IRF – the International Voice of the Road Infrastructure Sector

International Road Federation
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IRF mission:
To be the voice of the road infrastructure sector.

IRF vision:
To improve road networks worldwide.

IRF values:
Commitment to safe, smart and sustainable roads.

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Foreword by the IRF Chairman

2011 has been a very important and stimulating year, for the International Road Federation, and its members. 2011 will be remembered as a watershed year for road safety, notably marking the launch of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020).

Carrying forward the activities of IRF, I stress on two key missions. Firstly, there is the representation of our members interests. This not only entails enabling our members to network and demonstrate their products on a global stage but also empowering them through our advocacy work in the international arena. Secondly, these important activities are complemented by vision and a firm commitment towards making a meaningful contribution to society and a better future.

We have patiently developed IRF’s outreach and standing over the years, and seen it evolve into an important partner of key international institutions, including the United Nations group, the European Commission, the Multilateral Development Banks, national governments and a host of other leading intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations.

In the current climate of financial crisis – which has affected most parts of the world, but which has seen our members in Europe particularly impacted by current uncertainties in the Eurozone – it is now, more than ever, important that the voice of road infrastructure stakeholders continues to be heard at the highest decision-making levels. IRF fulfils this vital representative role to ensure that our members' interests are duly and dynamically reflected in government policy.

In this respect, it is in no small measure thanks to the diligent work undertaken by the various IRF specialist working groups that our advocacy work is consistently underpinned with facts and figures as authoritative as they are compelling.

In order to further enhance their impact and influence on decision makers, the IRF Group of Experts on Road Safety, the Environment Committee and the Road Financing & Economics Committee have all been extensively restructured and expanded over the last twelve months – further marking the significance of 2011 as a landmark year in terms of IRF’s development.

IRF does, indeed, have every reason to feel proud of its achievements over the last twelve months, which are indeed significant given the gloomy economic backdrop.

Those who have been able to attend one of the numerous events organised during the year, would have witnessed for themselves the encouraging success of our conferences, workshops and seminars. Our various publications and synergy building meetings as well as the increasingly close and constructive collaboration enjoyed with the UN, its specialised agencies, and other leading global and regional organisations may also be counted among the years achievements.

The 48th edition of the internationally renowned IRF World Road Statistics was released in autumn. IRF remains the only institution that systematically compiles statistical data on road infrastructure worldwide. It has built up unique experience as well as authority in this field that extends back over almost half a century. Once again, the importance of this work is particularly underscored in times of economic downturn, when reliable data becomes a key driver of responsible and informed decision taking on investment in infrastructure.

IRF is also ever more committed to moving with the times – and to embracing the power and potential of today’s information society on behalf of its members. Already, you can follow us daily on Linkedin, Facebook and Twitter to keep regularly abreast of the very latest information and news. Check out these exciting new communication channels and let us have your feedback and suggestions.

You’ll also find there up-to-the-minute information about the very exciting and comprehensive programme of events, meetings and publications we have planned for the year ahead. The first key dates for your diary will be the series of events organised in conjunction with Inter-traffic Amsterdam, where IRF will have a prominent presence.

You, our members, influence, drive, promote, innovate and engage. Join us today and help to set the road agenda for tomorrow.

Kiran. K. Kapila
Chairman, IRF Geneneva
The International Road Federation (IRF) is the voice of the road infrastructure sector. Our vision is to improve road networks worldwide. Our members are committed to safe, smart and sustainable roads.

IRF provides advisory services to governments and national road administrations and contributes to the formulation of policy. Founded in 1948, IRF advocates better and safer roads through improved road design, construction, maintenance and management. It is a unique association that brings together members engaged in road infrastructure from both the private and public sectors. Our private sector members benefit from worldwide exposure for their products and services among key decision makers in over 115 countries.

Private Sector Companies - Benefit from worldwide exposure for your products and services among key decision makers in over 115 countries.

Public Road Agencies - Gain access to leading international experts for unparalleled training in global best practices.

Universities and Research Institutes - Earn scholarships for outstanding students and benefit from free IRF publications like the World Road Statistic.

IRF is a global organisation that stays close to its members throughout the world.

**Member Benefits**

- **Invest in your business**
  - We offer capacity building and tailored training programmes for you and your staff.
  - We identify and promote best practices that enhance performance and save costs.

- **React to the policies**
  - We raise awareness about issues affecting you and intervene to protect your interests.
  - Through our strategic partnerships and agreements, we help to shape policy at the highest levels.

- **Focus Groups: join & get involved!**
  - Network with other IRF members, and gain privileged introductions.
  - Engage in policy debates, and help set the road agenda for tomorrow.

- **Initiate Business Development**
  - Gain access to new markets.
  - Network through IRFs global community and link with customers around the World.

- **Recommend your Products & Solutions**
  - Promote your products and services through IRFs websites, publications and events.
  - Showcase your company and gain visibility through keynote presentations and articles.

- **Forward Thinking**
  - Access the strategic use of innovation and creativity in support of successful decision-making.
  - Benefit from our briefings and information services to stay ahead of the curve.
Structure of IRF Geneva

Executive Committee in 2011

- Chairman: Kiran K. Kapila
  International Consultants (ICT), India
- High Representative: Samir H. Allam
  Hassan Allam Sons, Egypt
- Vice Chairman: Rik Nummers
  U.S. Europe, Belgium
- Vice Chairman: Michael Slanciu
  Search Corporation, Romania
- Member: Michel Demarre
  Federation Nationale des Travaux Publics, France
- Member: Leonid Kozlov
  International Congress of Industrialists & Entrepreneurs (ICIE), Russian Federation
- Member: Josef A. Czako
  Kapos TrafficCom AG, Austria
- Member: Yucel Erdem
  Turkish Road Association, Turkey
- Member: Patrick Lapercq
  Michelin, France
- David Stuart-Watt
  Roads Australia, Australia

Board of Directors in 2011

- Abdul Hamid Abeid Awadh
  Tanzania Roads Association, Tanzania
- Oltmane Fassi FEHRI
  National Company of Motorways of Morocco (ADM), Morocco
- Dimitris Mandalezos
  Attikis Diadromes S.A., Greece
- Tony Marshall
  ANL, United Kingdom
- Carl Reller
  Highways & Network Operations, New Zealand
- Ludmila Vodzinska
  National Motorway Company, Slovakia
- Hilton Vorster
  City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality, South Africa
- Dr. Harry Evdorides
  University of Birmingham, England
- John Ferraris
  Caterpillar France
- Maria Sakki
  Greek Road Federation, Greece
- Wenjie Liu
  China Highway & Transportation Society, China
- Chris Choriton
  WSP, United Kingdom
Working Group Chairs in 2011

Environment Working Group
Dimitris Mardalozis
Attikes Diadromes

Road Finance Working Group
Virid Femoen
Norwegian Road Federation

Road Safety Working Group
Hilton Vorster
South African Road Federation

ITS Policy Committee
Josef Czako
Kapsch TrafficCom AG

Ambassadors

Mohamed Rafik
M-Consult Ltd Tanzania

Joseph O. Haule
African Road Maintenance Funds Association, Tanzania

Mutshutshu Nxumalo
Akha (Pty) Ltd & Henwood & Nxumalo Consulting Eng, South Africa

Paul A. Nordergen
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) South Africa

Jude Ojugbana
Patvora, Nigeria

Valentin Stoica
Search Ltd Romania

S.K. Puri
Vice President of IRC India

Govind Sharan
Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways India

N. K. Sinha
Intercontinental Consultants and Technocrats Pvt Ltd. India

Abdulatif Teer
Saba Consulting and Services, Libya

Cheikh Diene
Bureau d'Etude Sénégalais Senegal

Alex Wizniser
Israel National Roads Company Ltd Israel

Wenjie Liu
China Highway & Transportation Society China

Alphonso DE LA PARRA
Tecnosistemas y Puja S.A. Mexico

Vilrid Femoen
Norwegian Road Federation Norway

Changyu Gwan
Transport Planning & Institute China

Alain Hueppi
Visgroup Gmbh Switzerland

Rex Lam Paki
National Road Authority Papua New Guinea

Adnan Rahman
Cambridge Systematics The Netherlands
Road Safety - the focus chosen for IRF’s first biennial theme years, covering the period 2011-2012 - is an area in which our sector is uniquely placed and qualified to make a decisive contribution.

