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| WCTRS RESEARCH NEWSLETTER | | | |
|  | **WORLD** **CONFERENCE ON** **TRANSPORT** **RESEARCH** **SOCIETY** | | **SECRETARIAT OFFICE OF THE WCTRS** Institute for Transport Studied  The University of Leeds  Leeds, LS2 9JT England  Email: [wctrs@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:wctrs@leeds.ac.uk)  Website: [www. wctrs-society.com](https://www.wctrs-society.com/) |
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| **In this issue**   1. [President's Reception @ 102nd Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board 2023](#_President's_Reception_@) 2. [Physical mobility and virtual communication in Italy: Trends, analytical relationships and policies for the post COVID-19 period](#_Physical_mobility_and) 3. [Stretching resilience and adaptive transport systems capacity in South Africa: Imperfect or perfect attempts at closing COVID -19 policy and planning emergent gaps](#_WCTRS_Elsevier_book) 4. [SIG B3 Freight Transport Operations and Intermodality - Upda](#_SIG_B3_Summer)tes 5. [Membership of the WCTRS](#_Membership_of_the_2)   **Useful Information and links**  **1. Publications by SIG A4-Handbook on High-Speed Rail and Quality of Life and Frontiers in High-Speed Rail Development**  Both books are free to download.  For details: [Click Here](https://www.adb.org/contact/hayashi-yoshitsugu)  **2. A new Transport Research and Education Network to help ESCAP member States achieve sustainable transport**  For details: [Click Here](https://www.unescap.org/projects/tren)  **3. 9th Sustainable Road Freight Workshop, (online & free)**  **Theme:** Resilient transitions to net zero freight transport systems  For details: [Click Here](https://www.csrf.ac.uk/events/9th-international-workshop-on-sustainable-road-freight/)  **4. 102nd TRB Annual Meeting**  **When:** January 8-12, 2023  **Where:** Washington, DC  For Details:[Click Here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cvent.com%2Fapi%2Femail%2Fdispatch%2Fv1%2Fclick%2Fp5j7lvzvwv3748%2Fp49dzvp5%2FaHR0cCUzQSUyRiUyRnd3dy50cmIub3JnJTJGQW5udWFsTWVldGluZyUyRkFubnVhbE1lZXRpbmcuYXNweCY3TmxhJTJGTmo4dFl0ellLQWUlMkZ2ZWUlMkYybThnSnVteVdkQ2huNUtISnZmJTJGZjglM0QmbWVldGluZyt3ZWJzaXRl&data=05%7C01%7Cwctrs%40leeds.ac.uk%7C16663af5e43545898f1308da9ccbc3fb%7Cbdeaeda8c81d45ce863e5232a535b7cb%7C1%7C0%7C637994696232475061%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=R%2FnUmlDeTEi0%2BCbt1flHJ1hQtBZeVnc8ZmOUwp9pLSY%3D&reserved=0)  **5. SITRASS event on the economics of transport for development in Africa (in French language)**  **Theme:** L'économie des transports au service du développement en Afrique  **When:** June 26- July 21, 2023  For Details:[Click Here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.laet.science%2FUniversite-d-ete&data=05%7C01%7Cwctrs%40leeds.ac.uk%7Cfa4107910bfc4386c5ac08daa15a150c%7Cbdeaeda8c81d45ce863e5232a535b7cb%7C1%7C0%7C637999705544605012%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C2000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=JykXVPZbQ2a4lkxfcqOfkexYD6jjulQ5rM9KDjmtExk%3D&reserved=0)  **6. Special Issue of Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment on “Green pathways for a connected and automated vehicle future”**  For details: [Click Here](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/transportation-research-part-d-transport-and-environment/call-for-papers/call-for-paper-for-the-special-issue-green-pathways-for-a-connected-and-automated-vehicle-future)  Paper submission deadline: ***January 31, 2023***  **7. Special Issue of Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice on “Pricing and Regulation in Road Transport”**  For details: [Click Here](https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/transportation-research-part-a-policy-and-practice/about/call-for-papers#pricing-and-regulation-in-road-transport)  Paper submission deadline: ***April 30, 2023***  **WCTRS society journals**    [Transport Policy](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/transport-policy)    [Case Studies in Transport Policy](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/case-studies-on-transport-policy)  **WCTRS book series**  For details, visit: [link](https://www.wctrs-society.com/wctrs-publications/wctrs-and-elsevier-transportation-book-series/)  **Find us on**    **Wish to become a member of WCTRS?**  [**Click here**](https://www.wctrs-society.com/membership/)  **Visit us on**  <https://www.wctrs-society.com/>  <https://wctr2022.ca/>  **Email to us at**    **Editorial team of WCTRS Research Newsletter**  **Editor**    **[Prof. Dr. Ashish Verma](http://civil.iisc.ernet.in/~ashishv/beta/index.php)***[,](http://civil.iisc.ernet.in/~ashishv/beta/index.php)*  *[IISc Sustainable Transportation Lab (IST Lab), IISc Bangalore, India](http://civil.iisc.ernet.in/~ashishv/beta/index.php)*  [ashishv@iisc.ac.in](mailto:ashishv@iisc.ac.in)  **Assistant Editor**    **Mr. Aitichya Chandra,**  *PhD Scholar, IST Lab,*  *IISc Bangalore, India*  [aitichyac@iisc.ac.in](mailto:aitichyac@iisc.ac.in) | President's Reception @ 102nd Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board 2023   **Prof. Tae Hoon Oum**  The World Conference on Transport Research (WCTR) Society invites all society members around the world to the president’s reception to be held during the 102nd Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board.  **Date**: **Wednesday**, **11 January 2023**  **Time**: **5.30pm-7.30pm**  **Venue**: **East** **Overlook Room, Washington Convention Centre, Washington, USA**  *Note: Snacks will be provided and there will be a bar available to purchase drinks*  **Prof. Tae Hoon Oum, *University of British Columbia, Canada.***  **President, *The World Conference on Transport Research (WCTR) Society*** Physical mobility and virtual communication in Italy: Trends, analytical relationships and policies for the post COVID-19 period A person in a suit smiling  Description automatically generated with medium confidence  **Dr. Claudia Caballini Prof. Bruno Dalla Chiara**  The need for people to move from place to place has various motivations, including meeting and communicating with other people. Over the past two decades, the concept of “communication” has significantly evolved, given the introduction of ICT technologies, which have enabled people to communicate without their physical presence. The smart management of mobility, which combines the ability to virtually communicate and the use of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to support physical mobility, i.e. transport itself, can strongly influence people’s choices to move or not (video calls, e-commerce, …, even a sedentary life), and how to move.  During the COVID-19 pandemic, “virtual mobility” played a crucial role in ensuring communications between people in different contexts of social life, growing in just a few months to previously unforeseeable levels and demonstrating that it can substitute physical movement on many occasions.  “Virtualised communication” is key to reducing the negative externalities of conventional vehicles and transport, by regulating physical mobility, by reducing the peaks of physical mobility during rush hours and by better distributing mobility demand throughout the day. In this perspective, the timing of services and human activities (work, education, etc.) has already been partially rethought through the logic of de-synchronization of timetables which has resulted in a smooth distribution of mobility flows.  Starting from the analysis of many decades of physical mobility and, more recently, of virtual communications trends before and during the health emergency in Italy, this paper [Physical mobility and virtual communication in Italy: Trends, analytical relationships and policies for the post COVID-19, <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0967070X21001888>] analyses the relationships between these two forms of communication, evaluating how virtual communication affected the different segments of Italian mobility during the pandemic and how it can affect the way people move in the post COVID-19 period.  A SWOT analysis of virtual mobility has been performed for each communication segment, to highlight its pros and cons, including the future opportunities and possible threats. Some policy indications are also provided in relation to different mobility segments, governance levels (urban, regional and national) and congestion/pollution scenarios. These highlight how virtual mobility can help to regulate physical movements without sacrificing transport needs.  In the recent post-COVID 19 era (2022), the demand for physical mobility has picked up again, but this has mainly been in favour of private transport, due to the continuing concerns about safety and distancing introduced by the pandemic. Currently (2022/23), public transport and micro-mobility are slowly catching up in the pursuit of increasingly green, reliable, sustainable, secure and connected mobility.  What can be clearly seen so far is that, in the future, physical and virtual mobility will have to integrate and dialogue more closely and effectively than they did in the past. ICT will not only have to reduce the movement whenever possible, but will also have to improve physical mobility, providing useful information to users and enabling the possibility - when necessary - for carrying out different activities while travelling (namely with rail and air transport, or autonomous vehicles).  ***Reference:*** Claudia Caballini, Matteo Agostino, Bruno Dalla Chiara, Physical mobility and virtual communication in Italy: Trends, analytical relationships and policies for the post COVID-19, Transport Policy, Volume 110, 2021, Pages 314-334, ISSN 0967-070X, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tranpol.2021.06.007>  **Claudia Caballini, Matteo Agostino, Bruno Dalla Chiara, *Dept. DIATI –Transport systems, Politecnico di Torino, Italy*** Stretching resilience and adaptive transport systems capacity in South Africa: Imperfect or perfect attempts at closing COVID -19 policy and planning emergent gaps   **Prof. James Chakwizira**  A recently published paper titled "Stretching resilience and adaptive transport systems capacity in South Africa: Imperfect or perfect attempts at closing COVID -19 policy and planning emergent gaps" in Prof. Ashish's VSI of Transport Policy continues sustaining the momentum and theme on inter-generational resilient transport and adaptive transport systems that can withstand changes and shocks introduced by differentiated, repetitive and re-current climate change, epidemics/pandemics and disasters waves that face human civilisation. The article acknowledges that the COVID-19 pandemic has presented our generation with a new twist in understanding and application of health, infrastructure and built environment nexus for continued relevance and competitiveness. An interesting philosophical question posed is whether existing and planned (or modelled) transport policy and planning actions and options are perfect or imperfect and or complete or incomplete attempts at fighting health pandemics, climate change disasters and transport challenges in a rapidly changing world.  The research’s theoretical, practical, and methodological gaps that emerge revolve around bridging the divide between the “old” and “new” normal in confronting health, transport and general socio-economic growth and development imperatives. The empirical study, which was conducted during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, draws evidence from health and non-health scientific databases, models in crafting and painting a portrait of COVID-19 pandemic amplification, ramification and translation on the transportation and health geography in South Africa. Interesting insights in respect of moments for planning and policy regulatory options in combating and moving towards a net zero carbon emissions economy as well as branding an enhanced image of the potential complete dividends of car free, pedestrian friendly (e.g., in terms of a 5-15 minute walking or pedestrian spatially designed cities) as well as eco-friendly possible cities scenarios are glimpsed. At the same time, the extent to which the COVID-19 disrupted and exposed both the strengths and constraints of short and long freight transport commodities flow value chains as well as public and commuting transport modes possibilities, limitations and contradictions are explored.  The research work was motivated from a recognition that generally, grey and scant literature exists that links COVID-19 (and post COVID-19) with the transport planning and policy discourses. Additionally, the mainstream literature in the main explore epidemiological and health dimensions of COVID-19 and fails to explicitly place and locate transport, transport planning and policy making at the center of the studies. The manuscript contributes towards an expanded understanding and application of COVID 19 pandemic and post-pandemic planning and policy strategic, operational, and tactical implementation through presenting the following guides and framework of analysis: COVID-19 pandemic/epidemic gaps and transport policy conundrum; An illustrative framework for transport systems and policy resilience COVID-19 and post-COVID 19 and advancing the imperfect transport policy model system.  This article is a must read and invaluable resource in the health, transport and built environment COVID-19 and post-covid pandemic/epidemic and generally applicable to generic disaster and climate change events applicable at all geographic scales. The full manuscript can be accessed in the link herein.  ***Reference:*** James Chakwizira, Stretching resilience and adaptive transport systems capacity in South Africa: Imperfect or perfect attempts at closing COVID -19 policy and planning emergent gaps, Transport Policy, Volume 125, 2022, Pages 127-150, ISSN 0967-070X, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tranpol.2022.06.003>  **Prof. James Chakwizira, *North - West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa.*** SIG B3 Freight Transport Operations and Intermodality - Updates  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Die Bundesvereinigung Logistik - der wissenschaftliche Beirat - Die BVL ... | SIG B3 focuses on connecting researchers on an international scale to conduct collaborative research on the topic of “Freight Transport Operations and Intermodality”. As such, in November and December 2022, SIG B3 has been planning a Special WCTRS- Session at the 6th Interdisciplinary Conference on Production, Logistics and Traffic (ICPLT) taking place from 21 to 22 March 2022 in Dortmund, Germany. |   The ICPLT is jointly hosted by TU Dortmund and by TU Darmstadt, where Prof. Ralf Elbert, SIG B3’s Chair is professor at the Chair of Management and Logistics. The 6th ICPLT addresses interfaces of production, logistics and traffic and seeks solutions for economic, ecological and societal issues around transport as the essential link for production, logistics and society.  