17th International NECTAR Conference
Brussels, Belgium, 3 - 5 July 2024

Call for papers for the thematic session of Cluster 1: Transport Infrastructure Impacts and Evaluation

Understanding subjectivity and contestation in transport

Different viewpoints on transport strategies and projects highlight that subjectivity is an important element of future transport planning. New approaches are needed that can take multiple views on possible futures into account and deal with ongoing and upcoming changes. While several foresight methods have emerged that consider these uncertainties (scenario planning, backcasting), most foresight exercises are expert-led and are carried out in a top-down manner. The understanding of different viewpoints and involvement of varied stakeholders in scenario analysis and visioning, however, may be able to bridge the gap between research outcomes and implementation, help to support improved dialogue between actors and foster consensus making. This may contribute to deliberation and social learning. Papers are welcome that address these questions either from the theoretical viewpoint or through case studies.

We invite papers discussing the following specific topics of interest:

- New, innovative ways of transport foresight that support participatory planning through the involvement of stakeholders
- Evaluation approaches that can help to appraise the viewpoints of different stakeholders (e.g. multi-criteria analysis)
- Participatory multi-criteria analysis combined with scenario analysis
- Discourse analysis in transport planning and project implementation – helping to understand differing views between groups and by space and time (e.g. critical discourse analysis)
- Approaches that can help to involve disadvantaged groups in foresight and/or consider the impact of scenarios on such groups
- Wider case studies on the application of new, innovative foresight methods in specific contexts (e.g. local and regional transport planning)
- Participatory and deliberative approaches to transport planning and project implementation

Deadline for abstract submission: January 31, 2024. Abstracts (max. 500 words) should be submitted electronically, using the form available on the conference website and following the instructions found there: https://mobilise.research.vub.be/nectar-conference-2024-general-call-for-papers

A copy of the abstract should also be sent to the cluster co-chairs, Prof. Robin Hickman (r.hickman@ucl.ac.uk) and Dr. Niek Mouter (n.mouter@tudelft.nl).

Criteria for acceptance

Criteria for acceptance are scope, scientific quality, NECTAR membership and the possibility to fit the presentation in a coherent conference session. The number of participants of this thematic session will be limited to 8.

Important dates:

Abstract submission: Jan 31, 2024
Notification of acceptance: Feb 29, 2024
Confirmation of attendance: April 30, 2024

Venue

The NECTAR conference will be organized by the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and hosted on its campus.

Participation and NECTAR membership

Registration, meals, and accommodation for one night will be offered to NECTAR members, for only one author per paper. One night of hotel accommodation will be offered to participants who have confirmed their participation before April 30, 2024. One night of hotel accommodation might be charged in case of late cancellations. All practical details will be communicated through the conference website. In order to participate in the conference, a consecutive and current two-year NECTAR membership is necessary (2023-2024). Non-members can find details of how to join the association on the "Membership" page of NECTAR's website: www.nectar-eu.eu/membership.

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We look forward to seeing you in Brussels!

Cluster 1 organisers:

Prof. Robin Hickman, University College London
Dr. Nick Mouter, Technical University Delft
Dr. Imre Keserü, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
Prof. Andrew R. Goetz, University of Denver

NECTAR is a European-based scientific association. The primary objective is to foster research collaboration and exchange of information between experts in the field of transport, communication and mobility from all European countries and the rest of the world. It is a multidisciplinary social science network bringing together a wide variety of perspectives on transport and communication problems and their impacts on society from an international perspective. For further information on NECTAR, use the link: http://www.nectar-eu.eu.