



## NEWS

### **VREF Workshop: Transforming – Turning Big Data and Transit Database into Action**

**2015-05-26**

The workshop, combining the technology exchange of international practices and the VREF mid-term Expert Review Panel meeting, explores the rapidly evolving applications of database and big data to support the massive China urban public transport implementation and evaluation challenges in the 21st century. The event brought together key leaders, global experts, and advocates in China Urban Sustainable Transport Research Center (CUSTRC), China Academy of Transportation Sciences, China Ministry of Transport, Beijing, China.

Participants include Dr. Jiang Yulin (CNMOT.CATS Chief Engineer), Dr. Liu Haode, Dr. Liu Xianglong, Dr. Li Cheng (CUSTRC), Mr. Yu (CNMOT); and several world renown international urban transport experts: Professor Chang Jason (National Taiwan University), Dr. Chang Edmond Chin-Ping, (President and CEO, EDCPC, Inc.), Dr. Chiao James Kuo-Ann (New York University), Dr. Dr. Wu Yao-Jan (University of Arizona), Dr. Liu Daizong (World Resources Institute (WRI)); and representatives from the Beijing, Henan province, and Zhejiang province.

The 1<sup>st</sup> part (2016/05/23 technology exchange workshop) reviewed many innovative technologies and international best practice as related the ongoing Chinese Urban Transport database and implementation, as supported jointly by the VREF and CNMOT) for “China Transit Metropolis” evaluation. International best practices reviewed, including but not limited to the traffic database construction and usage, traffic data analysis methodologies, innovative business models, transportation planning applications, and how the big data technology can be best used to support government decision-making. The Workshop also include several excellent reports from representatives of Beijing, Henan province, and Zhejiang province on how the China Urban Transport Database currently being implemented and utilized already by the central-province-city government, and Energy-saving emission reduction being realized as support jointly by the VREF and CNMOT. The participants also have in-depth technical tours to the 2015 CNMOT award-winning APTS Laboratory (CNMOT.CATS), examine the updated China's urban public transport database development, database applications made to support

CNMOT daily decision-making on the urban public transport subsidy, and previewed how the China Urban Transport Database project has already made significant impacts on the development of the “China Transit Metropolis Project” and the ongoing “China 13-5 Transport Strategic Planning” being implemented during 2016-2020.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> part (2016/05/24-2016/05/25 Expert Panel Review Meeting) reviewed the mid-term progress of the VREF Phase 2 project; concluded that the project is successful on track against the Key Performance Indicators as established in the VREF work plan, verified database being well implemented as recommended in 201504; and offered further suggestions to improve international cooperation. In particular, significant progress being made in data quality assurance, leverage funding supports, and capacity building to promote China Urban Transport Database usage and applications during 2015-2016. the Expert Panel also recommend the project team to consider the rapid changing nature of urban public transport currently undergo significant changes in the proposed VREF Phase 3 extension possible during 2017-2018. To ensure sustainable development and accommodate these changes, China Urban Transport Database must adequately deal with the challenges of mobility, safety, equity, public health, and climate change issues and support China Government to galvanize networks, investment, technology, and knowledge into tangible actions. The Expert Review Panel also have a brief visit on 2015/05/24 and witnessed the “VREF Evaluation Platform on China Transit Metropolis,” being demonstrated, and well received by more than 8,000+ international and national participants at the 13<sup>th</sup> China International Exhibition on Transport Technology & Equipment, Beijing, China.



**A wide community**

CUSTRC is one of the Centers of Excellence (CoE) funded by VREF. CUSTRC is bringing together the VREF community, in addition to a wide community of urban transport specialists in the China, and internationally, including the China BeiJing-based organizations: various research centers, research institutions, and business alliance both within and outside the China Academy of Transportation Sciences, Ministry of Transport, to support the “China Transit Metropolis” project.

**When:** Monday, May 23th – Wednesday, May 25th, 2015

**Where:** China Urban Sustainable Transport Research Center (CUSTReC), China Academy of Transportation Sciences, Ministry of Transport, BeiJing, China

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