Growing international recognition that infrastructure has a fundamental role to play in improving road safety, means that our sector is particularly qualified to make a decisive contribution to this priority global cause.

There is a wealth of cutting-edge knowledge among our members, many of whom are already making giant strides in terms of road safety research and best practices.

At the dawn of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety, the time has come to demonstrate the major role each and every one of our members can play towards radically reducing deaths and injuries on the world’s roads, by working collectively on practical, industry-led promotion of safe systems and forgiving road infrastructure.

**Launch of the UN Decade of Action**

On 11 May 2011, the IRF was part of a global roll-out of launch activities for the Decade of Action with the organisation of the national launch in Romania. The event was held in conjunction with an international Symposium on Road Safety at which the delegates decided on a plan of action to meet the objectives of the UN Decade of Action. At this recent landmark symposium on providing infrastructure that improves road safety, IRF made a formal commitment to “work collectively to support the UN Decade of Action, with particular focus on the safe systems approach to provide forgiving road infrastructure”. This will involve addressing road safety in “an integrated manner through a wide range of interventions”.

Set up by way of direct response to the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety, and the underlying Action Plan, the IRF Group of Experts brings together more than 300 road specialists from all over the world and provides an invaluable resource for our members.

Conceived as a catalyst to raise awareness, provide expert input for lobbying, facilitate exchange of knowledge and best practices, stimulate immediate practical action and inspire further innovation throughout the sector, the Group of Experts provides a comprehensive platform that brings you access to the best information, tools and networks - right where and when you need.
IRF stands by the principle that 'road safety is no accident'. It is committed to promoting a new generation of more 'forgiving' roads that not only save lives but also restore the rightful image of roads as arteries of economic progress and social development.

**Introduction**

In the time it takes you to read this leaflet, as many as 30 people will have been killed on the world's roads. That's upwards of 3,000 people a day, year in, year out. Whatever the precise statistic, IRF believes that every fatality is one too many. And, our sector is uniquely placed to do something about it!

The key to making a meaningful difference lies in the roads themselves. Specifically, it involves promoting renewed investment to integrate safety considerations into every aspect of infrastructure planning. In other words, ensuring safety by design!

By engaging with IRF, you can not only ensure a safer future for your children and grandchildren, but also bring tangible added value to your company's social responsibility, marketing and sustainability profiles.

**Advocacy & Lobbying**

Far from placing additional burdens on our sector, focus on road safety opens some powerful 'win-win' scenarios, not only to stimulate new funding to curb the day-to-day tragedies taking place on the world's roads, but also in terms of securing added value for IRF Members by promoting their achievements, innovation, products and services on a global stage.

As a prominent member of the UN Road Safety Collaboration, set up to chart progress on the UN Decade of Action, IRF chairs the influential Working Group dedicated to infrastructure, mobility and access.

In parallel, IRF actively represents the interests of its membership within the various UN Economic Commissions, the European institutions and the Multilateral Development Banks, as well as at national government level, to ensure that roads conceived to help eradicate poverty and open up new markets are also built to protect life.

**IRF Policy Statement and Briefings**

Through policy statements, declarations and charters, IRF has long been at the forefront of road safety policy development within the sector. Regular briefing papers keep members abreast of the latest developments, and help them put the economic business case for increased investment in safer infrastructure and road equipment.

A Road Safety Charter, signed in May 2011, gave formal expression to the longstanding commitment of IRF members to contribute actively, through their services, products and knowledge, to the development of road infrastructure that is designed to benefit all road users.
IRF Group of Experts on Road Safety

Set up by way of direct response to the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety, and the underlying Action Plan, the IRF Group of Experts brings together more than 300 road specialists from all over the world and provides an invaluable resource for our members.

Run by and for IRF members, the Group of Experts is currently organised around five core themes: 1) Engineering Measures for Infrastructure Safety; 2) Road Safety Education and Training for Sector Professionals; 3) Public Awareness & Advocacy; 4) Work Zone Safety, and 5) Intelligent Transport Systems.

Conceived as a catalyst to raise awareness, provide expert input for lobbying, facilitate exchange of knowledge and best practices, stimulate immediate practical action, and inspire further innovation throughout the sector, the Group of Experts provides a comprehensive platform that brings you access to the best information, tools and networks, right where and when you need them.

Knowledge

IRF is at the forefront of efforts to ensure effective dissemination and transfer of knowledge in the field of road safety.

The user-friendly virtual library hosted by IRF’s global Transport Knowledge Practice (www.gtkp.com), provides members with a unique ‘one-stop shop’ for accessing a comprehensive set of knowledge documents and background papers.

This is complemented by a wide range of tailored events and training programmes, cutting-edge publications, international forums and specialist briefings that IRF regularly makes available to its members.

Products & Publications

RADaR, the IRF tablet application designed to facilitate the on-site collection of comprehensive accident data by traffic police, is one of IRF’s flagship products. This avant-garde application can be immediately and reliably used to assist road authorities, insurance firms, health services and other front-line stakeholders.

On the resources front, our series of publications, CD-ROMs, toolkits, guideline leaflets and ‘how-to’ tips bring not only knowledge and added value to our members but also priceless business exposure.

“The annual cost of road traffic injuries in low and middle income countries runs to over US$ 65 billion exceeding the total amount received in development assistance and representing 1 to 1.5% of gross national product, thus affecting the sustainable development of countries.”

Training

IRF has established a longstanding reputation for the organisation of seminars, practical workshops and ‘train the trainer’ initiatives specifically targeted at sector practitioners. We can tailor the appropriate training to address the specific needs of you and your staff.

IRF has further pioneered road safety courses at graduate and post-graduate level, notably through its partnership with the Senior Roads Executive Programme of the University of Birmingham (UK), and this work is currently being extended to promote the wider integration of road safety into engineering curricula.
Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) contribute to all major transport policy objectives. Through the application of ITS, road networks can be operated and utilized more efficiently. The term ITS encompasses many systems with different objectives and applications that can be found everywhere.

The IRF feels that with ITS, road managers have a very strong and cost-efficient tool at hand for saving lives, reducing emissions and increasing the reliability of our road journeys. The IRF therefore strongly supports the implementation of ITS in order to make better roads for a better world.

Safe roads and safe driving: ITS plays an important role in both preventing accidents and mitigating their impacts. ITS helps to implement and deliver the ambitious policy objectives as set by national governments and supra-national bodies.

Delivering road sustainability: ITS contributes to improved sustainability of roads. There are many ITS applications either aimed at optimizing the available supply of road infrastructure, or reducing the demand for it; thereby helping to make road transport more efficient, stabilizing and even reducing its share in causing climate change.

