

# Rural Transport Training Materials

Introduction Module

## Overview of Key Issues in Rural Transport

and

## Training Modules

Session: Introduction

Presentation: Introduction



The World Bank



**DFID** Department for  
International  
Development



theIDLgroup 

# 1. Introduction

## Learning Objectives

By the end of this session participants will be able to:

- Explain the key issues and constraints in rural transport
- Highlight the importance of disaggregating gender issues and poverty issues for rural mobility
- Review approaches that may be use to prioritise rural transport strategies
- Analyse relationships between key stakeholders and institutions in rural transport
- Explain the role of governments in rural transport
- Describe the outline of the Training Modules

# Session Overview

This session introduces key aspects of rural transport and sets the scene for the course. We will explore these questions:

- ③ What are the constraints facing rural transport?
- ③ What are the key issues?
- ③ What methods can be used to priorities issues?
- ③ Who are the stakeholders and institutions in rural transport?
- ③ What role do gender issues play and why are they so important?
- ③ What is the role of government in rural transport?

# Rural Transport Knowledge Base

- © A set of reference material of current thinking and practice in rural transport
- © The material draws on experience, publications and case studies to facilitate the dissemination of best practice to policy makers, planners and practitioners.
- © The materials are structured into **five modules**

These materials have been used to design the  
Training Modules

What are the constraints  
faced in rural transport?

## 2. Rural Transport constraints

### Examples:

- Human **effort** in daily collection of water & firewood
- **Burden on women** meeting household transport needs
- Difficulty meeting transport **needs** especially at peak times e.g. harvest
- Inadequate **access** (for women particularly) to IMTs
- Community **isolation** from road network
- Poor access to economic facilities e.g. **markets**, grinding mills
- Poor access to **social facilities** e.g. clinics, schools, telephones, government offices
- Roads/tracks that **hinder** vehicle movement e.g. rutting, soft soils, poor water crossings
- **Inadequate** basic road, track, path infrastructure – absence of culverts, bridges or poor road surfaces

# More examples of constraints .....

- ③ Poor provision and inadequate funding of road **maintenance**
- ③ Poor **planning** and provision of road infrastructure -
  - limited road networks of excessively high standards, while large sections of the population have no basic access
- ③ **Infrequent/non-existent**, unsafe, high prices local transport services, often monopolistic unions and cartels
- ③ High vehicle **maintenance costs**, poor operating practices of motorised vehicles
- ③ Lack of complementary **investment** and facilities to assist with the storage and marketing of agricultural produce
- ③ Lack of investment in water transport – provision of boats and jetties, river and canal widening and maintenance

# 3. Overview of Key Issues



Credit: TRL Limited

It's not just about improving access to transport....

Rural Mobility

Gender perspectives

Wider range transport modes & infrastructure

Poverty, livelihoods and transport

Policies and institutions

Alternative non-transport solutions

Financing & managing rural transport

# 4. Assessing Priorities

## Key considerations:

- ① What methods/approaches should we use?
  - participatory appraisal techniques
  - consultation with opinion leaders
  - examine existing district and regional plans
  - financial analysis
  - livelihoods analysis
- ② Transport and communications interact with many dimensions of peoples livelihoods
  - we need to analyse and understand these interactions
- ③ Substantial benefits could accrue if
  - rural transport improved and costs reduced for taking produce to large urban centres (access to markets, income)
  - labour could be reduced for key household tasks like water and firewood collection (especially for women)

# Ways in which strategies may be prioritised

How do we decide where to invest resources in rural transport?

- ❑ Quantitative analysis of costs & benefits
- ❑ Analysis of levels of productivity, person power utilisation
- ❑ Analysis of costs and tariffs
- ❑ Comparative analysis of costs and conditions in different countries
- ❑ Participatory approaches ...

# Stakeholders and institutions in rural transport



## Venn Diagram exercise in groups

*Carry out an analysis of the key stakeholders and institutions involved in rural transport*

# 5. Stakeholders in Rural Transport

- ◎ Rural Households
- ◎ Women, men, poor, wealthy, landless .....
- ◎ Village Communities
- ◎ Indigenous institutions
- ◎ District, Regional and National Government
- ◎ Road and Highway Authorities
- ◎ Road construction and maintenance contractors
  - large and small-scale
- ◎ Commercial transport operators and unions

# 5. Stakeholders in Rural Transport

- ⊙ Commercial garages and mechanics
- ⊙ Small market wholesalers and retailers
- ⊙ Agricultural extension services
- ⊙ Health and education services
- ⊙ Large scale farms, agricultural marketing and processing organisations
- ⊙ The police (traffic)
- ⊙ Non governmental organisations (NGOs)

All these stakeholders have their own vested interests and roles in rural transport

# Rural Transport: Institutional, poverty and gender issues



## Group Discussion

- A. *What are the institutional factors that affect the relationship between the key actors?*
- B. *How are the poor disproportionately affected?*
- C. *How are women disproportionately affected?*

# Transport and gender analysis



## Group Activity: Matrix

*Prepare a Transport Matrix for a given household*

# 6. Role of Government

- ◎ The ability of government to influence & control actors is variable
- ◎ Governments can influence actors through policy
- ◎ Governments have traditionally determined investment and maintenance

