



**INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR RURAL
TRANSPORT AND DEVELOPMENT**

TRISP KNOWLEDGE DEMAND ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

**Hotel NGOR DIARAMA,
Dakar, Senegal – June 3rd, 2003**

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Proceedings

INTRODUCTION

The Dakar (Senegal) workshop, held in Hotel Ngor Diarama, is one of a series of workshops of the same kind, held in relation to the TRIPS Demand assessment for Information respectively in the United Kingdom, Zimbabwe and Peru. Participants comprised about fifteen experts in transport sector, mainly decision makers, consultants and researchers.

The moderator recall the objectives of the workshop and the results awaited. He also submitted a methodology to adopt.

Participants divided themselves into three(3) groups according to professional background. Then after a plenary meeting of restitution took place. Participants discussed issues related to their specific requirements for information in the field of transport; the type of information made available by various institutions, their relevance and usefulness as well as the effectiveness of the medium used to carry out this information.

After this first diagnostic step, recommendations will be formulated to make information related to the transport sector more relevant and useful.

- After discussions, Participants adopted the agenda suggested (see appendix) before passing on to its first point.

I PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

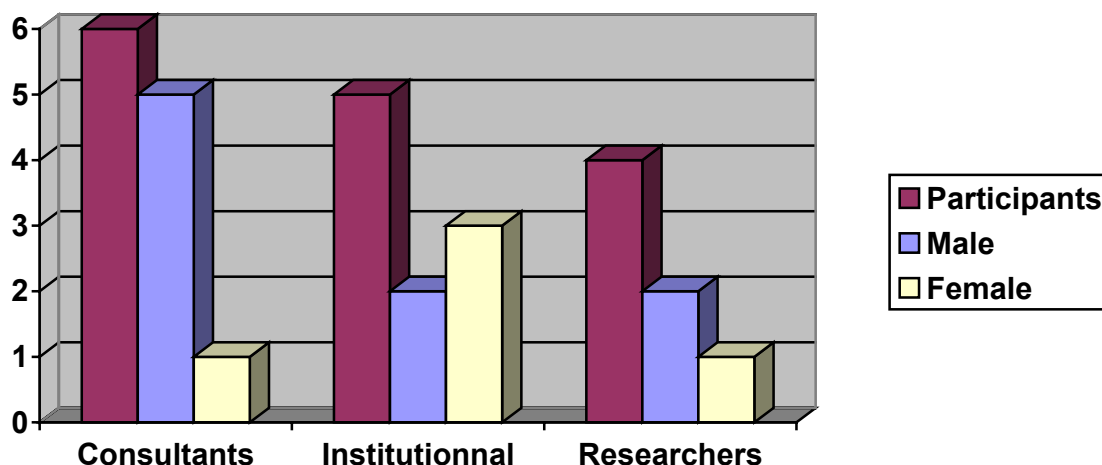
Participants introduced themselves, their organizations, the type of activity they perform and their major concerns related to information needs in transport sector in general. The participant list is attached in appendix.

The audience was made up with three (3) professional groups:

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- Four(4) Researchers and Academics among which one female (IRD, UCAD, IFAN);
- Six (6) Consultants, the largest group, among which a female
- Five(5) institutional actors among which two females.



Each Participant reviewed his own needs of information in his professional area and the accessibility of the information required without any distinction of its origin (the World Bank, DFID, IFRTD or others).

II CONSTRAINTS IDENTIFIED

Brainstorming and case studies helped better identified the obstacles to the accessibility to relevant information. The outputs of the discussion are as follows:

- Lack of information for certain means of transport, in particular for waterway transport,
- Unreliability (outdated) of data available,
- Problem in getting gender disaggregated information,
- Difficulties to access to certain relevant WB information reserved to WB staff only,
- Information is at a wrong level - no sharing by a small number of privileged people,
- Remote areas (ex: islands),
- No resource center at national level for transport.

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Accessibility to information is appreciated differently according to the professional sectors of the participants in the Dakar workshop. However, all participant agreed on the difficulty to get reliable information.

Indeed, from the opinion of the institutional decision makers, the easiest information to find and the most relevant is only in the fields of safety, of bibliography and to a certain extent on rural transport planning.

