



FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT- Call for papers PIARC International Seminar on The Best Practices for Earthworks and Rural Roads

Tunis, Tunisia, 14 - 16 November 2018

Organized in cooperation by:

- Tunisian Road Association (ATR)
- Tunisian Ministry of Equipment, Housing and spatial planning (MEHAT)
- World Road Association (PIARC)



Introduction

The seminar about “**the Best Practices for Earthworks and Rural Roads**” is a part of international programs organized by the World Road Association.

In the present period 2016-2019 the World Road Association within its Strategic Plan has the Strategic Theme D, which refers to the road infrastructure in order to improve the quality and efficiency of the road infrastructure through the effective management of road assets in accordance with the expectations of the user, the Government requirements and the sustainable development of peoples. Within this Theme there is the Technical Committee D.4 Rural Roads and Earthworks.

In the field of rural roads and earthworks, Technical Committee D.4 Rural Roads and Earthworks investigates road administrations response to adverse conditions as a result of climate change activities while considering the use of local, marginal, and secondary materials in rural and unpaved roads.

Within the program of work of the technical committees D.4 for the period 2016-2019 of PIARC, common lines of policies for our countries will be developed through the

D.4 Rural Roads and Earthworks

- D.4.1 Exposure of roads to climate change
- D.4.2 Local materials, practices and techniques
- D.4.3 Management of earthworks

The main objective is analyze and increase the general awareness of professional and PIARC members about the proper asset management of rural roads with appropriate maintenance and continuing sustainable development of peoples.

The Technical Committee will identify areas for research and will address gaps in knowledge for the topic by presenting case studies and state of the art. The program has been designed to study a wide range of issues, particularly related to rural roads and low volume roads, use of local materials and others for the stabilization of soils and the problems of particular interest for low and middle income countries.

The seminar is organized by the Tunisian road association and the Tunisian government in collaboration with technical Committee D.4. The Technical Committee gather members from different countries of the world, their knowledge and experiences are shared and disseminated through publications, participation and organization of international seminars and the comparison of practices in different countries and regions of the world.

The seminar is open to the entire world community interested in rural and low traffic roads. It is also expected to act more specifically on the needs of the countries of the region which have similar geographical, climatic and socio-economic conditions.

Background

The road Asset Management, especially for Rural and low traffic roads is a key component of rural development, and that is a key development tool for developing regions by providing the basic service generated by the increase in agricultural incomes and better access to jobs. Rural roads are used as a starting point for poverty alleviation since it is agreed that investment in rural access and transport implicates an important improvement of the living

conditions of the poorer sectors of our societies. Transport was also identified to have a great importance for the achievement of several of the targets set under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) launched by United Nations.

In several countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia, programs have been implemented for the maintenance of the rural road network that involves the communities along the road network, which carry out the cleanup of the berms, gutters, works of drainage and others. Many times, they have performed major works, which have greatly alleviated the trafficability of routes in times of emergency, especially where access is difficult. The program aims at training the next stage groups in more specialized tasks such as signaling, which directly goes towards road safety.

Despite such significant progress in improving accessibility to these rural areas, the management and future maintenance of this rural road network should be expanded in a sustainable manner, with the participation of municipalities and local governments.

Seminar Objective

The main objective of the Seminar is to provide a common platform for experts to share experiences and discuss issues and challenges related to planning, providing maintaining of rural roads in a sustainable manner. Innovations regarding the participation of local communities in the whole process are also part of the overall objective of the seminar.

Topics

The seminar will broadly cover the following topics.

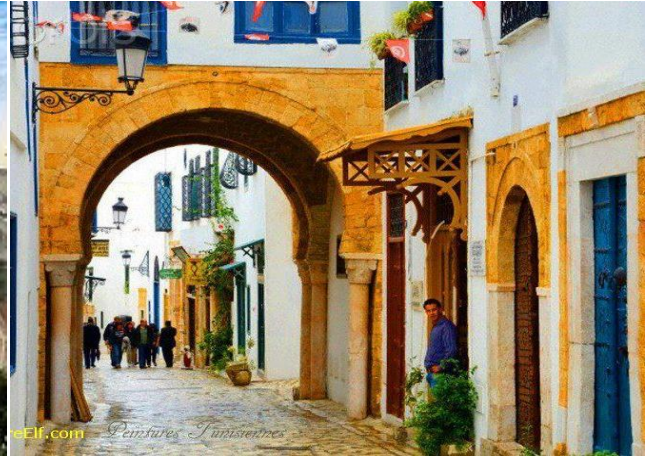
- I. Experiences in the Management of Earthworks in the region and future challenges**
- II. Best Practices for planners and professionals in the development and sustainability of rural access through the use of alternative materials**
- III. Framework, project requirements and maintenance**
 - Planning and other pre-requisites including the involvement of local communities
 - Financing, organization and management
 - Maintenance practices
 - Enforcement of maintenance contracts and alternatives
- IV. Earthworks and bare roads**
 - Reuse of materials
 - Soil treatment
 - improvement of materials
 - stabilization of embankments
- V. Sustainable earthworks and rural roads**

Seminar Venue

The seminar will take place in the city of Tunis from November 14th to 16th, 2018, in Tunisia. The country has an area of 163.610 km² with an approximate population of 11,3 million people. The largest city in Tunisia is the capital Tunis.



Tunis city



Old city Tunis



Sidi Bou Said



Carthage ruins



Dougga theater

Methodology

The methodology for the International Seminar will consist of plenary sessions with experts' presentations, round tables, plenary panel discussion and the conclusions and resolutions.