A simplified description of steps involved in the chain of most ITS applications is:

- **Data collection:** on, for example, road conditions, like the number of vehicles passing a certain point and average speed, but also weather conditions. Other examples are positioning of vehicles through mobile phone tracking or satellite-base systems.
- **Data transfer, processing and analysis:** the communication of collected data to central units for aggregation and transformation into decision-making information.
- **Use of information:** better informed road users about road and traffic conditions improve travel time and help to reduce congestion and air pollution.

The ITS Policy Committee of the International Road Federation understands policy as a set of principles and associated guidelines within a political, managerial, financial, and administrative framework to direct and limit actions in pursuit of explicit and prioritized goals.

**Why Policy important is for ITS Deployment**

To achieve the required cooperation towards solving mobility challenges, ITS deployment involves exchange of knowledge on:

- Sharing of best practices;
- Simplification of legislation;
- Standard setting and facilitating interoperability;
- Guidance and raising awareness;
- New legislation, if necessary; and
- Coordination to make better use for the available funding.
Roads are no longer just a stretch of tarmac but are becoming increasingly smart. With Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) road operators have a very efficient tool at hand to ease congestion, reduce accidents and provide travellers with a comfortable drive and transfer to other modes of transport.

IRF makes the

Introduction
Innovative technologies to solve today's mobility challenges in the fields of safety, sustainability and efficiency are high on IRF's agenda. Whether you want your voice to be heard, are seeking to expand your business or need access to high-quality knowledge and best practice, IRF is your Federation.

IRF is firmly present in the worldwide ITS arena. IRF Members lead the way in the debate on appropriate deployment strategies, harmonisation & standardisation, and ITS education, to mention just a few key topics

Advocacy & Lobbying
Through representation at the annual ITS World Congresses, the IRF Membership has a voice on the world stage. IRF has close collaborative links with legislative bodies, such as the European Commission; European projects such as Easyway; and multilateral institutions like the World Bank and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). A solid network of contacts with national ITS associations provides IRF members access to interesting new and emerging markets. Dedicated IRF events to put ITS on the national agenda help IRF Members build their cases, form alliances and reach out to the decision makers that matter. Through its active involvement in the International Benefits Evaluation & Costs Working Group (IBEC), IRF promotes solid evaluation of ITS to feed into investment decision making.

IRF Policy Committee on ITS

 Despite a proven track record, ITS still suffers from a lack of understanding on the part of politicians, high level policy makers and the general public. IRF has taken up this awareness challenge by creating an international Policy Committee on ITS. The global mission of the Committee is to foster the deployment of ITS.

The global mission of the Committee Members is to foster the deployment of ITS. The Committee supports the development of national and regional ITS strategies and encourages governments to integrate ITS as a major tool to achieve their transport policy objectives in terms of safety, sustainability and efficiency.

The IRF Policy Committee ITS is the platform for exchange of experience among international ITS experts regarding the latest progress in the development of ITS action plans and strategies. Through the Committee, IRF Members can connect with an invaluable network of ITS contacts, learn about deployment plans, influence policy frameworks and put ITS on the national agenda.

Hosted around the world, the Committee meetings offer you the opportunity to access interesting new and emerging ITS markets, make the right contacts and promote your business. Be part of a community dedicated to getting the best out of technology to better serve the road user.

Knowledge
Through events, committee meetings, workshops and publications, IRF clusters best practice, and offers IRF members a truly global stage to display their technologies and exchange the latest insights and solutions. IRF initiates thought provoking debate about the role of technology in road operations and looks ahead in time to identify challenges and opportunities for mobility in the future.
Products & Publications

IRF powers the virtual library of the global Transport Knowledge Practice (www.gtkp.com). This includes an ITS strategy library that contains an ever growing number of regional, local and national ITS deployment strategies from all over the world. Enjoy access to high quality knowledge resources and empower your organisation and staff.

Further tools to assist governments and industry to set up robust ITS strategies are being developed.

Training

High-quality learning opportunities enable you to keep abreast of the latest developments and insights. IRF actively contributes to the debate surrounding ITS deployment through regular seminars, workshops and panel discussions. We also offer especially tailored training to address specific needs and brief your key staff. Be part of it and interact with global experts as well as network with key colleagues from around the world, make the right contacts and promote your business.

Be part of a community dedicated to getting the best out of technology to better serve the road user.

Source: Foresight Intelligent Infrastructure Study, UK
Environmental concerns have been on the top of government agendas for quite a while now. There is no longer any doubt on the impact that human activities have on the environment and on climate change. The challenge ahead is to balance economic growth with responsible energy consumption and environmental protection.

This is particularly important for the road sector. The provision of efficient, flexible, safe and clean transport infrastructure can be regarded as a necessary precondition for economic development as it boosts productivity by facilitating the movement of people and goods. On the other hand, with feverish roads and highways construction in emerging countries and an estimated 70 million vehicles entering the market every year, the steadily increasing demand for mobility of people and goods presents environmental challenges that need to be addressed in the interest of long-term sustainability.

Traditionally and unfairly suffering from a reputation of “unsustainable industry”, the road sector is on the contrary extremely proactive and advanced in the research, development and implementation of new environment-friendly technologies and sustainable solutions. Rather than promoting an ideological approach to environmental mitigation regardless of real costs and outcome, increasingly cost efficient solutions are sought to bring real improvements in environmental performance. This is the approach that the road sector is effectively implementing. How, can we better guard against project decisions being made on the basis of the cheapest options, rather than the longer-term vision required to realise the benefits of environmentally sustainable roads as an investment in the prosperity of both planet and society?

**IRF has taken up this challenge!** IRF strives to support progressive trend through advocacy activity aimed at informing and bringing strategic focus to the individual efforts of its members worldwide. IRF notably serves as a bridge between international policy makers and the industry at large – ensuring optimum coordination as well as a ‘common language’ between the range of key stakeholders and decision makers. The IRF Environment Committee makes an important contribution to advancing and coordinating this work by offering members a dynamic platform for ongoing creative dialogue and knowledge sharing.

A recent success story has been the launch of IRF’s Green Public Procurement (GPP) initiative, on which we are now working hand in hand with the European Commission with a view to developing tangible GPP criteria that can be effectively implemented, rather than risk becoming just one more piece of well-meaning but essentially ‘dead letter’ legislation that nobody will ever use. We are also pushing the GPP initiative forward at an international level through the establishment – alongside the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) and other stakeholders – of an international platform on sustainable public procurement.
At IRF, we believe that environmentally sustainable roads represent an investment in the future. We advocate viable, cost-efficient solutions to bring about tangible improvements.

Introduction
Achieving sound environmental and sustainability outcomes is an integral part of the policy and practice of IRF members. IRF empowers members with an extra gear to steer a straight path towards a sustainable future. Whether you want your voice to be heard in the political or regulatory arena, seek to expand your network or need fast track access to quality knowledge, best practices and innovative solutions, we get you there.

Advocacy & Lobbying
While international diplomatic negotiations on how to tackle climate change are faltering, IRF takes action and leads the way towards achieving greener transport systems. It is erroneous to think that environmentally-friendly technologies, materials and practices are an expensive luxury that governments simply cannot afford to pay for. Ours is an active commitment to advocating comprehensive and coherent transport policies, the adoption of green public procurement criteria (GPP) and eco-friendly construction materials throughout the sector, and the development of an international sustainability rating system for road design and construction. The latter would offer a viable and practical means to define basic road sustainability attributes, enhance assessment and confer due market recognition for efforts to promote green infrastructure.

In line with this commitment, the IRF is clearly positioned in the wider policy and regulatory arena, and makes sure that our members viewpoints are properly represented among key decision makers. We sit at the table where the agenda for tomorrow is set.

