ECOLABEL RENAMED TO LCE4ROADS AND GETS NEW PROJECT COORDINATOR

The 36-month FP7 project - "Development of a novel ECOLABELing EU-harmonised methodology for cost-effective, safer and greener road products and infrastructure" (ECOLABEL), which has now been running for 18 months (and featured on page 3 of the June 2104 issue of this magazine), has recently changed its name to LCE4ROADS - "Life Cycle Engineering approach to develop a novel EU-harmonized sustainability certification system for cost-effective, safer and greener road infrastructures". This follows feedback from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Environment (DG Environment), who pointed out that "ECOLABEL" could be easily confused with the EU Ecolabel of the same name. Recent work within the project has also clarified the fact that the outcome will lead towards a certification system rather than a methodology, hence the change in the title as well as the name. The logo and name have been updated on all the communications tools, and you can access the website at www.lce4roads.eu. At the same time, due to an internal reorganisation within ACCIONA, the Project Coordinator has also changed from Carlos Martin-Portugues Montoliu to Rocio Fernandez Flores as a result of Rocio's progressive involvement in the management and technical tasks during the project. Carlos will remain involved in the project as Scientific and Technical Coordinator.

WP2 WORKSHOPS INVITE INPUT ON METHODOLOGY

Within Work Package (WP) 2 (Sustainability certification methodology for road products and infrastructures), the certification system has been developed and several workshops were held with key stakeholders to get input to validate and invite comments. The proposed indicators and certification will now be discussed, checked and if necessary revised by performing several case studies in WP 3 (Assessment against the LCE4ROADS methodology of road products and infrastructures). Here are details of the main workshops held.

SPAIN: JANUARY 2015 IN MADRID AT AENOR

A Spanish workshop was organised for 25 relevant experts. During the meeting, the project concept was presented. This included establishing the relationship between the Public Procurement of Innovation (PPI) and Green Public Procurement (GPP) with LCE4ROADS. Examples of Innovative Public Procurement were given, as were the GPP criteria for roads being prepared by the Joint Research Centre (JRC).

NETHERLANDS: JANUARY 2015 AT RIJKSWATERSTAAT

TNO organized two meetings with relevant experts from Rijkswaterstaat, the Dutch national road authority and Duurzaam GWW, the Dutch private public partnership which develops a green procurement approach. During the meetings, the LCE4ROADS concept was presented and the participants also provided constructive feedback. The Dutch stakeholders indicated that they see benefits from the European approach for European procurement and transnational knowledge exchange on sustainability. However, they stressed their hope that the current Dutch sustainability framework, already established with relevant stakeholders, would somehow fit within the LCE4ROADS approach. As the development of LCE4ROADS progresses, TNO aims to arrange more meetings with stakeholders in the Netherlands.

EUROPEAN: JANUARY 2015 IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

On 28-30th January, a three-day meeting was held at project partner ERF, comprising the fourth Project Management Group (PMG) on 28th and 30th January and a European workshop on 29th January, which gathered representatives from various DGs of the European Commission as well as the JRC. At the same time as the European workshop, parallel sessions were held in the FEHRL office for WPs 2 and 3.

During the workshops, discussions were focused on the new methodology that not only considers traditional elements (energy consumption, gas emissions, etc.), but also new factors and technologies (i.e., energy harvesting, drainage systems to reduce environmental impacts and advanced road route design) as well as, if possible, methods to set scores for all the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) within each of the Life Cycle Engineering aspects covered. On the first day of the PMG, members of ACCIONA, ERF and AENOR also joined a JRC meeting on GPP for roads.

POLAND: MARCH 2015 IN WARSAW (NAPE)

As Poland is represented in the consortium by two Polish companies - NAPE and INVESTEO, a collaborative action was taken to organise the Polish workshop. Participants included representatives from research institutions, road infrastructure designer and supervisor and construction management company.
In the first part of the meeting by NAPE, general project goals were presented. In the second part, methodology assumptions and defined KPIs were described by INVESTEKO. The last part of the meeting was a thematic workshop on KPIs and the possibilities of its implementation in the Polish reality.

**TURKEY: MARCH 2015 IN ANKARA (KGM)**

The Turkish workshop, organised by project partner General Directorate of Highways (KGM), was attended by 23 people. After informing the participants about the project, the methodology and weights for the different LCE aspects and KPIs were discussed.

National workshops have also held in Germany, France and Sweden. Germany followed a two-step approach where in November 2014 LCE4ROADS the project was first presented in a national symposium on “The Sustainable Road”. The audience included representatives from industry, research bodies and road authorities. In a second step, LCE4ROADS was presented in February 2015 in the interdisciplinary “Sustainability” Working Group, which has members from BAST and the federal Ministry.

And LCE4ROADS was presented in February 2015 in France during the annual national symposium on roads in Nantes. This followed a first workshop already held in 2014.

**DISSEMINATION UPDATE**

Within WP 7 (Communication, dissemination, standardisation and exploitation), led by FEHRL, four special dissemination telephone conferences have been held during 2014 and early 2015. Presentations have also been made to key bodies such as the relevant CEN committees.

As described on pages 5-7, ACCIONA presented the project at the FEHRL Infrastructure Research Meeting 2015 (FIRM15) in Brussels, Belgium, on 22nd-23rd April 2015.

LCE4ROADS will also be presented at 1st IRF Europe & Central Asia Regional Congress & Exhibition on 15-18th September 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey at the “Sustainable Roads” session (on Friday 18th from 11am-12.30pm).

For more information, go to www.lce4roads.eu or contact Rocio at rocio.fernandez.flores.EXT@acciona.com.

**CERTIFICATE**

- Requirement 1
- Requirement 2
- E Environmental
- SE Socio-Economic
- T Technical

**GREENER, SAFER AND COST-EFFECTIVE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURES**