



ReCAP
Research for Community Access Partnership



Research to Practice: Engaging Local Communities in the Future of Transportation

Webinar hosted by Devex and ReCAP



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Devex

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Accessed from <http://flic.kr/p/rE7fmX>.

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ReCAP Completion Report Template

ReCAP Database Details: Research to Practice: Engaging Local Communities in the Future of Transportation			
Reference No:	KNM2075A	Location	Online
Source of Proposal	ReCAP PMU	Procurement Method	Competitive bid
Theme	Transport Knowledge Management, Education and Dissemination	Sub-Theme	Rural roads and transport services
Lead Implementation Organisation	Devex	Partner Organisation	ReCAP, DFID
Total Approved Budget	20,000 GBP	Total Used Budget	20,000 GBP
Start Date	July 12, 2016	End Date	October 14 , 2016
Report Due Date	October 12, 2016	Date Received	September 27, 2016

B: Logframe Indicators

(Note: The purpose of this section of the CR is to summarise the extent to which this activity has contributed to the ReCAP's higher level objectives. Where response is YES supporting documentation is required separate to the report)

Outcome	Question			Response (<i>Underline Answer</i>)
Sustainability	Did this project lead to any concrete examples of change, influenced by ReCAP research that will be applied to Km of road?			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YES, with XX km of Roads to be built 2. No 3. <u>Don't Know</u>
	Were Partner Governments and/or other financiers involved in co-funding this research?			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YES, through Contributions in Kind (K) 2. YES, through Core Contributions (C) 3. <u>No</u>
	Type of Contribution: K – Funding of Trial Sections, Staff Time, Dissemination and Training C - Funding of Research Programme Core Costs, Research Contracts, Capacity Building and Knowledge Management	Value of Contribution (in £ m)	Source:	

ReCAP Database Details: Research to Practice: Engaging Local Communities in the Future of Transportation

Research and Uptake	Were any Peer-Reviewed Papers made available in open access format generated due to the implementation of this project?		1. YES 2. No
	1.3. Were any National Policies, Manuals, Guidelines and/or final research outputs been fully incorporated into Governmental/Ministerial Requirements, specifications and recommended good practice as a result of engineering research conducted during this project?		1. YES 2. No 3. <u>Not Applicable</u>
	If yes, provide Data		
Research and Uptake	1.4. Were any National Policies, Regulations and/or practises for Rural Transport Services been modified or introduced as a result of this project?		1. YES 2. No 3. <u>Not Applicable</u>
	If yes, provide Data		
Knowledge Dissemination	3.1. Did this Activity result in a National Research Centre (NRC) being Linked to an electronic repository for rural transport Knowledge?		4. <u>YES</u> 5. No 6. <u>Not Applicable</u>
	3.2. Did this project Generate Knowledge Presented and discussed at a high level international development conference or debate?		1. <u>YES</u> 2. No 3. Not Applicable
	3.3. Was the knowledge generated by this project disseminated through workshops or dedicated training?		1. <u>YES, knowledge was shared and disseminated through an online webinar</u> 2. No 3. Not Applicable
Capacity Building	2.1. Did country-based African/Asian experts or institutions take lead roles during the implementation of this project?		1. Yes 1. No
	Name	Nationality	Position
	If yes, provide Data		
	2.2. Was this project managed through a National Research Centre (NRC) and supported by ReCAP funding for technical assistance and capacity building?		1. YES 2. No
Capacity Building	2.3. Were female researchers involved in providing inputs at a senior technical level?		1. Yes 2. NO
	Name	Position	Inputs
	<i>See Annex B</i>	<i>See Annex B</i>	<i>See Annex B</i>
If yes, provide Data			

Abstract

Devex under the UKAID-DFID funded ReCAP initiative hosted a webinar on the topic of active action research methodology for application in rural roads and transport services research. This webinar conveyed the fundamental principles, benefits and effects of Active Action Research; examples of community-driven research application in rural road and transport services research and projects in Africa; and the implications of results from Active Action Research on livelihoods.

Three experts in the fields of rural road and transport services spoke on the current state of road and transport research, key principles and types of Active Action Research, and examples of participatory action research in practice through programmes and projects. These experts were academics and practitioners from research universities, NGOs, and the private consulting sector. The 55 webinar participants included transport research practitioners and academics from Nepal, Myanmar, Bangladesh, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

While the effects of this webinar on increased effectiveness in road construction remains to be seen over time, survey responses indicate that 100% of survey respondents agree that the webinar improved their understanding of rural road and transport research. In turn, key stakeholders working in this sector will be able to more effectively collaborate using a similar framework. It is hoped that the unique conversation that occurred during the webinar will drive increased practice of Active Action Research in rural transport and road projects in Africa and Asia.

Key words

Active Action Research Methodology, Participatory Research, Community-Driven Development, Transport research, Rural roads, Infrastructure research, Transport services research, webinar

RESEACH FOR COMMUNITY ACCESS PARTNERSHIP (ReCAP)

Safe and sustainable transport for rural communities

ReCAP is a research programme, funded by UK Aid, with the aim of promoting safe and sustainable transport for rural communities in Africa and Asia. ReCAP comprises the Africa Community Access Partnership (AfCAP) and the Asia Community Access Partnership (AsCAP). These partnerships support knowledge sharing between participating countries in order to enhance the uptake of low cost, proven solutions for rural access that maximise the use of local resources. The ReCAP programme is managed by Cardno Emerging Markets (UK) Ltd.

See www.research4cap.org

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the ReCAP PMU team for partnering with Devex on this webinar. We would additionally like to acknowledge our speakers: Gina Portner, Senior Research Fellow at Durham University; Tony Greening, Independent Research Consultant; and Caroline Barber, Head of Programmes at Transaid (along with Victor Simfukwe and Edward O'Connor of Transaid).

Acronyms, Units and Currencies

\$	United States Dollar (US\$ 1.00 ≈ provide conversion to local currencies)
AFCAP	Africa Community Access Partnership
AWR	All-Weather Road
ASCAP	Asia Community Access Partnership
ETS	Emergency Transport Scheme
DHMT	District Health Management
IMT	Intermediate Means of Transport
MoFA	Ministry of Agriculture
MOH	Ministry of Health
NHC	Neighbourhood Health Committee
RECAP	Research for Community Access Partnership
SEACAP	Southeast Asia Community Access Partnership
UK	United Kingdom (of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
UKAid	United Kingdom Aid (Department for International Development, UK)

Contents

Abstract.....	5
Key words.....	5
Acknowledgements.....	6
Acronyms, Units and Currencies	6
Contents	7
1. Introduction.....	8
2. Programme	9
3. Metrics and Recommendations	10
Annex A: Webinar recordings	11
Annex B: Female researchers providing senior technical inputs (re: 2.3)	11
Annex C: List of Participants	11

1. Introduction

Research around rural roads and transport services in Africa and Asia is increasingly necessary to learn more about how to integrate the perspectives, attitudes, and knowledge of the people affected by transportation plans. For such research to succeed, it must incorporate the opinions, knowledge, skills and perspectives of local populations to support suitable and sustainable solutions.

This webinar hosted by Devex under the UKAID-DFID funded ReCAP initiative, shed light on the benefits of rural road and transport services researchers utilising Active Action Research Methodology in their road and transport projects. Experts from both the academic and practitioner side of the transportation sector instigated dialogue on the implications of participatory action research and community-driven development.

Tony Greening, Independent Research Consultant, provided an overview of the current state of rural road and transport research, noting that research is essential in order to provide cost-effective solutions to problems that arise in the transport sector for rural communities. He also reiterated that local practitioners and those living in the community were best suited to find solutions to rural road and transport service problems.

Gina Porter, Senior Research Fellow at Durham University, expanded on certain types of Active Action Research – particularly Participatory Action Research, Mobile interviews, and Co-Investigation. Through the detailing of case studies in Africa, she highlighted how to best understand transport services from a user perspective and generally the importance of community-driven development.

For a practitioner's perspective, Caroline Barber, Head of Programmes from TransAid, spoke about the implications of community participation in road projects. Highlighting the case of the MORE MAMaZ approach and Emergency Transport Schemes in Zambia, Caroline underscored the idea that transport programs without community involvement would be unsustainable and unsuitable for communities. Community engagement, she reiterated, is therefore necessary in both the designing and implementation of transport service projects.

At the end of the webinar, the conversation went further as experts engaged in discussion with the audience and Devex moderator Helen Morgan. This discussion revolved around the implications of mobile technology on transport services, how gender plays a role in participatory action research, and how to translate research findings into policies and donor considerations. Finally, Devex also invited those in the audience to submit further questions post-webinar in case any topic was not addressed.

We expect this unique conversation driven by the panellists and the engaged audience of 55 transport and global development experts around the world will feed into the larger discussion and understanding of Active Action Research, both within the context of rural roads and transport and in global development at large.

2. Programme

Research to Practice: Engaging local communities in the future of transportation
Exclusive webinar hosted by ReCAP and Devex
September 12, 2016 at 16:00 – 17:30 GMT

Introduction (3 minutes)

Helen Morgan, Editorial Associate, Devex (Moderator)

General introduction & Current State of Rural Road and Transport Research (12 minutes)

Tony Greening, Independent Transport Research Consultant

Active Action Research Methodology & The Importance of Community-Driven Development (12 minutes)

Gina Porter, Senior Research Fellow, Durham University

Implications of Community Participation in Road Rural Access Projects: The Practitioner Perspective (12 minutes)

Caroline Barber, Head of Programmes, Transaid

'The Road Ahead: Increased Inclusiveness in Road Projects' Moderated Discussion (20 minutes)

Helen Morgan, Editorial Assistant, Devex (Moderator)

Tony Greening, Independent Transport Research Consultant

Question for Tony: How can technology, such as mobile technology, make road and transport service research more accessible and more participatory for local communities?

Gina Porter, Senior Research Fellow, Durham University

Question for Gina: Are there specific issues associated with engaging women in communities?

Caroline Barber, Head of Programmes, Transaid

Question for Caroline: How does Transaid see Active Action Participation Research?

All panelists

Question for all panelists: How do we take community-based research and translate that into information that is seen and heard by governments and donors?

Question and Answer with audience (30 minutes)

*Link to webinar recording – see Annex B

*List of participants – see Annex C

3. Metrics and Recommendations

In the lead-up to the webinar, Devex sent multiple invitations targeted to relevant academics and transport research practitioners from Nepal, Myanmar, Bangladesh, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The three speakers were also selected by Devex in conjunction with ReCAP, based on their expertise on the topic.

After the webinar, a recording of the event was sent out to all webinar registrants and attendees. In total, there were 355 registrants and 55 live attendees. This attendance rate of 15% exceeds the average rate of 10% of webinar, which is a great testament to the interest of the Devex community in the webinar and topic. Additionally, for the group of people who were unable to attend the webinar, we saw a 36% open rate on the email containing the webinar recording which exceeds the average email open rates benchmark of 15%. Moving forward, the recording of the webinar will be posted to a Devex article page, which will be open and accessible to the public.

A post-webinar survey was also sent out to all attendees, which saw a 30% response rate. Survey results indicated that the webinar was a beneficial learning experience for the audience. In particular:

- **94%** of survey respondents found the webinar to be informative about Active Action Research Methodology and rural roads/transport services
- **94%** of survey respondents found the webinar to provide useful information that they can apply to their professional development
- **100%** of survey respondents agree that the webinar built their understanding of rural road and transport research

Attendees of the webinar commented that the webinar was “informative and well-structured”, “vital”, and “very helpful”. Several attendees also encouraged additional webinars on similar topics and asked for further webinar discussions, as there is “still a wide range of issues on rural access to be shared and discussed.”