IRF Environment Committee
Set up as a catalyst to raise awareness, provide expert input for lobbying, facilitate exchange of knowledge and best practices, stimulate immediate practical action, and inspire further innovation throughout the sector, the Committee offers an invaluable resource for our members.

Run by and for IRF members, the Committee is organised around four focus areas: 1) Policy and regulatory measures; 2) Environment & climate change impacts assessment, mitigation and adaptation measures; 3) Technology advancements; and 4) Urban environment.

Output oriented, the Committee is a comprehensive platform that gets you the best information, tools and networks, right where and when you need them. It gives you global outreach coupled with local empowerment.

IRF Policy Statement
Launched in 2011, the landmark Environment Policy Statement reinforces the resolve of IRF members to be at the vanguard of efforts to further improve the environmental performance of the road sector. As the statement emphasises, this can be achieved without unduly compromising the mobility and access on which economic development and growth largely depend.

Through the Policy Statement, IRF and its members have committed to a comprehensive series of political, regulatory and fiscal recommendations. IRF members give formal expression to their firm backing for road policies and practices that:

- Safeguard the environment to the maximum extent possible;
- Mitigate any adverse effects through pro-active consideration of environmental issues at every stage of planning and implementation;
- Manage and use resources efficiently;
- Encourage and provide incentives for ongoing innovation, so as to continually promote better environmental performance.

"Economic development and protection of the environment need not be irreconcilable goals; Viable green road infrastructure is today a reality."
Through a comprehensive series of political, regulatory and fiscal recommendations, IRF members encourage and provide incentives for ongoing innovation to prove that viable green road infrastructure is today a reality.

Knowledge

With IRF you are treading a sure highway to quality, customised knowledge. The global Transport Knowledge Practice (www.gtkp.com), IRF's comprehensive virtual library, provides you with a unique one-stop shop for knowledge documents and background papers.

This is complemented by the wide range of tailored events and training programmes, cutting-edge publications, international forums and specialist briefings that IRF regularly makes available.

Products & Publications

CHANGER, a greenhouse gas calculator specifically developed for road infrastructure projects, is one of our flagship products. This avant-garde software tool enables both public and private entities to monitor and assess greenhouse gas (GHG) emission generated during the various stages of road construction and rehabilitation. CHANGER allows you to be ahead of the curve in terms of ensuring carbon footprint assessment of roads, so that you are future proofed in advance of the compulsory GHG assessments that are anticipated in near future.

Our targeted publications feature the latest hands-on expertise, bringing not only added value to our members but also priceless business exposure. The Innovative Practices for Greener Roads CD-ROM is a prime example of how we succeed in driving progress while raising awareness about our members’ commitment and excellence.

Training

Lack of consciousness and expertise are the main hurdles currently impeding successful implementation of good corporate and national strategies and policies. We provide high quality learning opportunities to help members keep pace with growing challenges. Whether you are looking into niche green technologies, materials and techniques, or need to boost your firm’s competence in the field of green public procurement, we’ll tailor the appropriate professional development and training.
IRF is committed to advocate sustainable funding for roads to serve nations’ economies as the infrastructure backbone and to preserve value for road users and tax payers.

Despite significant infrastructure shortfalls existing throughout the world, sustainable financing for roads is not common practice. One of IRF’s missions is to develop knowledge material pertaining to the improvement of road systems and networks in order to advise and assist governmental agencies in their road infrastructure policy making. Through its Road Financing & Economics Committee, IRF takes on the challenge to raise awareness and provide guidance on this matter; whether it is achieved through efficiently operated public budgets, rescaling the network, providing minimum standards for efficiency and safety, road funds, private sector involvement through Public-Private Partnerships or other ways.

Roads have to compete with many other public services when it comes to the annual allocation of public funding. In order to be able to make the case for investment in roads, whether development or maintenance, it is crucial to have the (socio-) economic arguments and benefits lined up. Sound economic analysis for investment planning and proper feasibility studies are crucial tools for decision making in road investments. Various methodologies are applied throughout the world. Cost Benefit analysis and ex-ante and ex-post appraisal provide the foundation for economic optimisation for road transport. This theme could complement the theme of “Economic value of road” from a methodological point of view.

A question frequently addressed to IRF is whether there is any reliable information on the cost of construction of a 1km stretch of road. There is no straight answer to give as many factors determine this, like the location and type of road, the availability of local labour, materials and equipment, global commodity prices and so on. Benchmarking construction and maintenance costs might provide valuable insights in opportunities to realise efficiency gains and could assist authorities in properly judging commercial propositions for road development and maintenance. It does however require an indepth knowledge of the market and specific expertise.

Road maintenance is often suffering even more from lack of funding than road development, as the costs of deferring road maintenance are not immediately visible and road development has more (political) prestige to it. Often a vicious cycle sets in of a new road not being maintained properly, leading to costly upgrades. Timely road maintenance prolongs the economic life of the road asset and saves a lot of costs over time. Efforts should be focussed on making the case for adequate funding for road maintenance.

Many different institutional arrangements are in place around the globe as regards the funding for roads. In order to promote sustainable funding, IRF works on gaining insight in how these arrangements impact on the availability and spending of funds.
Road networks provide people with vital opportunities to develop and empower themselves. Without proper roads, no UN Millennium Goal will be attained. IRF Members know the value of roads and the importance of sound asset management. IRF is your point of reference for advocacy & lobbying as well as key economic data, knowledge and training on sustainable funding for roads.

Introduction

From the reconstruction of post World War II Europe to tsunami stricken Japan in more recent times, IRF Members have contributed to the economic revival of regions and nations through the (re)construction and maintenance of roads.

Advocacy & Lobbying

Throughout the world, funding for roads has been inadequate and a wide gap exists between road infrastructure needs and the roads actually in place. IRF, as the prime road sector Federation, is the organisation through which to advocate and lobby for sustainable funding for roads. IRF Members know the economic and social value of roads, as well as what mechanisms work best. By reference to the World Road Statistics, IRF's flagship annual data publication, IRF Members can make a solid case for investment in roads.

IRF is a lead promoter of private sector involvement in road financing. Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) provide many economic benefits, as has been showcased by a large number of exemplary projects implemented by IRF Members. IRF knows what it takes to attract private financing and how to make the best of private sector skills in developing your road projects in partnership. Through its active participation in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Team of Specialists on PPP, IRF keeps a finger on key PPP developments in the UNECE region. Prominent presence at high-level events, such as the annual International Transport Forum in Leipzig, Germany, keeps IRF in the spotlight as a key promoter of PPP.

IRF's Road Financing & Economics Committee

Be part of an organisation that leads the way in raising awareness and providing guidance on sustainable funding for roads. IRF's Road Financing & Economics Committee gathers prominent thought-leaders and organisations around the topic. The mission of the Committee is to identify, promote and advocate sustainable funding for roads. Not just for the development of roads as keeping up maintenance is equally vital for national and regional economies.

Four themes are addressed by the Committee Members: 1) The economic value of roads, which provides the basis for any meaningful lobbying activity; 2) Making the case for funding for Road Maintenance; 3) Comparing costs for road construction, maintenance and operation; 4) Institutional arrangements that work; looking into governance, performance measurement, the roles of public and private sectors and financial considerations.

Being both a key provider of policy guidance as well as a platform for the exchange of experience, the Committee is a veritable point of convergence for road financing knowledge and relevant contacts.

