

## SUNRA Sustainability - National Road Administrations

a research project of the  
cross-border funded joint research programme  
**“ENR2011 ENERGY – Sustainability and Energy Efficient Management of Roads”**

### 1) Introduction

“ENR2011 ENERGY – Sustainability and Energy Efficient Management of Roads” is a trans-national joint research programme that was initiated by “ERA-NET ROAD II – Coordination and Implementation of Road Research in Europe” (ENR2), a Coordination Action in the 7th Framework Programme of the EC. The funding partners of this cross-border funded Joint Research Programme are the National Road Administrations (NRA) of Germany, Denmark, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom.

### 2) Project Facts

<b>Duration:</b>	01/09/2011-31/12/2013
<b>Budget:</b>	EUR 380,000.000
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<b>Partners:</b>	Scientific Contacts Prof. Lennart Folkesson, VTI, Sweden Chris Sowerby, Ch2mHill, UK/Ireland Suzanne Vos-Effting, TNO, Netherlands Henrik Gudmundsson, DTU, Denmark

### 3) Project Description

The Sustainability – National Road Administrators (SUNRA) project addresses all of the objectives of Part A Sustainability within the Energy call. Defining sustainability from an NRA perspective, review and advice to NRAs on sustainability and a sustainability rating system that allows policy to be influenced,

The project will draw on and build on the work of previous and current ERAnet Projects, in particular the work of Strategic Benchmarking and Key Performance Indicators (SBAKPI) and Environmental Indicators for the Total Road Infrastructure Assets (EVITA), which are developing KPIs at strategic and technical levels as well as benchmarking, and projects like Stakeholders' Expectations and Perceptions of the future Road Transport System (EXPECT) which will provide details on expectations.

The project team will have access to NRA organisations in Europe, as well as North America, Asia and Australasia and will use the experience from outside of Europe to help inform and develop the outputs for the project which are detailed below.

#### 4) Expected Results

The key objectives of the project are to:

- Provide a common definition of sustainable development within the context of European road authorities.
- Provide a common system of measurement of sustainability performance at NRA level through the development of a metric or metrics.
- Provide a framework for a road-project level rating system that enables interventions at the appropriate project stage and for different project types.
- Provide suggested intervention routes through procurement and Life Cycle Cost (LCC).
- Test the definition, metric(s) and rating system with a number of NRAs.
- Disseminate the results.

The NRAs will benefit from the project in the following ways:

- Provide European NRAs with a common understanding and definition of sustainable development.
- Provide NRAs with a scoring system for their sustainability performance allowing them to measure their development over time, benchmark themselves towards other NRAs and encourage them to continuous improvement.
- Enable NRAs to report their performance within sustainable development to stakeholders and budget holders.
- Enable NRAs to make cost effective choices and interventions with respect to sustainable development and improve the long term choices of the organisation.

The results of the SUNRA project will be disseminated in the following ways:

#### Key Project Outputs

Several documents and reports will be produced for NRAs, the key documents being:

- Sustainability definitions for NRAs - Framework Part 1
- Measures to improve sustainability - Framework Part 2
- Framework for the SUNRA project level sustainability rating system - Framework Part 3

**Workshops** One stakeholder workshop will be run jointly by the leaders of WP1 and WP2 to examine NRAs knowledge and ideas in support of sustainability definitions and measures.

**Website** A website will be developed on project inception. Throughout the life of the project the website will then be used to disseminate all project outputs internally to partners and externally to NRAs, stakeholders and the public at large.

**Sustainability Rating System Trial** NRAs will be provided training for a trial of the project level sustainability rating system, the trial will feedback into the development of the sustainability rating system framework.

**International Conference** The project will use TRA 2014 to disseminate the results of SUNRA to NRAs and an international audience as well as other applicable ERAnet projects. We will hold a special session if permitted by TRA 2014 at the event and invite key individuals to attend.