**Governments must be involved where there are: -**

- few feedback mechanisms between costs and benefits
- externalities e.g. road safety and health
- economies of scale
- new technologies e.g. new forms of IMT
- monopoly practices that reduce the effectiveness of markets

# 7. Summary of key issues

## ⊙ Policies and institutional frameworks

## ⊙ Gender

- disproportionate burden of poor transport falls on women
- appropriateness of interventions to meet women's needs

## ⊙ Role of transport issues in poverty and livelihoods

- access to markets and services

## ⊙ Rural Mobility

- it's not just about building new roads!
- ... but understanding rural peoples needs for *mobility*, and how best to provide these

# 7. Summary of key issues

## ⊙ Issues of *access to services*

- may be addressed through non-transport interventions e.g. build schools & health centres locally

## ⊙ Frameworks for developing transport services

- appropriate infrastructure (e.g. type of roads, paths)
- modes of transport (e.g. IMTs)
- planning and financing approaches (e.g. labour based methods, creating an enabling environment for small contractors)

# 7. Summary of key issues

- ③ Stakeholders have different interests with regard to rural transport, and there may be tension between these
- ③ It is essential to disaggregate survey and assessment data of all types, in terms of **poverty** and **gender**
  - to ensure the specific transport issues faced by the poor and women are addressed
- ③ Government has a specific role to play in addressing rural mobility issues

# 8. The Training Modules

- © The issues discussed above will be explored in more detail in each of the Training Modules
- © The specific topics explored in each Module is as follows ...

# The Training Modules

Module 1. Policies and Strategies

Module 2. Planning, Design, Appraisal and Implementation

Module 3. Management and Financing

Module 4. Rural Mobility

Module 5. Social and Environmental Issues

# Module 1: Policies and Strategies

- ③ Sets the scene for addressing rural transport and mobility issues
- ③ Transport requirements of rural communities, including differentiation based on gender analysis
- ③ The role of transport in reducing poverty
- ③ The process of policy making to facilitate: -
  - provision of rural transport infrastructure
  - means of transport

# Module 1. Policies and Strategies

Introduction Session: Overview of Modules & Rural Transport Issues

Session 1.1 Village Level Transport

Session 1.2 Socio-economic Impact of Rural Transport Interventions

Session 1.3 Rural Transport Policy Development Process

Session 1.4 Rural Transport Safety Strategy

# Module 2. Planning, Design, Appraisal and Implementation

## This Module explores:

- ③ Provision of rural transport infrastructure
- ③ Prioritisation of investment to improve rural accessibility
- ③ Appropriate design standards to meet transport requirements to meet rural livelihood activities
- ③ Methods to evaluate cost effectiveness of investment in rural road infrastructure
- ③ Quantitative and qualitative survey methodologies, and participative techniques
  - for obtaining local level information critical to the formulation of transport policy
  - empowering local communities to spearhead their own development

# Module 2. Planning, Design, Appraisal and Implementation

Session 2.1 Participatory rural planning process

Session 2.2 Design of rural transport infrastructure

Session 2.3 Rural road economic appraisal methodology

Session 2.4 Labour-based works methodology

Session 2.5 Small scale contractor development

Session 2.6 Community Participation in Rural Transport Infrastructure

Session 2.7 Participatory Survey Techniques for Rural Transport

# Module 3: Management and Financing

## This Module explores:

- © General issues of local level management
- © Problems and solutions to managing rural transport
- © Finance issues
- © Mechanisms to support rural transport interventions – e.g. road funds
- © Frameworks for reform

# Module 3: Management and Financing

Session 3.1 Issues of local level management

Session 3.2 General road management issues:  
Managing roads like a business – not like  
a bureaucracy

Session 3.3 Financing Rural Transport Infrastructure

# Module 4: Rural Mobility

## This Module explores:

- ③ Rural mobility issues
- ③ Transport options available to the rural poor including: -
  - Intermediate Means of Transport (IMTs)
  - Rural transport services
  - Gender issues and mobility
- ③ Constraints to accessing various transport mechanisms, especially for the poor, and for women
- ③ Ways for improving access to rural transport by generating a critical mass of IMT

# Module 4: Rural Mobility

Session 4.1 Rural Mobility: Overview of the Issues

Session 4.2 Promoting the use of intermediate means of transport – vehicle choice, potential barriers and criteria for success

Session 4.3 Agricultural marketing and access to transport services

Session 4.4 Matching demand with supply in rural transport

# Module 5: Social and Environmental Issues

## This Module explores:

- © Social benefits of rural transport
- © Gender issues and transport
- © Environmental impact assessments
- © “Sustainable Livelihoods Approaches” in the transport sector
- © Exploration of a more holistic solution to poverty

# Module 5: Social and Environmental Issues

Session 5.1 Social benefits of rural transport

Session 5.2 Women and rural transport in Africa & Asia

Session 5.3 Transport and sustainable rural livelihoods

Session 5.4 Environmental impact assessment and management

Session 5.5 Concepts of rural transport surveys

Session 5.6 Role play on rural transport