Knowledge

IRF powers the virtual library of the global Transport Knowledge Practice (www.gtkp.com). This includes a knowledge resource centre on the theme of Finance & Economics. You will find hundreds of reports and research studies on a comprehensive range of relevant topics, including, to cite just a few, Road Funds, Road User Charging and Procurement & Contracting. Enjoy access to high-quality knowledge resources to empower your organisation and staff. “Roads play a vital role in economic integration and need adequate funding. This is IRF's prime agenda.”
Through events, committee meetings, workshops and publications, IRF clusters best practice, and offers IRF members a truly global stage from which to showcase their projects and exchange the latest insights and solutions. IRF initiates thought-provoking debate and knowledge exchange about sustainable funding levels and mechanisms. Access this knowledge, share it with your peers and contribute to improved funding for roads.

**Products & Publications**

IRF’s dedicated publications on Public-Private Partnership bring together the key economic advantages of a PPP-approach, whether for urban road networks or inter-city connections. Based on in-depth case studies and the experience of IRF Members, IRF highlights the fact-based arguments for applying public-private partnership and demonstrates how governments can benefit from private sector skills in a demanding project setting.

**Training**

High-quality learning opportunities enable you to keep abreast of the latest developments and insights. IRF actively contributes through lectures to the annual Senior Roads Executive Course (SRE) of the University of Birmingham (U.K). The Road Finance module addresses key topics and challenges such as road asset management, road funds, public-private partnerships, and governance & anti-corruption.

Hear from global experts and connect with fellow-road executives; SRE is an experience that will bring a lifetime of benefits. We also offer especially tailored training to address the specific needs of your company or staff.
Statistics guide and inform every aspect of our daily lives and are a vital component of modern professional, political and business practice. They underpin strategic decision-making and form the foundations upon which sound policy can be successfully built. Above all, they enable us to draw on analysis of historical evidence and experience in order to chart more effective future options. In the context of our sector, the data they provide is particularly crucial in terms of highlighting the evolution of road networks, as well as their correlation with registered vehicles. Given the nature and extent of the capital and long-term investments involved, prior access to reliable road statistics is an essential prerequisite for the road infrastructure planning of any country or region.

Statistics further form an indispensable basis for the coherent traffic forecasting that is critical to every phase of cost-effective transportation policy, planning and engineering— from calculating the optimum capacity of infrastructure right through to estimating the financial and social viability of projects and gauging key environmental impacts.

Now in its 48th edition, the IRF World Road Statistics (WRS) includes high data quality for more than 185 countries compiled from primary and secondary sources. This annual publication remains the only authoritative compilation of the most up-to-date official international road, traffic and transport data. The publication further provides a selection of the latest Sustainable Development Indicators and other data of key relevance, not only to industry and business but also to leading international organisations and financial institutions.

Indeed, IRF’s WRS is the main reference resource in its sphere used by the World Bank, the World Resources Institute, the Global Resource Information Database and the United Nations Economic Commissions (UNECE/UNECA), as well as by other prominent development banks, aid agencies, universities, research institutes, consultancies and industry experts.

Based on feedback received since the publication of last year’s edition, we have decided to publish limited copies of WRS 2011 in book form for the convenience of those who prefer to be able to consult a hard copy of the text. In addition, with respect to the standard CD-ROM version, IRF now offers various license agreements for institutions, organisations and academic research institutes that have expressed interest in purchasing the WRS for multiple in-house users.

IRF is proud to release a high-quality publication that further enhances the reputation of the IRS series as the number one statistical reference in its field for governments, companies and associations alike. The comprehensive thematic content of this latest edition makes it an essential tool for investment evaluations, infrastructure planning and sustainable development analyses, as well as a wide variety of other research and activity linked to road development.

Bulletins

From the first dedicated journal on Environment to this issue, we have published 10 themed IRF bulletins. Each issue integrated a focus on safety, reliability, affordability, congestion, sustainable materials and construction, traffic management, to name but a few, and together, they have helped defining our understanding of a sustainable transport system.

In 2011 we published two bulletins, Rural Transport Vol. 2 and Environment & Climate Change Vol.1

And we are already gearing up for next year! Due of the great number of articles received, we will publish a second volume of the Bulletin themed Environment & Climate Change during the first trimester of 2012.
Changer

In today’s demanding world, no industry can afford to ignore its impact on the environment and on climate change. As we move into the future, better roads must be built by practitioners who are fully aware of the impact of their activities and of the possibilities for reducing it. The road infrastructure sector is taking on its responsibility. Willing to help in this global endeavour, the International Road Federation has designed a greenhouse gas calculator – CHANGER - specifically tailored to road infrastructure projects.

Fully compatible with the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidelines and easy to be used, the tool allows public and private entities to monitor and assess greenhouse gas emissions generated during the different stages of the road construction process, thus allowing more responsible choices.

More on www.irfghg.org

RADaR

The Road Accident Data Recorder (RADaR) is a software application developed to collect the accident data in comprehensive manner to help road authorities, traffic police, insurance firms and health authorities to reduce the rate of accidents and its impact. The data collected can be used by the stakeholder agencies involved in planning and design of roads as well as control and management of traffic.

The application is intended to be used by the traffic police personnel to collect accident data from accident location, and other related data which will simultaneously help to generate FIR as well as useful data for road authorities, insurance companies and health authorities.

The RADaR application can be loaded into any tablet which has Android OS. RADaR is equipped with GPS, GPRS, digital still and video cameras and sound recording systems.

Global Transport Knowledge Practice Library

The global Transport Knowledge Practice) has been fully integrated into the International Road Federation (IRF) and continues to build on its reputation as a comprehensive and respected Knowledge Library, as well as a leading Resource Centre of Excellence.

The dedicated website at www.gtkp.com has been streamlined to better meet your needs, and we have added important additional content - including a whole new section devoted to Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS).

The website is constantly updated to include the latest state-of-the-art information on road infrastructure, access and transport; and all registered users are updated monthly regarding key additions to gTKP’s unique virtual library.
Advocacy and Representation

**Partners on Low Carbon Transport meet**
IRF is part of the Sustainable Low Carbon Transport project. The SLoCaT Partnership works to improve the knowledge on sustainable low carbon transport, help develop better policies and catalyse the implementation thereof. Over 50 organisations have joined the Partnership, including UN agencies, multilateral development banks, technical cooperation agencies, NGOs, research institutes and other organisations. The meeting was very well attended, with representatives of the ADB, IADB, Embarq, UITP, TRL, CAI-Asia and many other organisations, each committed to land transport, but also to actively addressing climate change.

**Stakeholders meet to discuss improvement of institutional mechanisms for the collection, analysis and dissemination of transport data**
In an effort to address the challenges in connection with shortcomings in the primary transport data of developing countries, the key stakeholders met to discuss the possibility of combining their efforts with a view to developing a joint regular process of collecting, documenting and analysing transport data at national level. A general agreement was reached that such an initiative is desirable and that the project and related feasibility studies should be pursued further. The meeting was hosted by the Inter-American Development Bank. The organisations present, IDB, ADB, CAI-Asia, GTZ, IDB, IEA, IRF, ITF and UITP agreed to a further expert meetings will be held.

**Inaugural World Congress and Exhibition on Infrastructure Asset Management, Kuala Lumpur**
IRF Geneva’s PPP expert Caroline Visser was invited to make a presentation on IRF’s work on Public-Private Partnerships for urban road asset management at the inaugural World Congress and Exhibition on Infrastructure Asset Management took place in Malaysia’s capital of Kuala Lumpur, under the patronage of Malaysia’s Minister of Federal Territories and Urban Well Being from 22-24 February. The Congress was hosted by the Institute for Infrastructure Asset Management (IIAM) from Albany, New York in the United States and PwmGroup Malaysia. The British Institute of Asset Management was co-hosting the event.

