

Minutes SLOCAT ANNUAL MEETING

Date: 12 January 2015, EMBARQ/World Resources Institute, Washington DC.

Members in Attendance:

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| 1. Reza Salamat
Mohammed, UNDESA | 10. Holger Dalkmann,
EMBARQ | 21. Todd Litman, VTPI |
| 2. Stephanie Rambler,
UNDESA | 11. Ramiro Rios, IDB | 22. Henrik Nolmark, VREF |
| 3. Carlosfelipe Pardo,
Despacio | 12. Amit Bhatt, EMBARQ
India | 23. Jacob Mason, ITDP |
| 4. Philip Verma, Despacio | 13. Arzu Tekir, EMBARQ
Turkey | 24. Roger Gorham, WB |
| 5. Adnan Rahman,
Cambridge Systematics | 14. Michael Replogle, ITDP | 25. Heather Thompson, ITDP |
| 6. Suseel Indrakanti,
Cambridge Systematics | 15. Amy Kenyon, Ford
Foundation | 26. Tyrrell Duncan, ADB |
| 7. Guo Zhong, CUSTREC | 16. Alain Flausch, UITP | 27. Nana Soetantri, ADB |
| 8. Lorenza Tomasoni,
CODATU | 17. Bernhard Ensink, ECF | 28. Adalberto Maluf, BYD |
| 9. Jorge Kogan, CAF | 18. Xiaomei Tan, GEF | 29. Henrik Gudmundsson,
DTU |
| | 19. Benoit Lefevre, WRI | 30. Sergio Sanchez, CAI |
| | 20. Manfred Breithaupt, GIZ | 31. Cornie Huizenga, SLoCaT
Secretariat |
| | | 32. Karl Peet, SLoCaT
Secretariat |

Introduction

The 2015 Annual meeting of the Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT) took place on Monday 12 January, following tradition, at the offices of EMBARQ at the World Resources Institute. The participants were welcomed by Holger Dalkmann, on behalf of the host of the meeting. He briefly referred to the progress made by the SLoCaT Partnership in 2014.

Opening of the Meeting

Michael Replogle, Chairman of the Board of the SLoCaT Foundation opened the meeting. He focused in his opening remarks on the opportunities presented by different key global meetings in 2015: Finance for Development Conference (July, Addis Ababa-Ethiopia; Sustainable Development Goals Summit, September - New York- September; COP 21, December -Paris, France; as well as the 2016 Habitat III Conference in Ecuador. He then commented on the progress since the 2014 annual meeting noting the establishment of the SLoCaT Foundation and its positive impact on the activities of the SLoCaT partnership.

Review of 2014 activities of the SLoCaT Partnership

Cornie Huizenga, the Secretary General of the SLoCaT Partnership presented an overview of the activities of the partnership in 2014. His presentation was based on the Annual Report for 2014, which had been sent out to the members of the SLoCaT Partnership. The presentation can be viewed at: http://slocat.net/sites/default/files/u10/2015_annual_meeting_presentation-final.pdf

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Cornie commented that SLoCaT's role as the global voice on sustainable transport has become stronger in 2014. He briefly described the Results Framework on Sustainable Transport, developed in 2014, and which guided SLoCaT's advocacy efforts to integrate sustainable transport in the draft Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that were discussed in 2014. SLoCaT is cautiously optimistic with 7 out of 17 draft SDGs having direct or indirect targets on transport. Cornie described the work of SLoCaT in support of the Climate Summit by Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, which helped in the launch of 5-land transport related commitments. He described the outreach efforts of SLoCaT via website, newsletters, and Twitter and posed the question to the meeting whether SLoCaT should develop a Facebook account and whether the time had come to do an overhaul of the website. He informed the participants on the establishment of the Foundation and its Board. He referred to the Impartiality Committee that is part of the governance structure of the SLoCaT Partnership and renewed the call for nominations for this committee to enable a first report by the end of 2015. He ended the 2014 with an overview of the SLoCaT Partnership finances, which have benefitted from the establishment of the SLoCaT Foundation.