In particular, survey respondents indicated several topics that have an opportunity to be discussed in the future:

- Long-term sustainability of community engagement programmes
- Results-based management
- How universities in Africa can instill the need for Active Action Research methodology within their curricula
- How to apply research findings to improve rural accessibility
- Corruption and fraud risk in road projects
- Developments and new approaches in low volume roads technology

Considering the majority of the survey respondents indicated interest in learning more about ReCAP’s work, Devex sees further opportunities to partner with ReCAP looking forward on important topics affecting research and transport for rural communities.

Annex A: Webinar recordings

- Link the webinar is [available here](#)

Annex B: Female researchers providing senior technical inputs (re: 2.3)

- Gina Porter, Senior Research Fellow, Durham University
- Caroline Barber, Head of Programmes, TransAid

Annex C: List of Participants

Name	Title	Organization
Abdul Awadh	Chairman	Tanzania Forum for Rural Transport and Development (TFG)
Adeline Ofori-Bah	Managing Consultant	Monitoring and Evaluation Solutions
Adey Abrham		
Arthur Rimberia	Consultant	BrainFast Consultants
Basil Jonsson	Operations Director	South African Road Federation
Bekele Jebessa		Bekele Jebessa
Bhim Suwal		
Carine Umuhumuza	Senior Digital Communications Associate	Devex
Caroline Barber		
Caroline Visser	Knowledge Manager	ReCAP
Claire Mc Govern		Devex
Daniel Gies		
Dione Gregoire		ONG INTERNATIONAL
Edwin Zulu	CEO	ELIF Business Solutions Ltd

Emmanuel Osei-Mensah	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning Specialist	CRS-GHANA
Erin Viray	Senior Associate	Devex
Fuyo Yamamoto		
Gina Porter	Senior Research Fellow	Durham University
Granie R Jayalath	Deputy Director (planning & designing)-roads & rural roads	Road Development Authority
Hebron Mwakalinga	Senior Consultant - Agricultural Marketing	Hebron Mwakalinga
Helen Morgan	Editorial Associate	Devex
Holly Palardy	Assistant Executive Director	Haiti Plunge, Inc.
Jacinta Mbilo		University of Nairobi
Jane Ndirangu	Rural Infrastructure Advisor	
Jenna Lee		
Jennifer Eh	Journalist	RR
John Kabubo		
John Mark Mwanika	Projects Coordinator	Amalgamated Transport & General Workers Union
Joseph Ruhiu	Environmental & Community Development Specialist	Eco-Conquest Africa Ltd
Julie Espinosa	Senior Video Producer	Devex
Laureen Felisienne Tapnio	Member Support Associate	Devex
Les Sampson	Infrastructure Research Manager	ReCAP
Louise Goldman	Policy and Advocacy advisor	AIP Foundation
Loutie Zerbo		

Makuachukwu Okay-Ikenegbu	Project Engineer	Roughton International Ltd
Mary Mbuo	Lecturer	Daystar University
Mbaziira Mahmudu	Quality control supervisor	Hariss International Ltd
Michael Pinard		Infra Africa (Pty) Ltd
Nandar Kyaw	ReCAP Technical Manager - Myanmar	Research for Community Access Partnership
Natalie Donback	Marketing Associate	Devex
Niklas Sieber Olumuyiwa Adegorite	Freelance Consultant	Olumuyiwa Adegorite
P Krishna	Program Officer	Brooke India
Palesa Hekandjo	Engineer Transport Services Research	Roads Authority Namibia
Paul Starkey	Manager	ReCAP
Pilar Perez-Victoria Casado	Consultant	Acciona Ingenieria
Robert Kakiiza Kagaba	CEO	PATROK GROUP LIMITED
rosaria camarda	Project Assistant	Rosaria Camarda
Russell Gasser	Independent Consultant	Russell Gasser
Semrin Aleckson	Customer Development Manager	State of Place
stephen newport	principal planner	IMC Worldwide
Tolulope Omodara	Lead Consultant	Tolulope Omodara
Tom Paterson	Senior Project Engineer	Roughton International
Tony Greening	Independent Consultant	
Wessel van der Meulen	Consultant	IMC Worldwide