**IRF presents at the PIARC Seminar “Reducing Carbon Footprint in Road Construction”, New Delhi**
The Indian Road Congress (IRC) and the World Road Association (PIARC) in association with IRF and AASHTO have jointly organized in New Delhi on 17-19 February an international seminar on “Reducing Carbon Footprint in Road Construction”. Susanna Zammataro, representing IRF within the PIARC Technical Committee A1 “Preserving the Environment”, was invited to present the work accomplished by the IRF with CHANGER.

**Announcement of Inaroad Award Winners**

**First Prize** – Rajasthan Mega Highways Project
Mr. K. Ramchand & Mr. Harish Mathur from IL&FS Transportation networks Ltd. (ITNL) - Road Infrastructure Development Company of Rajasthan Ltd. (RIDCOR) in India under the winning category ”Finance & Economics”.

**Second Prize** – District Roads Support Programme
Mr. Josef Zimmermann, Mr. Dhanda Bahadur Tamang, Mr. Sushil Chandra Tiwari from the District Roads Support Programme (DRSP) and Mr. Aman Jonchhe from Swiss Agency For Development and Cooperation (SDC) in Nepal under the winning category ”Rural Transport”.

**Third Prize** – MIROS Road Accident Analysis and Database System
Mr. Hizal Hanis Hashim from the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (MIROS) in Malaysia under the winning category ”Road Safety”.

**UN Road Safety Collaboration Group meets in London**
The 13th meeting of the UN Road Safety Collaboration met in London, UK from 11-13 April 2011. Over 70 stakeholders from all parts of the world gathered to discuss the upcoming launch of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020). The working group ‘Infrastructure, Mobility and Access’, chaired by Sibylle Rupprecht, Director General of IRF Geneva, concluded there was a need to focus in order to achieve progress and the most urgent priority was dealing with the very high level of fatalities on major roads in low and middle income countries.
UNECE Team of Specialists on PPP meets in Geneva
The International Road Federation’s presence at the Third Session of the UNECE Team of Specialists (ToS) on PPP was both rewarding and constructive. The 2-day Conference, held at the UN Palais des Nations in Geneva, was attended by IRF’s PPP expert Caroline Visser. Caroline Visser presented IRF’s view on the UNECE initiative and expressed IRF’s support and willingness to contribute it.

Stockholm staged 5th working meeting of IRF Policy Committee on Intelligent Transport Systems
The IRF Policy committee on Intelligent Transport Systems met in Stockholm, Sweden, on 9 & 10 March for its 5th working meeting. The meeting was organised with the support of national association ITS Sweden and was kindly hosted by the Swedish National ITS Council.

IRF speaks at the Preparatory Meeting of the 19th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum
The second preparatory meeting of the Economic and Environmental Forum - organized by Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in co-operation with the Lithuanian Chairmanship - was held in Druskininkai, Lithuania on 4 and 5 April 2011. Susanna Zammataro, IRF Geneva Deputy Director General & Environment Expert was invited to present strategies and policies options for greening the road sector. Following a presentation by the European Commission on the newly published 2011 White Paper, the IRF presentation gave some practical insights showing concrete steps that can be taken to enhance the environmental performance of the road sector.

Attending the 64th Biennial Session of the UN-ECE
The 64th Biennial Session of the UN Economic Commission for Europe was held in Geneva from 29-31 March 2011. Given the work of IRF with the UN, we were invited to attend in particular the high level segment regarding the economic integration in the ECE region and the role of regional integration and cooperation with regard to transport, trade infrastructure and energy cooperation. The UNECE Transport section took the opportunity of this meeting to sign a charter committing to the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety, the declaration ‘We drive by the Rules’. Sibylle Rupprecht, Director General of IRF Geneva, signed it on behalf of the IRF.

Launching of the Decade of Action for Road Safety in the UNECE Region

Main Stakeholders in Transport Statistics meet in Paris
The Global Transport Intelligence (GTI) initiative is a joint initiative of organizations which are involved in the collection, analysis and dissemination of data on transport in the developing countries. Currently GTI consists of: Asian Development Bank; Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities; International Association of Public Transport, Inter-American Development Bank; International Energy Agency; International Road Federation; International Transport Forum; German Development Cooperation; Korean Transport Institute; Latin American Development Bank; Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport; and the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs. Sibylle Rupprecht, Director General of IRF Geneva, presenting the World Road Statistics, stressed the importance of data accuracy and the difficulties of motivating national data sources of voluntary reporting.

IRF presents Urban PPPs at Bulgarian key event on Sustainable Mobility in Urban Regions
Organised by the Bulgarian National Association of Municipalities, the Confederation of independent Syndicates of Bulgaria and the Independent Association of the Users in Bulgaria, a key conference was held in the Bulgarian capital of Sofia on the topic of “Sustainable Development of New Transport and Green Technologies in Urban Regions” on Monday 16 May 2011. Caroline Visser of IRF Geneva was invited to present IRF’s work on Public-Private partnerships for urban road networks. Mrs. Visser highlighted the benefits a PPP approach could bring to the quality of urban road networks, not just in developing roads but also upgrading and maintaining them.
EU Transport GHG: Routes to 2050
Stakeholders with expertise in greenhouse gases emissions assessment in infrastructure construction and vehicles manufacturing were convened to the first focus group meeting which took place in Brussels on 4th May 2011. Susanna Zammataro represented IRF Geneva and the work carried out with CHANGER - the GHG calculator developed by the IRF.

UNECE Stakeholder consultation on ITS
From March till end of May 2011, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) held a stakeholder consultation on the future deployment of ITS. The consultation was based on a strategic note of the UNECE’s Transport Division, outlining the potential of ITS as the future to enhance mobility and to bring about a new culture for doing business, based on system performance and customer satisfaction. The IRF has responded to the consultation with a strategic paper entitled “Unleashing the Potential of Intelligent Transport Systems”. The paper addresses IRF’s vision on the need for ITS, on what ITS is and what the required policy, organisational and legal frameworks are to enable accelerated and coordinated deployment of ITS.

IRF and EasyWay explore opportunities to team up
On Tuesday 7 June, in the margins of the ITS in Europe congress in Lyon, IRF met with representatives of the EasyWay project to discuss possibilities for future collaboration. Josef Czako, chairman of the IRF Policy Committee on ITS, accompanied by Gilbert Konzett of Kapsch TrafficCom and Caroline Visser of IRF Geneva, met with EasyWay chairman Ronald Adams, Fred Zijderhand and Jonas Sundberg, to explore common interests.

IRF receives visit from Ghanaian delegation
Led by Nadia Balgobin, Ghana Project coordinator, Oshani Perera and Sam Colverson from the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), a Ghanaian delegation visited IRF Geneva in May 2011. Hon. Samuel Sallas-Mensah (CEO Public Procurement Authority of Ghana), Mr Jerry Sebastian Ackotia, (Policy and Strategy Reform Director of Public Procurement Authority) and Ing. Albert Ayeh Agyiri, (President of Ghana Institute of Engineers) met with IRF staff to discuss sustainable public procurement (SPP) in the road sector and public private partnerships.

The individual at the centre of debate at the 2011 ITF Transport Forum
Ministers from the International Transport Forum’s 52 member countries, prominent business leaders, top academics and representatives of civil society have gathered in Leipzig, Germany from 25 to 27 May 2011 to debate the theme “Transport for Society”. Susanna Zammataro, Deputy Director General and Environment Expert represented the IRF at this year edition. She took part in particular in “Biofuels: transnational collaborations” a workshop organised by the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment. The session addressed transnational collaborations regarding biofuels in transport and was initiated by ERA-NET Transport (ENT). The IRF has been actively involved in ITF since its inception.