There were few questions based on the presentation. **Carlos Pardo, Despacio** questioned whether SLoCaT has a way of finding out whether SLoCaT presentations distributed online and in hard copy are being read. He also strongly supported for an overhaul of the website and suggested that a Spanish version of the full website, or parts of the website, be developed as part of the suggested website overhaul. Cornie clarified that apart from the monitoring of web statistics it currently does not have such an impact assessment methodology. On the website overhaul, this would depend on the availability of funding and staff capacity in the Secretariat to guide this process.

Presentation work program 2015-2016

The presentation of the work program for 2015-2016 was based on the draft Work Program that was circulated to the SLoCaT membership prior to the meeting. The presentation, which was divided in two parts: work streams and organizational issues can be found at: www.slocat.net/event/1383. Cornie explained that this is not yet the final draft of the July 2015 – June 2016 Work Program. This will be finalized, together with a Budget for approval by the Board of the SLoCaT Foundation by late April, early May 2015. Members of the SLoCaT Partnership will have another round to comment on the Work Program before its finalization and approval by the Board.

A. Work Streams

The proposed activities for 2015-2016 strongly build on past and current activities of the partnership and will target the following global processes under Sustainable Development: (a) Finance for Development Conference; SDG summit; Habitat III and SG Ban Ki-moon's High Level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport. For Climate Change, the second main area of focus for SLoCaT, efforts will concentrate on COP 21 in Paris, France.

Cornie started by enumerating the risks faced by the organization. These are typical for a small starting organization: emphasis on short-term priorities over medium term vision; mission/objectives creep; organizational sustainability and financial vulnerability. Cornie then briefly described the 5 work streams and the activities included. He explained that in order for SLoCaT to achieve its objectives: integration of sustainable transport in global policies on sustainable development and climate change it will be important to develop stronger country support for such an integration. This is important because the processes targeted by SLoCaT are so-called party driven processes; in other words decision-making in these processes is done by nation states. Cornie suggested that a more direct focus on national governments is a departure from present approaches in which SLoCaT has almost exclusively focused its

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efforts on advocacy within the targeted global processes itself. He suggested that SLoCaT could consider becoming more active in different regional and sub-regional intergovernmental processes as well as to work towards a 'caucus' of countries that would be willing to be acknowledged as a group of countries supporting sustainable, low carbon transport.

He then invited the participants to comment on the relative importance of the proposed work stream as well the specific activities proposed. He suggested that participants in their comments would also focus on the proposed emphasis on building national level support for the integration of sustainable transport in global policies on sustainable development and climate change.

Suseel Indrakanti Cambridge Systematics, queried how the draft Work Program had been developed and what the involvement of SLoCaT members had been. Cornie explained that the draft for discussion was based on an earlier shorter planning note distributed to the members as well as discussions with individual members.

The participants endorsed the overall structure of the draft Work Program 2015-2016, including the global processes targeted and the organization of SLoCaT activities in 5 work streams. **Alain Flausch, UITP** questioned whether the proposed SLoCaT priorities are in line with the structuring and timing of the global processes SLoCaT aims to target. He suggested that many SLoCaT members, including himself, are not fully familiar with the details of the global processes targeted by SLoCaT. He called on the SLoCaT Secretariat to provide members with a detailed overview. Other members echoed this sentiment. Cornie indicated that the SLoCaT Secretariat will give more attention to this and will shortly provide the members with 1-2 pagers for each of the main processes targeted by SLoCaT.

Holger Dalkmann, EMBARQ, commented that in his view, the final draft of the Work Program would have to include a number of overarching performance indicators that could be used to see whether SLoCaT is making progress in realizing its organizational objectives. **Benoit Lefevre, EMBARQ** also emphasized the importance of having clear outcomes: "Knowing what we want to achieve helps to achieve it". The SLoCaT Secretariat confirmed that it is intended to have key performance indicators in the final draft of the Work Program but also cautioned that it will not be easy to track progress on global policies on an annual basis and that it might be required to revert to proxy indicators.

On the issue of a stronger focus on national level **Michael Replogle, ITDP** commented that regional and intergovernmental bodies are not doing a great job yet in promoting sustainable transport. Lack of continuity is a key issue. SLoCaT has a small Secretariat and it is clear that it will have to focus – this could both include selected governmental processes and a small group of committed countries. **Bernhard Ensink, WCA/ECF** voiced the opinion that the SLoCaT Secretariat is doing valuable work by reviewing global processes, developing coordinated positions and documenting these. It is subsequently up to the SLoCaT members to actively use these then in advocacy at the national and local level. **Jorge Kogan, CAF** agreed that national governments must take responsibility. We must find champions: e.g. like-minded countries. National countries are not necessarily the most effective champions he lamented and it might be relevant to focus as well on finding like-minded cities who are willing to champion sustainable transport at the international level. Cornie indicated that these comments are helpful in the finalization of the national level engagement strategy.

