



Paolo Beria – Florence, April 8th 2010

A database on transport infrastructure regulation - update







Paolo Beria

A database on transport infrastructure regulation

2010 update of the survey project



AGENDA

-  Update of survey activity & SIG
-  The aim of the regulation database
-  Database structure
-  Future work & debate



Update of survey activity & SIG

SIG participants

In April 2009 we launched a Special Interest Group within the World Conference on Transport Research.

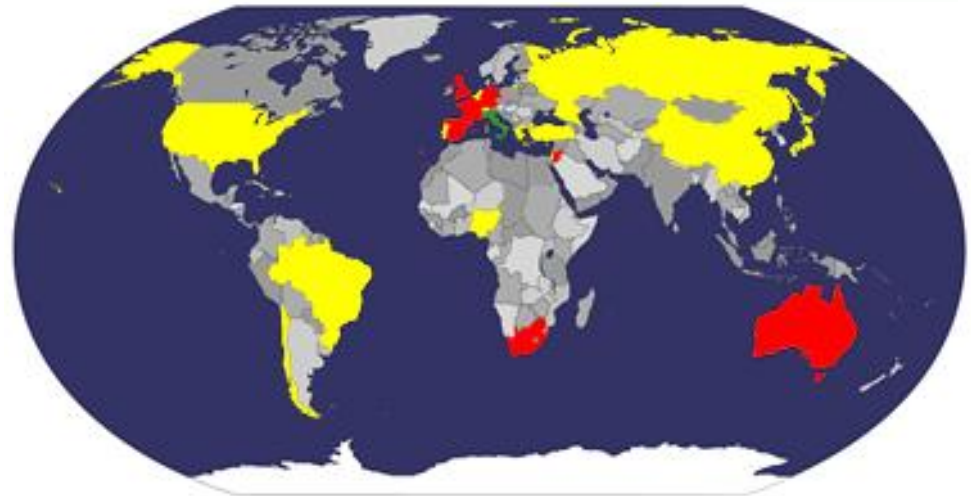
We received **69** registration forms from **21** nations.

SIG unique nations



■ EUROPE ■ rest of the World

■ Survey received ■ country of a SIG member
■ Survey completed





Update of survey activity & SIG

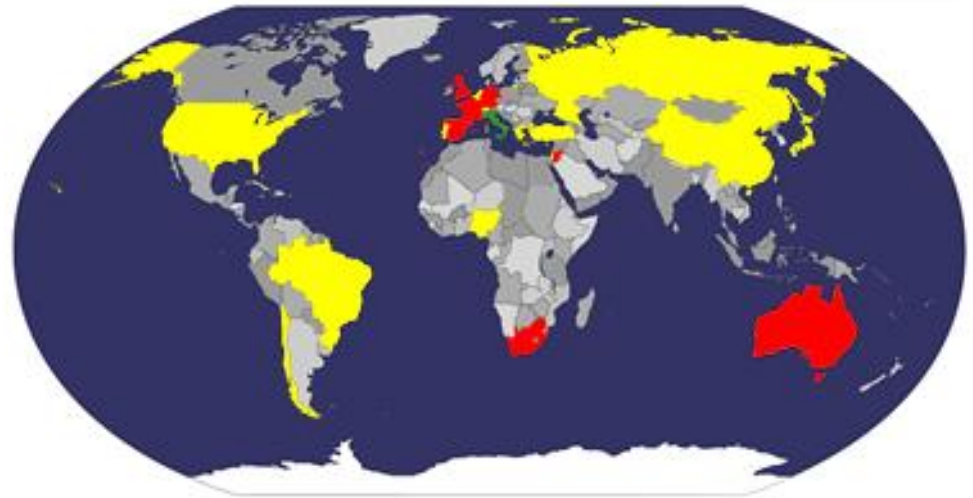
SIG participants

In April 2009 we launched a Special Interest Group within the World Conference on Transport Research.

We received **69** registration forms from **21** nations.

<i>WCTR members</i>	17
Full Professor	16
Associate Professor	11
Assitant Professor	10
Research Fellow	6
PhD student	6
Regulated	2
Regulated + Consultant	1
Regulator	6
Regulator + Academic	3

