality. These changes have been driven by three main factors. First, the road sector is increasingly recognised as “big business”. If main road agencies were publicly listed companies, they would rank among the Fortune Global 500 (i.e., the largest 500 largest companies in the world). Second, the financial needs of the road sector have typically been growing faster than government tax revenues. The road sector has simply outgrown the government’s budget. Third, the size of the road business, combined with the growing financial needs of the road sector, mean that traditional ways of managing and financing the road sector have become increasingly out of date. The main pressure nowadays is to move roads off-budget, commercialize them and manage them like a business – bring roads into the market place, put them on a fee-for-service basis and manage them like a business. The key concept that has emerged is that of commercialising road management and financing, i.e. to subject road management to some form of surrogate market discipline, and to finance roads by way of an explicit fee-for-service – either in the form of tolls, or a second generation road fund. Commercialisation furthermore requires reforms in four areas that have become known as the four basic building blocks:

- (i) creating ownership by involving road users in the management of roads in order to win public support for more funding, to control potential monopoly power and to constrain road spending to what is affordable
- (ii) stabilising road financing by securing an adequate and stable flow of funds
- (iii) clarifying responsibility by clearly establishing the role of different levels of government (including local communities)
- (iv) strengthening management of roads by providing effective systems and procedures of management, as well as strengthening managerial accountability.

Also the need to consider the road user as a customer and the associated requirement to ensure the highest affordable level of road safety are becoming increasingly important.

Course Details

To address these issues, four short professional development courses, each lasting one week, have been designed to disseminate emerging “good” practice in the following related fields:

- (i) road financing and road fund management;
- (ii) innovations in road management
- (iii) road maintenance management
- (iv) road safety.

Each of the four courses involves 3 full intensive days of presentations, discussions, group exercises and site visits. Each day will provide an opportunity to learn from the experiences of senior road executives from around the world, staff from donor

organisations and private institutions, and academics specialising in road management, finance and procurement. The courses facilitate an international exchange of ideas and common experiences, and provide a forum for the dissemination of best practices and recent research findings. The courses are designed to enhance the technical, managerial and policy making skills of participants to help them to improve road management and finance in their own countries.

Course Content (provisional)

Road Financing & Road Fund Management (11th May – 13th May 2009)

The following items will be covered:

- Road Sector Financing
- Finance of Rural Transport Infrastructure
- Practical recommendation for road funds
- Second Generation Roads Funds
- Experience with African and Asian Road Funds
- Road Funds and Road Sector Finance – IMF perspective
- Private Finance
- Asian experience with private sector finance
- Review of success of private sector finance
- The role of private finance for Roads
- Stakeholders Governance and measuring performance of Road Financing
- Road User costs
- Managing a modern road fund

Restructuring Road Management (14th May – 16th May 2009)

Topics will include:

- Preparing a National Transport Strategy: Suggestions for Government Agencies in Developing Countries
- Managing and financing rural transport infrastructure
- Recent trends in road management and financing in Latin America
- Restructuring Road Management Institutions: Case Study in Zambia
- Recent trends in road management and financing in New Zealand
- The practical application of performance-based road contracts in Africa
- Performance-based management and maintenance of roads
- Case study Overall Institutional Structures
- Restructuring a Road Administration
- International Experience with Public Sector Reform in Road Management
- Restructuring road institutions and management

Road Maintenance Management (18th May – 20th May 2009)

The following topics will be covered:

- Where, why, how and what of road management
- Sustainable management systems
- Concepts of asset management and performance measures
- Data collection – techniques and equipment
- Case Study – Scanner in the UK
- Managing data
- International case studies
- Treatment selection fundamentals and prioritisation Life Cycle Planning
- Decision support systems
- Risk management

Road Safety (21st May – 23rd May 2009)

This module will address the following:

- An introduction to road safety
- Making Roads Safe
- Global accident statistics and the problem in developing countries
- Toolkit for safe road design
- Traffic management in developing countries
- Low cost engineering safety measures – black spot
- Road Safety Education campaigns Drivers training and vehicle standards
- Accident investigation
- Road Safety Education Enforcement of Helmets, Drink Driving, Seat belts
- The South African example
- Traffic safety in Delhi and proposed remedies
- Road safety in Western Europe