We are excited to officially welcome SIG B3’s Co-Chair **Dr. Jason Monios** from Kedge Business School in Marseille, France, as Session Chair to this Special WCTRS-Session on “Intermodal Logistics”. The session will feature a variety of highly interesting presentations on maritime, road and rail transport. All members from SIG B3 and WCTRS are invited to join the conference. You can find out more [here](https://itl.mb.tu-dortmund.de/en/eventdetail/icplt-6th-interdisciplinary-conference-on-production-logistics-and-traffic-8942/).  At the same time, SIG B3 has been involved in the organization of their participation in the WCTR 2023 in Montréal. We are looking forward to seeing you there!    **Prof. Ralf Elbert, *University of Darmstadt, Germany. Chair, SIG B3.***   Membership of the WCTRS  |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | The WCTRS is the only international society in transportation with a truly global network, bringing together over 1000 members from 67 countries to advance and exchange ideas and research across the transport sector. |     Members connect through the Society's triannual World Conference, which provides a rich forum to present and discuss the latest in transport research and practice, and through the activities of the Society's Task Forces and 33 Special Interest Groups, each of which represents a specific area of interest and inquiry. Members under 35 years old are additionally invited to participate in the Young Researcher's Initiative activities, which include a one-day event at the World Conference where young researchers can present their work and take advantage of networking opportunities and discussions on career development.  As well as being able to access this global network through Society events and our exclusive membership database to make contacts and further research collaborations, WCTRS members also benefit from the Society's partnerships with other prominent transport organisations, such as the International Transport Forum, the Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies, and the Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport. WCTRS and its partners exchange news and details of events, jobs, and publication opportunities and make this information available to members. All WCTRS members can obtain free online membership to the Society's two journals, [Transport Policy](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/transport-policy) and [Case Studies in Transport Research](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/case-studies-on-transport-policy), and have the opportunity to propose titles for publication in the WCTRS and Elsevier Transportation Book Series.  From academics, practitioners, and students to interested individuals, everyone is invited to join the Society and take part in its activities. Transport Organisations who wish to support the Society can apply for Supporting Organisational Membership to access a number of promotional opportunities and memberships for up to two individuals.  **WCTRS Membership - Free for 2022/2023**  **We are excited to share the decision of the Steering Committee that membership for WCTRS will be free of charge from July 2022 to mid-July 2023. Normally the period of membership is three years, running between our main conference. However, with Covid and the postponement of the Montreal face to face event to 2023 we will extend existing members' membership for one year. There will be no need to fill out any forms to extend membership, but we will shortly be in touch with final details in case anyone wishes to opt out.**  **We have announced the opportunity for non-members to join the society free for this coming year in the run up to Montreal. We hope this will be a great opportunity for more people to get involved in the Society and we will value your support in promoting this. More details will follow shortly.**  When: July 2022 to mid-July 2023  Further Information: On the [WCTRS website](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwctrs-society.com%2Fwctrs-membership%2Findividual-membership%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cwctrs%40leeds.ac.uk%7C80f07dabf1ca4cf4df4608da5904735d%7Cbdeaeda8c81d45ce863e5232a535b7cb%7C1%7C0%7C637920172924481357%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YXjl8wUZsPQ65UirbxW1s08zyVxCJtAuZKdk5jwu768%3D&reserved=0)  If you have any questions about membership, do not hesitate to contact the [WCTRS Secretary](mailto:wctrs@leeds.ac.uk).  **Prof. Greg Marsden, *University of Leeds, WCTRS Secretary-General*** |
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