Advocating for realistic Green Public Procurement criteria at the 3GF
The Prime Minister of Denmark, H.E. Lars Løkke Rasmussen, has convened the IRF and other 200 selected participants to the Global Green Growth Forum, held in Copenhagen on 11-12 October 2011 and inaugurated by UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon.

IRF invited to represent its members in the UN Adaptation Private Sector Initiative (PSI)
Created under the responsibility of the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC), the goal of this initiative is to raise awareness and catalyze activities developed by the private sector in addressing the impacts of, and vulnerabilities to climate change.

IRF voices members’ work and expectations at the UNECE Group of Experts on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation
The Expert Group on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks held its first session on 5 September 2011. The group is the result of the conclusions reached by the joint UNECE-UNCTAD Workshop on “Climate Change Impacts on International Transport Networks” (September 2010), which had demonstrated the urgent need to prepare appropriate policy actions, as well as the need to exchange information about best practices.
IRF Geneva strengthens ties with PIARC during XXIV World Road Congress
At the fringe of the PIARC World Road Congress, IRF Geneva Chairman Mr. Kiran Kapila met with PIARC President Mrs. Anne-Marie Leclerc and reaffirmed ties between the respective organisations. Furthermore, explorative talks have taken place between the PIARC communications committee and IRF to enable and support a wider dissemination of PIARC outputs.

ITS Policy Committee representatives meet with senior European Commission officer
In the aftermath of the Mobility in 2030 workshop, organised jointly between IRF and ITS Netherlands/Connect, held on 20 September 2011 in Delft, the Netherlands, representatives of the IRF Policy Committee on Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) had the opportunity to meet with European Commission's Mr. Pawel Stelmaszczyk, head of the ITS unit within DG MOVE.

IRF invited as Guest of Honour to the 5th Croatian Road Congress
Cavtat was the beautiful setting for the 5th Croatian Road Congress, to which the chairman of the organising committee, Mr. Zeljko Vivoda of Via Vita, the Croatian Road Society, invited IRF as guest of honour. In her welcome speech, Sibylle Rupprecht stressed the aspects of the various European directives and tendencies influencing the road sector.

IRF features prominently at 18th ITS World Congress, Orlando (US)
The IRF Policy Committee on ITS took the opportunity of the annual ITS World Congress, this year held on 16-21 October in Orlando, Florida, to convene an information meeting on Sunday 16 October and bring together representatives of the IRF membership, national ITS associations and others.

IRF presents 5th Generation of Road at IBTTA Annual Meeting in Berlin
Some 450 delegates gathered in the German capital Berlin for the IBTTA 79th Annual Meeting & Exhibition. Themed 'Making the Difference' and hosted by Toll Collect, the event included some impressive main sessions and panel discussions as well as a series of interesting break out sessions.

IRF Geneva's Caroline Visser elected to IBEC as Junior Vice Chair
During its Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 19 October in Orlando, United States, the International Benefits Evaluation and Costs (IBEC) working group elected Mrs. Caroline Visser, Road Finance & ITS Programme Manager at IRF Geneva, as Junior Vice Chair for 2012.

IRF stages workshop on SPP & PPP at the 5th Africa Transportation Technology Transfer Conference
Endorsed by IRF and organised by the Ministries of Works and Transport in Tanzania in collaboration with the Association of Southern African National Road Agencies (ASANRA), the 5th Africa Transportation Technology Transfer Conference was held in Arusha, Tanzania, from 21- 25 November 2011. IRF organized – in collaboration with International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) - a workshop on Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) and Public Private Partnerships (PPP).

Chinese Government invites IRF Chairman to 2nd ASEM Transport Ministers' Meeting
The Chinese Government invited Mr. K. K. Kapila, Chairman of IRF Geneva, to chair one of the key discussion panels at the 2nd ASEM Transport Ministers’ Meeting held in Chengdu, China. High level speakers delivered key-note speeches and had in-depth discussions on the topics relating to the theme of this Meeting, i. e. 'Asia-Europe Connect: Green, Secure and Efficient', and had constructive dialogues with the industries in particular.
IRF helps chart next steps towards achieving the goals of the UN Decade of Action at the UN Road Safety Collaboration Group meeting in Geneva in October 2011

As a prominent member of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration (UNRSC), IRF Geneva leads a high-profile Working Group dedicated to improving the safety of road infrastructure and broader transport networks. Chairing the infrastructure, mobility and access Working Group, Sibylle Rupprecht, Director General of IRF, highlighted that the infrastructure stakeholders, in particular IRF, have a critical role to play given growing global recognition that, to quote just one national road safety strategy, “improving the safety of roads is the single most significant achievable factor in reducing road trauma.”

IRF participates at Stakeholders Meeting at FEHRL

FEHRL, the European National Road Research Laboratories, invited to an international stakeholders meeting in Brussels to discuss the Forever Open Road project. Major organisations, among them the IRF, active in the road construction sector discussed the 5th Generation of Roads and the challenges ahead to innovate and test this avant-garde concept.

Chair of IRF Group of Experts on Road Safety speaks at international seminar organised by Abu Dhabi Municipality

Hilton Vorster, chairman of the IRF Group of Experts on Road Safety, spoke at the major International Seminar organised by the Municipality of Abu Dhabi on the theme ‘Making Abu Dhabi’s Roads Safer’. The delegates attending the groups launch meeting had also the unique opportunity to participate in site visits to three new multi-billion dollar projects within the City: the Salam street tunnel and surface road project, the Sheikh Zayed bridge and the Mafraq interchange.
IRF International Road Congress: Innovation in Road Infrastructure
Moscow, Russian Federation, 22 November 2011 - 24 November 2011
What will roads look like in the future? How does the road industry innovate and how can it improve its innovative force? These and other interesting questions have been addressed during the IRF International Road Congress on Innovation in Road Infrastructure.

GoE-IRF Conference on Road Safety in Africa
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 9 November 2011 - 11 November 2011
Following on from the 2007 Conference where the Accra Declaration committed ministers to work together to stop the growing epidemic of deaths and injuries on African roads, a second conference is being organized jointly by ECA, SSATP and the Government of Ethiopia, IRF, in collaboration with AUC, AfDB and the World Bank.

Launch Meetings of IRF Road Safety Group of Experts
The main purpose of these meetings was to discuss and prioritise the potential areas of work for the Group of Experts and to define an initial set of activities and deliverables.
New Delhi, India, 3 October 2011
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 18 October 2011 – 19 October 2011
Geneva, Switzerland, 3 November 2011

Information meeting for the IRF Policy Committee on ITS
Orlando, Florida, 16 October 2011
Held during the ITS World Congress in Orlando the IRF information meeting was held to brief on the activities of the IRF Policy Committee on ITS and debate about the challenges of integrating ITS into the political agenda.

6th IRF Conference on Road Safety and Intertraffic India Exhibition
New Delhi, India, 3 October 2011 - 5 October 2011
This conference will be the sixth edition of the highly successful IRF Regional Conference on Road Safety since 2006. The Conference will bring together a unique set of international and local researchers, policy makers and practitioners to address Road Safety issues and engage for a Safer Road System.

Intertraffic India Exhibition
New Delhi, India, 3 October 2011 – 5 October 2011
The Intertraffic India exhibition was jointly organised by Amsterdam RAI and IRF India Chapter to display the state-of-the-art in equipment for traffic management, parking control, ITS, toll management, infrastructure and safety, road furniture and environment etc.