In each session there will be enough **time allocated for discussion with the audience**.

The plenary sessions will include presentations from experts of PIARC Technical Committee D.4, as well as local, regional and international leading experts.

Languages

The official language of the seminar will be English and French with simultaneous translation.

Participation

The topic of the seminar and methodology interest a wide variety of stakeholders, so the following sectors are expected to be attended:

- Members of PIARC Technical Committee D.4.
- Ministries, organizations and administrations dealing with rural connectivity.
- Research organizations with particular expertise in rural roads and low volume roads asset management and their maintenance.
- Representatives of multilateral funding agencies.
- Several Organizations of United Nations related to accessibility and mobility for the rural communities.
- Practicing engineers, construction companies and consultants who possess expertise in the development and management of rural and low volume roads.
- Community development specialists, groups or associations that have a special interest in the subject.
- Academics and students.

Preliminary Program

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

8:30 to 9:30	Registration
9:30 to 10:30	Opening session
10:30 to 11:00	Tea / Coffee Break
11:00 to 13:00	Technical Session I Experiences in the Management of Earthworks in the region and future challenges
13:00 to 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30 to 16:20	Technical Session II Best Practices for planners and professionals in the development and sustainability of rural access through the use of alternative materials
16:20 to 16:40	Tea / Coffee Break
16:40 to 17:40	Round table: Adaptation of climate change on earthworks and rural roads
17:40 to 17:50	Conclusions of the Day
18:00	End of Sessions

Thursday, November 15, 2017

09:00 to 11:00	Technical Session III Framework, project requirements and maintenance
11:00 to 11:20	Tea / Coffee Break
11:20 to 13:00	Technical Session IV Earthworks and bare roads
13:00 a 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30 a 16:00	Technical Session V Sustainable earthworks and rural roads
16:00 a 16:20	Tea / Coffee Break
16:20 a 17:30	Closing Session Round Table : Rural roads safety
17:30 a 18:00	Conclusions of the Seminar Honors and Closing Ceremony
20:00 a 23:00	Gala Dinner

Friday November 16, 2018

07:30 to 19:30	Technical Visit: X20 earthworks road
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Call for Papers

The abstract of the papers should not exceed 150-200 words and in general, and it may be submitted in English or French.

Abstracts should be sent to the following mails: rsandoval.bo@gmail.com and kaouther.machta@planet.tn

Call for Papers is as follows:

Submission of abstracts	August 15, 2018
Review of abstracts and notification to authors	August 31, 2018
Presentation of the full article	September 30, 2018

Full articles must be submitted with the presentations of the Seminar for publication.

PIARC Special Fund

The PIARC Special Fund can cover up to 100% of travel expenses or up to 100% of the accommodation costs of participants from developing countries (lower middle income and low income countries). Requests for Special Fund assistance should be made by the First Delegate to the PIARC General Secretariat e-mail: info@piarc.org. The precepts for the use of the Special Fund are available on the PIARC website www.piarc.org in the Blue Guide.

Registration

Registration to the PIARC International seminar about "The best practices for Earthworks and Rural Roads» will require paying registration fees, the amount will be specified in the Second Announcement by the end of August 2018. PIARC members will be offered discounted fees.

Accommodation

There are a few hotels located near the event and the participants may choose where they want to stay upon their necessities.

Travel and Transportation

The Tunisian Republic is connected to the world and the rest of the country by trains, roads and its international airport of Tunis - Carthage.

The Second Announcement will also include details on the seminar's venue hotel and other lodging options.

Climate

The daytime temperatures range in November in Tunisia is between 12-22 °C.

Visa Requirements

In general, the following documents are required for obtaining visa for Tunisia:

- Original passport valid for at last six months
- Visa fees
- The supporting documents, if necessary
- Completed application

However, the procedures, requirements and deadlines may vary from country to country. Please check with your embassy or consulate to obtain complete and accurate information.

Organizing Committee:

Roberto Sandóval Farfán	Chair of Technical Committee D.4
Khaled Dridi	Ministry of Equipment, Housing and Spatial Planning
Slah Zouari	PIARC First Delegate of Tunisia
Kaouther Machta	General Coordinator
Mourad Hamrouni	Technical visit Coordinator
Sihem Ben Soltane	Logistics Coordinator
Saloua Triki	Logistics Coordinator
Aida Bergaoui	Scientific Coordinator
Anouar KHADR	Finance Coordinator
Imen Ben Hassine	Registration Coordinator
Adnene Dhraief	Promotion Coordinator

Scientific Committee:

Roberto Sandóval Farfán	Chair of Technical Committee D.4
Isabelle Lappe	French Secretary of Technical Committee D.4
Véronique Berche	Leader of Working Group D.4.1 Exposure of earthworks structures and rural roads to climate change
Aurea Perucho Martínez	Leader of Working Group D.4.2 Local materials, practices and techniques
Guy Raoul	Leader of Working Group D.4.3 Management of earthworks

Pre-registration

If you are interested in attending the PIARC International Seminar **The Best Practices for Earthworks and Rural Roads**, please fill in the following form and send it to imen.benhsin@mehat.gov.tn with a copy for kaouther.machta@planet.tn.

PIARC International Seminar on The Best Practices for Earthworks and Rural Roads

Tunis, Tunisia, 14 to 16 November 2018

I am interested in attending the seminar

Name: _____

Address: _____

Organism: _____

Country: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Details of contact with the organizers

For scientific issues

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For general issues

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