Researchers consider information related to the transport needs and services relatively accessible and useful, while information on the other aspects are considered to be difficult to access.

Table 3 : Evaluation of accessibility according to sectors

Information needed	Evaluation of accessibility <i>Grade 1 (easy and useful) to 5 (difficult)</i>		
	Decision Makers / Institutional	Researchers	Consultants
A. Transport needs (accessibility and mobility)	5	1	5
B. Rural Transport Planning	2	5	2
C. Urban Transport Planning	3	5	1
D. Policies and Strategies	3	5	2
E. Socio-economic Aspects	4	5	2
F. Social and environmental Aspects	4	5	3
G. Technologies and Transport Systems	5	5	2
H. Transport Services	4	1	3
I. Security	1	-	-
J. Sexually transmitted Diseases	3	-	-
K. Bibliography	1	-	-

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III INFORMATION NEEDS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

The main information needs identified by the participants of the workshop are related to the following fields:

1. Data on rural tracks.
2. Information on the number of cars and motorcycles.
3. Mobility and accessibility of women to the means of transport (urban and rural).
4. Waterway transport systems.
5. Policies and national strategies of transport.
6. Traffic and flow of goods.
7. Updated scientific and technical data.
8. General information center.
9. Evolution of the transport sector.

During the brainstorming among groups made up according to professional origin of the participants, it arose some categories of needs.

New information needs related security aspects, the impacts of the sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and also the bibliography were expressed.

Also, Group discussions made it possible to assess the importance or not of the various needs of information earlier identified.

The outputs are as follows:

- For the Group of institutional decision makers (AATR, PTMR, IFRTD), the major needs are related to:

- The mobility and accessibility issues
- The policies and strategies of transport;
- The socio-economic indicators;
- And the transport systems.

In a less extent, the institutions are concerned with transport planning in urban as well as in rural areas, with social, economic, environmental and also medical issues.

The researchers and academics are more concerned with information related to:

- mobility and accessibility of transport means;
- transport planning in urban areas
- technologies and current transport systems; and
- transport services in general

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For consultants, the priority is given to information dealing with transport needs (accessibility and mobility), transport planning in rural areas, social and environmental issues and also transport services.

After investigations, we realize that information related to accessibility and mobility and information related to technologies and transport systems are the major needs expressed by all participants.

Information type	Type of information needed <i>(Grade 1 (important) to 5 (without importance))</i>		
	Decision Makers / Institutional	Researchers	Consultants
A. Transport needs (accessibility and mobility)	1	1	1
B. Rural Transport Planning	2	5	1
C. Urban Transport Planning	2	1	5
D. Policies and Strategies	1	5	2
E. Socio-economic Aspects	1	5	3
F. Social and environmental Aspects	2	5	1
G. Technologies and Transport Systems	1	1	3
H. Transport Services	4	1	1
I. Security	1	-	-
J. Sexually transmitted Diseases	3	-	-
K. Bibliography	1	-	-

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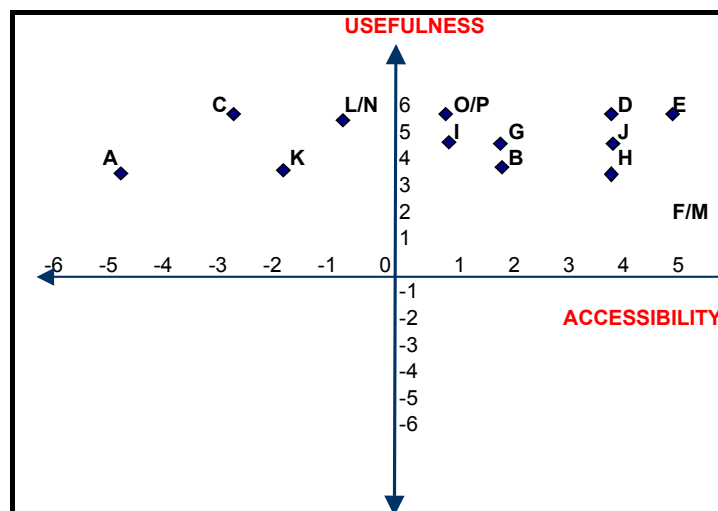
IV SOURCES OF INFORMATION