Specific comments on the 5 work streams included:

Sustainable Development:

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- **Roger Gorham, SSATP** 2012 voluntary commitment from MDBs for more sustainable transport. We will need follow through, keep up heat on this.

Financing: (no specific comments)

Climate Change:

- **Holger Dalkmann, EMBARQ** INDCs to be submitted in March, likely May/June. Some champions will break down goals by sector; can we (SLoCaT members) work with these champions to raise the bar? Can SLoCaT coordinate to set priorities to its members?
- **Bernhard Ensink, WCA/ECF** World Cycling Alliance is developing a commitment from cycling sector to join the transport commitments from the SG Climate Summit. Will have a city focus and be aimed at increasing mode share of cycling. WCA is looking at how social media help drive individual support for the commitment.
- **Roger Gorham, SSATP** Adaptation/resilience are front and center in climate change discussion. Does SLoCaT have formal position on adaptation agenda? Could argue that this is outside scope of the work program, but SLoCaT should not be silent on this issue.
- **Ramiro Rios, IDB** IDB has been leading adaptation stream in Transport Day 2013 and 2014. Agree that it is important for SLoCaT to have a position on the topic
- **Holger Dalkmann – Benoit Lefevre, EMBARQ** Important to integrate /link SG Climate Summit Commitments in/to UNFCCC process. SLoCaT could create framework for commitments to support negotiations (e.g. financing, where/how to implement), to build confidence in implementation.

Transport and Poverty:

- **Roger Gorham, SSATP** We've linked low carbon sustainable transport to climate change; perhaps need to focus energies on linking transport to poverty alleviation; lots of traction for poverty issues within the MDBs.
- **Benoit Lefevre, EMBARQ** Equity is key to both climate change and sustainable development; if we can bring together sustainable transport to alleviate poverty, create green jobs, etc.

Rural Transport (no specific comments)

B. Organizational Issues

In the last part of the meeting the attention focused on organizational issues whereby an overview of the membership of the SLoCaT Partnership was given as well as the current status of financing for the 2015-2016 Work Program.

A number of participants including **Reza Salamat Mohammad, UN-DESA** and **Henrik Nollmark, VREF** inquired on the differences between the SLoCaT Foundation, the SLoCaT Partnership as well as the relationship between the SLoCaT Secretariat and its members. Cornie clarified that these relationships are documented in the SLoCaT Constitution and By-Laws. On the role of the members he commented that an organization like SLoCaT can only develop and prosper with an active involvement of its members and this should guide the Secretariat in all its efforts.

There was a brief discussion on SLoCaT's policy on payment of the annual support fee (\$500 or \$1000) by members of the SLoCaT Partnership. The SLoCaT Secretariat was requested to actively follow up on this. A review of membership status based on support fees paid/waivers issued was announced for the next financial year of SLoCaT.

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Ramiro Rios, IDB asked whether the SLoCaT Partnership intends to hire a Latin America focal point. Cornie indicated that it is challenging with the size of the Secretariat (4 persons) to have dedicated regional focal points. He went on to remind the participants that there is a clear agreement on having a small Secretariat for the Partnership. Improving regional coordination will require active support from members.

Benoit Lefevre, EMBARQ, underscored the need for SLoCaT to develop more active partnerships with other partnerships including City Climate Finance Leaders Alliance, ICLEI, C40, and others. There are large overlaps in agendas with these organizations.

Alain Flausch, UITP (and Treasurer of the SLoCaT Foundation) cautioned that the financial situation of SLoCaT is vulnerable with less than 50% of 2015-16 budget in place (as per 10 January). He called on the participants to actively contribute to an improvement in the financial situation.

Closure of the Meeting and Reception

Michael Replogle closed the meeting at 8.00 pm and thanked the participants for their active contribution. Following this EMBARQ/WRI hosted a reception for the participants of the 2015 annual SLoCaT meeting.