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■ Survey completed





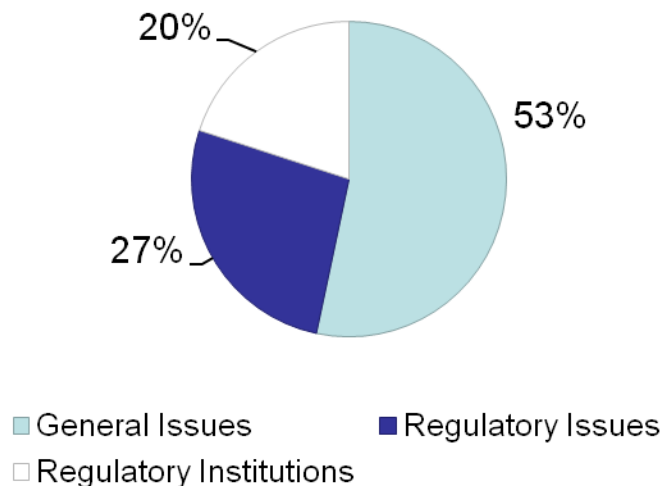
Update of survey activity & SIG

State of the survey

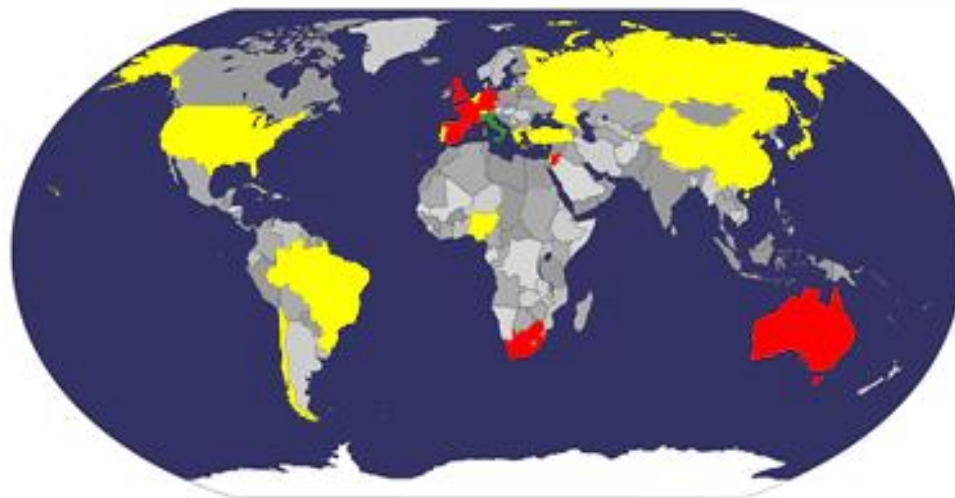
The main SIG activity has been the preparation of a world survey to build a database on transport infrastructure regulation.

Until now we received **15** forms related to three transport modes.

FORMS RECEIVED







■ Survey received ■ country of a SIG member
■ Survey completed





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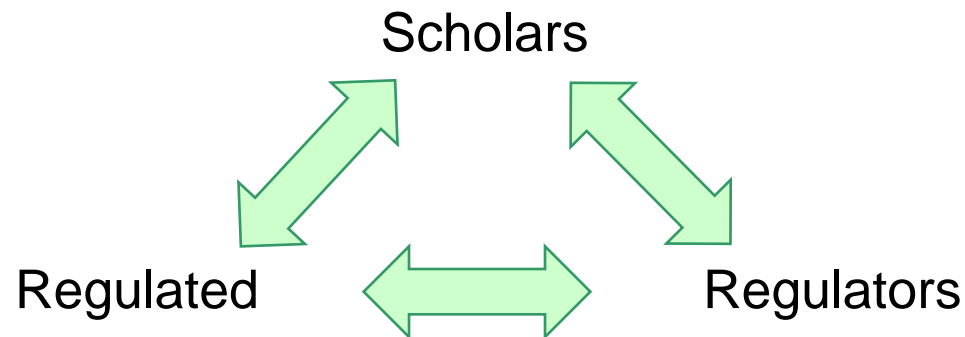


The aim of the database

Goal of the SIG regulation database

Our goal is to promote a

“soft” survey of the present regulatory frameworks around the world, in order to stimulate research on best practices and interaction among regulators, regulated and scholars.





The aim of the database

Goal of the SIG regulation database

STRENGTHS

- “Low cost”
- Simple for collaborators
- Stimulating networking
- Up to date
- Intrinsically independent
- No need for critical mass of data

WEAKNESSES

- Ambitious
- Necessarily very simplified
- Very complex to manage for administrators
- Long term project
- **Need to push the involvement of scholars**



The aim of the database

Activities and status

The “soft survey” is structured as follows.

The tasks 1 (database structure) and 2 (demonstrative filling: 5 non-EU countries, highway sector) are **completed**.

Task 3 (survey) is still **underway**. Task 4 (control) will follow.