In Senegal, the most common sources of information used by the Participants are as follows:

- A. Video conferences
- B. Seminars
- C. Recent Publications
- D. Internet
- E. Personal Contacts
- F. Newspaper and audio-visual
- G. Training courses
- H. Newsgroups
- I. Other experts
- J. Emails
- K. CD-Rom,
- L. Surveys
- M. Interviews
- N. Direct Observation
- O. Archives
- P. Resource center

V MAPPING SOURCES OF INFORMATION ACCORDING TO ACCESSIBILITY/USEFULNESS

The grading of information (accessibility v/s utility) carried out during the plenary made it possible map the sources of information listed according to their relevance. Graph is shown below.



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Personal contacts appears to be the most effective way of getting the relevant information. It appears for all participants as the main source of information. Right after is Internet. In the opposite, participants use very little video conference and recent publications even though there are aware of their importance

RECOMMENDATIONS

At the end of the exercise, participants made the following recommendations:

1. Get the IFRTD help access to the database of the World Bank,
2. Initiate and support a review of existing literature in order to set up a resource center
3. Promote the creation of a specialized resource in each ministry,
4. Enhance access and effectiveness of the Resident World Bank Office,
5. Promote an integrated approach for transport programs financed by the WB
6. Support transport information exchanges among experts
7. Set an intranet on WB transport projects,
8. Produce a mapping of all transport projects financed by WB in Senegal,
9. Generate the definitive maps for infrastructure building at the end of the projects
10. Support the a networking of local experts in transport and gender for a higher involvement of women.

EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP

In a vast majority, participants of the workshop appreciated the DFID and WB initiative that gave an opportunity to exchange among experts in transport (urban, rural and waterways). The discussions were conducted pretty good..

Participants also suggest to have many opportunities in the future to exchange ideas and information to keep their knowledge and experience up-to-date.

Participants strongly advocate that adequate actions be taken in order to improve the accessibility and the relevancy of information they need.

Some frustrations were expressed by some participants related to:

- English documents handed out during the workshop were not readable by all participants. These documents were made available the day of the workshop

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- The room for the meeting was too large compared to the number of participants. It didn't have enough lights. Participants had hard time to read on the FLIPCHART.
- The duration of the meeting was short. It would better fit within two days instead of one.
- Little consideration on gender issues whereas its transversal character is recognized

Time	Activities
09H30	Arrival & Registration
10.00	Presentation of participants and introduction of the workshop objectives
10.30	Overview on Rural Transport [PowerPoint presentation]
11:00	Coffee Break
11.15	Results of the literature review
11:30	Group formation to assess the information needs for decision making and the usefulness of the information provided by the WB and DFID
<i>13.00</i>	<i>LUNCH</i>
14.00	Plenary session to share group outputs, identify the needs and constraints.
15.00	Recommendations to improve the usefulness of information provided – Best practices and problem solving
16.00	Perspective : Road map and commitment of the Participants
16.30	Coffee - End

N°	Name	Professional Area
1	M. Demba DIAW	Transport Economist / Consultant
2	M. Babacar DIOP	Transport Economist / Consultant
3	Mme Codou BOP	Journalist / Transport Gender specialist
4	Mme PRIYANTHI	Executive Secretary, IFRTD
5	M. Jérôme LOMBARD	Researcher / I.R.D.
6	Mme Fatou Sow SARR	Gender specialist, consultant
7	M. Ibrahima Khalil CISSE	Professor – Researcher in road building
8	M. Ali DOUF	Consultant / Workshop Moderator
9	Mme Marième Ndoye DECRAENE	Project Manager / A.A.T.R
10	M. Bassirou Guissé	Coordinator, PTMR
11	Mme Maïmouma Sidibé DIOUF	Project Manager / A.A.T.R
12	M. Mamadou LY	Geographer –Researcher
13	M. Samba DIALLO	Rural Transport Specialist
14	M. Cheikh A. Bamba THIOYE	Regional Coordinator , IFRTD
15	M. Oumar FALL	Environmentalist / Consultant

LIST OF THE WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

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