

## reFINE – information message n°1 – 15 November 2010

Further to our plenary meeting, held in Frankfurt on 22 Feb 2010, important progress has been made regarding our reFINE initiative. This is the first issue of a hopefully regular newsletter to keep you informed about reFINE running and planned activities:

### **1. reFINE website**

Thanks to ECTP Secretariat, a dedicated section to reFINE was created on the ECTP web site, and is now available to share documents.

### **2. Vision**

A vision document has been prepared by Jean-Pierre Hamelin and Norbert Pralle, and the first draft version was posted on the reFINE website on August 2. Many thanks for all of you sending contributions, participating to fruitful discussions, and finally making this first convergence document possible.

A new version of this text, with minor adjustment, with a more attractive presentation is being prepared, to be ready for dissemination to a wide audience of EC officials, ETPs, etc.

### **3. reFINE as a new initiative of the ECTP.**

During this period, reFINE has made huge progress:

1. reFINE has the support of the ECTP High Level Group;
2. reFINE also has the support of ENCORD, the European Network of Construction Companies for Research and Development;
3. reFINE is receiving good feed-back from the research community;
4. we are now establishing relations with other European Technology Platforms and soon with EC officials.

### **4. General context: reFINE comes at a very good time :**

- the new Barroso Commission has published its Europe 2020 strategy. reFINE is in line with a number of its objectives: supporting quality of life, supporting European economy by a sustainable, efficient transport network infrastructure;
- DG MOVE is preparing a white paper on EU transport modes. This document should be published by end of this year; it will cover all transport modes, with accent on integration into a unique system. We understand it would cover main themes of Infrastructure, Vehicles, Information Technologies, Rules, Behaviour;
- DG Research has started preparing FP8. An important document published on Oct 6 develops the Flagship Initiative Innovation Union; and introduces the concept of EIP

(European Innovation Partnership), which could be understood a coordinating body merging previous and new initiatives such as PPPs and JPIs (Joint Programming Initiatives, with Member States) on a major societal challenge. Two EIPs are already proposed:

- Active and healthy ageing – to be launched in 2010;
  - Smart cities (energy efficient cities, much likely including E2B) – to be launched in 2011.
- In summary, FP8 has started boiling down, 2011 being the critical period for preparing a general outline to be approved by the Commission early 2012.

## 5. What next ? Towards a Strategic Research Agenda

reFINE appears at a good time. But we must be quick if we want to see our priorities in a good position in FP8. We need a **Strategic Research Agenda**.

The core group has split this preparation work in 6 chapters led by champions :

- Urban mobility: Elena Martin Diaz (Dragados) + Claude Dumoulin (Bouygues)
- Inter urban links: Livia Pardi (Autostrade)
- Greening infrastructure: Joost Bredeveld (Deltares)
- Smart and resilient infrastructure: Karsten Mertens (TUC) + Frédéric Bourquin (LCPC)
- Inclusive society: *to be identified inside FA QoL members*
- Health and safety: Jean-Pierre Hamelin (Soletanche Bachy)

Objective of the champions is to prepare a first draft before 31/12/2010 (tomorrow !); a template has been proposed by Claude Dumoulin and will be circulated among you.

## 6. What next ? Plenary Assembly

**We invite you all to a Plenary Assembly on Tuesday 18 January 2010, from 10:00 to 16:30 at LCPC in (downtown) Paris, with the following objectives:**

- share information on reFINE between ourselves and with invited ETPs,
- prepare together the Strategic Research Agenda

Please check this date on your agenda and register yourself to this meeting by following this Doodle link :

<http://www.doodle.com/un6aer2tg84udnyx>

reFINEly yours,

Claude Dumoulin – [c.dumoulin@bouygues-construction.com](mailto:c.dumoulin@bouygues-construction.com)

Jean-Pierre Hamelin – [jp.hamelin@soletanche-bachy.com](mailto:jp.hamelin@soletanche-bachy.com)