IRF/Connekt Workshop on Mobility in 2030 & 6th working meeting IRF Policy Committee on ITS
Delft, Netherlands, 20 September 2011 - 21 September 2011
Anticipating future trends in mobility and the role of intelligent technology was the aim of a one-day workshop on Mobility in 2030, jointly organised by the IRF Policy Committee on ITS and Connekt/ITS Netherlands. The workshop was preceding the 6th Working Meeting of the Policy Committee on Wednesday 21 September.
IRF/ARRB Road Safety Auditor Training Courses, New Delhi, India
New Delhi, India 14 February 2011 – 18 February 2011 and 21 February – 25 February 2011
comprehensive training in Road Safety Auditing. Interactive teaching methods will be used to provide
knowledge of the background and principles of Road Safety Audit and to provide opportunities for
delelegates to acquire, share and practice practical skills and knowledge required to carry out competent
Road Safety Audits.

IRF puts Intelligent Transport Systems on the agenda in Mexico
Mexico City, Mexico, 27 September 2011
The IRF Policy Committee on ITS, together with IRF member Tecnosistemas y Peaje SA de CV, convened a
conference on ‘Transport and Mobility – A Smart Investment’, in Mexico City, in conjunction with the PIARC
World Congress.

Green Public Procurement & Technology Advancements in the Road sector
Brussels, Belgium, 20 September 2011
Green Public Procurement (GPP) is defined as "a process whereby public authorities seek to procure
goods, services and works with a reduced environmental impact throughout their life cycle when
compared to goods, services and works with the same primary function that would otherwise be
procured".

IRF Symposium 'Providing Infrastructure that Improves Road Safety' – Launch of
the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety
Bucharest, Romania, 10 May 2011 - 11 May 2011
A UN General Assembly resolution adopted in March 2010 declared the period from 2011 to 2020 as the
Decade of Action for Road Safety, with the goal of stabilising and eventually reducing road deaths and
injuries worldwide. Road safety stakeholders were asked to set out a plan of action for the Decade. IRF
would like to take this opportunity to convene a regional seminar to deliberate on how infrastructure can
prevent road fatalities and injuries, concluding with the elaboration of a list of recommended actions that should be taken to ensure that
the road infrastructure provided by a nation to its people is ‘safe’.

Launch of IRF Environment Policy Statement
Palais des Nations (UN), Geneva, Switzerland 24 January 2011
Lunch debate meeting hosted by the UNECE on: Greening the Road Sector: How? The lunch debate
was held in conjunction with the launch of the IRF Environment Policy Statement.
The activities of IRF in India are not new. Five Regional Conferences were organized in India successively since 2006 onwards on some of the most topical subjects like “Business & Environment for Future Road Development in India”, “Road Safety - Design, Construction and Operations of Roads”, “Mobility and Safety in Road Transport”, “Accident Prevention: Road Safety Measures” and “Institutional Arrangement for Reduction of Road Fatalities”.

On maturing the roots, IRF India Chapter was inaugurated on 5th February 2009.

India has taken up the giant road development programme. Countrywide enhanced mobility has given rise to a huge road safety problem with the dubious distinction of highest road fatalities per year in the world. IRF India Chapter, therefore, justifiably has taken up its first mission as “Reduction of Road Fatalities”.

The daunting target of reducing road fatalities to 50% has been fixed for 2012, and therefore, a multi-pronged approach has been adopted with various planned activities as follows:

- A joint initiative of IRF India with Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Govt. of India has been launched as “National Campaign for Reduction of Road Fatalities” on 23 September 2009.

- Six Regional Conferences were held on topics related to Road Development and Road Safety with a galaxy of speakers from developing and developed world.

- Extensive inputs have been provided for amendment and modification of the Motor Vehicle Act of India, which needed much more stringent requirements of all provisions pertaining to licensing and control of road traffic in its totality.

- A recommendation has been sent for consideration of Govt. of India to provide exemption of customs duty for import of all advanced road safety devices including ITS equipments.

- Another similar recommendation has been sent for Govt. of India's consideration to provide tax exemption to corporate agency or philanthropist individual who invests to create infrastructures for vulnerable road users like pedestrian under or overpass, cycle path etc, for enhancing safety.

- IRF is garnering support and funding from both Government and corporate sources for extensive road safety campaign in Television, Radio, Print Media, Social Network, etc.
IRF Director General’s Conclusion

What future for the road sector?

At a time when we are only just realising the full extent of the financial crisis and its repercussion on every aspect of the economy, there is an understandable tendency to push investment in infrastructure to the back of the political agenda. Long-term growth is difficult to envisage when short-term needs can barely be met.

Despite almost universal acknowledgement that quality infrastructure is key to long term economic growth, investment in infrastructure networks has generally failed to keep pace with growing needs. Investment in roads, transport and communication has a vital impact on helping companies reduce costs, expand production and become more competitive in international markets. Lack of infrastructure is, indeed, often a critical factor holding back developing economies.

With tighter budgets governments the world over are likely to become even more reliant on the private sector as an essential component in delivering infrastructure, and project finance is arguably the key vehicle to make this happen”.

At the recently held PPP Days 2012, organised under the auspices of the World Bank Institute, international specialists gathered to address the growing pressures brought about by the global liquidity crisis that are making the financing of Private/Public Partnership’s increasingly difficult; precisely at a time when more and more countries have little option but to rely on them.

But crisis is also opportunity: an opportunity to innovate and to examine the ways in which road infrastructure is planned, built and operated; an opportunity to pay greater regard to the environment and critically examine our dependency on private cars; an opportunity to address public transport and urban planning.

Will the road infrastructure sector be willing to take up the challenges? Will governments recognise that the private sector has a lot to offer, and that public procurement must be responsive to this?

Our sector has already begun to lead the way by exploring innovative ways of addressing the development of roads. IRF and its members are pioneering eco-friendly construction materials, campaigning to fully integrate ITS into transport policies and plans, actively responding to the needs of vulnerable road users, and enterprisingly pushing for greater mobility shift. We are also collaborating closely on a range of new and innovative initiatives, like the Forever Open Road Project, launched by the Forum of European National Highway Research Laboratories (FEHRL).

The constant need to develop and promote new ways of planning road infrastructure is fundamental given the size of public investments required, the long time span (extending over several generations), and the extensive funds needed to ensure ongoing maintenance and modernisation.

And yes, the road sector will continue to face huge challenges well into the future. These include tighter budgets, and ever more rigorous demands for better, quicker and cheaper production, construction and maintenance. To minimise the downtime of roads required for maintenance activities, the overall quality of construction will have to be upgraded. Indeed, the time slots available for repair and rehabilitation works are likely to become tighter and tighter, and it follows that maintenance techniques will have to speed up. Meanwhile, the environmental regulations governing air pollution and noise emissions by traffic, as well the use of natural raw materials, are becoming more and more stringent.

Collectively, however, our members are rising to these challenges - and at the same time beginning to derive the significant economic and competitive benefits that lie on the path towards infrastructure that is more human and reliable as well as greener, safer and smarter.

In these respects and many more, IRF members influence, drive, promote, innovate and engage. Join us today and help set the road agenda for tomorrow.

Sibylle Rupprecht
Director General, IRF Geneva
International Road Federation

The International Road Federation (IRF) is a not-for-profit organization of public & private entities committed to road development that advances economic, social and environmental progress. Its membership extends to more than 430 members from 90 countries across 6 continents.

Our mission:
To be the voice of the road infrastructure industry.

Our vision:
To improve road networks worldwide.

Our values:
Commitment to safe, smart and sustainable roads.

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