

ITTECOP 2012-2015 • Research programme priorities

Land transport infrastructure, ecosystems and landscapes

■ *A multi-disciplinary research programme supporting public policy*

ITTECOP is a research programme managed by the French Ministry for Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy (MEDDE) in coordination with the French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME). ITTECOP mainly focuses on land-transport infrastructure (LTI) (encompassing river, rail or road transport) as well as territorial interfaces (such as train stations, ports and airports). This covers spatial and temporal dimensions, regional governance methods and ecological factors. ITTECOP aims to develop a sustainable community (made up of researchers, professionals and members of NGOs) that contributes to original thinking that can be used by public decision-makers when evaluating LTI impacts, especially on landscapes and biodiversity.

The 2012-2015 programme builds on experience gained through projects launched since 2008. It also takes into account changes to the institutional context such as the Grenelle environmental forum, Grenelle legislation, the French biodiversity strategy and the gradual implementation of Green and Blue infrastructure policy.

■ *An essential programme for decision-making*

A new call for proposals was launched in 2012 under the direction of Bruno Villalba, chairman of the scientific board, and an environmental policy scientist at Sciences Po Lille. ITTECOP's main focuses were reinforced: encouraging interdisciplinarity, basing research on actual projects in coordination with LTI operators, developing tools to support public decision-making, taking into account the different dimensions of landscapes, sharing knowledge with decision-making networks and taking a prospective approach to global environmental issues. Priority was given to two areas of research:

The first questions the relation between territories, landscapes and LTI projects. LTI are part of areas that have their own identity (from the historical, landscape and ecological points of view). How do local actors develop territorial project(s) that integrate and create new perspectives for infrastructure?

The second addresses the relation between LTI and landscape dynamics: interactions with ecological and socio-economic systems. How are new landscape constraints (such as biodiversity management and ecosystem functioning) and regional administration issues (including compensation measures and ecological continuity) managed when creating new LTI?

■ *Operational programmes linked to the research programme*

To encourage meaningful dialogue between research and practice, ITTECOP has joined forces with two of the MEDDE's operational programmes that aim to:

- 1)** Restore ecological continuity around existing transport infrastructure. This programme is run by the Directorate for Water and Biodiversity.
- 2)** Test experimental implementing of off-site "compensatory measures" which would compensate on-site damages to biotopes and/or species. This project is run by the Economy, evaluation and integration of sustainable development Service.

Seven research projects

Seven projects have been selected for funding which explore the idea that new infrastructure has an impact on a territory's future, and therefore should be part of a territorial project that takes into account interactions between human and natural environments. Such impacts must be analysed in line with different geographical and temporal scales (which may be very large, depending on the stakes) and considered from the ecological (i.e. ecosystems, species, etc.), social (i.e. the different players), economic (the different activities affected by infrastructure) and heritage points of view. These projects enable ITTECOP to effectively bring together researchers and operational actors such as LTI operators, politicians and other stakeholders societywide.

■ **The Seine-Nord Europe Canal: river transport, multimodal transport centres and landscapes in the Haute-Somme region**, Fabrice Raffin, braffin@gmail.com, Université de Picardie Jules Verne (UPJV), Équipe Habiter, AEP (Anthropologie et Écologie du Paysage).

Other partners: Laboratoire EDYSAN (Écologie et Dynamique des Systèmes ANthropisés), UPJV; SEA Europe (Sociologues et Ethnologues Associés); and Passeurs (Paysagistes DPLG associés).

■ **D-TRANSECT – Those left behind as a result of the Huveaune Valley crossings: species dispersal, vernacular practices and the mediation of landscapes**, Frédéric Pousin, f.pousin@versailles.ecole-paysage.fr, LAREP, École nationale supérieure de paysage de Versailles.

Other partners: CRESSON, École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Grenoble; LPED UMR IRD; Université Aix-Marseille.

■ **ECOFRICH – The ecological and social future of zones – wastelands, housing and cultivated areas – surrounding the Great Stadium of Lille Métropole. An analysis of planned LTI, urban operations and alternative solutions**, Alain Lepretre, alain.lepretre@univ-lille1.fr, Université Lille 1 Sciences & Technologies - LGCGE Lille Nord de France – EA4515 - Écologie numérique et écotoxicologie and Bénédicte Lefebvre, benedicte.lefebvre@univ-lille1.fr, MESHS, USR 3185.

Other partners: CLERSE, axe Développement Durable et Culture Patrimoine Média; LAVUE, Architecture Urbanisme et Sociétés AUS; CETE Nord-Picardie.

■ **GRAPHAB 2 – Using landscape graphs to evaluate and mitigate the impacts of major transport infrastructure on species**, Jean-Christophe Foltête, jean-christophe.foltete@univ-fcomte.fr, ThéMA UMR 6049.

Other partners: Chrono-Environnement UMR 6249 (Besançon); Yunnan University of Finance & Economics, Yunnan (Kunming); Lehna UMR 5023 (Lyon); LIRIS UMR 5205 (Lyon); Écosphère; RFF; DREAL de Franche-Comté; ONF.

■ **IMPACT – LTI and landscape modelling as part of an ongoing appraisal of regional impacts (IMPACT)**, Pierre-André Pissard, pierre-andre.pissard@teledetection.fr, and Éric Barbe, eric.barbe@teledetection.fr, Irstea UMR Tetis.

Other partners: Région Languedoc-Roussillon; DREAL Languedoc-Roussillon; Conservatoire des Espaces Naturels Languedoc-Roussillon; Cogard; Chambre d'Agriculture du Gard; INEXIA; RFF; Agence d'Urbanisme de Nîmes Métropole; CETE Méditerranée.

■ **Jumelage-ITT – Evaluating the effects of dual LTI on how the region functions and is viewed**, Michel Deshaies, michel.deshaies@univ-nancy2.fr, université de Nancy 2, geography department.

Other partners: LAE UMR 1121; TRIANGLE UMR CNRS 5206; CETE de l'Est; CETE de Lyon; CETE Méditerranée.

■ **NATURE-ROUTE – Nature alongside roads – 2**, Grégoire Chelkoff, gregoire.chelkoff@grenoble.archi.fr, et Magali Paris, parismagali@yahoo.fr, CRESSON; École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Grenoble.

Other partners: CETE Île-de-France; CETE Nord-Picardie; UMR Environnement et Grandes Cultures (EGC) de Agroparistech; SETRA; CERTU; foreign research teams: Permacouture Institute (San Francisco-United States) and the Atelier de Arquitectura (Lisbon-Portugal).



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ADEME



Agence de l'Environnement
et de la Maîtrise de l'Énergie

Design www.lasouris.org
Printing by Bobillier on Maine green PEFC
February 2013

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ittecop.fr >>

