Catherine Birkner

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- BASt, Germany
- Fundación CIRCE, Spain
- Chalmers, Sweden
- European Union Road Federation (ERF), Belgium
- FEHRL, Belgium
- Instituto Español del Cemento y sus Aplicaciones(IECA), Spain
- IFSTTAR, France

Nine months into project

Welcome to the first newsletter for the 36-month FP7 project - "*Development of a novel ECOLABELing EU-harmonised methodology for cost-effective, safer and greener road products and infrastructure*" (ECOLABEL). ECOLABEL has now been running for almost nine months and this newsletter focuses on the highlights of the work carried out so far this year, as well as some upcoming events.

Latest highlights from project

Within **Work Package (WP) 1: Labelling approaches and Key Performance Indicators,** led by IFSTTAR, Deliverable 1.1 (D1.1) "Assessment of current labelling approaches applied to roads design, construction maintenance and rehabilitation, as well as the products used to build them" has now been finalised and can be found (along with the other public Deliverables) under the "Document" tab of the ECOLABEL website). Work has also started on D1.2: "*Assessment of regulations, standards and constraints related to the implementation of road products and infrastructure labelling throughout EU*". More details will be discussed at the Project Management meeting (PMG) in Madrid, Spain on 10-11th July.

Within **WP2: Ecolabelling methodology for road products and infrastructures**, Task 2.1 entitled "*Consensus Building for the definition of the methodology criteria and weights*" is progressing. ACCIONA has been working on the establishment of boundary

- **TNO**, Netherlands
- **KGM**, Turkey
- Asociación Española de Normalización y Certificación **(AENOR)**, Spain
- **INVESTEKO**, Poland
- **Narodowa Agencje Poszanowania Energii SA (NAPE)**, Poland

WORK PACKAGES

- **WP1:** Labelling approaches and Key Performance Indicators
- **WP2:** Ecolabelling methodology for road products and infrastructures
- **WP3:** Assessment against the ECOLABEL methodology of road products and infrastructures
- **WP4:** Development of the ECOLABEL software tool
- **WP5:** Validation of the ECOLABEL methodology and the associated software
- **WP6:** ECOLABEL guide and implementation strategies
- **WP7**: Communication, dissemination, standardisation and exploitation
- **WP8:** Administrative Management

FP7 Collaborative Project

ECOLABEL is a Collaborative Project from the European Commission's FP7 Work Programme SST.2013.5-3 entitled "*Innovative, cost-effective construction and maintenance for safer, greener and climate resilient roads*"

conditions for ECOLABEL methodology, defining that only earthworks and structural layers will be considered (asphalt, concrete, and concrete layers including cement based products). And regarding the different stages of the methodology, it has been decided to have a user phase, as well as manufacturing, transport and construction phases, involving collaboration with FHWA. Methodology criteria and weights will be also discussed with all partners at the upcoming PMG.

Within **WP7: Communication, dissemination, standardisation and exploitation**, led by FEHRL, **D7.1 Awareness and dissemination plan** was agreed by the partners at a special dissemination telephone conference on 20th February 2014. An ECOLABEL flyer has been produced in **English** and **Polish**, and copies distributed at various events including the **ERF conference**, where the project was presented by Adewole Adesyun of FEHRL, and TRA2014 where I also presented the project. **An article on ECOLABEL** featured in the June 2014 issue of the FEHRL Infrastructure Research Magazine (FIRM). And a **Linked In group** has been created for the project so don't hesitate to join it now.

Transport Research Arena . Paris, April 2014

In addition, **D7.6: Roadmap to progress the standardisation activity,** elaborated by AENOR, was approved in March. This deliverable assesses the state of the art in the standardisation field regarding materials used in road construction (like aggregates, cement based products or bituminous binders) and sustainability assessment of construction products and civil engineering works (including the ecolabelling standards, like the Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) methodology developed in CEN/TC 350), among other topics. It also includes information regarding relevant regulations like the Construction Products Regulation or initiatives like Green Public Procurement. and proposes the next steps for the standardisation of the results of the project.

International collaboration with DURABROADS

The EC has selected ECOLABEL, along with the related **DURABROADS** project, for collaborating with the US Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as part of the links to be created between the EU and the USA. The collaboration will be focused on the improvement of road sustainability, Life Cycle Assessment of road infrastructures, the impact of climate change, application of waste for construction purposes and the development of new construction materials.

ECOLABEL Project Coordinator, ACCIONA and DURABROADS Project Coordinator, University of Cantabria, together with

representatives of the EC went to Washington DC, USA in March 2014 to establish the basis of collaboration in the infrastructure field between the USA and Europe for the following three years in the field of surface transport. All US research activities will be performed in the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center of FHWA and the University of Virginia, and the European activities in the facilities of the different ECOLABEL and DURABROADS Consortium partners.

The DURABROADS project aims to develop and demonstrate cost-effective, eco-friendly, durable and resilient pavements based on innovative nanotechnology enhanced asphalts and optimise procedures to build and rehabilitate long-life, safer and greener roads. For more information on DURABROADS, contact Daniel Castro Fresno at **daniel.castro@unican.es**.

Please do not hesitate to join our **Linked In group**, see **www.ecolabelproject.eu** or contact me at **carlos.martinportugues.montoliu@acciona.com** if you would like more information about the project.

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