“Centralised” research activity





1. Build an **“empty” database** on transport infrastructure regulation ✓
2. Preliminary and **demonstrative** “filling” ✓

“Decentralised” voluntary survey activity

3. **Fill up** the “empty fields”, according to one’s knowledge ⌚
4. **Cross-control** the contents, **improve** and **update** them ✗



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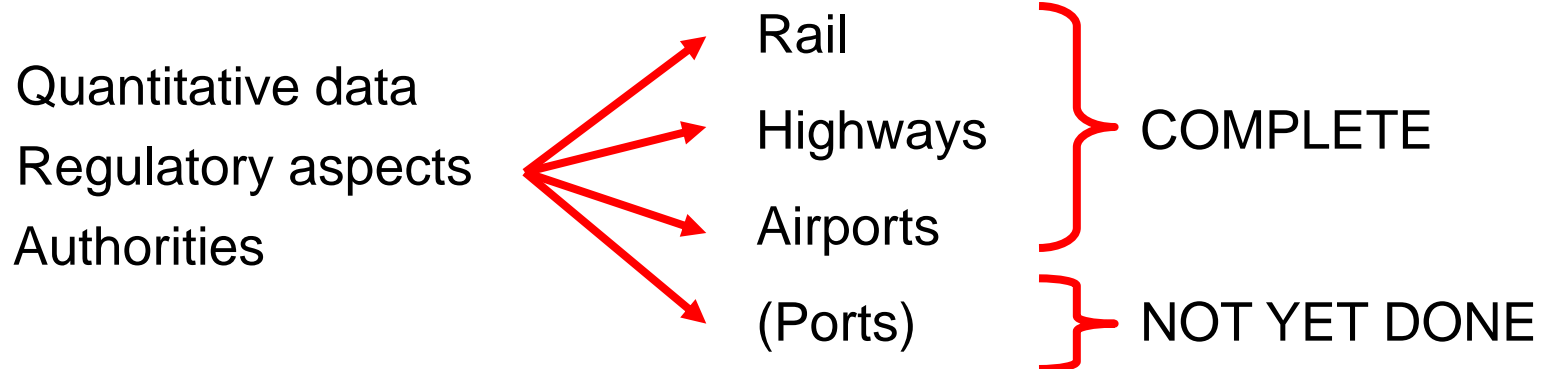


Database structure

The database structure

We started from the definition of a simplified database structure, **shared with the scientific committee.**

Twelve main databases are needed:



Databases will include not only the regulation description, but also a short list of **top interest bibliographical references.**



Present situation of survey

The internet form

Created with GoogleDocs, allows to:

- share data among more administrators;
- easily publish simple **internet forms** to collect data from the whole scientific community (via a simple link from SIG's homepage);
- update or cross-check data by administrators and other scholars (but manual update by administrators)

Example:

Highways Regulatory Institutions

WHEN USING THE COMMENTS BOX PLEASE SPECIFY WHICH QUESTION YOU ARE COMMENTING.

* Required

NATION *

AUTHOR *

EMAIL ADDRESS *

11. IS THE REGULATORY INSTITUTION

Independent

Governmental (part of a Ministry)

Part of the network operator

No Regulatory Institutions

Other (specify in the comments)

21. IS THE REGULATORY INSTITUTION

Mode specific

All transport modes

Multi-sectoral

No Regulatory Institution

31. IS THE REGULATORY LEGISLATION

Already established

In progress

Other (specify in the comments)



Present situation of survey

An example: preliminary highways survey

Interested Countries

Chile

Japan

Mexico

South Africa

India

Sources used to collect information:





- Institutional data (e.g. governmental websites, national agencies reports, etc);
- Academic documents (papers, presentations, etc);
- Other sources providing useful and reliable information.

Ex-post considerations:

- General information quite easy to find
- Regulatory Issues and some aspects related to Regulatory Institutions require a more specific knowledge of the national context



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Future work & debate

Official launch of survey at WCTR

The database framework has been **completed, checked** by the scientific committee and **circulated** in form of *deliverable* among interested scholars for comments.

The survey for the **pilot-mode** (highways) is complete but still unpublished. A focus on Japan – Italy cases will be presented at WCTR (July 2010), the rest will follow in the future.

The **full survey** has started, using the new website:
www.transregulation.org

The **survey will be re-launched worldwide** at WCTR 2010 (Lisbon, July 2010) and not only among registered colleagues.



Future work & debate

Problems and discussion

The project is, presently, **self financed**.

An **active collaboration of the whole scientific community is needed**. For single informed scholars, the provision of country specific simple information is nearly costless (fill the form and provide key bibliographical refs).

The survey start presented some **inertia**, due to the quantity of information required. In a further phase it is possible to **plan visits to colleagues** in order to settle local collection units in non-EU countries.

To avoid useless duplications, it is necessary to **collaborate and merge with other databases** (GAP project, for example). Costly?



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thank you for your attention!!!

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