



15<sup>th</sup> International NECTAR Conference  
Helsinki, Finland, 5 - 7 June 2019

## **Call for papers for the thematic session of Cluster 1: Transport Infrastructure Impacts and Evaluation**

### **Widening Impact Analysis and Participation in Project Appraisal**

Transport project appraisal is most often carried out in an analyst-led manner, with weak levels of participation included in the process. Cost-benefit analysis (CBA) is often critiqued for its focus on economic efficiency, poor coverage of environmental and social factors, and lack of transparency in the process. Yet multi-criteria analysis (MCA) can also suffer from problems of favouring particular criteria, weighting, aggregation and lack of inclusion of differing viewpoints. A wider appraisal framework and public participation are especially relevant to move towards more sustainable and equitable transport in human scale cities. We seek papers that critically engage with these issues, theoretically or through case study analysis, offering ways forward for widening the coverage of environmental and social factors and participation in project appraisal.

#### **Topics of interest**

The topics of interest for the special sessions might include, but are not limited to:

- Critical commentary on the use of CBA and/or MCA, dominance of time savings, aggregation of impact analysis, analyst-led processes
- Including 'intangible impacts' (e.g. environmental, social equity and well-being, etc.) within the appraisal process – what evidence do we have?
- Accounting for 'good growth' impacts associated with transport investments
- Approaches to participatory weighting and aggregation of criteria
- Multi-actor and participatory multi-criteria analysis
- Deliberative approaches to project appraisal

Deadline for abstract submission: January 21, 2019. Abstracts should be submitted electronically, using the form available on the Conference website:

<https://www.helsinki.fi/en/conferences/towards-human-scale-cities-open-and-happy>

A copy of the abstract should also be sent to Robin Hickman (email: [r.hickman@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:r.hickman@ucl.ac.uk)).

Criteria for acceptance: scope, scientific quality and NECTAR membership. Authors of selected abstracts are invited to submit an extended abstract (1000 words) before April 30. The extended abstracts will be published on the conference page of the NECTAR website, accessible to NECTAR members only. The number of participants of this thematic cluster session will be limited to 8.

**Venue:**

The NECTAR conference will be organized by the University of Helsinki and Aalto University. The Venue is the main building of the University of Helsinki. Built in 1832 this historical building is located in the heart of Helsinki, easily reachable by public transport.

**Participation and NECTAR membership**

Registration, meals and accommodation for two nights will be offered to NECTAR members, for only one author per paper. Two nights of hotel accommodation will be offered to participants who have confirmed their participation by sending copies of travel tickets before April 30, 2019. All practical details will be communicated through the conference website. In order to participate in the Conference, a consecutive and current two-year NECTAR membership is necessary (2019-2020). Non-members can find details of how to join the association on the "Membership" page of NECTAR's website: [www.nectar-eu.eu/membership](http://www.nectar-eu.eu/membership)

**Important dates:**

Abstract submission: January 21, 2019.

Notification of acceptance: February 25, 2019.

Submission of extended abstracts: April 30, 2019

Confirmation of attendance: April 30, 2019

Looking forward to meeting you Helsinki!

**Cluster 1 organisers:**

Dr Robin Hickman, University College London

Professor Moshe Givoni, Tel-Aviv University

Dr Imre Keseru, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Professor Andy Goetz, University of Denver

**NECTAR** is a European-based scientific association. The primary objective is to foster research collaboration and exchange of information between experts in the field of transport, communication and mobility from all European countries and the rest of the world. It is a multidisciplinary social science network bringing together a wide variety of perspectives on transport and communication problems and their impacts on society in an international perspective. For further information on NECTAR, use the link: <http://www.nectar-eu.eu>.